

State of Arkansas
92nd General Assembly
Regular Session, 2019

A Bill

HOUSE BILL 1531

By: Representative Speaks

By: Senator M. Johnson

For An Act To Be Entitled

AN ACT TO AMEND THE LAW CONCERNING THE NAMES PRINTED ON BALLOTS IN JUDICIAL ELECTIONS; TO ALLOW A PERSON WHO IS APPOINTED TO THE POSITION OF JUDGE TO USE THE TITLE OF "JUDGE" ON THE BALLOT FOR A SUBSEQUENT OFFICE; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

Subtitle

TO AMEND THE LAW CONCERNING THE NAMES PRINTED ON BALLOTS IN JUDICIAL ELECTIONS; AND TO ALLOW A PERSON WHO IS APPOINTED TO THE POSITION OF JUDGE TO USE THE TITLE OF "JUDGE" ON THE BALLOT FOR A SUBSEQUENT OFFICE.

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

SECTION 1. Arkansas Code § 7-7-305(c)(1)(B), concerning use of the title of a judicial office on a ballot, is amended to read as follows:

(B) A person may use as the prefix the title of a nonpartisan judicial office in an election ~~for a nonpartisan judicial office only~~ if:

(i) The person is currently serving in a nonpartisan judicial office or has served in a nonpartisan judicial office within the five (5) years immediately preceding the election to which the person has been elected in the last election for the office; or

~~(ii) The person:~~



~~(a) Is a candidate for the office of circuit judge or district judge;~~

~~(b) Is currently serving in the office of circuit judge or district judge as an appointee; and~~

~~(c) Has been serving in that position for at least twelve (12) months; and~~

(ii) The person's service is not or was not as a special judge or justice appointed to hear a specific case or set of cases.

SECTION 2. Arkansas Code § 7-10-103(f)(1)(B)(ii), concerning use of the title of a judicial office on the ballot, is amended to read as follows:

(ii) A candidate may use as the prefix the title of a nonpartisan judicial office in an election for a nonpartisan judicial office ~~only~~ if:

(a) The candidate is currently serving in a nonpartisan judicial office or has served in a nonpartisan judicial office within the five (5) years immediately preceding the election ~~judicial position to which the candidate has been elected in the last election for the office; or~~

~~(b) The candidate:~~

~~(1) Is a candidate for the office of circuit judge or district judge;~~

~~(2) Is currently serving in the position of circuit judge or district judge as an appointee; and~~

~~(3) Has been serving in that position for at least twelve (12) months; and~~

(b) The candidate's service is not or was not as a special judge or justice appointed to hear a specific case or set of cases.