1	INTERIM STUDY PROPOSAL 2011-181
2	State of Arkansas
3	88th General Assembly A Bill DRAFT MBM/BGS
4	Fiscal Session, 2012 HOUSE BILL
5	
6	By: Representative King
7	Filed with: Arkansas Legislative Council
8	pursuant to A.C.A. §10-3-217
9	For An Act To Be Entitled
10	AN ACT TO REQUIRE THAT A VOTER PROVIDE PROOF OF
11	IDENTITY WHEN VOTING; TO PROVIDE FOR THE ISSUANCE OF
12	A VOTER IDENTIFICATION CARD; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.
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15	Subtitle
16	AN ACT TO REQUIRE THAT A VOTER PROVIDE
17	PROOF OF IDENTITY WHEN VOTING AND TO
18	PROVIDE FOR THE ISSUANCE OF A VOTER
19	IDENTIFICATION CARD.
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22	BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:
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24	SECTION 1. Arkansas Code § 7-1-101 is amended to read as follows:
25	7-1-101. Definitions.
26	As used in this title, unless the context or chapter otherwise
27	requires:
28	(1) "Administrator" means the administrative head of a long-term
29	care or residential care facility licensed by the state who is authorized in
30	writing by a patient of the long-term care or residential care facility to
31	deliver the application for an absentee ballot and to obtain or deliver the
32	absentee ballot to the county clerk;
33	(2) "Affidavit of eligibility" means an affidavit signed by a
34	candidate for elective office stating that the candidate is eligible to serve
35	in the office he or she seeks;

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(3) "Audit log" means an electronically stored record of events
 and ballot images from which election officials may produce a permanent paper
 record with a manual audit capacity for a voting system using voting
 machines;

5 (4) "Authorized agent" means a person who is identified and 6 authorized to deliver the application, obtain a ballot, and deliver the 7 ballot on the day of the election to the county clerk for an applicant who is 8 medically unable to cast a ballot at a polling site due to an unforeseen 9 medical necessity as set forth in an affidavit from the administrator of a 10 hospital or long-term care or residential care facility;

11 (5) "Canvassing" means examining and counting the returns of 12 votes cast at a public election to determine authenticity;

13 (6) "Certificate of choice" means a certificate, signed by an 14 executive officer of a political group that submits a petition to place its 15 candidates for President and Vice-President on the ballot, designating the 16 names of its candidates to appear on the ballot;

17 (7) "Constitutional officers of this state" means the offices of
18 the Governor, Lieutenant Governor, Secretary of State, Attorney General,
19 Auditor of State, Treasurer of State, and Commissioner of State Lands;

20 (8) "Counting location" means a location selected by the county 21 board of election commissioners with respect to all elections for the 22 automatic processing or counting, or both, of votes;

23 (9) "Designated bearer" means any person who is identified and 24 authorized by the applicant to obtain from the county clerk or to deliver to 25 the county clerk the applicant's ballot;

(10) "Election official" or "election officer" means a person who is a member of the county board of election commissioners or a person who is a poll worker designated by a county board of election commissioners to be an election clerk, election judge, or election sheriff;

30 (11) "Electronic vote tabulating device" means a device used to31 electronically scan a marked paper ballot for the purpose of tabulation;

32 (12) "Fail-safe voting" means the mechanism established under 33 the National Voter Registration Act of 1993, 42 U.S.C. § 1973 et seq., that 34 allows a voters voter who has moved within the same county to vote at his or 35 her new precinct without having updated his or her voter registration 36 records;

