

1 State of Arkansas
2 90th General Assembly
3 Regular Session, 2015
4

A Bill

SENATE BILL 228

5 By: Senator Irvin
6 By: Representative B. Overbey
7

For An Act To Be Entitled

9 AN ACT TO AMEND THE LAW CONCERNING THE ORGANIZATIONAL
10 PROCEDURES OF CITY COUNCILS; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.
11

Subtitle

12
13 TO AMEND THE LAW CONCERNING THE
14 ORGANIZATIONAL PROCEDURES OF CITY
15 COUNCILS.
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19 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:
20

21 SECTION 1. Arkansas Code § 14-43-501 is amended to read as follows:

22 14-43-501. Organization of ~~city council governing body~~.

23 (a)(1) The ~~aldermen~~ members of a governing body elected for each city
24 or town shall annually, ~~at the first council meeting~~ in January, assemble and
25 organize the ~~city council governing body~~.

26 (2)(A) A majority of the whole number of ~~aldermen~~ members of a
27 governing body constitutes a quorum for the transaction of business.

28 (B)(i) ~~They~~ The governing body shall ~~be judges of judge~~
29 the election returns and ~~of~~ the qualifications of ~~their~~ its own members.

30 (ii) These judgments of the governing body are not
31 subject to veto by the mayor.

32 (C)(i) ~~They~~ The governing body shall determine the rules
33 of ~~their~~ its proceedings and keep a journal of ~~their~~ its proceedings, ~~which~~
34 and the journal shall be open to the inspection and examination of any
35 citizen.

36 (ii) ~~They~~ The governing body may also compel the



1 attendance of absent members in such a manner and under such penalties as
2 ~~they shall think fit to prescribe~~ it prescribes.

3 (iii) ~~They~~ The governing body may consider the
4 passage of rules on the following subjects, including without limitation:

5 (a) The agenda for meetings;

6 (b) The filing of resolutions and ordinances;

7 and

8 (c) Citizen commentary.

9 (b)(1)(A) ~~The~~ In a mayor-council form of government, the mayor shall
10 be ex officio president of the city council and shall preside at its
11 meetings.

12 (B) The mayor shall have a vote to establish a quorum of
13 the city council at any regular or special meeting of the city council and
14 when his or her vote is needed to pass any ordinance, bylaw, resolution,
15 order, or motion.

16 (2) In the absence of the mayor, the city council shall elect a
17 president pro tempore to preside over council meetings.

18 (3) If the mayor is unable to perform the duties of office or
19 cannot be located, one (1) of the following individuals may perform all
20 functions of a mayor during the disability or absence of the mayor:

21 (A) The city clerk;

22 (B) Another elected official of the city if designated by
23 the mayor; or

24 (C) An unelected employee or resident of the city if
25 designated by the mayor and approved by the city council.

26 (c) As used in this section, "governing body" means the city council
27 in a mayor-council form of government, the board of directors in a city
28 manager form of government, and the board of directors in a city
29 administrator form of government.

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32 **APPROVED: 02/27/2015**