

"AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION 7 OF ARTICLE 5 OF ACT 465 OF 1969 [ARK. STATS. 3-507] RELATING TO THE PER DIEM TO BE PAID TO MEMBERS OF THE COUNTY BOARDS OF ELECTION COMMISSIONERS; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES."

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:

SECTION 1. Section 7 of Article 5 of Act 465 of 1969, the same being Arkansas Statutes 3-507, is hereby amended to read as follows:

"Section 7. The members of the county board of election commissioners shall each receive for his services the sum of no less than fifteen dollars (\$15.00) per day for each day or any portion thereof actually engaged in the duties of his office concerning the holding of elections."

SECTION 2. If any county in the State has at any time prior to the effective date of this Act paid members of the county board of election commissioners a per diem in excess of fifteen dollars (\$15.00) per day, such payment is hereby ratified and confirmed as an appropriate payment for services of members of the respective county boards of election commissioners and members of county boards of election commissioners receiving such per diem are hereby declared to be entitled to such per diem and shall have no responsibility to rebate or repay any portion thereof to the county.

SECTION 3. All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this Act are hereby repealed.

SECTION 4. EMERGENCY. It is hereby found and determined by the General Assembly that the present per diem prescribed by law for the county board of election commissioners was established in 1969 and there has been some difference of opinion concerning whether the per diem prescribed in Section 7 of Article 5 of Act 465 of 1969 was intended as a fixed per diem or merely a minimum per diem to be paid members of the county board of election commissioners; that it is the purpose of this Act to permit the increase of the per diem prescribed by law for members of the county board of election commissioners and to ratify and confirm the payment of a per diem in excess of fifteen dollars (\$15.00) per day to county boards of election commissioners prior to the effective date of this Act, and that this Act should be given effect immediately to accomplish this purpose. Therefore, an emergency is hereby declared to exist and this Act being necessary for the preservation of the public peace, health and safety shall be in full force and effect from and after its passage and approval.

APPROVED: 3/25/87

---