1 (13) "First-time voter" means any registered voter who has not 2 previously voted in a federal election in the state; 3 (14)"General or special election" means the regular biennial or 4 annual elections for election of United States, state, district, county, 5 township, and municipal officials and the special elections to fill vacancies 6 therein and special elections to approve any measure. The term as used in 7 this act shall not apply to school elections for officials of school 8 districts: "Majority party" means that political party in the State of 9 (15) 10 Arkansas whose candidates were elected to a majority of the constitutional offices of this state in the last preceding general election; 11 12 "Marking device" means any approved device for marking a (16) 13 paper ballot with ink or other substance that will enable the votes to be 14 tabulated by means of an electronic vote tabulating device; 15 (17) "Member of the merchant marine" means: 16 (A) An individual employed as an officer or crew member 17 of: 18 (i) A vessel documented under the laws of the United 19 States; 20 (ii) A vessel owned by the United States; or 21 (iii) A vessel of foreign-flag registry under 22 charter or control of the United States; 23 An individual enrolled with the United States for (B) 24 employment or training for employment or maintained by the United States for 25 emergency relief service as an officer or crew member of any such vessel; or 26 (C) As defined in the federal Uniformed and Overseas 27 Citizens Absentee Voting Act if different from the definition stated in this 28 subdivision (17); 29 (18) "Minority party" means that political party whose 30 candidates were elected to less than a majority of the constitutional offices 31 of this state in the last preceding general election or the political party 32 that polled the second greatest number of votes for the office of Governor in the last preceding general election if all of the elected constitutional 33 34 officers of this state are from a single political party; 35 (19) "Party certificate" means a written statement or receipt 36 signed by the secretary or chair of the county committee or of the state

1 committee, as the case may be, of the political party evidencing the name and 2 title proposed to be used by the candidate on the ballot, the position the 3 candidate seeks, payment of the fees, and filing of the party pledge, if any, 4 required by the political party;

5 (20) "Party filing period" means the period of time established 6 by law for the candidate for a political party's nomination to file his or 7 her party certificate with the Secretary of State or county clerk, as the 8 case may be;

9 (21)(A) "Political party" means any group of voters that at the 10 last preceding general election polled for its candidate for Governor in the 11 state or nominees for presidential electors at least three percent (3%) of 12 the entire vote cast for the office.

13 (B) A group of electors shall nor assume a name or 14 designation that is so similar in the opinion of the Secretary of State to 15 that of an existing political party as to confuse or mislead the voters at an 16 election.

17 (C) When any political party fails to obtain three percent
18 (3%) of the total votes cast at an election for the office of Governor or
19 nominees for presidential electors, it shall cease to be a political party;

20 (22) "Polling site" means a location selected by the county21 board of election commissioners where votes are cast;

(23) "Precinct" means the geographical boundary lines dividing a
 county, municipality, township, or school district for voting purposes;

(24) "Primary election" means any election held by a political
party in the manner provided by law for the purpose of selecting nominees of
the political party for certification as candidates for election at any
general or special election in this state;

28 (25) "Proof of identity" means a document or identification card
29 that:
30 (A) Shows the name of the person to whom the document was
31 issued;
32 (B) Shows a photograph of the person to whom the document
33 was issued;
34 (C) Contains an expiration date and:

35 <u>(i) Is not expired; or</u>

1	(ii) Expired no more than four (4) years before the
2	date of the election in which the person wishes to vote; and
3	(D) Is issued by the United States or the State of
4	Arkansas;
5	(25)(26) "Provisional ballot" means a ballot:
6	(A) Cast by special procedures to record a vote when there
7	is some question concerning a voter's eligibility; and
8	(B) Counted contingent upon the verification of the
9	voter's eligibility;
10	(26)(27) "Qualified elector" means a person who holds the
11	qualifications of an elector and who is registered pursuant to Arkansas
12	Constitution, Amendment 51;
13	(27)(28) "Sample ballot" means a ballot for distribution to the
14	public or the press marked with the word "SAMPLE" so as to prevent the
15	production of counterfeit ballots;
16	(28)(29) "Uniformed services" means the United States Army,
17	United States Navy, United States Air Force, United States Marine Corps, and
18	United States Coast Guard, the commissioned corps of the United States Public
19	Health Service, and the commissioned corps of the National Oceanic and
20	Atmospheric Administration, or as defined in the federal Uniformed and
21	Overseas Citizens Absentee Voting Act if different from the definition stated
22	in this subdivision <del>(28)(29)</del> ;
23	(29)(30) "Vacancy in election" means the vacancy in an elective
24	office created by death, resignation, or other good and legal cause arising
25	prior to election to the office at a general or special election but arising
26	subsequent to the certification of the ballot;
27	(30)(31) "Vacancy in nomination" means the circumstances in
28	which:
29	(A) The person who received the majority of votes at the
30	preferential primary election or general primary election cannot accept the
31	nomination due to death or notifies the party that he or she will not accept
32	the nomination due to serious illness, moving out of the area from which the
33	person was elected as the party's nominee, or filing for another office
34	preceding the final date for certification of nominations; or
35	(B) There is a tie vote for the same office at a general
36	primary election;

