1 2	State of Arkansas 92nd General Assembly	A Bill	
3	Regular Session, 2019		HOUSE BILL 1760
4			
5	By: Representatives Cavena	augh, Maddox	
6			
7		For An Act To Be Entitled	
8	AN ACT TO	O AMEND THE LAW REGARDING LOCAL OPTION	
9	ELECTION	S; TO AMEND THE REQUIREMENTS FOR CALLIN	IG A
10	LOCAL OP	TION ELECTION IN A COUNTY; TO AUTHORIZE	: A
11	TERRITOR	IAL SUBDIVISION TO CONDUCT A LOCAL OPTI	ON
12	ELECTION	FOR THE MANUFACTURE AND SALE OF ALCOHO	DLIC
13	BEVERAGE	S; TO AMEND PORTIONS OF THE LAW RESULTI	NG
14	FROM INI	TIATED ACT 1 OF 1942; AND FOR OTHER PUR	POSES.
15			
16			
17		Subtitle	
18	TO	AMEND THE LAW REGARDING CALLING OF A	
19	LOC	CAL OPTION ELECTION IN A COUNTY; TO	
20	AUT	CHORIZE A TERRITORIAL SUBDIVISION TO	
21	CON	DUCT A LOCAL OPTION ELECTION; AND TO	
22	AME	END PORTIONS OF THE LAW RESULTING FROM	
23	INI	TIATED ACT 1 OF 1942.	
24			
25			
26	BE IT ENACTED BY THE	GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKAN	ISAS:
27			
28	SECTION 1. Ar	kansas Code § 3-8-102 is amended to rea	d as follows:
29	3-8-102. Effec	t of dry vote — Retail dealers — Defini	tion.
30	(a) <del>Retail de</del>	<del>alers</del> <u>A retail dealer</u> in alcoholic beve	rages <del>shall be</del>
31	allowed a period of	sixty (60) days in which to dispose of	stock after shall
32	retain the alcoholic	beverage license held at the time of t	the local option
33	election even if a m	ajority of the electors voting at the $\pm$	inal determination
34	of the results of lo	cal option election <u>held</u> by <del>which</del> the <del>p</del>	<del>olitical</del>
35	territorial subdivis	ion in which the dealer is located <del>shal</del>	<del>l have</del> voted
36	against the manufact	ure and sale of alcoholic beverages.	

1 (b) During the sixty-day period defined in subsection (a) of this 2 section, the retailer may not purchase any alcoholic beverages, but must 3 restrict his or her business to the sale of those items on hand as of the 4 date the election results are finally determined. As used in this chapter, "territorial subdivision" means a city, township, municipality, ward, or 5 6 precinct of a county of the state. 7 (c) As used in this section, "final determination" means the date of 8 certification of the results of an uncontested election or, if contested, the 9 date of the issuance of the mandate by the court finally determining an 10 election contest. 11 12 SECTION 2. Arkansas Code § 3-8-202, resulting from Initiated Act 1 of 13 1942, is amended to read as follows: 14 3-8-202. Sections 3-8-201-3-8-203, 3-8-205-3-8-209 cumulative -15 Construction. 16 It is expressly declared that  $\S\S 3-8-201 - 3-8-203$  and 3-8-205 - 3-8-8-20517 209 shall be cumulative to the liquor laws now in force in this state. These 18 sections shall at all times be construed so as to permit, upon petition of 19 fifteen percent (15%) of the qualified electors in any area to be affected a 20 majority vote of the governing body of the county or territorial subdivision, 21 the qualified voters therein at one (1) election to determine whether or not 22 all alcoholic beverages, including all kinds and types of whiskey, beer, and 23 wine, shall be manufactured or sold, bartered, loaned, or given away therein. 24 25 SECTION 3. Arkansas Code § 3-8-205, resulting from Initiated Act 1 of 26 1942, is amended to read as follows: 27 3-8-205. Determination of sufficiency of petition Certification -28 Calling of election - Contest. 29 (a) If the petition is determined to be sufficient under § 3-8-801 et 30 seq. governing body of the county or territorial subdivision adopts an ordinance or resolution requesting a local option election, by a majority 31 32 vote of its members, and submits the ordinance or resolution requesting a 33 local option election to the county clerk, the county clerk shall certify 34 that finding to the county board of election commissioners, and the question 35 shall be placed on the ballot in the county, township, municipality, ward, or 36 precinct or territorial subdivision at the next biennial general election as

1 provided in § 3-8-101. 2 (b)(1) If an appeal is taken from the certification of the county 3 elerk, it shall be taken within ten (10) days and shall be considered by the 4 circuit court within ten (10) days, or as soon as practicable, after the 5 appeal is lodged with the court. 6 (2) The circuit court shall render its decision within thirty 7 (30) days thereafter. 8 (c) If an appeal is taken, the election shall be had no sooner than 9 sixty-five (65) days after the appeal is determined, if the decision is in 10 favor of the petitioners. 11 (d)(1)(A) The decision shall be certified immediately to the county 12 board of election commissioners, and the day for the election shall be fixed by the county board of election commissioners for not earlier than sixty-five 13 14 (65) days nor later than ninety (90) days after the certification of the 15 decision of the circuit court. 16 (B) Any appeal from the final decision of the circuit 17 court shall be taken within ten (10) days and shall be advanced and 18 immediately determined by the Supreme Court. 19 (2) In that event, the county board of election commissioners 20 may, in its discretion, delay the election until after the final decision of 21 the Supreme Court. 22 (3) If the decision is in favor of the petitioners, then the 23 county board of election commissioners shall set the day for the election, 24 which shall be not earlier than sixty-five (65) days nor later than ninety 25 (90) days after the final decision of the Supreme Court. 26 (e) Except as provided in this section, a petition for local option 27 election shall be governed by § 7-9-101 et seq. and the Disclosure Act for 28 Initiative Proceedings, § 3-8-701 et seq. An election held under subsection

30

34

35

36

29

31 SECTION 4. Arkansas Code § 3-8-208, resulting from Initiated Act 1 of 32 1942, is amended to read as follows:

(a) of this section may be contested as provided for in § 3-8-309.

