

1 State of Arkansas
2 95th General Assembly
3 Regular Session, 2025
4

A Bill

SENATE BILL 308

5 By: Senator K. Hammer
6 By: Representative Childress
7

For An Act To Be Entitled

8
9 AN ACT TO AMEND THE LAW CONCERNING A WRITE-IN
10 CANDIDATE; TO REMOVE REFERENCES TO A WRITE-IN
11 CANDIDATE; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.
12
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Subtitle

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15 TO AMEND THE LAW CONCERNING A WRITE-IN
16 CANDIDATE; AND TO REMOVE REFERENCES TO A
17 WRITE-IN CANDIDATE.
18

19 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:
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21 SECTION 1. Arkansas Code § 7-4-109(c)(2)(A), concerning the
22 qualifications of state and county commissioners, election officials, poll
23 workers, and certified election monitors, is amended to read as follows:

24 (2)(A) Except as provided in subdivision (c)(2)(B) of this
25 section, a person serving on the county board of election commissioners shall
26 not participate in the campaign of any candidate listed on a ballot ~~or of a~~
27 ~~write-in candidate~~ seeking election in that county that falls under the
28 county board of election commissioners' jurisdiction or authority.
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30 SECTION 2. Arkansas Code § 7-5-416(e)(2)(A) and (B), concerning the
31 counting of absentee ballots, are amended to read as follows:

32 ~~(2)(A) The ballots shall first be counted for write-in votes by~~
33 ~~the election officials.~~

34 ~~(B) Then, at~~ At the discretion of the county board of
35 election commissioners, the ballots may be either hand counted or counted on
36 an electronic vote tabulating device.



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2 SECTION 3. Arkansas Code § 7-5-615(e), concerning the tabulation of
3 votes, defective ballots, and certification of returns, is amended to read as
4 follows:

5 (e) The return printed by the electronic vote tabulating device, to
6 which the return of ~~write-in~~, early, and absentee votes have been added,
7 shall constitute the official return of each polling site. All returns shall
8 be certified by the election officials in charge of the tabulation thereof in
9 the manner provided by law.

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11 SECTION 4. Arkansas Code § 7-6-102(a)(4), concerning the political
12 practices pledge and penalty for falsification, is repealed.

13 ~~(4) Write-in candidates shall file the political practices~~
14 ~~pledge at the time of filing the notice to be a write-in candidate.~~

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16 SECTION 5. Arkansas Code § 7-11-102(9), concerning content of the
17 calling document for an election to fill a vacancy, is repealed.

18 ~~(9) The deadline for filing as a write-in candidate if~~
19 ~~applicable;~~