

Hall of the House of Representatives
95th General Assembly - Regular Session, 2025
Amendment Form

Subtitle of House Bill 1724

TO AMEND THE LAW CONCERNING LOCAL SCHOOL BOARDS OF DIRECTORS AND
SCHOOL BOARD ELECTIONS; AND TO AMEND THE DATE ON WHICH AN ELECTION
OF A SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD OF DIRECTORS IS HELD.

Amendment No. 1 to House Bill 1724

Amend House Bill 1724 as originally introduced:

Delete SECTION 1 in its entirety and substitute the following:

"SECTION 1. Arkansas Code § 6-13-608 is amended to read as follows:
6-13-608. Length of directors' terms.

(a) All members of a school district board of directors shall be elected to a term of office of ~~not less than three (3) years nor more than five (5) years~~ four (4) years or six (6) years in length and with the expiration of such terms so arranged that, as nearly as possible, an equal number of positions are filled ~~each year~~ every school board election.

(b) Unless otherwise provided by law, members of a school district board of directors shall have terms of office of equal length.

(c)(1) A member of a school district board of directors shall not serve more than one (1) full term as a holdover.

(2) If at the expiration of the holdover term a person is not elected to fill the position at the annual school election or the person elected fails to subscribe to the director's oath of office within the time provided under § 6-13-617(a)(1), the position is vacant and the ~~school district board of directors shall fill the~~ vacancy shall be filled as provided under § 6-13-611.

(d)(1) An entire school district board of directors is required to be elected during the first school board election after a school district:

(A) Changes from an all at-large or combined at-large



membership and is zoned to an all zoned or combined at-large and zoned membership;

(B) Is rezoned following the federal decennial census;

(C) Returns from state to local control; or

(D) Is reconstituted or consolidated.

(2) School board members shall initially draw lots for two-year or four-year terms in districts with four-year terms or two-year, four-year, or six-year terms in districts with six-year terms so that, as nearly as possible, an equal number of positions are filled in each subsequent school board election no longer than:

(A) Two (2) school board elections for those with four-year terms; or

(B) Three (3) school board elections for those with six-year terms.

(3) Initially, terms for members elected in 2025 shall expire in 2028.

(4) For other members of a school district board of directors currently holding terms, terms set to expire on or in:

(A) 2026 shall expire in 2026;

(B) 2027 shall expire in 2026;

(C) 2028 shall expire in 2028; and

(D) 2029 shall expire in 2028.

(5) If after rebalancing terms, there is not, as nearly as possible, an equal number of positions filled every school board election, the school district board of directors shall adjust the minimum number of terms necessary to ensure balance between those terms expiring in 2026 and 2028."

AND

Immediately following SECTION 6, insert the following:

"SECTION 7. Arkansas Code § 6-14-102(a)(1)(A), concerning the annual school election date and special school elections, is amended to read as follows:

(a)(1)(A) The annual school election shall be held in each school district of the state:

- (i) In even-numbered years, on the date of the+
 - ~~(a) Preferential~~ preferential primary election; ~~or~~
 - ~~(b) General election;~~ and
- (ii) In odd-numbered years, on the+
 - ~~(a) Second Tuesday in November;~~ ~~or~~
 - ~~(b) Second~~ second Tuesday in May."

AND

Page 4, line 25, delete "or general election" and substitute "~~or general~~ election"

AND

Page 4, line 35, delete "or general election" and substitute "~~or general~~ election"

AND

Page 5, line 15, delete "or general election" and substitute "~~or general~~ election"

AND

Page 5, delete lines 29 and 30, and substitute the following:

~~"(B) During a one week period ending at 12:00 noon ninety~~
~~(90) days before a school election held in November~~ beginning at 3:00 p.m. on
the first day of the party filing period under § 7-7-203 and shall end at
3:00 p.m. on the last day of the party filing period under § 7-7-203."

AND

Page 5, line 36, delete "~~preferential~~" and substitute "preferential"

AND

Page 6, delete line 1, and substitute the following:

"primary election ~~or general election.~~"

AND

Appropriately renumber the sections of the bill

The Amendment was read _____

By: Representative B. McKenzie

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Chief Clerk