

Stricken language would be deleted from and underlined language would be added to the law as it existed prior to this session of the General Assembly.

1 State of Arkansas
2 84th General Assembly
3 Regular Session, 2003
4

As Engrossed: H3/13/03

A Bill

HOUSE BILL 2886

5 By: Representative C. Taylor
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For An Act To Be Entitled

9 AN ACT TO REAPPORTION THE ELECTORAL DISTRICTS FOR
10 THE ARKANSAS COURT OF APPEALS; TO STAGGER THE
11 TERMS AND ELECTIONS FOR THE MEMBERS OF THE COURT
12 OF APPEALS; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.
13

Subtitle

14 TO REAPPORTION THE ARKANSAS COURT OF
15 APPEALS.
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19 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:
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SECTION 1. Purpose.

21 (a) Under Act 889 of 1999, the Arkansas Court of Appeals Apportionment
22 Commission was created to review the electoral districts for the Court of
23 Appeals and make a recommendation on the changes to be made effective January
24 1, 2004. The commission has reviewed the current districts and the data from
25 the 2000 census, received input from judges, lawyers, and the general public,
26 and considered the requirements and restrictions of federal and state law.
27 Because of major shifts in population which have occurred since the current
28 districts were created utilizing the 1970 census, a realignment of these
29 districts is necessary.
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31 (b) The Arkansas Court of Appeals consisted of six (6) judges when it
32 was first created. The number of members grew to nine (9) judges in 1996,
33 and to twelve (12) judges in 1997.

34 (c) It is the purpose of this act to create new electoral districts
35 for the Arkansas Court of Appeals and to establish the dates for electing the
36 judges within each of these districts.



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2 SECTION 2. Court of Appeals districts.

3 (a)(1) District 1 shall be composed of Clay, Greene, Craighead,
4 Poinsett, White, Woodruff, Cross, Mississippi, Crittenden, St. Francis, Lee,
5 Monroe, and Phillips counties.

6 (2) The judgeships currently designated as District 1, Position
7 1 and 2 shall continue to be designated as District 1, Position 1 and 2.

8 (b)(1) District 2 shall be composed of Boone, Marion, Baxter, Fulton,
9 Sharp, Randolph, Jackson, Lawrence, Independence, Izard, Stone, Searcy,
10 Newton, Pope, Van Buren, Cleburne, Conway, and Faulkner counties.

11 (2) The judgeships currently designated as District 2, Positions
12 1 and 2 shall continue to be designated as District 2, Positions 1 and 2.

13 (c)(1) District 3 shall be composed of Benton, Carroll, Washington,
14 Madison, Crawford, Franklin, and Johnson counties.

15 (2) The judgeships currently designated as District 3, Positions
16 1 and 2 shall continue to be designated as District 3, Positions 1 and 2.

17 (d)(1) District 4 shall be composed of Sebastian, Logan, Scott, Yell,
18 Perry, Polk, Montgomery, Garland, Howard, Pike, Clark, Sevier, Little River,
19 Miller, and Hot Spring counties.

20 (2) The judgeships currently designated as District 4, Positions
21 1 and 2 shall continue to be designated as District 4, Positions 1 and 2.

22 (e)(1) District 5 shall be composed of Lonoke, Prairie, Grant,
23 Jefferson, Arkansas, Dallas, Cleveland, Lincoln, Hempstead, Nevada, Ouachita,
24 Calhoun, Bradley, Drew, Lafayette, Columbia, Union, Desha, Chicot, and Ashley
25 counties.

26 (2) The judgeships currently designated as District 5, Position
27 1 and 2 shall continue to be designated as District 5, Position 1 and 2.

28 (f)(1) District 6 shall be composed of Pulaski and Saline counties.

29 (2) The judgeships designated as District 6, Positions 1 and 2
30 shall continue to be designated as District 6, Positions 1 and 2.

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32 SECTION 3. Court of Appeals elections.

33 (a)(1) The elections under this section 3 shall be for an eight (8)
34 year term.

35 (2) The date of election for each of the twelve (12) positions
36 of the Court of Appeals shall be subject to election at each general election

1 on the following schedule:

2 (A) The following positions as designated in section 2 of
3 this act shall be subject to election in 2004:

4 (i) District 1, Position 2;

5 (ii) District 2, Position 2;

6 (iii) District 3, Position 2;

7 (iv) District 4, Position 1;

8 (v) District 4, Position 2;

9 (vi) District 5, Position 1;

10 (vii) District 5, Position 2; and

11 (viii) District 6, Position 2.

12 (B) The following positions as designated in section 2 of
13 this act shall be subject to election in 2008:

14 (i) District 1, Position 1; and

15 (ii) District 6, Position 1.

16 (C) The following positions as designated in section 2 of
17 this act shall be subject to election in 2010:

18 (i) District 2, Position 1; and

19 (ii) District 3, Position 1.

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21 SECTION 4. Each currently serving member of the Court of Appeals shall
22 continue in office until his or her position shall be subject to election, as
23 provided for under this act, regardless of the date otherwise set as the
24 expiration of his or her term, and regardless of any changes in the
25 geographical boundaries in the district from which he or she was elected.

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27 /s/ C. Taylor
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