

Stricken language would be deleted from and underlined language would be added to the Arkansas Constitution.

1 State of Arkansas
2 95th General Assembly
3 Regular Session, 2025
4
5 By: Senator J. Payton
6 By: Representative Ray
7

SJR 18

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION

9 AN AMENDMENT TO THE ARKANSAS CONSTITUTION TO CREATE
10 "THE CITIZENS ONLY VOTING AMENDMENT"; TO PROVIDE THAT
11 ONLY A CITIZEN OF THE UNITED STATES MEETING THE
12 QUALIFICATIONS OF AN ELECTOR UNDER THE ARKANSAS
13 CONSTITUTION MAY VOTE IN AN ELECTION IN THIS STATE;
14 AND PROVIDING THAT A PERSON WHO DOES NOT MEET THE
15 QUALIFICATIONS OF AN ELECTOR UNDER THE ARKANSAS
16 CONSTITUTION SHALL NOT BE PERMITTED TO VOTE IN ANY
17 STATE OR LOCAL ELECTION HELD IN THIS STATE.
18

Subtitle

THE CITIZENS ONLY VOTING AMENDMENT.
22

23 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE NINETY-FIFTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE
24 STATE OF ARKANSAS, AND BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, A MAJORITY OF ALL
25 MEMBERS ELECTED TO EACH HOUSE AGREEING THERETO:
26

27 THAT the following is proposed as an amendment to the Constitution of
28 the State of Arkansas, and upon being submitted to the electors of the state
29 for approval or rejection at the next general election for Representatives
30 and Senators, if a majority of the electors voting thereon at the election
31 adopt the amendment, the amendment shall become a part of the Constitution of
32 the State of Arkansas, to wit:
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34 SECTION 1. Short title. This amendment to the Arkansas Constitution
35 shall be known and may be cited as "The Citizens Only Voting Amendment."
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1 SECTION 2. Arkansas Constitution, Article 3, § 1, is amended to read
 2 as follows:

3 § 1. Qualifications of electors.

4 (a)(1) Only a citizen of the United States meeting the qualifications
 5 of an elector under this section may vote in an election in this state.

6 (2) A person who does not meet the qualifications of an elector
 7 under this section shall not be permitted to vote in any state or local
 8 election held in this state.

9 ~~(a)(b)~~ Except as otherwise provided by this Constitution, ~~any person~~
 10 ~~may vote in an election in this state who~~ to vote in an election in this
 11 state a person shall be:

- 12 (1) A citizen of the United States;
- 13 (2) A resident of the State of Arkansas;
- 14 (3) At least eighteen (18) years of age; and
- 15 (4) Lawfully registered to vote in the election.

16 ~~(b)(1)(c)(1)~~ In addition to the qualifications under subsection ~~(a)(b)~~
 17 of this section, the General Assembly shall provide by law that a voter
 18 shall:

- 19 (A) Present valid photographic identification before
- 20 receiving a ballot to vote in person; and
- 21 (B) Enclose a copy of valid photographic identification
- 22 with his or her ballot when voting by absentee ballot.

23 (2) The General Assembly shall establish by law the types of
 24 photographic identification that a person may present to comply with
 25 subdivision ~~(b)(1)(c)(1)~~ of this section.

26 ~~(e)(d)~~ The State of Arkansas shall issue photographic identification
 27 at no charge to an eligible voter who does not have a form of photographic
 28 identification meeting the requirements of the law enacted by the General
 29 Assembly under this section.

30 ~~(d)(1)(A)(e)(1)(A)~~ A voter unable to present valid photographic
 31 identification when voting in person shall be permitted to vote a provisional
 32 ballot.

33 (B) An absentee ballot that is not accompanied by a copy
 34 of valid photographic identification shall be considered a provisional
 35 ballot.

36 (2) A provisional ballot under subdivision ~~(d)(1)(e)(1)~~ of this

1 section shall be counted only if the voter subsequently certifies the
2 provisional ballot in a manner provided by law.

3 ~~(e)(1)(f)(1)~~ The General Assembly shall implement the provisions of
4 this amendment by law.

5 (2) The General Assembly may provide by law for exceptions to
6 the requirement that a voter:

7 (A) Present valid photographic identification before
8 receiving a ballot to vote in person; and

9 (B) Enclose a copy of valid photographic identification
10 with his or her ballot when voting by absentee ballot.

11 ~~(f)(g)~~ A voter meeting the requirements of this section also shall
12 comply with all additional laws regulating elections necessary for his or her
13 vote to be counted.

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15 SECTION 3. EFFECTIVE DATE. This amendment is effective on and after
16 January 1, 2027.

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18 SECTION 4. BALLOT TITLE AND POPULAR NAME. When this proposed
19 amendment is submitted to the electors of this state on the general election
20 ballot:

21 (1) The title of this Joint Resolution shall be the ballot
22 title; and

23 (2) The popular name shall be "A Constitutional Amendment to be
24 Known as "The Citizens Only Voting Amendment" and Providing That Only a
25 Citizen of the United States Meeting the Qualifications of an Elector Under
26 the Arkansas Constitution May Vote in an Election in this State.".

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