1 (31)(32)(A) "Vacancy in office" means the vacancy in an elective 2 office created by death, resignation, or other good and legal cause arising subsequent to election to the office at a general or special election or 3 4 arising subsequent to taking office and before the expiration of the term of 5 office in those circumstances wherein the vacancy must be filled by a special 6 election rather than by appointment. 7 (B) The phrase "vacancy in office" shall not apply to the 8 election of a person at a general election to fill an unexpired portion of a 9 term of office; 10 (32)(33) "Voter-verified paper audit trail" means a contemporaneous paper record of a ballot printed for the voter to confirm his 11 12 or her votes before the voter casts his or her ballot that: 13 (A) Allows the voter to verify the voter-verified paper 14 audit trail before the casting of the voter's ballot; 15 (B) Is not retained by the voter; 16 (C) Does not contain individual voter information: 17 (D) Is produced on paper that is sturdy, clean, and 18 resistant to degradation; and Is readable in a manner that makes the voter's ballot 19 (E) 20 choices obvious to the voter without the use of computer or electronic code; 21 (33)(34) "Voting machine" means either: 22 (A) A direct-recording electronic voting machine that: 23 (i) Records votes by means of a ballot display 24 provided with mechanical or electro-optical components that may be actuated 25 by the voter; 26 (ii) Processes the data by means of a computer 27 program; 28 (iii) Records voting data and ballot images in 29 internal and external memory components; and 30 (iv) Produces a tabulation of the voting data stored 31 in a removable memory component and on a printed copy; or 32 (B) An electronic device for marking a paper ballot to be electronically scanned; and 33 34 (34)(35) "Voting system" means: 35 (A) The total combination of mechanical, 36 electromechanical, or electronic equipment, including the software, firmware,

1 and documentation required to program, control, and support the equipment 2 that is used to: 3 (i) Define ballots: 4 (ii) Cast and count votes; 5 (iii) Report or display election results; and 6 (iv) Maintain and produce any audit trail 7 information; and 8 The practices and documentation used to: (B) 9 (i) Identify system components and versions of 10 components; 11 (ii) Test the system during its development and 12 maintenance; (iii) Maintain records of system errors and defects; 13 14 (iv) Determine specific system changes to be made to 15 a system after the initial qualification of the system; and 16 (v) Make available any materials to the voter, 17 including without limitation notices, instructions, forms, or paper ballots. 18 19 SECTION 2. Arkansas Code § 7-5-201 is amended to read as follows: 20 7-5-201. Voter gualification. 21 (a) To be qualified to vote, a person shall have registered at least 22 thirty (30) calendar days immediately prior to the election and in the manner 23 set forth by Arkansas Constitution, Amendment 51. 24 (b) "Voting residence" shall be a voter's domicile and shall be 25 governed by the following provisions: 26 (1) The domicile of a person is that place in which his or her 27 habitation is fixed to which he or she has the intention to return whenever 28 he or she is absent; 29 (2) A change of domicile is made only by the act of abandonment, 30 joined with the intent to remain in another place. A person can have only one 31 (1) domicile at any given time; 32 (3) A person does not lose his or her domicile if he or she 33 temporarily leaves his or her home and goes to another country, state, or 34 place in this state with the intent of returning;

