

1 State of Arkansas
2 94th General Assembly
3 Regular Session, 2023
4

As Engrossed: S3/7/23

A Bill

SENATE BILL 253

5 By: Senators Crowell, K. Hammer, Dees, M. McKee, J. Petty, Stone
6 By: Representatives Pilkington, Wing, Achor, Andrews, Barker, Beaty Jr., Beck, Bentley, M. Berry,
7 Breaux, Brooks, K. Brown, M. Brown, Burkes, Joey Carr, C. Cooper, Cozart, Evans, C. Fite, L. Fite,
8 Fortner, Furman, Gazaway, Gonzales, Gramlich, Haak, Hawk, Hollowell, Jean, Ladyman, Long,
9 Lundstrum, Lynch, McAlindon, McClure, McCollum, M. McElroy, McGrew, B. McKenzie, McNair, S.
10 Meeks, Miller, Milligan, K. Moore, Painter, Pearce, Puryear, R. Scott Richardson, Richmond, Rose, Rye,
11 Schulz, Steimel, Tosh, Underwood, Vaught, Womack, Wooldridge, Wooten
12

For An Act To Be Entitled

14 AN ACT TO AMEND THE LAW CONCERNING DAMAGED BALLOTS;
15 TO AMEND THE LAW CONCERNING ELECTION PROCEDURES; AND
16 FOR OTHER PURPOSES.
17
18

Subtitle

19 TO AMEND THE LAW CONCERNING DAMAGED
20 BALLOTS; AND TO AMEND THE LAW CONCERNING
21 ELECTION PROCEDURES.
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25 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:
26

27 SECTION 1. Arkansas Code § 7-5-615(d) and (e), concerning the
28 tabulations of votes, defective ballots, and the certification of returns,
29 are amended to read as follows:

30 (d)(1) If any ballot is damaged or defective so that it cannot
31 properly be counted by the electronic vote tabulating device, a true
32 duplicate copy shall be made of the damaged ballot ~~in the presence of~~
33 ~~tabulation election officials if the votes are tabulated at a central~~
34 ~~location. The duplicate shall be substituted for the damaged ballot. All~~
35 ~~duplicate ballots shall be clearly labeled "duplicate" and shall be counted~~
36 ~~in lieu of the damaged or defective ballot.~~



