

1 State of Arkansas

2 80th General Assembly

3 Regular Session, 1995

4 By: Representative Calhoun

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For An Act To Be Entitled

8 "AN ACT TO CREATE A MUNICIPAL COURT IN WARD, LONOKE
9 COUNTY, ARKANSAS; TO PRESCRIBE THE QUALIFICATIONS, METHOD
10 OF SELECTION, AND TERM OF OFFICE; TO AUTHORIZE THE JUDGE
11 OF THE COURT TO APPOINT A MUNICIPAL COURT CLERK; AND FOR
12 OTHER PURPOSES."

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Subtitle

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"TO CREATE A MUNICIPAL COURT IN WARD,
LONOKE COUNTY, ARKANSAS"

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

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SECTION 1. A municipal court is hereby created in the city of Ward,
Lonoke County, Arkansas. The court shall be styled "The Municipal Court of
Ward". The court shall be provided with a seal, and shall have all the rights
and powers now provided by law for other municipal courts in this State. The
said court shall be established effective July 1, 1995.

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SECTION 2. The judge of the Municipal Court of Ward first selected
shall be appointed on or before July 1, 1995 by the mayor of the city of
Ward, subject to approval of the city council of the city of Ward. The person
so appointed as judge of said court shall be appointed for a term to expire
on December 31, 1996. At the November General Election in 1996 and each four
years thereafter, the qualified electors of Lonoke County shall elect a judge
of the Municipal Court of Ward. The election of the municipal judge at the
1996 General Election and each four years thereafter shall be on a
non-partisan basis and any qualified person desiring to be a candidate for
such position may do so by filing with the County Board of Election

1 Commissioners not later than sixty (60) days prior to the General Election,
2 petitions containing the signatures of not less than one hundred (100) nor
3 more than two hundred (200) qualified electors of the county. The signature
4 of at least one (1) person in each political township in the county shall be
5 included on such petition. Such petitions shall be verified by the person or
6 persons circulating the same. The office of judge of the Municipal Court of
7 Ward shall be considered a municipal office from the time of its
8 establishment until December 31, 1996, and thereafter said office shall be
9 considered a county office. The person appointed to the municipal office of
10 judge of the Municipal Court of Ward shall be eligible to be a candidate for
11 the county office of judge of the Municipal Court of Ward at the 1996 General
12 Election and to hold the county office of judge of the Municipal Court of
13 Ward on and after January 1, 1997.

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15 SECTION 3. The judge of the Municipal Court of Ward shall be licensed
16 to practice law in the State of Arkansas and shall have been admitted to
17 practice law before the courts of the State of Arkansas or some other state
18 or states for at least four (4) years prior to his appointment or election.

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20 SECTION 4. The judge of the Municipal Court of Ward is hereby
21 authorized to appoint a clerk of said court who shall serve at the pleasure
22 of the municipal judge.

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24 SECTION 5. From July 1, 1995, through December 31, 1996, the judge of
25 the Municipal Court of Ward and the clerk of said court shall receive such
26 compensation as shall be set and prescribed by the mayor and the city council
27 of Ward and shall be paid from any funds available to the city of Ward.
28 Beginning January 1, 1997, the judge of the Municipal Court of Ward and the
29 clerk of said court shall be paid in a manner and in an amount as prescribed
30 by law.

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32 SECTION 6. Any vacancy occurring in the office of judge of the
33 Municipal Court of Ward on and after January 1, 1997, for any reason other
34 than the normal expiration of a term, shall be filled by appointment for the
35 unexpired term in the manner prescribed by law for filling other vacancies in

1 county offices.

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3 SECTION 7. All provisions of this act of a general and permanent
4 nature are amendatory to the Arkansas Code of 1987 Annotated and the Arkansas
5 Code Revision Commission shall incorporate the same in the Code.

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

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13 SECTION 9. All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this act are
14 hereby repealed.

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