

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 86th General Assembly  
3 Regular Session, 2007  
4

*As Engrossed: H3/7/07*  
**A Bill**

HOUSE BILL 2263

5 By: Representative Pate  
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8 **For An Act To Be Entitled**

9 AN ACT TO REQUIRE A COUNTY BOARD OF ELECTION  
10 COMMISSIONERS TO RECEIVE QUORUM COURT APPROVAL  
11 PRIOR TO ALTERING POLLING SITES; AND FOR OTHER  
12 PURPOSES.  
13

14 **Subtitle**

15 TO REQUIRE A COUNTY BOARD OF ELECTION  
16 COMMISSIONERS TO RECEIVE QUORUM COURT  
17 APPROVAL PRIOR TO ALTERING POLLING  
18 SITES.  
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21 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:  
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23 SECTION 1. Arkansas Code § 7-5-101 is amended to read as follows:

24 7-5-101. Precinct boundaries and polling sites - Establishment and  
25 alteration.

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

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

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

33 (C) The county board may allow school elections to be  
34 conducted by early voting and absentee voting only and open no polling sites  
35 on a school election day in any election year if no more than one (1)  
36 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)~~ ninety (90) days of any  
11 election, but all elections shall be held at the sites and within the  
12 boundaries as they existed ~~thirty (30)~~ ninety (90) days before the date of  
13 the election.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

36 (B) Upon receipt of the changes, the Secretary of State

1 shall immediately forward a copy to the office of the Attorney General, the  
2 State Data Center, and the Cartography Section of the Arkansas State Highway  
3 and Transportation Department.

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

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

10 (e)(1) Prior to the elimination of a polling site, the county board  
11 shall hold a public meeting on the matter.

12 (2)(A) If the county board seeks elimination of a polling site  
13 following the public meeting, the county board shall send the matter to the  
14 county judge for a hearing and order on the matter.

15 (B) Notice of a hearing before the county judge shall be  
16 published in a newspaper having general circulation in the county once a week  
17 for two (2) weeks prior to the hearing.

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19 /s/ Pate  
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