

1 State of Arkansas
2 89th General Assembly
3 Regular Session, 2013
4

A Bill

SENATE BILL 587

5 By: Senator E. Williams
6

For An Act To Be Entitled

8 AN ACT TO ALIGN ANNUAL SCHOOL ELECTIONS WITH GENERAL
9 ELECTIONS; TO AMEND OTHER PROVISIONS OF LAW
10 CONCERNING BOARDS OF DIRECTORS OF SCHOOL DISTRICTS;
11 AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.
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Subtitle

14 TO ALIGN ANNUAL SCHOOL ELECTIONS WITH
15 GENERAL ELECTIONS; TO AMEND OTHER
16 PROVISIONS OF LAW CONCERNING BOARDS OF
17 DIRECTORS OF SCHOOL DISTRICTS.
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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 § 6-13-617 is amended to read as follows:
24 6-13-617. Oath - Term of office.

25 (a) Each director elected or appointed shall, ~~within ten (10) days~~
26 ~~after receiving notice of his or her election or appointment,~~ subscribe to
27 the following oath:

28 "I, _____, do hereby solemnly swear or
29 affirm, that I will support the Constitution of the United States and the
30 Constitution of the State of Arkansas, and that I will not be interested,
31 directly or indirectly, in any contract made by the district of which I am a
32 director, except as permitted by state law and that I will faithfully
33 discharge the duties as school director in
34 _____ School District, No.
35 _____ of
36 _____ County, Arkansas, upon which I am



1 about to enter.”

2 (b) The person shall take the oath under subsection (a) of this
3 section:

4 (1) On or after January 1 but not later than January 10 of the
5 year following the year in which the person was elected in an annual school
6 election; or

7 (2) Within ten (10) days after receiving notice of his or her
8 appointment.

9 ~~(b)~~(c) The county clerk, upon receipt of the oath prescribed for a
10 director, shall immediately commission such persons, and they shall enter at
11 once upon their duties as directors.

12 (d) A director shall hold his or her office until a successor is
13 elected or appointed and qualified.

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15 SECTION 2. Arkansas Code § 6-13-618(a), concerning the organizational
16 meeting of a school district board of directors, is amended to read as
17 follows:

18 (a) At the first regular meeting ~~following the annual school election~~
19 after January 1 of each year, the board of directors of each school district
20 shall organize by electing:

21 (1) One (1) ~~of their number~~ member as president;

22 (2) One (1) ~~of their number~~ member as vice president; and

23 (3) A secretary who may be, but need not be, a member of the
24 board of directors.

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26 SECTION 3. Arkansas Code § 6-14-101 is amended to read as follows:

27 6-14-101. Applicability of general election laws.

28 (a) The general election laws shall apply to school elections insofar
29 as they are not in conflict with the school election laws.

30 (b) The county board of election commissioners may include the annual
31 school election on a separate ballot if the board determines that a separate
32 ballot is necessary to avoid voter confusion.

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34 SECTION 4. Arkansas Code § 6-14-102(a)(1), concerning the annual
35 school election date, is amended to read as follows:

36 (a)(1) The annual school election shall be held in each school

1 district of the state on the ~~third Tuesday in September~~ Tuesday next after
2 the first Monday in November of each year.

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4 SECTION 5. Arkansas Code § 6-14-118 is amended to read as follows:
5 6-14-118. Expenses.

6 (a)(1) In special school elections, the school districts in the county
7 shall reimburse the county for the cost of the election less expenses
8 incurred for election officials at individual polling places, with each
9 school district's share of the total being determined by multiplying the
10 total cost of the election by a fraction, the numerator of which is the
11 number of votes cast in the specific school election and the denominator of
12 which is the total number of votes cast in the entire election.

13 (2) Expenses incurred for election officials at individual
14 polling places shall be paid by the school district in which the polling
15 place is located.

16 (b) At all ~~annual or~~ special elections, the board of directors of each
17 school district shall pay the expenses of the election out of the school
18 fund.

19 (c) A county shall conduct the annual school election or a run-off
20 election resulting from an annual school election at no cost to the school
21 district.

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