

1 State of Arkansas
2 90th General Assembly
3 Regular Session, 2015
4

A Bill

HOUSE BILL 1687

5 By: Representative Ballinger
6

For An Act To Be Entitled

8 AN ACT TO AMEND THE LAW CONCERNING BALLOT QUESTIONS;
9 TO ADD CLARITY TO THE FORMAT OF A BALLOT QUESTION;
10 AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.
11

Subtitle

12 TO AMEND THE LAW CONCERNING BALLOT
13 QUESTIONS; AND TO ADD CLARITY TO THE
14 FORMAT OF A BALLOT QUESTION.
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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 § 14-14-917(d), concerning ballot
22 specifications for county initiative and referendum measures, is amended to
23 read as follows:

24 (d) Ballot Specifications for Initiative and Referendum Measures.

25 (1)(A) Upon receipt of any initiative or referendum measure
26 certified as sufficient by a county clerk, it shall be the duty of the
27 members of the county board of election commissioners to take due cognizance
28 and to certify the results of the vote cast thereon. ~~So that electors may~~
29 ~~vote upon the ordinance or measure,~~

30 (B)(i) Except as provided in subdivision (d)(1)(B)(ii) of
31 this section, the board shall cause the ballot title to be placed on the
32 ballot to be used in the election, stating plainly and separately the title
33 of the ordinance or measure so initiated or referred to the electors with
34 these words:

35 "FOR PROPOSED INITIATIVE (OR REFERRED) ORDINANCE (OR AMENDMENT)

36 NO. _____



1 AGAINST PROPOSED INITIATIVE (OR REFERRED) ORDINANCE (OR AMENDMENT)
 2 NO. _____".

3 (ii) If the election concerns repeal of an initiated
 4 ordinance or referred measure, the ballot shall state plainly the title of
 5 the initiated ordinance or referred measure with these words:

6 "FOR REPEAL OF THE INITIATIVE (OR REFERRED) ORDINANCE (OR AMENDMENT)
 7 AGAINST REPEAL OF THE INITIATIVE (OR REFERRED) ORDINANCE (OR
 8 AMENDMENT)"

9 (2) In arranging the ballot title on the ballot, the commissioners
 10 shall place it separate and apart from the ballot titles of the state acts,
 11 constitutional amendments, and the like. If the board of election
 12 commissioners fails or refuses to submit a proposed initiative or referendum
 13 ordinance when it is properly petitioned and certified as sufficient, the
 14 qualified electors of the county may vote for or against the ordinance or
 15 measure by writing or stamping on their ballots the proposed ballot title,
 16 followed by the word "FOR" or "AGAINST", and a majority of the votes so cast
 17 shall be sufficient to adopt or reject the proposed ordinance.

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 19 SECTION 2. Arkansas Code § 14-47-124, concerning initiative and
 20 referendum in municipal elections, is amended to add an additional
 21 subdivision to read as follows:

22 (c)(1)(A) Except as provided in subdivision (c)(1)(B) of this section,
 23 the ballot in an election on an ordinance proposed by initiative shall
 24 plainly state the title of the ordinance to be voted on followed by the
 25 words:

26 "FOR PROPOSED INITIATIVE NO. _____
 27 AGAINST PROPOSED INITIATIVE NO. _____".

28 (B) If the election is for repeal of an ordinance and the
 29 repeal is proposed by initiative, the ballot in the election shall plainly
 30 state the title of the ordinance to be voted on followed by the words:

31 "FOR REPEAL OF THE ORDINANCE
 32 AGAINST REPEAL OF ORDINANCE".

33 (2)(A) Except as provided in subdivision (c)(2)(B) of this
 34 section, the ballot in an election on a referred measure shall plainly state
 35 the title of the referred measure followed by the words:

36 "FOR MEASURE NO. _____

1 AGAINST MEASURE NO. _____ ".

2 (B) If the election is for repeal of a referred measure,
3 the ballot shall plainly state the title of the referred measure followed by
4 the words:

5 "FOR REPEAL OF THE MEASURE
6 AGAINST REPEAL OF THE MEASURE".

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8 SECTION 3. Arkansas Code Title 14, Chapter 55, Subchapter 3, is
9 amended to add an additional section to read as follows:

10 14-55-303. Form of ordinance ballot question.

11 (a) Except as provided in subsection (b) of this section, the ballot
12 in an election on an ordinance shall state plainly the title of the ordinance
13 to be voted on followed by the words:

14 "FOR ORDINANCE NO. _____
15 AGAINST ORDINANCE NO. _____ ".

16 (b) If the election is for repeal of an ordinance, the ballot in the
17 election shall plainly state the title of the ordinance to be voted on
18 followed by the words:

19 "FOR REPEAL OF THE ORDINANCE
20 AGAINST REPEAL OF THE ORDINANCE".

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