

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

A Bill

HOUSE BILL 2371

4
5 By: Representative King
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For An Act To Be Entitled

8
9 AN ACT CONCERNING THE FIXING OF POLLING SITES BY
10 THE COUNTY BOARD OF ELECTION COMMISSIONERS; AND
11 FOR OTHER PURPOSES.
12

Subtitle

13
14 AN ACT CONCERNING THE FIXING OF POLLING
15 SITES BY THE COUNTY BOARD OF ELECTION
16 COMMISSIONERS.
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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 § 7-5-101 is amended to read as follows:

22 7-5-101. Precinct boundaries and polling sites - Establishment and
23 alteration.

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

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

29 (ii)(a) Except as provided in subdivision
30 (a)(2)(A)(ii)(b) of this section, the fixing of polling sites shall be by a
31 unanimous vote of the county board.

32 (b) Polling sites for school elections shall
33 be fixed by a majority of the county board.

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

36 (ii)(a) Except as provided in subdivision



1 (a)(2)(B)(ii)(b) of this section, the combining of polling sites shall be by
 2 a unanimous vote of the county board.

3 (b) Polling sites for school elections shall
 4 be fixed by a majority of the county board.

5 (C) The county board may allow school elections to be
 6 conducted by early voting and absentee voting only and open no polling sites
 7 on a school election day in any election year if no more than one (1)
 8 candidate for school district director presents a petition or notice in
 9 writing to the county board of election commissioners as required by § 6-14-
 10 111 and if there are no other ballot issues to be submitted to district
 11 electors for consideration, if requested by resolution adopted by the board
 12 of directors of any school district.

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

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

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

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

26 (c)(1)(A) The action of the county board in changing the polling site
 27 in any precinct, in altering the boundaries of any precinct, or in
 28 establishing any new one shall be determined in a public meeting pursuant to
 29 § 7-4-105 and shall be entered in the record to be kept on file in the county
 30 clerk's office.

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

36 (2)(A)(i)(a) Within thirty (30) days after altering the

1 boundaries of an election precinct or establishing a new one, the county
2 board shall submit four (4) copies of the changes to the Secretary of State.

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

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

7 (B) Upon receipt of the changes, the Secretary of State
8 shall immediately forward a copy to the office of the Attorney General, the
9 State Data Center, and the Cartography Section of the Arkansas State Highway
10 and Transportation Department.

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

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

17 (e) If the county board wishes to combine or eliminate polling sites
18 fixed for the preferential primary election or general election for the
19 general primary election or general runoff election, each combination or
20 elimination of polling sites shall require a unanimous vote of the county
21 board.

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