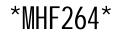
Stricken language would be deleted from and underlined language would be added to law as it existed prior to the 82nd General Assembly.

1		As Engrossed: H3/2/99		
2	5	A DIII		1 (0 2
3			HOUSE BILL	1683
4 5		on, Bledsoe, Buchanan, Bush, Elliott, G	reen. Hausam. Hen	dren.
6		peppard, M. Smith, R. Smith, T. Thomas,		
7			, , , on den	
8				
9		or An Act To Be Entitled		
10	"AN ACT TO PROVI	DE FOR THE NONPARTISAN ELECTION	N OF	
11	CIRCUIT JUDGE, CI	HANCERY JUDGE, CIRCUIT-CHANCER	Y JUDGE,	
12	AND MUNICIPAL JU	DGE; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES."		
13				
14		Subtitle		
15	"AN ACT TO	PROVIDE FOR NONPARTISAN		
16	ELECTION OF	CIRCUIT JUDGE, CHANCERY		
17	JUDGE, CIRC	CUIT-CHANCERY JUDGE, AND		
18	MUNICIPAL J	JUDGE. "		
19				
20	BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL	ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKAI	NSAS:	
21				
22	SECTION 1. <u>Nonpartisan</u>	judicial offices.		
23	<u>The offices of circuit</u>	judge, chancery judge, circui	t-chancery judge	<u>e,</u>
24	and municipal judge are decla	<u>ared to be nonpartisan judicial</u>	l offices.	
25				
26	SECTION 2. <u>Filing as a</u>	<u>candi date.</u>		
27	<u>(a) A candidate for ci</u>	<u>rcuitjudge, chanceryjudge, ci</u>	<u>i rcui t-chancery</u>	
28	judge, or municipal judge sha	all be an independent candidate	e. The candi da	<u>te</u>
29		anner provided by Arkansas Code		У
30		ided by this section or file as	<u>s a write-in</u>	
31	· · · ·			
32		or circuit judge, chancery judge		
33		all file for office by May 1.		
34		on shall apply regardless of who		<u>n</u>
35		petition, or files as a write		
36	<u>(2) A candidate</u>	<u>for circuit judge, chancery ju</u>	uage, circuit-	



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1	chancery judge, or municipal judge shall file with the Secretary of State.		
2	(3) Arkansas Code 7-7-203, concerning independent candidates,		
3	<u>shall not apply to a candidate for circuit judge, chancery judge, circuit-</u>		
4	<u>chancery judge, or municipal judge except to the extent authorized by this</u>		
5	act.		
6	<u>(c)(1) The filing fee for a candidate for circuit judge, chancery</u>		
7	judge, or circuit-chancery judge shall be three thousand dollars (\$3,000).		
8	The filing fee for a municipal judge shall be five hundred dollars (\$500).		
9	(2) A candidate for circuit judge, chancery judge, or circuit-		
10	<u>chancery judge shall pay the fee to the Secretary of State at the same time</u>		
11	the candidate files his or her political practice pledge. A candidate for		
12	municipal judge shall pay the filing fee to the county clerk at the same time		
13	the candidate files his or her political practice pledge.		
14	(3) All filing fees shall be remitted to the State Treasurer for		
15	deposit as general revenues.		
16	<u>(d) No votes for a write-in candidate for circuit judge, chancery</u>		
17	judge, circuit-chancery judge, or municipal judge shall be counted or		
18	tabulated unless the candidate or the candidate's agent notifies the Secretary		
19	of State in writing by the deadline for filing as a candidate.		
20			
21	SECTION 3. Conduct of elections.		
22	<u>(a) The election held for the offices of circuit judge, chancery judge,</u>		
23	<u>circuit-chancery judge, and municipal judge shall be held at the November</u>		
24	general election.		
25	(b)(1) The names of the candidates shall be placed on the ballot of		
26	each political party. Each candidate shall be designated as "nonpartisan		
27	judicial candidate."		
28	(2) The county board of election commissioners shall provide for		
29	<u>a separate ballot containing only candidates for nonpartisan judicial offices.</u>		
30	The ballot shall be used only by voters who do not wish to participate in a		
31	party primary.		
32	<u>(c) No person shall be elected as a circuit judge, chancery judge,</u>		
33	<u>circuit-chancery judge, or municipal judge without receiving a majority of the</u>		
34	votes cast at the election for the office. In any election where no person		
35	receives a majority of the votes cast, the two (2) candidates receiving the		
36	highest and next highest number of votes shall be certified to participate in		

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1	<u>a runoff election which shall be held three (3) weeks after the date of the</u>		
2	November general election.		
3			
4	SECTION 4. Political Party Endorsement Prohibited.		
5	<u>(a) No candidate for circuit judge, chancery judge, circuit-chancery</u>		
6	judge, or municipal judge shall seek the endorsement of a political party.		
7	Nor shall the candidate hold himself or herself out as having been endorsed by		
8	<u>a political party.</u>		
9	(b) The Judicial Discipline and Disability Commission shall have		
10	authority to investigate violations of this section.		
11			
12	SECTION 5. All provisions of this Act of a general and permanent nature		
13	are amendatory to the Arkansas Code of 1987 Annotated and the Arkansas Code		
14	Revision Commission shall incorporate the same in the Code.		
15			
16	SECTION 6. If any provision of this Act or the application thereof to		
17	any person or circumstance is held invalid, such invalidity shall not affect		
18	other provisions or applications of the Act which can be given effect without		
19	the invalid provision or application, and to this end the provisions of this		
20	Act are declared to be severable.		
21			
22	SECTION 7. All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this Act are		
23	hereby repealed.		
24	/s/ Taylor, et al		
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