- 33 3-8-208. Election results Effects.
  - (a) If the majority of the electors voting on the issue at the election vote for the manufacture or sale of intoxicating liquors, then it shall be is lawful for the Director of the Alcoholic Beverage Control

- Division to continue to issue licenses or permits for such manufacture or sale within the designated territory as if no election had been held.
- (b) If a majority of the electors voting at the election vote against the manufacture or sale of intoxicating liquors, then it shall be is unlawful for the director or any county or municipal official to issue any a license or permit for the manufacture, sale, barter, loan, or giving away of any intoxicating liquor as defined in this subchapter unless and until the prohibition shall be is repealed by a majority vote as provided for in under §§ 3-8-201 3-8-203, and 3-8-205 3-8-209, and 3-8-603.
- 10 (c) In either case, a period of at least four (4) years shall elapse 11 before another election on the same subject may be held in the territory 12 affected.
- 13 (d) If a majority of electors voting on the issue at any such an 14 election vote against the manufacture or sale of intoxicating liquors, any a 15 license or permit which that has already been issued, authorizing the 16 manufacturing or sale or the bartering, loaning, or giving away of 17 intoxicating liquor within the territory affected  $\underline{\text{remains valid}}$   $\underline{\text{shall be}}$ 18 immediately cancelled, and the uncarned part of the license or permit fee 19 shall be returned. It shall then be unlawful for any person, firm, or 20 corporation to manufacture, sell, barter, loan, or give away any intoxicating 21 liquor within the territory covered by the petition.
- (e)(1) If an election is held under this section for an entire county,

  a territorial subdivision may hold an election under § 3-8-603 for the

  manufacture or sale of intoxicating liquor within the territorial

  subdivision.

27

28 29

30

313233

34

35

36

(2) If the majority of electors voting at the election held for the territorial subdivision vote differently from the majority of electors voting at the election held for the county, the results of the election held for the territorial subdivision override the results of the election held for the county for the manufacture or sale of intoxicating liquor in the territorial subdivision.

SECTION 5. Arkansas Code § 3-8-209(a) and (b), concerning the penalty for selling or furnishing a place for sale in a dry territory and resulting from Initiated Act 1 of 1942, are amended to read as follows:

(a) It shall be is unlawful for any  $\underline{a}$  person, firm, or corporation to

- 1 manufacture,  $\frac{\partial}{\partial x}$  sell, barter, loan, or give away intoxicating liquor in  $\frac{\partial}{\partial x}$
- 2 county<del>, township, municipality, ward, or precinct</del> or territorial subdivision
- 3 in which the manufacture or sale of intoxicating liquor is or shall be
- 4 prohibited under the provisions of Initiated Act No. 1 of 1942, §§ 3-8-201 -
- 3-8-203, and 3-8-205-3-8-209, and 3-8-603.
- 6 (b)(1) Upon a first conviction,  $\frac{any}{a}$  person or  $\frac{any}{a}$  of  $\frac{a}{a}$
- 7 any a firm or corporation that shall manufacture, sell, barter, loan, or give
- 8 away any manufactures, sells, barters, loans, or gives away an intoxicating
- 9 liquor in any a territory which that has been made is dry under the
- 10 provisions of this subchapter shall be is guilty of a violation and shall be
- 11 fined not less than one hundred dollars (\$100) nor more than one thousand
- 12 dollars (\$1,000).
- 13 (2) For a second conviction, he or she shall be a person or
- 14 officer of a firm or corporation is guilty of a violation and shall be fined
- 15 not less than two hundred dollars (\$200) nor more than two thousand dollars
- 16 (\$2,000), and for any subsequent conviction shall be guilty of a Class D
- 17 felony.
- 18 (3) For each subsequent conviction, a person or officer of a
- 19 firm or corporation is guilty of a Class D felony.

- 21 SECTION 6. Arkansas Code § 3-8-210 is amended to read as follows:
- 22 3-8-210. Authority to continue to issue sale permits.
- 23 The Alcoholic Beverage Control Division shall have has the authority to
- 24 continue to issue permits for the manufacture or sale of beer and of vinous,
- 25 spirituous, and malt liquors in  $\frac{any}{a}$  political subdivision of the State of
- 26 Arkansas of the same kind and type issued prior to July 4, 1996, provided
- 27 that the electorate of such the political subdivision has not since July 4,
- 28 1996, held an election under the provisions of Initiated Act No. 1 of 1942,
- 29 §§ 3-8-201 3-8-203, and 3-8-205 3-8-209, and 3-8-603.

- 31 SECTION 7. Arkansas Code § 3-8-305 is amended to read as follows:
- 32 3-8-305. Elections for entire county, district, or city territorial
- 33 <u>subdivision</u> Effect.
- 34 (a)(1) No An election in any town, city, district, or precinct of a
- 35 <u>territorial subdivision of</u> a county shall <u>not</u> be held under this subchapter
- on the same day on which that an election for the entire county is held.

