

Stricken language would be deleted from and underlined language would be added to present law.

State of Arkansas  
94th General Assembly  
Regular Session, 2023

As Engrossed: H3/9/23

# A Bill

SENATE BILL 258

By: Senators Dees, K. Hammer, M. McKee, J. Petty, Stone

By: Representatives Burkes, Wing, Achor, Andrews, Barker, Beaty Jr., Beck, Bentley, M. Berry, Breaux, Brooks, K. Brown, M. Brown, Joey Carr, C. Cooper, Cozart, Evans, C. Fite, L. Fite, Fortner, Furman, Gazaway, Gonzales, Gramlich, Haak, Hawk, Hollowell, Jean, Ladyman, Long, Lundstrum, Lynch, McAlindon, McClure, McCollum, M. McElroy, McGrew, B. McKenzie, McNair, S. Meeks, Miller, Milligan, K. Moore, Painter, Pearce, Pilkington, Puryear, R. Scott Richardson, Richmond, Rose, Rye, Schulz, Steimel, Tosh, Underwood, Vaught, Womack, Wooldridge, Wooten

## For An Act To Be Entitled

AN ACT TO AMEND THE METHOD OF VOTING ABSENTEE; TO  
PROHIBIT THE USE OF ABSENTEE BALLOT DROP BOXES; AND  
FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

## Subtitle

TO AMEND THE METHOD OF VOTING ABSENTEE;  
AND TO PROHIBIT THE USE OF ABSENTEE  
BALLOT DROP BOXES.

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

*SECTION 1. Arkansas Code § 7-1-101, concerning definitions under election law, is amended to add an additional subdivision to read as follows:*

*(44)(A) "Drop box" means:*

*(i) A receptacle, box, or other physical structure used to receive absentee ballots; and*

*(ii) That is available for public use.*

*(B) "Drop box" does not include a receptacle, box, or other physical structure that is provided by or used by a mail carrier authorized to receive or deliver absentee ballots under law.*



03-09-2023 09:28:51 MLD015

*Section 2. Arkansas Code § 7-5-411(a), concerning the methods of voting absentee, is amended to add an additional subdivision to read as follows:*

(5)(A) A county clerk, public employee, or election official shall not establish or use a drop box for the purpose of collecting absentee ballots.

(B) No person shall deliver an absentee ballot through a drop box.

(6) All absentee ballots not delivered by mail shall be hand-delivered inside the physical office of the county clerk under the requirements of this section and chapter.

*/s/Dees*