

ARKANSAS SENATE

90th General Assembly - First Extraordinary Session, 2015

Amendment Form

Subtitle of Senate Bill No. 8

TO AMEND ARKANSAS LAW CONCERNING THE DATES OF THE GENERAL PRIMARY ELECTION AND PREFERENTIAL PRIMARY ELECTION; TO AMEND THE TIME PERIOD FOR FILING AS A CANDIDATE FOR A PRIMARY ELECTION; AND TO DECLARE AN EMERGENCY.

Amendment No. 1 to Senate Bill No. 8

Amend Senate Bill No. 8 as originally introduced:

Delete SECTION 6 of the bill in its entirety

AND

Immediately following SECTION 5 of the bill, insert additional sections of the bill to read as follows:

"SECTION 6. DO NOT CODIFY - ACT TO BE RETROACTIVE. (a) To ensure that independent candidates are provided the maximum number of days allowed by law to circulate petitions to qualify as an independent candidate, the provisions of this act are retroactive to August 1, 2015.

(b) Signatures on a petition to have the name of a person placed upon the ballot as an independent candidate under § 7-7-103 collected between August 11, 2015, and the effective date of this act shall be counted if:

(1) The signatures are not otherwise collected in violation of Arkansas law;

(2) The signatures otherwise comply with applicable Arkansas law; and

(3) The petition is lawfully filed.

SECTION 7. DO NOT CODIFY - TEMPORARY LANGUAGE AND SUSPENSION OF CURRENT LAW. (a) This act is cumulative of existing laws and shall not repeal but merely suspend any law in conflict with the act.

(b) The provisions of this act are temporary and expire on December 31, 2016.

(c) On and after December 31, 2016, the provisions of law suspended by this act shall be in full force and effect.

(d) The expiration of this act shall not affect rights acquired under it or affect suits then pending.

SECTION 8. EMERGENCY CLAUSE. It is found and determined by the General Assembly of the State of Arkansas that independent candidates may



circulate petitions for candidacy for ninety (90) days before the deadline for filing as a candidate for office; and that without an emergency clause, the effective date of this act will cause confusion regarding the rights and interests of independent candidates and the time period for circulating petitions for candidacy. Therefore, an emergency is declared to exist, and this act being immediately necessary for the preservation of the public peace, health, and safety shall become effective on:

(1) The date of its approval by the Governor;

(2) If the bill is neither approved nor vetoed by the Governor, the expiration of the period of time during which the Governor may veto the bill; or

(3) If the bill is vetoed by the Governor and the veto is overridden, the date the last house overrides the veto."

The Amendment was read the first time, rules suspended and read the second time and _____

By: Senator J. Dismang

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Secretary