- 1 (2)(b) When an election is held in an entire county and a 2 majority of the legal votes cast at the election are against the manufacture, 3 sale, barter, or loan of spirituous, vinous, malt, or other intoxicating liquors, then it shall is not be lawful to manufacture, sell, barter, or loan 4 5 any liquors in any a portion of the county unless the territorial subdivision has held an election under § 3-8-603 and has voted for the sale and 6 7 manufacture of intoxicating liquors. 8  $\frac{(3)}{(c)}$  If, at an election for the entire county, the majority of 9 the legal votes cast are in favor of the manufacture, sale, barter, or loan 10 of any liquors, the election shall not operate to make it legal to grant 11 license to manufacture, sell, barter, or loan such liquors in any a 12 territorial division subdivision of the county from which the manufacture, 13 sale, barter, or loan has been excluded by an election held under this 14 subchapter, but the status of the territorial division subdivision shall 15 remain as if no election had been held. 16 (b)(1) No election shall be held in any election precinct under this 17 act on the same day on which an election is held for the district or city of 18 which the precinct is a part. 19 (2) If, at an election held for the entire district or city, the 20 majority of legal votes east shall be in favor of the sale, barter, or loan 21 of spirituous, vinous, malt, or other liquors, then the status in the several 22 precincts thereof shall remain as it was before the election. 23 (3) If the majority should be against the sale, then the sale, 24 barter, or loan of such liquors shall be unlawful in every portion of the 25 district or city. 26 27 SECTION 8. Arkansas Code § 3-8-307 is amended to read as follows: 28 3-8-307. Effect of vote against sale. 29 If, at any an election provided for in this act, a majority of the 30
  - If, at <u>any an</u> election provided for in this act, a majority of the legal votes cast are against the <u>manufacture</u>, sale, barter, or loan of spirituous, vinous, or malt liquors, then the <u>manufacture</u>, sale, barter, or loan of any such liquors <u>shall be is</u> unlawful in <u>such the</u> county, <u>city</u>, <u>town</u>, <u>district</u>, <u>or precinct</u>, <u>or territorial subdivision as the case may be</u>, except as provided, unless <u>a majority of voters vote for the manufacture or sale of intoxicating liquors</u> at a subsequent election <u>held under this act</u>, <u>a majority of the legal votes cast shall be in favor of the sale of the liquors</u>.

32

33

34

35

- 2 SECTION 9. Arkansas Code § 3-8-309 is amended to read as follows: 3 3-8-309. Contests of elections.
  - (a)  $\frac{Any}{An}$  election held under this act may be contested as provided for in this section.
- 6 (b)(1) Any number of the citizens and legal voters, but not less than
  7 ten (10), of the county, city, town, district, or precinct or territorial
  8 subdivision in which the elections have been held, shall have the right to
  9 contest any an election held under this act and shall be designated the
  10 contestants.
- 11 (2)(A) The contestants shall file, within ten (10) days after 12 the final action of the examining board, in the office of the clerk of the 13 county court a written statement of the grounds of the contest.
  - (B) They The contestants shall cause serve a copy of the statement to be served on the county judge and shall give notice thereof by post written or printed notice to be posted at the courthouse door of the county, and in three (3) or more public places in the county, eity, town, district, or precinct or territorial subdivision in which the election has been was held.
    - (C) They shall cause the The contestants shall publish notice to be published in some in a newspaper of the county, when possible, for two (2) consecutive issues, commencing not later than the first issue of the paper after filing the statement.
  - (3) When a notice of the contest shall be <u>is</u> executed on the county judge, the certificate <u>under § 3-8-306</u> shall not be recorded.
  - (c) Any number of the citizens and legal voters, not less than ten (10), of the county, city, town, district, or precinct or territorial subdivision in which the election has been held, may resist the contest by filing in the office of the clerk of the county court a statement controverting the grounds of the contestants and may state any additional grounds to sustain the election, and they shall be designated as the contestees.
  - (d)(1) The contest shall be heard and determined by the same board which, by law, that is authorized and empowered by law to hear and determine a contest of an election for county officers.
    - (2) The same provisions of the statutes shall apply to the

- contest of any election held under this act as are provided for the contest of any an election for county officers, except as provided in this section.
- (e) Notice for the taking of depositions or other proceedings in the contest may be executed on the person whose name appears first as contestant or contestee, which shall be deemed notice to all his or her associates.
- (f) In case the required number shall fail to appear as contestees, ex parte testimony shall be is competent before the contesting board.
- (g)(1) The trial of the case shall be on the fourth Monday after the filing in the county clerk's office of the grounds of the contest; however, the board, for good cause, may allow further time.
- 11 (2) A continuance of the trial date may be granted one (1) time 12 at the request of either party for good cause shown.
  - (h) The decision of the board shall be:

- (1) given Given in writing and signed in triplicate, with One one (1) copy shall be delivered to the contestants, and one (1) copy delivered to the contestees, and one (1) copy delivered the other shall be delivered to the county clerk of the county in which the contest is pending, which; and shall be entered
- 19 <u>(2) Entered</u> on the record of the county court.
  - (i) If the decision of the board is that a majority of the legal votes cast at the election were against the <u>manufacture or</u> sale of such liquors, the entry of the decision shall have the same effect as the recording of the certificates of the examining board <del>as provided</del> in § 3-8-306.
  - (j) The contestants or contestees shall have the right to appeal from the decision of the board to the circuit court of the county where in which the contest is pending, in the same way as appeals are taken from the lower courts to the circuit court, and the right to appeal the circuit court's decision as provided by law. An appeal from the circuit court may be taken as provided by law.
- 30 (k) The cost of the contest shall be adjudged against the unsuccessful parties.
  - SECTION 10. Arkansas Code § 3-8-310(a), concerning the effect of voting against the sale of liquor at a local option election, is amended to read as follows:
  - (a)(1) Whenever a local option election shall be <u>is</u> held in any <u>a</u>

