

State of Arkansas
95th General Assembly
Regular Session, 2025

As Engrossed: H3/10/25

A Bill

HOUSE BILL 1574

By: Representative Vaught

By: Senator K. Hammer

For An Act To Be Entitled

AN ACT TO AMEND THE LAW CONCERNING PAID CANVASSERS;
TO REQUIRE DOMICILE IN ARKANSAS; AND FOR OTHER
PURPOSES.

Subtitle

TO AMEND THE LAW CONCERNING PAID
CANVASSERS; AND TO REQUIRE DOMICILE IN
ARKANSAS.

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

SECTION 1. Arkansas Code § 7-9-103(a), concerning residence of canvassers, is amended to add an additional subdivision to read as follows:

(7) A person shall not act as a paid canvasser unless he or she is:

(A) A resident of this state; and

(B) Domiciled in the state if acting as a paid canvasser for a statewide initiative petition or statewide referendum petition.

SECTION 2. Arkansas Code § 7-9-103(d), concerning the signing of petitions, is amended to read as follows:

(d)(1) A person acting as a sponsor or an agent of a sponsor shall not knowingly hire a person as a paid canvasser who:

(A) Is not a resident of this state; and

(B) Is not domiciled in the state if acting as a paid canvasser for a statewide initiative petition or statewide referendum petition.



(2) A person who fails to comply with subdivision (d)(1) of this section is guilty of a violation and upon conviction shall be fined two thousand five hundred dollars (\$2,500) for each paid canvasser hired in violation of subdivision (d)(1) of this section.

(e) When the official charged with verifying the signatures has reasonable grounds to believe that one (1) or more signatures on a petition is forged, the official shall report the suspected forgery and basis for suspecting forgery to:

(1) The Division of Arkansas State Police, in the case of a statewide petition; or

(2) The prosecuting attorney of the county, in the case of a local petition.

SECTION 3. DO NOT CODIFY. Severability.

If any provision of this act or the application of this act to any person or circumstance is held invalid, the invalidity shall not affect other provisions or applications of this act which can be given effect without the invalid provision or application, and to this end, the provisions of this act are declared severable.

SECTION 4. DO NOT CODIFY. The Supreme Court has interpreted domicile to require "actual residence plus the intent to remain in a particular place". Leathers v. Womack, 341 Ark. 609, 618 (2000). An individual may have only one (1) domicile, and circumstances must present "a bona fide intention of making it a fixed and permanent place of abode". Id. at. 619.

/s/Vaught

APPROVED: 4/3/25