

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 84th General Assembly  
3 Regular Session, 2003  
4

As Engrossed: H1/30/03 H3/4/03

# A Bill

HOUSE BILL 1129

5 By: Representative King  
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## For An Act To Be Entitled

9 AN ACT TO AMEND ARKANSAS CODE §§ 7-5-310 AND 7-5-  
10 311 TO REQUIRE AN ELECTION OFFICIAL TO ASSIST ALL  
11 DISABLED VOTERS; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.  
12

## Subtitle

13 AN ACT TO AMEND ARKANSAS CODE §§ 7-5-310  
14 AND 7-5-311 TO REQUIRE AN ELECTION  
15 OFFICIAL TO ASSIST ALL DISABLED VOTERS.  
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19 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:  
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21 SECTION 1. Arkansas Code § 7-5-310(b) is amended to read as follows:

22 (b)(1) ~~If a~~ A voter shall ~~inform~~ ~~inform~~ the election officials at the  
23 time the voter presents himself or herself to vote that he or she is unable  
24 to mark his the ballot because he or she cannot read or write or because of  
25 physical, sensory, or other disability or other legal cause, such person may  
26 be assisted by two (2) election officials or by any person selected by the  
27 voter, who shall mark the ballot so as to vote the ballot in accordance with  
28 the voter's wishes. :

29 (A) Assisted by two (2) election officials; or

30 (B) A person named by the voter.

31 (2) If the voter is assisted by two (2) election officials, one  
32 (1) of the election officials shall observe the voting process and one (1)  
33 may assist the voter in marking the ballot according to the wishes of the  
34 voter without comment or interpretation.

35 (3) If the voter is assisted by one (1) person named by the  
36 voter, he or she may assist the voter in marking the ballot according to the



1 wishes of the voter without any comment or interpretation.

2 SECTION 2. Arkansas Code § 7-5-311(c) is amended to read as follows:

3 (c)(1) All rules, regulations, and procedures authorized by the state  
4 board to enable disabled persons to vote shall be designed to permit the  
5 voter to personally and secretly execute his or her ballot without the  
6 ~~assistance of a third party~~ another person ~~unless third party assistance is~~  
7 ~~requested by the disabled voter.~~

8 ~~(2) When any qualified elector notifies an election official at~~  
9 ~~the voting precinct that he or she is unable to read the ballot, the election~~  
10 ~~official shall cause the entire ballot to be read to the voter, unless the~~  
11 ~~voter instructs otherwise. The election official shall then assist the voter~~  
12 ~~without comment or interpretation in marking the ballot.~~

13 ~~(3) If the voter designates a person to assist, the election~~  
14 ~~official shall allow that person to assist the voter, and the person~~  
15 ~~designated shall read the entire ballot to the voter, unless the voter~~  
16 ~~instructs otherwise, and then assist the voter without comment or~~  
17 ~~interpretation in marking the ballot.~~

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19 /s/ King  
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