1 county, city, town, district, or precinct or territorial subdivision of the 2 in this state and a majority of the votes cast at the election shall be are 3 in favor of prohibiting against the manufacture or sale of liquor in the 4 territory in which the election shall have been is held, the law prohibiting 5 the sale shall be in full force and effect is effective at the expiration of 6 sixty (60) days from the date of the entry of the certificate of the 7 canvassing board in the record of the county court. 8 (2)(A) After the expiration of sixty (60) days, no liquor 9 license theretofore issued in the territory under the laws of this state 10 shall be of any force or effect whatever, but the owner of the license shall 11 be entitled to recover from the county, city, town, district, or precinct to 12 which the license money was paid, the proportional part thereof as the 13 unexpired period of license bears to the whole of the year. A person that 14 held a valid license at the time of the local option election shall not be 15 required to relinquish the license as a result of the local option election. 16 (B) A person retaining a license under subdivision 17 (a)(2)(A) of this section may not transfer ownership of the license or transfer the license to another premises. 18 19 20 SECTION 11. Arkansas Code § 3-8-310(b)(1), concerning the penalty for 21 manufacturing, selling, bartering, or loaning liquors following a local 22 option election, is amended to read as follows: 23 (b)(1) Upon conviction, any a person who that shall sell, barter, or 24 loan directly or indirectly any manufactures, sells, barters, or loans such 25 liquors in the eity, county, town, district, or precinct or territorial 26 subdivision after sixty (60) days shall be is guilty of a Class C 27 misdemeanor. 28 29 SECTION 12. Arkansas Code § 3-8-502 is amended to read as follows: 3-8-502. Local option elections in certain annexed areas. 30 31 (a)(1)(A) If an area meets the qualifications provided in subdivision 32 (a)(1)(B) of this section, the residents governing body of the area may 33 petition the county clerk of the county for request, by a majority vote of 34 its members, a local option election to determine whether off-premises retail 35 beer permits and off-premises Arkansas native wine retail permits shall be 36 issued within the annexed area.

- 1 (B) An area qualifies to hold a local option election 2 under this subchapter if:
- 3 (i) The area has been annexed from a dry township
- 4 into a wet contiguous and adjoining city or incorporated town;
- 5 (ii) The annexed area is separated from the
- 6 remainder of the dry township by a four-lane divided highway; and
- 7 (iii) A nonbinding election was held between
- 8 November 1, 2004, and January 1, 2005, in the annexed area on the issue of
- 9 whether intoxicating liquors may be manufactured, sold, bartered, loaned, or
- 10 given away within the annexed area.
- 11 (2) The petition governing body of the annexed area requesting a
- 12 local option election by a majority vote shall be prepared in the manner
- 13 provided by § 3-8-205 prepare an ordinance or resolution approving the
- 14 request for a local option election.
- 15 (3)(A) When thirty-eight percent (38%) of the qualified electors
- 16 of the annexed area, as shown on county voter registration records, sign a
- 17 petition requesting the governing body of the annexed area approves, by
- 18 majority vote, an ordinance or resolution requesting a local option election,
- 19 the county clerk shall determine the sufficiency of certify the petition
- 20 governing body's ordinance or resolution requesting the local option election
- 21 within ten (10) days of the filing of the petition request.
- 22 (B) If the county clerk verifies that thirty-eight percent
- 23 (38%) of the qualified electors of the annexed area have signed the petition,
- 24 the The county clerk shall certify that finding to the county board of
- 25 election commissioners.
- 26 (C) The question shall be placed upon the ballot in the
- 27 annexed area at the next biennial November general election, as provided in §
- 28 3-8-101.
- 29 (D) Any appeal of the order of the county court shall be
- 30 taken in the manner provided by §  $\frac{3-8-205(c)-(e)}{3-8-309}$ .
- 31 (4)(A) The election shall be conducted in the manner provided by
- 32 § 3-8-206(a) and (b).
- 33 (B) Upon petition of fifteen percent (15%) of the
- 34 interested legal voters in the annexed area, within ten (10) days after the
- 35 date of the election, the county board of election commissioners shall
- 36 immediately recount the votes and declare the result of the election as

- determined by the recount.
- 2 (C) Within twenty (20) days after the election, the county
- 3 court shall make and enter of record its order declaring the result of the
- 4 election.
- 5 (D) The costs of any elections held under this subchapter
- 6 shall be paid by the county in the same manner as other costs of general
- 7 elections.
- 8 (5) Upon petition of fifteen percent (15%) of the interested
- 9 legal voters in the annexed area filed with the circuit clerk of the county
- 10 in which proceedings are pending, the circuit court shall immediately by
- 11 mandamus compel the county court or other officials to perform the duties
- 12 imposed upon them under this section.
- 13 (b)(1) If, at the local option election, a majority of the electors of
- 14 the annexed area vote for the issuance of off-premises retail beer permits
- 15 and off-premises Arkansas native wine retail permits within the annexed area,
- 16 the Director of the Alcoholic Beverage Control Division may issue off-
- 17 premises retail beer permits and off-premises Arkansas native wine retail
- 18 permits within the annexed area.
- 19 (2) If a majority of the electors of the annexed area vote
- 20 against the issuance of off-premises retail beer permits and off-premises
- 21 Arkansas native wine retail permits, it shall be unlawful for the director or
- 22 any county or municipal officer to issue any off-premises retail beer permit
- 23 or off-premises Arkansas native wine retail permit until the prohibition
- 24 shall be repealed by a majority vote as provided in this section.
- 25 (3) At least four (4) years shall elapse before another local
- 26 option election may be held in the annexed area.
  - (c) Except as provided in this section, a petition for local option
- 28 election shall be governed by § 7-9-101 et seq. and § 3-8-801 et seq.
- 29

- 30 SECTION 13. Arkansas Code § 3-8-602(a) and (b), concerning a request
- 31 for a local option election in a defunct voting district, are amended to read
- 32 as follows:
- 33 (a)(1) Under subsection (b) of this section, an area within the
- 34 boundaries of a defunct voting district may conduct an election to permit the
- 35 sale of alcoholic beverages identified in subdivision (a)(2) of this section.
- 36 (2) The sale of alcoholic beverages under this section shall be

