

Stricken language would be deleted from and underlined language would be added to the law as it existed prior to this session of the General Assembly.

1 State of Arkansas
2 83rd General Assembly
3 Regular Session, 2001
4

As Engrossed: H2/19/01

A Bill

HOUSE BILL 1121

5 By: Representatives Bookout, Allison, Biggs, C. Taylor, *Broadway, King, Trammell, Shoffner*
6 By: Senator Faris
7

For An Act To Be Entitled

10 AN ACT TO CREATE THE ARKANSAS STATE ELECTION
11 IMPROVEMENT STUDY COMMISSION; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

Subtitle

14 AN ACT TO CREATE THE ARKANSAS STATE
15 ELECTION IMPROVEMENT STUDY COMMISSION.

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

20 SECTION 1. The Arkansas State Election Improvement Study Commission is
21 created for the purpose of studying the nature of the electoral process in
22 Arkansas and making recommendations to the General Assembly to ensure public
23 confidence in elections in this state.

25 SECTION 2. (a) The commission shall be composed of the following
26 members:

27 (1) The Secretary of State, who shall chair the commission;

28 (2) One (1) member of the House of Representatives to be
29 appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives;

30 (3) One (1) member of the Senate to be appointed by the President
31 Pro Tempore of the Senate;

32 (4) One (1) member of the State Board of Election Commissioners
33 appointed by the chief executive officer of that board;

34 (5) One (1) county clerk from each congressional district
35 appointed by the chief executive officer of the Arkansas County Clerks
36 Association;

1 (6) One (1) prosecuting attorney designated by the chief
2 executive officer of the Arkansas Prosecuting Attorneys Association;

3 (7) One (1) person designated by the chair of the Democratic
4 Party of the State of Arkansas;

5 (8) One (1) person designated by the chair of the Republican
6 Party of the State of Arkansas;

7 (9) One (1) person designated by the chief executive officer of
8 the Arkansas League of Women Voters; and

9 (10) One (1) person designated by the Governor.

10 If any appointment is not made by July 1, 2001 the Secretary of State may
11 appoint a person meeting the qualifications prescribed for the position.

12 (c) If a vacancy arises in any position on the commission, the vacancy
13 shall be filled in the same manner as the original appointment.

14 (d) A majority of the members of the commission shall constitute a
15 quorum.

16 (e) Meetings of the commission shall be at the call of the chair.

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18 SECTION 3. The commission shall conduct a study of the nature of the
19 electoral process including but not limited to the following:

20 (1) The feasibility and advisability of standardizing methods of voting
21 throughout Arkansas;

22 (2) Technological advances in voting methods, including the technology
23 used to cast and count votes;

24 (3) Voter registration issues, including same day registration,
25 universal registration, the impact of motor voter registration, and the
26 accuracy of the voter registration rolls;

27 (4) The feasibility and advisability of multiple day elections, weekend
28 elections, and expanding early voting options, with a particular emphasis on
29 the impact on voter turnout;

30 (5) The feasibility and advisability of changing the date of the
31 primary elections for the purpose of limiting the time period for campaigns;

32 (6) Federal laws, bills or proposals regarding the conduct of federal
33 elections; and

34 (7) Any other issues in the commission's discretion related to the
35 improvement of elections in Arkansas.

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