1 (4) The place where a person's family resides is presumed to be 2 his or her place of domicile, but a person may acquire a separate residence if he or she takes another abode with the intention of remaining there; 3 4 (5) A married person may be considered to have a domicile 5 separate from that of his or her spouse for the purposes of voting or holding 6 office. For those purposes, domicile is determined as if the person were 7 single; and 8 (6) Persons who are temporarily living in a particular place 9 because of a temporary work-related assignment or duty post or as a result of 10 their performing duties in connection with their status as military personnel, students, or office holders shall be deemed residents of that 11 12 place where they established their home prior to beginning such assignments 13 or duties. 14 (c) No person may be qualified to vote in more than one (1) precinct 15 of any county at any one (1) time. (d)(1) Except as provided in subdivision (d)(2) and subsection (e) of 16 17 this section, any person desiring to vote in this state shall: 18 (A) Present proof of identity to the election official 19 when appearing to vote in person either early or at the polls on election 20 <u>day; or</u> (B) When voting by mail, submit with the ballot a copy of 21 22 a current and valid photo identification or a copy of a current utility bill, 23 bank statement, government check, paycheck, or other government document that 24 shows the name and address of the voter. 25 (2)(A) A person who is a resident of a licensed nursing home, licensed residential care facility, licensed assisted-living facility, or any 26 27 licensed facility that provides long-term medical or personal care is not required to provide proof of identity before voting. 28 29 (B) A person not required to provide proof of identity 30 under subdivision (d)(2)(A) of this section shall provide documentation from the administrator of the facility attesting that the person is a resident of 31 32 the facility. (d)(e)(1) Any In addition to the proof of identity required by 33 34 subdivision (d)(1) of this section, a person registering to vote by mail and 35 who has not previously voted in a federal election in this state shall: 36 (A) Present to the election official a current and

1 valid photo identification or a copy of a current utility bill, bank 2 statement, government check, paycheck, or other government document that 3 shows the name and address of the voter when appearing to vote in person 4 either early or at the polls on election day; or 5 (B) When voting by mail, submit with the ballot a copy of 6 a current and valid photo identification or a copy of a current utility bill, 7 bank statement, government check, paycheck, or other government document that 8 shows the name and address of the voter. 9 (2) The provision of subdivision (d)(e)(1) of this section does 10 not include: 11 (A) Persons whose applications are transmitted by state or 12 federal voter registration agencies; 13 (B) Persons who are covered by the Uniformed and Overseas 14 Citizens Absentee Voting Act, 42 U.S.C § 1973ff-1 et seq.; 15 (C) Persons covered by the Voting Accessibility for the Elderly and Handicapped Act, 42 U.S.C § 1973ee et seq.; 16 17 (D) Persons who are entitled to vote otherwise than in 18 person under any other federal law; 19 (E) Persons who register to vote by mail and submit as 20 part of the registration any of the identification documents listed in 21 subdivision (d)(1) (e)(1) of this section; or 22 (F) Persons who register to vote by mail and submit with 23 the registration either a driver's license number or at least the last four 24 (4) digits of the individual's social security number and with respect to 25 whom a state or local election official matches the license number or social security number with an existing state identification record bearing the same 26 27 number, name, and date of birth as provided in the registration. 28 (e)(f) Any person who receives an absentee ballot according to the 29 precinct voter registration list but who elects to vote by early voting or to vote at his or her polling site on election day shall be permitted to cast a 30 31 provisional ballot. 32 SECTION 3. Arkansas Code § 7-5-305(a)(8), concerning requests for 33 34 identification when voting, is amended to read as follows: 35 (8)(A)(i) Request Except as provided in subdivision 36 (a)(8)(A)(ii) and (a)(8)(B)(ii) of this section, request the voter for

