

State of Arkansas  
86th General Assembly  
Regular Session, 2007

# A Bill

HOUSE BILL 2263

By: Representative Pate

## For An Act To Be Entitled

AN ACT TO REQUIRE A COUNTY BOARD OF ELECTION  
COMMISSIONERS TO RECEIVE QUORUM COURT APPROVAL  
PRIOR TO ALTERING POLLING SITES; AND FOR OTHER  
PURPOSES.

## Subtitle

TO REQUIRE A COUNTY BOARD OF ELECTION  
COMMISSIONERS TO RECEIVE QUORUM COURT  
APPROVAL PRIOR TO ALTERING POLLING  
SITES.

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

SECTION 1. Arkansas Code § 7-5-101 is amended to read as follows:

7-5-101. Precinct boundaries and polling sites - Establishment and alteration.

(a)(1) The county board of election commissioners is empowered to alter the boundaries of existing election precincts and to establish new ones when, in its judgment, it may be necessary.

(2)(A) The county board shall fix a polling site for each election precinct.

(B) The county board may combine polling sites for two (2) or more precincts when, in its judgment, it may be necessary.

(C) The county board may allow school elections to be conducted by early voting and absentee voting only and open no polling sites on a school election day in any election year if no more than one (1) candidate for school district director presents a petition or notice in



1 writing to the county board of election commissioners as required by § 6-14-  
 2 111 and if there are no other ballot issues to be submitted to district  
 3 electors for consideration, if requested by resolution adopted by the board  
 4 of directors of any school district.

5 (3) In changing the boundaries of existing precincts or in  
 6 creating new ones, the county board shall arrange them so that all qualified  
 7 voters residing in the precincts may vote on the same day.

8 (4)(A) The county board shall not have the power to change the  
 9 boundaries of existing precincts, to create any new precinct, or to change  
 10 the polling site in any precinct within thirty (30) days of any election, but  
 11 all elections shall be held at the sites and within the boundaries as they  
 12 existed thirty (30) days before the date of the election.

13 (B) In the event of an emergency, a county board may  
 14 change a precinct boundary or a polling site.

15 (b) All polling sites shall be fixed at well-known points in the  
 16 several precincts and easily accessible to all electors entitled to vote  
 17 therein.

18 (c)(1)(A) The action of the county board in changing the polling site  
 19 in any precinct, in altering the boundaries of any precinct, or in  
 20 establishing any new one shall be determined in a public meeting pursuant to  
 21 § 7-4-105 and shall be entered in the record to be kept on file in the county  
 22 clerk's office.

23 (B) A copy of the order, which shall set out intelligently  
 24 and accurately the boundaries of precincts as so altered or established,  
 25 shall be filed with the clerk of the county court, who shall record the order  
 26 at full length on the record book on which the minutes of the proceedings of  
 27 the county court are recorded.

28 (2)(A)(i)(a) Within thirty (30) days after altering the  
 29 boundaries of an election precinct or establishing a new one, the county  
 30 board shall submit four (4) copies of the changes to the Secretary of State.

31 (b) The changes shall be submitted in the form  
 32 of a map and shall include a written description.

33 (ii) A short statement of why the changes were made  
 34 may be included.

35 (B) Upon receipt of the changes, the Secretary of State  
 36 shall immediately forward a copy to the office of the Attorney General, the

1 State Data Center, and the Cartography Section of the Arkansas State Highway  
2 and Transportation Department.

3 (d)(1) Notice of any changes made in polling sites shall also be given  
4 to the electors by prominently posting information about any changes at all  
5 previous polling sites which were used in the last election.

6 (2) Except for school elections and special elections, the  
7 notice shall also be mailed by the county clerk to each affected registered  
8 voter at least fifteen (15) days before the election.

9 (e) Prior to any alteration of polling sites, the county board shall  
10 receive the approval of the quorum court by ordinance.