- limited to beer, malt beverages, vinous beverages, and spirituous liquor for
- 2 on-premises consumption within the corporate limits of a city of the first
- 3 class or a city of the second class.
- 4 (b) An election for an area within the boundaries of a defunct voting
- 5 district to permit the sale of the alcoholic beverages identified in
- 6 subdivision (a)(2) of this section shall be held as follows:
- 7 (1)(A) A registered voter who resides in a county that contains
- 8 a defunct voting district may request in writing or a city council of a city
- 9 of the first class that includes a defunct voting district may request by
- 10 ordinance that the county board of election commissioners issue a resolution
- ll to identify the boundaries of a territorial subdivision located in a defunct
- 12 voting district in which qualified voters may reside.
- 13 (B) The county board of election commissioners shall issue
- 14 a resolution within thirty (30) days.
- 15 (C) The resolution shall identify the:
- 16 (i) Territorial subdivisions that are located wholly
- 17 or partially within borders of any defunct voting districts in the county;
- 18 (ii) Formal and informal name or designation of any
- 19 defunct voting districts in the county as of the last date the defunct voting
- 20 district held the election resulting in its dry status;
- 21 (iii) Date on which any defunct voting district held
- 22 the last local option election that resulted in the defunct voting district's
- 23 becoming dry; and
- 24 (iv)(a) Boundaries of any defunct voting district at
- 25 the time of the last local option election that resulted in the defunct
- 26 voting district's becoming dry.
- 27 (b) The boundaries of the defunct voting
- 28 district shall be based on state, county, or municipal records or other
- 29 records publicly identified in the resolution.
- 30 (D) The resolution shall include a map of the boundaries
- 31 of the defunct voting district from which qualified electors residing within
- 32 the defunct voting district can be identified and verified for purposes of
- 33 obtaining signatures and conducting the local option election.
- 34 (E) In preparing the resolution and the map, the county
- 35 board of election commissioners may consult with the county clerk, the State
- 36 Board of Election Commissioners, the Secretary of State, or any other entity

1 able to provide assistance in confirming the data and preparing the map 2 required by subdivision (b)(1)(D) of this section and the precise boundaries 3 of the defunct voting district. 4 The resolution shall be filed with the county clerk 5 and published one (1) time a week for two (2) weeks as soon as practicable in 6 a newspaper of general circulation in the county; 7 (2)(A)(i) A petition procedure for a local option election for a 8 defunct voting district shall be conducted under § 3-8-201 et seq. 9 (ii) The city council of a city of the first class 10 that includes a defunct voting district may adopt an ordinance to hold a 11 local option election to be conducted under § 3-8-201 et seq. The governing 12 body of the defunct voting district requesting a local option election shall 13 prepare an ordinance or resolution approving the request for a local option 14 election. 15 (B) Signatures shall be obtained from fifteen percent 16 (15%) of the qualified electors residing within the boundaries of a defunct 17 voting district, as identified by the resolution and corresponding map. 18 (C) When fifteen percent (15%) of the qualified voters 19 have filed petitions When the governing body of the defunct voting district 20 requesting a local option election files an ordinance or resolution 21 requesting a local option election with the county clerk under this 22 subdivision (b)(2), the county clerk shall determine certify the ordinance or 23 resolution within ten (10) days the sufficiency of the petitions under § 3-8-24 205; 25 (3)(A)(i) The election process for a special local option 26 election for a defunct voting district shall be conducted pursuant to § 3-8-27 201 et seq. 28 The county clerk shall issue a resolution 29 calling for a special local option election for a defunct voting district for which the requisite number of signatures ordinance or resolution of the 30 31 governing body has been certified under subdivision (b)(2) of this section 32 when: 33 (a) The requisite number of qualified electors 34 sign petitions filed with the county clerk; and

signatures to the county board of election commissioners.

(b) The county clerk certifies those

35

1 (iii) The resolution prepared by the county clerk 2 calling the special local option election shall be filed with the county 3 clerk, and the county clerk shall immediately transmit the document to the 4 county board of election commissioners. 5 The resolution calling the special local option 6 election shall state: 7 (a) The date of the special election; 8 (b) The full text of the measure for which the 9 election is called; and 10 (c) The ballot title for the measure for which 11 the special local option election is called. 12 The county board of election commissioners shall 13 publish the resolution calling the special local option election one (1) time a week for two (2) weeks as soon as practicable in a newspaper of general 14 15 circulation in the county. 16 (B) The ballot title shall be in substantially the 17 following form: "TO DETERMINE WHETHER OR NOT ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES MAY BE SOLD 18 AS AUTHORIZED BY ARKANSAS CODE § 3-8-602 WITHIN (popular name of the defunct 19 voting district)". 20 (C) The ballot shall be in substantially the following 21 form: 22 "[ ] FOR the Sale of Alcoholic Beverages, As Authorized by Arkansas Code § 3-23 24 [ ] AGAINST the Sale of Alcoholic Beverages, As Authorized by Arkansas Code § 25 3-8-602.". 26 (D) The special local option election shall be called on a 27 Tuesday and shall not be held less than sixty (60) days following the date 28 the resolution calling the special election is filed with the county clerk. 29 (E) The map of the defunct voting district created by the 30 county board of election commissioners shall be placed at each polling site. 31 (F) A majority vote of the qualified electors residing 32 within the boundaries of the defunct voting district shall determine whether 33 or not alcoholic beverages may be sold or manufactured under subdivision 34 (a)(2) of this section within the boundaries of the defunct voting district; 35 and

The precincts and polling sites to be utilized for

36

(4)

1	conducting elections under this section shall be established by the county	
2	board of election commissioners.	
3		
4	SECTION 14. Arkansas Code Title 3, Chapter 8, Subchapter 6, is amended	
5	to add an additional section to read as follows:	
6	3-8-603. Local option election — Territorial subdivision.	
7	(a)(1) Upon receipt of an ordinance or resolution of the governing	
8	$\underline{\text{body of a territorial subdivision}}$ , the territorial subdivision shall hold $\underline{\text{a}}$	
9	local option election to determine whether the territorial subdivision is for	
10	or against the manufacture or sale of intoxicating liquors within the	
11	territorial subdivision.	
12	(2) The governing body of the territorial subdivision requesting	
13	a local option election by a majority vote shall prepare an ordinance or	
14	resolution and submit the ordinance or resolution to the county clerk.	
15	(3)(A) The county clerk shall certify the ordinance or	
16	resolution under this section within ten (10) days of the filing of the	
17	ordinance, resolution, or other action.	
18	(B) If the county clerk certifies the ordinance or	
19	resolution of the governing body of the territorial subdivision, the county	
20	clerk shall certify the finding to the county board of election	
21	commissioners.	
22	(C) The question shall be placed upon the ballot in the	
23	territorial subdivision at the next biennial November general election as	
24	required under § 3-8-101.	
25	(4)(A) A local option election under this section shall be	
26	conducted in the manner stated in § 3-8-206(a) and (b).	
27	(B) Upon petition of at least fifteen percent (15%) of the	
28	qualified electors in the territorial subdivision within ten (10) days after	
29	the date of the local option election, the county board of election	
30	commissioners shall immediately recount the votes and declare the result of	
31	the local option election as determined by the recount.	
32	(C) Within twenty (20) days after the local option	
33	election, the county court shall enter its order declaring the result of the	
34	local option election.	