1	purposes of identification to provide a current and valid photo
2	identification or a copy of a current utility bill, bank statement,
3	government check, paycheck, or other government document that shows the name
4	and address of the voter proof of identity.
5	(ii)(a) A person who is a resident of a licensed
6	nursing home, licensed residential care facility, licensed assisted-living
7	facility, or any licensed facility that provides long-term medical or
8	personal care is not required to provide proof of identity before voting.
9	(b) A person not required to provide proof of
10	identity under subdivision (a)(8)(A)(ii)(a) of this section shall provide
11	documentation from the administrator of the facility attesting that the
12	person is a resident of the facility.
13	(B)(i) If a voter is unable to provide this <del>identification</del>
14	proof of identity, the poll worker shall:
15	(a) indicate Indicate on the precinct
16	voter registration list that the voter did not provide <del>identification</del> proof
17	of identity; and
18	(b) Permit the voter to cast a provisional
19	<u>ballot</u> .
20	(ii) When a voter is unable to provide proof of
21	identity, the voter and the election official shall follow the procedure
22	<u>under § 7-5-321.</u>
23	<del>(ii)(iii)</del> A first-time voter who registers by mail
24	without providing identification when registering and desires to vote in
25	person but who does not meet the identification requirements of subdivision
26	$(a)(8)(\Lambda)$ of this section § 7-5-201(e) may cast a provisional ballot.
27	(iii)(iv) Following each election, the county board
28	of election commissioners may review the precinct voter registration lists
29	and may provide the information of the voters not providing identification
30	proof of identity at the polls to the prosecuting attorney.
31	(iv)(v) The prosecuting attorney may investigate
32	possible voter fraud;
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34	SECTION 4. Arkansas Code Title 7, Chapter 5, Subchapter 3 is amended
35	to add two (2) new sections to read as follows:
36	7-5-321. Procedure when voter fails to provide proof of identity.

1	(a) If the voter is listed on the precinct voter registration list but
2	fails to provide proof of identity, the election official shall:
3	(1) Indicate on the precinct voter registration list that the
4	voter did not provide proof of identity; and
5	(2) Permit the voter to cast a provisional ballot.
6	(b)(1) A person who is a resident of a licensed nursing home, licensed
7	residential care facility, licensed assisted-living facility, or any licensed
8	facility that provides long-term medical or personal care is not required to
9	provide proof of identity before voting.
10	(2) A person not required to provide proof of identity under
11	subdivision (b)(1) of this section shall provide documentation from the
12	administrator of the facility attesting that the person is a resident of the
13	facility.
14	(c) A provisional ballot cast by a voter who did not provide proof of
15	identity shall be counted only if:
16	(1) The voter returns to the county board of election
17	commissioners by 12:00 noon on the Monday following the election and:
18	(A) Provides proof of identity; or
19	(B) Executes an affidavit stating that the voter cannot
20	provide proof of identity because the voter:
21	(i) Is indigent; or
22	(ii) Has a religious objection to being
23	photographed; and
24	(2) Either:
25	(A) The voter has not been challenged or required to vote
26	a provisional ballot for any other reason; or
27	(B) If the voter has been challenged or required to vote a
28	provisional ballot for any other reason, the provisional ballot has been
29	determined to be valid.
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31	7-5-322. Voter identification card.
32	(a)(l)(A) The Secretary of State shall provide by rule for the
33	issuance of a voter identification card that may be requested by an
34	individual to be used as proof of identity when appearing to vote in person.
35	(B) The rules shall include, without limitation:

1	(i) A requirement that the voter identification card
2	include a photograph of the voter;
3	(ii) Specification of the information to be included
4	on the voter identification card; and
5	(iii) Provisions concerning the expiration of a
6	voter identification card.
7	(2) Providing for the issuance of a voter identification card
8	under subdivision (a)(l)(A) of this section may include, without limitation,
9	the purchase by the Secretary of State of cameras and other equipment
10	necessary to generate a voter identification card in the office of each
11	county clerk.
12	(b) A voter identification card shall be issued without the payment of
13	<u>a fee or charge to an individual who:</u>
14	(1) Does not have a valid Arkansas driver's license; and
15	(2) Will be at least eighteen (18) years of age at the next
16	general election, special election, or municipal election.
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18	SECTION 5. Arkansas Code § 7-5-418 is amended to read as follows:
19	7-5-418. Early voting.
20	(a)(1)(A) Except as provided in subdivision (a)(1)(B) of this section,
21	early voting shall be available to any qualified elector who applies to the
22	county clerk's designated early voting location, beginning fifteen (15) days
23	before a preferential primary or general election between the hours of 8:00
24	a.m. and 6:00 p.m. Monday through Friday and 10:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m.
25	Saturday and ending at 5:00 p.m. on the Monday before the election.
26	(B) Early voting shall not be available on state or county
27	holidays.
28	(2) However, on all other elections, including the general
29	primary and general runoff elections, early voting shall be available to any
30	qualified elector who applies to the county clerk during regular office
31	hours, beginning seven (7) days before the election and ending on the day
32	before the election day at the time the county clerk's office regularly
33	closes.
34	(b)(1)(A) The county board of election commissioners may decide to
35	hold early voting at additional polling sites outside the offices of the

