

**ARKANSAS SENATE**  
93rd General Assembly - Regular Session, 2021  
**Amendment Form**

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**Subtitle of Senate Bill No. 496**

TO AMEND ARKANSAS ELECTION LAW; TO AMEND THE LAW CONCERNING SPECIAL ELECTIONS;  
AND TO ESTABLISH UNIFORM DATES FOR HOLDING SPECIAL ELECTIONS.

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**Amendment No. 1 to Senate Bill 496**

Amend Senate Bill No. 496 as originally introduced:

Page 2, delete lines 15 through 24, and substitute the following:  
"county board of election commissioners held not later than ~~seventy-two (72)~~  
~~days before the annual school election.~~;

(1) The deadline to conduct the ballot draw for the preferential primary or general election for an annual school election held in even-numbered years;

(2) The seventh day of March for an annual school election held on the second Tuesday in May of an odd-numbered year; and

(3) Seventy-two (72) days before an annual school election held on the second Tuesday of November of an odd-numbered year."

AND

Page 6, line 5, delete "general primary election" and substitute "preferential primary election"

AND

Page 6, delete lines 10 through 27, and substitute the following:

"(D) An emergency special election may be held on the second Tuesday of any month, other than the month following a preferential primary election or general election, when two-thirds (2/3) of all the members elected to the governing entity have determined that:

(i) An event has occurred that constitutes a substantial change in circumstances; and

(ii) A delay of the emergency special election until the next date under this section, would cause a substantial and undue hardship to the governing entity or a threat to the public peace, health, and safety.

(E)(i) A qualified elector for an emergency special election may file an action in the circuit court of the county in which the



document calling for the emergency special election is filed to ask the court to determine if circumstances exist that permit the governing entity to call an emergency special election under subdivision (a)(1)(D) of this section.

(ii) If the court determines circumstances do not exist that permit the governing entity to call an emergency special election:

(a) The emergency special election shall not occur; or

(b) If the emergency special election has already occurred, any measure approved in the emergency special election shall be void.

(iii) A challenge filed under subdivision (a)(1)(E)(i) of this section may not be filed more than thirty (30) days from the date the document calling for the special election being challenged is filed with the county clerk."

AND

Page 15, delete line 20, and substitute the following:

"~~the order~~ be on the next special election date under § 7-11-205.

SECTION 41. EFFECTIVE DATE. This act is effective on January 1, 2022."

The Amendment was read the first time, rules suspended and read the second time and \_\_\_\_\_

By: Senator Rapert

MLD/MLD - 03-16-2021 10:30:51

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Secretary