

1 State of Arkansas  
2 93rd General Assembly  
3 Regular Session, 2021  
4

# A Bill

HOUSE BILL 1655

5 By: Representative Dotson  
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## For An Act To Be Entitled

8 AN ACT TO AMEND ARKANSAS ELECTION LAW; TO AMEND THE  
9 LAW CONCERNING ORGANIZED POLITICAL PARTIES; TO AMEND  
10 THE LAW CONCERNING PARTY PRIMARIES; AND FOR OTHER  
11 PURPOSES.  
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## Subtitle

14 TO AMEND ARKANSAS ELECTION LAW; TO AMEND  
15 THE LAW CONCERNING ORGANIZED POLITICAL  
16 PARTIES; AND TO AMEND THE LAW CONCERNING  
17 PARTY PRIMARIES.  
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21 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:  
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23 SECTION 1. Arkansas Code § 7-3-101 is amended to read as follows:  
24 7-3-101. Duties and powers.

25 (a) Subject to the provisions of this act and other applicable laws of  
26 this state, organized political parties shall:

27 (1) Prescribe the qualifications of their own membership;

28 (2) Prescribe the qualifications for voting in their party  
29 primaries; and

30 (3) Establish rules and procedures for their own organization.

31 (b)(1) An organized political party shall provide current copies of  
32 its adopted rules and procedures to the Secretary of State and the State  
33 Board of Election Commissioners.

34 (2) The obligation under subdivision (b)(1) of this section is a  
35 continuing obligation, and as rules and procedures are amended the political  
36 party shall continue to provide updated and current copies of the rules and



1 procedures.

2 (c) An organized political party shall conduct a party primary for a  
3 political subdivision of the state if a political subdivision of the state  
4 requests a party primary.

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6 SECTION 2. Arkansas Code § 7-7-301(a), concerning the powers and  
7 duties of political parties, is amended to read as follows:

8 (a) A political party may impose a filing fee for candidates seeking  
9 nomination by that party.

10 (1) The filing fee for county, municipal, and township offices  
11 shall be fixed by the county committee, as authorized by the state executive  
12 committee.

13 (2) For all other races, the filing fee shall be established by  
14 the state executive committee.

15 (3) On or before noon of the last day of the political party  
16 filing period, all candidates at primary elections of political parties shall  
17 file an affidavit of eligibility and any pledge required by such party and  
18 shall pay the party filing fees required by the party, as follows:

19 ~~(1)~~(A) Candidates for United States Senator, for United  
20 States Representative, and for all state offices shall file the pledge and  
21 the affidavit of eligibility and pay the party filing fees with the secretary  
22 of the state committee of the political party or his or her designated agent;

23 ~~(2)~~(B) Candidates for district offices, including, but not  
24 limited to, the offices of State Representative and State Senator, shall file  
25 the pledge and affidavit of eligibility with the secretary of the state  
26 committee of the political party or his or her designated agent and pay the  
27 party filing fees with the secretary of the state committee of the political  
28 party or his or her designated agent; and

29 ~~(3)~~(C) All candidates for county, municipal, and township  
30 offices, candidates for county committee member, and delegates to the county  
31 convention shall file the pledge and the affidavit of eligibility and pay the  
32 party filing fees with the secretary of the county committee of the political  
33 party.

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