county clerk on any of the days and times provided for in subsection (a) of
 this section, if it so chooses.

3 (B) The county board of election commissioners shall
4 determine by unanimous vote the location of additional polling sites for
5 early voting.

6 (2) The county board of election commissioners shall appoint the 7 election officials for the additional early voting polling site or sites in 8 the same manner as election officials are appointed for election day.

9 (3)(A) The county board of election commissioners shall notify 10 the county clerk of its decision to hold early voting at additional polling 11 sites outside the office of the county clerk within ten (10) days of the 12 decision.

(B) If the county board of election commissioners decides to hold early voting at one (1) or more conveniently located polling sites on the days and times under subsection (a) of this section, the county clerk may choose not to hold early voting within the office of the county clerk. The county clerk shall notify the county board within ten (10) days of the receipt of notice from the county board of election commissioners regarding early voting at additional polling sites.

20 (4) The early voting election official shall record the date on
21 all pages of the early voting roster or early voting request form and keep a
22 daily record of the number of early ballots cast.

(5) All voted ballots and unvoted ballots and all related election materials at each additional early voting polling site shall be stored in a secure location in the county courthouse or in a secure location as determined by the county board of election commissioners immediately after the close of the additional polling sites each day that early voting is conducted there.

29 (c) Before a person is permitted to cast an early vote, the county 30 clerk or election official shall:

31 (1) Request the voter to identify himself or herself by stating 32 his or her name, date of birth, and address in order to verify his or her 33 registration;

34 (2) Request the voter to present proof of identity to the county
 35 clerk or election official;

1	(2)(3) If the voter's name or address is not the same as that in
2	the county voter registration record files, request the voter to complete an
3	updated voter registration application form;
4	(3) (4) Request the voter to sign an early voting roster or early
5	voting request form that identifies his or her name, address, date of birth,
6	and the date on the roster or form; and
7	(4)(5) Enter the voter's precinct number on the early voting
8	roster or early voting request form.
9	(d)(1) If the voter is not listed in the county voter registration
10	record files and the county clerk is unable to verify the voter's
11	registration and if the voter contends that he or she is eligible to vote,
12	then the voter may vote a provisional ballot that shall be counted only upon
13	verification of the voter's registration status.
14	(2)(A) If the voter fails to provide proof of identity, the
15	election official shall follow the procedure stated in § 7-5-321.
16	(B)(i) A person who is a resident of a licensed nursing
17	home, licensed residential care facility, licensed assisted-living facility,
18	or any licensed facility that provides long-term medical or personal care is
19	not required to provide proof of identity before voting.
20	(ii) A person not required to provide proof of
21	identity under subdivision (d)(2)(B)(i) of this section shall provide
22	documentation from the administrator of the facility attesting that the
23	person is a resident of the facility.
24	(e) The county clerk or county board shall furnish voting locations
25	that adequately allow the early voter to personally and secretly execute his
26	or her ballot.
27	(f) Except as provided in this section, early voting shall be
28	conducted in the same manner as voting on election day. Conduct that is
29	prohibited or restricted on election day shall be subject to the same
30	prohibitions and restrictions on the days on which early voting is conducted.
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32	SECTION 6. NOT TO BE CODIFIED. This act shall become effective upon
33	the later of the following:
34	(1) January 1, 2013; or

1	(2 The appropriation and availability of funding to the
2	Secretary of State for the issuance of voter identification cards under
3	Section 4 of this act.
4	Referral requested by: Representative Bryan B. King
5	Prepared by: MBM/BGS
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