subchapter shall be paid by the county in the same manner as other costs of

(D) The costs of a local option election held under this

35

- 1 general elections. 2 (5) Upon petition of at least fifteen percent (15%) of the 3 qualified electors in the territorial subdivision filed with the circuit 4 clerk of the county in which proceedings are pending, the circuit court may 5 immediately by mandamus compel the county court or other officials to perform 6 the duties imposed upon them under this section. 7 (b)(1) If a majority of the qualified electors of the territorial 8 subdivision vote to change from a wet to a dry territory, a business with a 9 license to wholesale, manufacture, distribute, retail, or otherwise sell 10 intoxicating liquors located in the territorial subdivision as of the date of 11 the local option election shall retain the license. 12 (2) A business retaining a license under subdivision (b)(1) of 13 this section may not transfer ownership of the license or transfer the 14 license to another premises. 15 (c) If a majority of the qualified electors of the territorial 16 subdivision vote to change from a dry to a wet territory, the Director of the 17 Alcoholic Beverage Control Division may issue a license to a qualified 18 applicant to manufacture or sell intoxicating liquors within the territorial 19 subdivision. 20 (d) If a territorial subdivision conducts a local option election under this section, the results of a local option election held for the 21 22 county in which the territorial subdivision is located do not override the 23 results of the local option election for the territorial subdivision if a 24 discrepancy exists between the results of the local option election for the 25 county and the results of the local option election for the territorial 26 subdivision. 27 (e) A local option election under this section may be held in the territorial subdivision only one (1) time every four (4) years. 28 29 (f) Except as provided in this section, a petition for a local option 30 election is governed by § 7-9-101 et seq. and § 3-8-801 et seq. (g) To the extent this section conflicts with § 3-8-201 et seq., this 31 32 section controls. 33
- SECTION 15. Arkansas Code Title 3, Chapter 8, Subchapter 8, is repealed.
- 36 Subchapter 8 Circulation of Petition for Local Election

1	
2	3-8-801. Definitions.
3	As used in this subchapter:
4	(1) "Canvasser" means a person who circulates a local option
5	election petition or a part or parts of a local option election petition to
6	obtain the signatures of petitioners thereto;
7	(2) "Intoxicating liquor" means any beverage containing more
8	than one-half of one percent (0.5%) of alcohol by weight;
9	(3) "Paid canvasser" means a person who is paid or with whom
10	there is an agreement to pay money or anything of value before or after a
11	signature on a local option election petition is solicited in exchange for
12	soliciting or obtaining a signature on a petition;
13	(4) "Petition part" means a petition signature sheet containing
14	the information required under this subchapter;
15	(5) "Petitioner" means a person who signs a petition requesting
16	a local option election;
17	(6) "Registered voter" means a person who is registered at the
18	time of signing the petition pursuant to Arkansas Constitution, Amendment 51
19	<del>and</del>
20	(7) "Sponsor" means a person who arranges for the circulation o
21	a local option election petition or who files a local option election
22	petition with the official charged with verifying the signatures.
23	
24	3-8-802. Hiring and training of paid canvassers.
25	(a)(1) A person shall not provide money or anything of value to
26	another person for obtaining signatures on a local option election petition
27	unless the person receiving the money or item of value meets the requirement
28	of this section.
29	(2) Before a signature is solicited by a paid canvasser, the
30	sponsor shall:
31	(A) Explain the Arkansas law applicable to obtaining
32	signatures on a local option election petition to the canvasser; and
33	(B)(i) Provide a complete list of all paid canvassers'
34	names and current residential addresses to the county clerk.
35	(ii) If additional paid canvassers agree to solicit
36	signatures on hehalf of a sponsor after the complete list is provided the

2 current residential addresses to the county clerk. 3 (b) Before obtaining a signature on a local option election petition 4 as a paid canvasser, a person shall submit in person or by mail to the 5 sponsor: 6 (1) The full name and any assumed name of the person; 7 (2) The current residence address of the person and the person's 8 permanent domicile address if the person's permanent domicile address is 9 different from the person's current residence address; 10 (3) A signed statement taken under oath or solemn affirmation 11 that states that the person has not pleaded guilty or nolo contendere to or 12 been found guilty of a criminal offense involving a violation of the election 13 laws, fraud, forgery, or identification theft in any state; 14 (4) A signed statement that the person has read and understands 15 the Arkansas law applicable to obtaining signatures on a local option 16 election petition; and 17 (5) A photograph of the person taken within ninety (90) days of 18 the submission of the information required under this section. 19 (c) A sponsor shall maintain the information required under this 20 section for each paid canvasser for three (3) years after the general 21 election. 22 23 3-8-803. Petition to determine granting of licenses for manufacture or 24 sale or bartering, loaning, or giving away of intoxicating liquor. 25 (a) An election to determine whether licenses will be granted for the 26 manufacture or sale or the bartering, loaning, or giving away of intoxicating 27 liquor shall be called by a petition signed by registered voters in the 28 designated county, township, municipality, ward, or precinct in a number equal to thirty-eight percent (38%) of the registered voters. 29 30 (b) The petition shall be filed with the county clerk. 31 (c) The county clerk shall verify the signatures on the petition and 32 determine the sufficiency of the petition no later than ten (10) days after 33 the petition is submitted. (d) The total number of voters registered as certified by the county 34 35 clerk to the Secretary of State by June 1 of each year pursuant to Arkansas Constitution, Amendment 51, shall be the basis upon which the number of 36

