

A Bill

5
6 By: Senators E. Williams, G. Baker, Bledsoe, Burnett, J. Dismang, Files, Holland, J. Hutchinson, Irvin,
7 G. Jeffress, J. Jeffress, J. Key, Rapert, Salmon, B. Sample, Teague, Whitaker, D. Wyatt

8 By: Representatives D. Altes, Barnett, Carter, English, Hopper, D. Hutchinson, Rice

9 Filed with: Interim Senate Committee on Education

10 pursuant to A.C.A. §10-3-217.

11 For An Act To Be Entitled

12 AN ACT TO *PROVIDE SCHOOL DISTRICTS THE CHOICE OF*
13 *HOLDING SCHOOL ELECTIONS ON THE SAME DATE AS GENERAL*
14 *ELECTIONS OR ON THE THIRD TUESDAY IN SEPTEMBER; TO*
15 *AMEND RELATED PROVISIONS OF LAW CONCERNING THE TERM*
16 *OF SERVICE FOR SCHOOL BOARD MEMBERS; AND FOR OTHER*
17 *PURPOSES.*

20 Subtitle

21 *TO PROVIDE SCHOOL DISTRICTS THE CHOICE OF*
22 *HOLDING SCHOOL ELECTIONS ON THE SAME DATE*
23 *AS GENERAL ELECTIONS OR IN SEPTEMBER; TO*
24 *AMEND RELATED PROVISIONS OF LAW*
25 *CONCERNING THE TERM OF SERVICE FOR SCHOOL*
26 *BOARD MEMBERS.*

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28
29 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:

30
31 SECTION 1. Arkansas Code § 6-13-617 is amended to read as follows:

32 6-13-617. Oath -- Term of office.

33 (a) Each director elected or appointed shall, ~~within ten (10) days~~
34 ~~after receiving notice of his or her election or appointment,~~ subscribe to
35 the following oath:

1 "I, _____, do hereby solemnly swear or
 2 affirm, that I will support the Constitution of the United States and the
 3 Constitution of the State of Arkansas, and that I will not be interested,
 4 directly or indirectly, in any contract made by the district of which I am a
 5 director, except as permitted by state law and that I will faithfully
 6 discharge the duties as school director in
 7 _____ School District, No.
 8 _____ of
 9 _____ County, Arkansas, upon which I am
 10 about to enter."

11 (b) The person shall take the oath under subsection (a) of this
 12 section:

13 (1) Within ten (10) days after receiving notice of his or her:

14 (A) Election in an annual school election held in
 15 September under § 6-14-102(a)(1);

16 (B) Election in a special election; or

17 (C) Appointment; or

18 (2) On or after January 1 but not later than January 10 of the
 19 year following the year in which the person was elected in an annual school
 20 election held in November under § 6-14-102(a)(2).

21 ~~(b)(c)~~ The county clerk, upon receipt of the oath prescribed for a
 22 director, ~~shall immediately~~ immediately shall commission ~~such persons, and~~
 23 ~~they~~ the person, and the person shall enter at once upon ~~their~~ his or her
 24 duties as ~~directors~~ a director.

25 (d) The term of office of a director shall begin on the later of:

26 (A) January 1 following the director's election in an
 27 annual school election held under § 6-14-102(a)(2); or

28 (B) Upon taking the oath of office under this section.

29 (e) A director shall hold his or her office for the term prescribed by
 30 the law and until a successor is elected or appointed and qualified.

31
 32 SECTION 2. Arkansas Code § 6-13-618(a), concerning the organizational
 33 meeting of a school district board of directors, is amended to read as
 34 follows:

1 (a)(1) *At the first regular meeting following the annual school*
2 *election, the board of directors of each school district shall organize by*
3 *electing:*

4 ~~(1)~~(A) *One (1) of their number president;*

5 ~~(2)~~(B) *One (1) of their number vice president; and*

6 ~~(3)~~(C) *A secretary who may be, but need not be, a member*
7 *of the board of directors.*

8 (2) If the annual school election is held under § 6-14-
9 102(a)(2), this subsection applies to the first regular meeting held after
10 January 1.

11 (b) The county board of election commissioners may include the annual
12 school election on a separate ballot if:

13 (1) The election is held under § 6-14-102(a)(2); and

14 (2) The board determines that a separate ballot is necessary to
15 avoid voter confusion.

16
17 SECTION 3. Arkansas Code § 6-14-102(a)(1), concerning the annual
18 school election date, is amended to read as follows:

19 (a)~~(1)~~ The board of directors of a school district shall set the date
20 that the annual school election shall is to be held in each the school
21 district of the state on as the:

22 (1) ~~third~~ Third Tuesday in September; or

23 (2) Tuesday next after the first Monday in November of each
24 year.

25
26 /s/E. Williams

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28 Referred by the Arkansas Senate

29 Prepared by: CLR/VJF
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