

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

# A Bill

SENATE BILL 107

5 By: Senators Bisbee, Faris  
6  
7

## For An Act To Be Entitled

9 AN ACT CONCERNING DUES FOR VOLUNTEER FIRE  
10 DEPARTMENTS; TO PROVIDE THAT THE ELECTION TO LEVY  
11 THE DUES OF A VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT SHALL  
12 INCLUDE DUES ON BUSINESSES; AND FOR OTHER  
13 PURPOSES.  
14

## Subtitle

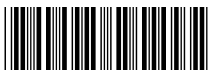
15 AN ACT CONCERNING DUES FOR VOLUNTEER  
16 FIRE DEPARTMENTS AND TO PROVIDE THAT THE  
17 ELECTION TO LEVY THE DUES OF A VOLUNTEER  
18 FIRE DEPARTMENT SHALL INCLUDE DUES ON  
19 BUSINESSES.  
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23 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:  
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25 SECTION 1. Arkansas Code § 14-20-108(a), concerning dues for volunteer  
26 fire departments, is amended to read as follows:

27 (a)(1)(A) The quorum court of each county, upon request therefor filed  
28 with the court by one (1) or more volunteer fire departments in the county,  
29 may adopt an ordinance authorizing a designated county official to collect  
30 and remit to the department or departments the annual or quarterly dues  
31 charged by the department or departments in consideration of providing fire  
32 protection to unincorporated areas in the county; or

33 (B)(i)(a) When any county quorum court receives a request  
34 for the levy of volunteer fire department dues, the quorum court by ordinance  
35 shall call for an election on the issue of the levy of the volunteer fire  
36 department dues on each residence and on each business having an occupiable



1 structure if the request has been signed by the fire chief and all other  
2 officers of a volunteer fire department and filed with the county clerk.

3 (b) The issue may be placed on the ballot at a  
4 special election or a general election and in each case shall comply with the  
5 laws of this state pertaining to special elections and general elections.

6 (c) If the levy is approved by a majority of  
7 those voting on the issue, the dues shall be listed annually on real property  
8 tax statements and collected at the same time and in the same manner as real  
9 property taxes.

10 (ii) The cost of the election shall be borne by the  
11 volunteer fire department or departments that requested the levy.

12 (iii)(a) The election shall occur on the second  
13 Tuesday of any month, except as provided in subdivision (a)(1)(B)(iii)(b) of  
14 this section.

15 (b)(1)(A) Elections held in months in which a  
16 presidential preferential primary election, preferential primary election,  
17 general primary election, or general election is scheduled to occur shall be  
18 held on the date of the presidential preferential primary election,  
19 preferential primary election, general primary election, or general election.

20 (B) If an election is held on the  
21 date of the presidential preferential primary election, preferential primary  
22 election, or general primary election, the issue or issues to be voted upon  
23 at the election shall be included on the ballot of each political party.  
24 However, separate ballots containing only the issue or issues to be voted  
25 upon at the election shall be prepared and made available to voters  
26 requesting a separate ballot. No voter shall be required to vote in a  
27 political party's presidential preferential primary, preferential primary, or  
28 general primary in order to be able to vote in the election.

29 (2) Elections scheduled to occur in a  
30 month in which the second Tuesday is a legal holiday shall be held on the  
31 third Tuesday of the month.

32 (2) The ordinance enacted by the court shall set forth the terms  
33 and conditions on which such dues are to be collected by the county and for  
34 the remission of the dues to the volunteer fire departments.

35 (3) Provided, however, active members of the volunteer fire  
36 departments whose annual or quarterly dues are collected in this manner may

1 be exempt from the annual or quarterly dues charged by the department at the  
2 discretion of the volunteer fire department in consideration of providing  
3 services to the department.

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5 SECTION 2. This act shall not be construed to invalidate any election  
6 under Arkansas Code § 14-20-108 held prior to the effective date of this act  
7 that levied volunteer fire department dues only on residences.

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