sponsor shall provide an updated list of all paid canvassers' names and

1	signatures of qualified electors on petitions shall be computed.
2	
3	3-8-804. Duties of election officers - Penalty for failure to perform.
4	(a) The duties imposed by this subchapter upon members of the State
5	Board of Election Commissioners, members of the county boards of election
6	commissioners, election officials, and other officers expressly named in this
7	subchapter shall be performed:
8	(1) In good faith;
9	(2) Within the time provided by this subchapter; and
10	(3) In the manner provided by this subchapter.
11	(b) If a member of a board, an election official, or another officer
12	charged with a duty under this subchapter knowingly fails to perform that
13	duty, he or she shall be upon conviction:
14	(1) Fined not less than one hundred dollars (\$100) nor more than
15	one thousand dollars (\$1,000); and
16	(2) Removed from his or her office.
17	
18	3-8-805. Signing of petition - Penalty for falsification - Notice of
19	suspected forgery.
20	(a)(1) A person signing a petition under this subchapter shall:
21	(A) Be a registered voter; and
22	(B) Sign his or her own name and print his or her own
23	name, address, birthdate, and the date of signing on a petition in his or her
24	own handwriting.
25	(2) If a person signing a petition under subdivision (a)(1) of
26	this section requires assistance due to disability, another person:
27	(A) May print the name, address, birthdate, and the date
28	of signing; and
29	(B) Shall sign and print his or her name in the margin of
30	the petition.
31	(3) A person who is under eighteen (18) years of age shall not
32	act as a canvasser.
33	(b) $\Lambda$ person commits a Class $\Lambda$ misdemeanor if the person, acting as a
34	canvasser, notary, sponsor, or agent of a sponsor knowingly:
35	(1) Signs a name other than his or her own to a petition;
36	(2) Prints a name, address, or birthdate other than his or her

1 own on a petition unless the signer requires assistance due to disability and 2 the person complies with this section; 3 (3) Solicits or obtains a signature to a petition knowing that 4 the person signing is not qualified to sign the petition; 5 (4) Pays a person any form of compensation in exchange for 6 signing a petition as a petitioner; 7 (5) Accepts or pays money or anything of value for obtaining 8 signatures on a petition when the person acting as a canvasser, sponsor, or 9 agent of a sponsor knows that the person acting as canvasser's name or 10 address is not included on the sponsor's list filed with the county clerk; or 11 (6) As a sponsor, files a petition part with the official 12 charged with verifying the signatures knowing that the petition part contains 13 one (1) or more false or fraudulent signatures unless each false or 14 fraudulent signature is clearly stricken by the sponsor before filing. 15 (c) When the official charged with verifying the signatures has 16 reasonable grounds to believe that one (1) or more signatures on a petition 17 is forged, excluding signatures apparently signed by one spouse for another, 18 the official shall report the suspected forgery and basis for suspecting forgery to: 19 20 (1) The Department of Arkansas State Police, in the case of a 21 statewide petition; or 22 (2) The prosecuting attorney of the county, in the case of a 23 local petition. 24 25 3-8-806. Form of initiative petition - Sufficiency of signatures. 26 (a) The petition for an ordinance, act, or amendment proposed by 27 initiative shall be on substantially the following form: 28 "PETITION FOR LOCAL OPTION ELECTION 29 To the Honorable 30 County Clerk or City Clerk We, the undersigned registered voters of the State of Arkansas, or 31 32 County, Arkansas, or City or Incorporated Town of • Arkansas• 33 respectfully request that an election be held to determine whether licenses 34 will be granted for the manufacture or sale or the bartering, loaning, or 35 giving away of intoxicating liquor in the district described below, to the 36 end that the same may be adopted, enacted, or rejected by the vote of the

- 1 registered voters of said district. Each of us for himself or herself says: 2 I have personally signed this petition; I am a registered voter of 3 County, Arkansas, or City or Incorporated Town of , Arkansas, and 4 my printed name, date of birth, residence, city or town of residence, and 5 date of signing this petition are correctly written after my signature. 6 (Here insert a description of the district in which the 7 election shall be held.)" 8 (b) The information on the petition provided by the person may be used 9 as evidence of the validity or invalidity of the signature. However, if a 10 signature of a registered voter on the petition is sufficient to verify the 11 voter's name, then it shall not be adjudged invalid for failure to sign the 12 name or write the residence and city or town of residence exactly as it 13 appears on voter registration records, for failure to print the name in the 14 space provided, for failure to provide the correct date of birth, nor for 15 failure to provide the correct date of signing the petition, all the 16 information being an aid to verification rather than a mandatory requirement 17 to perfect the validity of the signature. 18 (c) No additional sheets of voter signatures shall be attached to any 19 petition unless the sheets contain the full language of the petition. 20 (d)(1) The signature section of the petition shall be formatted and 21 shall contain the number of signature lines prescribed by the county clerk. 22 (2) Before the circulation of a petition for signatures, the 23 sponsor shall file a printed petition part with the county clerk in the exact 24 form that will be used for obtaining signatures. 25 26 3-8-807. Procedure for circulation of petition. 27 (a)(1) Each petition under this subchapter for an election to be held 28 in a district that includes more than one (1) county shall be prepared and circulated in a petition part, and each petition part shall be an exact copy 29 30 of all other such petition parts upon which signatures of petitioners are to be solicited. 31
  - (2) When a sufficient number of petition parts are signed by a requisite number of qualified electors and are filed and duly certified by the county clerk, they shall be treated and considered as one (1) petition.

