

# State of South Dakota

EIGHTY-SEVENTH SESSION  
LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY, 2012

487T0079

## HOUSE BILL NO. 1224

Introduced by: Representative Russell

1 FOR AN ACT ENTITLED, An Act to allow voters to petition for the at large election of county  
2 commissioners.

3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF SOUTH DAKOTA:

4 Section 1. That chapter 7-8 be amended by adding thereto a NEW SECTION to read as  
5 follows:

6 If fifteen percent of the registered voters of the county, based upon the total number of  
7 registered voters at the last preceding general election, petition the board of county  
8 commissioners to have all of the county commissioners elected at large, the board shall submit  
9 the question to a vote of the voters of the county at the next general election. Notice of the  
10 submission of this question shall be given in the notice of the general election.

11 Section 2. That chapter 7-8 be amended by adding thereto a NEW SECTION to read as  
12 follows:

13 If the petition is for the county commissioners to be elected at large, the proposition shall  
14 be submitted by a separate ballot in the following form:

15 Ballot to have the County Commissioners elected at large.



1 (Place x or . in the square at the left of your choice)

2 \* For the at large election of commissioners.

3 \* Against the at large election of commissioners.

4 Section 3. That chapter 7-8 be amended by adding thereto a NEW SECTION to read as  
5 follows:

6 If at the election a majority of all the votes cast is for the at large election of the  
7 commissioners, the board within one hundred eighty days after the votes have been canvassed  
8 shall redistrict the county into one at large district from which the county commissioners shall  
9 be elected at the next general election. If a county commissioner's term of office extends for an  
10 additional two years beyond the next general election, the tenure of office is not affected. When  
11 a county is redistricted into one at large district, the commissioners serving shall continue until  
12 their successors are elected or appointed and qualified.