State of Arkansas 1 As Engrossed: S3/10/99 A Bill 2 82nd General Assembly Act 1196 of 1999 3 Regular Session, 1999 SENATE BILL 606 4 By: Senator Fitch 5 By: Representative Jacobs 6 7 8 For An Act To Be Entitled 9 "AN ACT TO PROHIBIT THE PLACING OF SCHOOL ELECTION 10 11 ISSUES ON THE NOVEMBER GENERAL ELECTION BALLOT; AND 12 FOR OTHER PURPOSES." 13 Subtitle 14 "TO PROHIBIT THE PLACING OF SCHOOL 15 16 ELECTION ISSUES ON THE NOVEMBER GENERAL ELECTION BALLOT." 17 18 19 20 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS: 21 22 SECTION 1. Arkansas Code 6-14-102 is amended to read as follows: "6-14-102. Annual school election date - Special school election. 23 24 (a) The annual school election shall be held in each school district of the state on the third Tuesday in September. 25 (b) The board of directors of any school district shall have the 26 authority to hold the annual school election on a date other than that fixed 27 28 by law, provided that: 29 (1) The proposed budget of expenditures for the previous year, as published, incorrectly stated a proposed expenditure or rate of tax levy, as 30 31 set forth in a certificate or certificates signed by each member of the board of directors, or was not published within the time required by law; or 32 (2) The district has suffered damage to its physical facilities 33 in an amount exceeding one hundred twenty-five thousand dollars (\$125,000) as 34 a result of fire or other natural disaster and the board of directors has 35 determined that the proceeds of insurance on those facilities will be 36

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insufficient to restore or replace the facilities; or

(3) The district will lose state aid because of a court decision or legislation enacted by the General Assembly and the board of directors takes action to change the date of the annual school election to consider a millage increase no less than sixty (60) days after the court's decision or effective date of the legislation; and

- (4) All constitutional and statutory requirements for the annual school election are met; and
- (5) The date of the election is approved by the Director of General Education the Department of Education.
- (c) In an even-numbered year, if no more than one (1) candidate for school district director or member of the county board of education presents a petition or notice in writing to the county board of election commissioners as required by § 6-14-111, and there are no other ballot issues to be submitted to district electors for consideration, the board of directors of any school district may, by resolution duly adopted, request the county board of election commissioners to change the date of the annual school election to coincide with that of the general election.
- (d)(1) [As enacted by Acts 1997, No. 545.] (c)(1) In any election year, if no more than one (1) candidate for school district director or member of the county board of education presents a petition or notice in writing to the county board of election commissioners as required by \S 6-14-111, and there are no other ballot issues to be submitted to district electors for consideration, the board of directors of any school district may, by resolution duly adopted, may request the county board of election commissioners to reduce the number of polling places.
- (2) The county board of election commissioners shall provide at least one (1) polling place.
- (3) In a county that uses voting machines or electronic voting, the county board of election commissioners may choose to use paper ballots for the election.
 - (d) [As enacted by Acts 1997, No. 1120.] The board of directors of any school district shall have the authority to request the county board of education election commissioners to call a special election for the purpose of considering a rate of tax for additional millages for maintenance and operations or debt service as authorized by Arkansas Constitution, Amendment

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2 (1) All constitutional and statutory requirements for a special school election are met; and

(2) The date of the election is approved by the Director of General Education the Department of Education."

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SECTION 2. All provisions of this act of a general and permanent nature are amendatory to the Arkansas Code of 1987 Annotated and the Arkansas Code Revision Commission shall incorporate the same in the Code.

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SECTION 3. If any provision of this act or the application thereof to any person or circumstance is held invalid, such invalidity shall not affect other provisions or applications of the act which can be given effect without the invalid provision or application, and to this end the provisions of this act are declared to be severable.

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SECTION 4. All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this act are hereby repealed.

/s/ Fitc

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APPROVED: 4/7/1999h