

1 **State of Arkansas**  
2 **78th General Assembly**  
3 **Regular Session, 1991**  
4 **By: Representative Flanagan**

# A Bill

**HOUSE BILL 1177**

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## 7 **For An Act To Be Entitled**

8 "AN ACT TO AMEND ARKANSAS CODE ANNOTATED §16-17-120 TO  
9 PROVIDE THAT MUNICIPAL JUDGES EXERCISING COUNTYWIDE  
10 JURISDICTION SHALL BE ELECTED BY THE ELECTORS OF THE  
11 ENTIRE COUNTY; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES."

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13 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:

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15 SECTION 1. Arkansas Code Annotated §16-17-120 is amended to read as  
16 follows:

17 "16-17-120. Method of electing judges - Candidate requirements.

18 (a) The governing body of any city in which a municipal court has been  
19 created or is hereafter created under the provisions of subchapter 2 of this  
20 chapter, or any other general law authorizing or providing for the  
21 establishment of a municipal court, shall by ordinance provide that the judge  
22 of that court shall thereafter be elected by the electors of the entire county  
23 if the municipal court is exercising countywide jurisdiction and there are no  
24 more than three (3) municipal judges in the county or, in the event the county  
25 is divided into two (2) or more judicial districts, by the electors of the  
26 judicial district in which the municipality creating the court is located.

27 (b) A governing body of any city changing the method of election of the  
28 judge under the provisions of this section shall thereafter be powerless to  
29 select a method of election which would be by electors of the municipality  
30 only.

31 (c) (1) When the governing body of any municipality enacts an ordinance  
32 changing the method of electing the judge of the municipal court of the  
33 municipality, the ordinance shall be applicable with respect to the election  
34 of the judge of the court next following the expiration of the current term of  
35 the judge of the court.

(2) Any candidate for judge shall meet all requirements now set by law, but residency in the municipality shall no longer be a requirement."

4 SECTION 2. All provisions of this act of a general and permanent nature  
5 are amendatory to the Arkansas Code of 1987 Annotated and the Arkansas Code  
6 Revision Commission shall incorporate the same in the Code.

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8 SECTION 3. If any provision of this act or the application thereof to  
9 any person or circumstance is held invalid, such invalidity shall not affect  
10 other provisions or applications of the act which can be given effect without  
11 the invalid provision or application, and to this end the provisions of this  
12 act are declared to be severable.

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14 SECTION 4. All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this act are  
15 hereby repealed.

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/s/ Pat Flanagin

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