33

34

35 (b) Each petition part shall have attached to it the affidavit of the canvascer stating that:

1 (1) The canvasser's current residence address appearing on the 2 verification is correct; 3 (2) All signatures appearing on the petition part were made in 4 the presence of the affiant; and 5 (3) To the best of the affiant's knowledge and belief each 6 signature is genuine and each person signing is a registered voter. 7 (c) No petition part under this section shall contain signatures of 8 petitioners from more than one (1) county. 9 3-8-808. Form of verification - Penalty for false statement. 10 11 (a) Each petition containing signatures shall be verified in 12 substantially the following form by the canvasser's affidavit thereon as a 13 part thereof: 14 "State of Arkansas, County of 15 (print name of canvasser) , being duly sworn, state 16 that each of the foregoing persons signed his or her own name to this sheet 17 of the petition in my presence. To the best of my knowledge and belief, each 18 signature is genuine and each signer is a registered voter of 19 County, or City or Incorporated Town of . At all times during the 20 circulation of this signature sheet, an exact copy of the popular name, 21 ballot title, and text was attached to the signature sheet. My current 22 residence address is correctly stated below. 23 Signature 24 Residence 25 Indicate one: Paid Canvasser -Volunteer/Unpaid Canvasser 26 Subscribed and sworn to before me this <del>, 20</del> <del>day of</del> 27 **Signature** 28 Clerk, Notary, Judge, or Justice of the Peace 29 Sea1 30 (b)(1) If the form under this section is substantially followed in a petition, it is sufficient. 31 32 (2) The form shall not be held insufficient for clerical and 33 merely technical errors. (c)(l) Petitions shall not be disqualified due to clerical or 34 35 technical errors made by a clerk, notary, judge, or justice of the peace when 36 verifying the canvasser's signature.

1	(2) Petitions shall not be disqualified for failure of a clerk,
2	notary, judge, or justice of the peace to sign exactly as his or her name
3	appears on his or her seal if the signature of a clerk, notary, judge, or
4	justice of the peace is sufficient to verify his or her name.
5	(d) A canvasser or paid canvasser who knowingly makes a false
6	statement on a petition verification form required by this section shall be
7	deemed guilty of a Class D felony.
8	
9	3-8-809. Failure to act on petition - Mandamus - Injunction.
10	(a) If the county clerk does not examine and certify a petition under
11	this chapter within the time prescribed in § 3-8-803, the sponsors may apply
12	to the circuit court with jurisdiction for appropriate relief.
13	(b) If the court decides that the petition is legally sufficient, it
14	shall order the county clerk to certify the sufficiency of the petition and
15	set an election date.
16	(c) On a proper showing that any petition is not sufficient, the court
17	may enjoin the county elerk from:
18	(1) Certifying its sufficiency; or
19	(2) Setting an election date.
20	
21	3-8-810. Preservation of records.
22	(a) All petitions, notices, certificates, or other documentary
23	evidence of procedural steps taken under this subchapter shall be filed and
24	preserved.
25	(b) Petitions with signatures shall be retained for two (2) years
26	after submission to the county clerk.
27	
28	3-8-811. Count of signatures.
29	(a) Upon the initial filing of a petition under this subchapter, the
30	official charged with verifying the signatures shall:
31	(1) Perform an initial count of the signatures; and
32	(2) Determine whether the petition contains, on its face and
33	before verification of the signatures of registered voters, the designated
34	number of signatures required by the Arkansas Constitution and statutory law
35	in order to call an election.
36	(b) A petition part and all signatures appearing on the petition part

1	shall not be counted for any purpose by the official charges with verifying
2	the signatures, including the initial count of signatures, if one (1) or more
3	of the following is true:
4	(1) The petition is not an original petition, including without
5	limitation a petition that is photocopied or is a facsimile transmission;
6	(2) The petition lacks the signature, printed name, and
7	residence address of the canvasser or is signed by more than one (1)
8	<del>canvasser;</del>
9	(3)(A) The canvasser is a paid canvasser whose name and the
10	information required under § 3-8-802 were not submitted by the sponsor to the
11	county clerk before the petitioner signed the petition.
12	(B) A canvasser is a paid canvasser if he or she is paid
13	money or anything of value for soliciting signatures before or after the
14	signatures are obtained;
15	(4) The canvasser verification is not notarized, is notarized by
16	more than one (1) notary, or lacks a notary signature or a notary seal;
17	(5) The canvasser verification is dated earlier than the date or
18	which a petitioner signed the petition;
19	(6) The petition part clearly and unmistakably contains
20	signatures of petitioners from more than one (1) county unless each signature
21	of a petitioner from another county is clearly stricken before the filing of
22	the petition with the county clerk; or
23	(7) The petition part has a material defect that, on its face,
24	renders the petition part invalid.
25	(c) The following signatures shall not be counted for any purpose by
26	the official charged with verifying the signatures, including the initial
27	count of signatures:
28	(1) A signature that is not an original signature;
29	(2) A signature that is obviously not that of the purported
30	petitioner;
31	(3) A signature that is illegible and is accompanied by no
32	personally identifying information;
33	(4) A signature for which the corresponding printed name,
34	address, or birthdate is written by someone other than the signer except
35	under circumstances of disability of the signer; and
36	(5) A signature that has any other material defect that on its

```
1
     face, renders the signature invalid.
 2
           SECTION 16. Arkansas Code \S 5-55-601(a), concerning the definition of
 3
 4
     "petition" as it relates to petition fraud, is amended to read as follows:
 5
           (a) As used in this section, "petition" means a petition under § 3-8-
 6
     201 et seq., \S 3-8-801 et seq., or \S 7-9-101 et seq.
7
8
           SECTION 17. Arkansas Code § 19-6-201(22)(C), concerning alcoholic
9
     beverages taxes, permits, licenses, and fees within the general revenues of
10
     the state, is amended to read as follows:
11
                       (C) Nonintoxicating beer and wine taxes, as enacted by
12
     Acts 1933 (1st Ex. Sess.), No. 7, and all laws amendatory thereto, §§ 3-5-201
13
     -3-5-207, 3-5-209 - 3-5-221, and 3-5-223 - 3-5-225, and 3-8-401;
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25
26
27
28
29
30
31
32
33
34
35
36
```