

1 State of Arkansas
2 92nd General Assembly
3 Regular Session, 2019
4

A Bill

SENATE BILL 572

5 By: Senators Elliott, L. Chesterfield
6

For An Act To Be Entitled

8 AN ACT TO ALLOW VOTER REGISTRATION AND BALLOT ACCESS
9 FOR ELIGIBLE PERSONS INCARCERATED IN COUNTY JAILS;
10 AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.
11

Subtitle

12 TO ALLOW VOTER REGISTRATION AND BALLOT
13 ACCESS FOR ELIGIBLE PERSONS INCARCERATED
14 IN COUNTY JAILS.
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19 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:
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21 SECTION 1. DO NOT CODIFY. Legislative findings and intent.

22 (a) The General Assembly finds that:

23 (1) Improving voter participation is in the interest of all
24 Arkansans;

25 (2) There are hundreds of people in Arkansas who are eligible to
26 register to vote but are not registered to vote;

27 (3) A number of those people eligible to register to vote but
28 who are not registered to vote are housed in Arkansas county jails;

29 (4) There are thousands of persons registered to vote who do not
30 vote; and

31 (5) A number of those people registered to vote and who do not
32 vote are housed in Arkansas county jails.

33 (b) It is the intent of the General Assembly that county clerks consult
34 with administrators of county jails, and other appropriate county elected
35 officials to create a process to allow county officials or volunteers to:

36 (1) Register eligible persons housed in county jails to vote;



1 to the county clerk absentee ballots on their behalf; and

2 (D) That each of the voters for whom the administrator, or
3 his or her designee, seeks to obtain an absentee ballot has named the
4 administrator, or his or her designee, on his or her application.

5 (5) The county clerk shall attach a copy of the administrator's,
6 or his or her designee's, affidavit to each application for an absentee
7 ballot delivered by the administrator, or his or her designee, to the county
8 clerk.

9 (6) When the ballots are returned by the administrator, or his
10 or her designee, in person or by mail, the county clerk shall write or stamp
11 the word "ADMINISTRATOR" and write the administrator's, or his or her
12 designee's, name on the voter's absentee ballot return envelope.

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