

State of Arkansas
92nd General Assembly
Regular Session, 2019

A Bill

HOUSE BILL 1492

By: Representatives Lundstrum, D. Garner, Godfrey, Boyd, Cavanaugh, Coleman, Crawford, M. Gray,
Ladyman, Petty, Richmond, McCollum, G. Hodges

By: Senators J. Cooper, Hester

For An Act To Be Entitled

AN ACT TO AMEND THE LAW CONCERNING ELECTION PAGES; TO
ALLOW CERTAIN HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS TO PERFORM THE
DUTIES AND FUNCTIONS OF ELECTION OFFICIALS; AND FOR
OTHER PURPOSES.

Subtitle

TO AMEND THE LAW CONCERNING ELECTION
PAGES; AND TO ALLOW CERTAIN HIGH SCHOOL
STUDENTS TO PERFORM THE DUTIES AND
FUNCTIONS OF ELECTION OFFICIALS.

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

SECTION 1. Arkansas Code § 7-4-116(c) and (d), concerning duties and responsibilities of election pages, are amended to read as follows:

(c)(1) ~~Each~~ In this volunteer position, each student selected as an election page shall:

(A) Be granted an additional excused absence from school while working as an election page;

(B) Serve under the direct supervision of the election officials at his or her assigned polling place; and

(C) Observe strict impartiality at all times.

(2) ~~An election page may observe the electoral process and seek information from the election officers but shall not handle or touch ballots,~~



~~voting machines, or any other official election materials or enter any voting booth.~~ If an election page has attended training provided by the county board of election commissioners, the election page may assist election officials with checking in voters, assisting voters with instructions regarding the operation of voting machines, guarding the ballot box, and other related duties.

(3) An election page shall be in a volunteer position and shall not receive any compensation for performing his or her duties.

(4) Before beginning any duties, an election page shall take, before an election official, the following oath:

“I, _____, do swear that I will perform the duties of an election page of this election according to law and to the best of my abilities, and that I will studiously endeavor to prevent fraud, deceit, and abuse, and that I will not disclose how any voter shall have voted, unless required to do so as a witness in a judicial proceeding or a proceeding to contest an election.”

(d)~~(1)~~ Each student selected to be an election official shall:

~~(A)~~(1) Take the oath of the election officials in § 7-4-110;

~~(B)~~(2) Serve under the supervision of the appropriate county board of election commissioners;

~~(C)~~(3) Observe strict impartiality at all times; and

~~(D)~~(4) Be granted an additional excused absence from school while working as an election official.

~~(2) A high school student selected to be an election official may be compensated according to § 7-4-112 if the county board of election commissioners determines that the high school students selected to be election officials should be compensated.~~