

State of Arkansas
95th General Assembly
Regular Session, 2025

A Bill

SENATE BILL 292

By: Senator K. Hammer
By: Representative Rose

For An Act To Be Entitled

AN ACT TO AMEND THE LAW CONCERNING THE DATE OF AN ANNUAL SCHOOL ELECTION; TO MOVE THE ANNUAL SCHOOL ELECTION IF THE ANNUAL SCHOOL ELECTION IS SCHEDULED ON A STATE HOLIDAY IN CERTAIN INSTANCES; TO DECLARE AN EMERGENCY; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

Subtitle

TO AMEND THE LAW CONCERNING THE DATE OF AN ANNUAL SCHOOL ELECTION; TO MOVE THE ANNUAL SCHOOL ELECTION IF THE ANNUAL SCHOOL ELECTION IS SCHEDULED ON A STATE HOLIDAY IN CERTAIN INSTANCES; AND TO DECLARE AN EMERGENCY.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:

SECTION 1. Arkansas Code § 6-14-102(a)(1)(A), concerning the date of the annual school election, 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 primary election; or
 - (b) General election; and

(ii)(a) ~~In~~ Except as provided in subdivision (a)(1)(A)(ii)(b) of this section, in odd-numbered years, on the:

- ~~(a)(1)~~ (1) Second Tuesday in November; or
- ~~(b)(2)~~ (2) Second Tuesday in May.



(b) An annual school election that is scheduled to occur in a month in which the second Tuesday of the month under subdivision (a)(1)(A)(ii)(a) of this section falls on a state holiday shall be held on the third Tuesday of that month.

SECTION 2. EMERGENCY CLAUSE. It is found and determined by the General Assembly of the State of Arkansas that ensuring adequate participation in elections preserves the public peace, health, and safety as it ensures that the results of elections fairly reflect the will of voters; that the holding of elections on a state holiday prevents many voters from participating in an election and could potentially lead to election results that do not reflect the overall will of voters; and that this act preserves the public peace, health, and safety by ensuring that the annual school election will not occur on a state holiday to allow appropriate participation in the election to ensure fair and accurate results. Therefore, an emergency is declared to exist, and this act being immediately necessary for the preservation of the public peace, health, and safety shall become effective on:

- (1) The date of its approval by the Governor;
- (2) If the bill is neither approved nor vetoed by the Governor, the expiration of the period of time during which the Governor may veto the bill; or
- (3) If the bill is vetoed by the Governor and the veto is overridden, the date the last house overrides the veto.

APPROVED: 3/12/25