

STATE OF OKLAHOMA

1st Session of the 59th Legislature (2023)

SENATE BILL 266

By: Rader

AS INTRODUCED

An Act relating to elections; amending 26 O.S. 2021, Sections 2-123 and 3-119, which relate to precinct officials and subprecincts; authorizing assignment of precinct officials to multiple precincts; increasing number of affected registered voters to establish a subprecinct; establishing requirements for assignment of precinct officials to multiple adjacent precincts; updating statutory language; and providing an effective date.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA:

SECTION 1. AMENDATORY 26 O.S. 2021, Section 2-123, is amended to read as follows:

Section 2-123. A. Each precinct within each county shall have at least three (3) precinct officials: an inspector, a judge and a clerk. Provided, the same precinct officials may be assigned to serve more than one precinct as described in Section 3-119 of this title.

B. One of the ~~aforementioned~~ precinct officials shall be a registered voter from the political party with the largest number of registered voters in the state and shall be appointed from the list

1 submitted by that political party as provided in Section 2-124 of
2 this title.

3 C. One of the ~~aforementioned~~ precinct officials shall be a
4 registered voter from the political party with the second largest
5 number of registered voters in the state~~7~~ and shall be appointed
6 from the list submitted by that political party as provided in
7 Section 2-124 of this title.

8 D. The third precinct official~~7~~ and any additional precinct
9 officials that are appointed pursuant to law~~7~~ may be a member of any
10 political party recognized under the laws of this state, or may be a
11 registered voter with no declared party affiliation, and shall be
12 appointed from the ranks of registered voters within the county.

13 SECTION 2. AMENDATORY 26 O.S. 2021, Section 3-119, is
14 amended to read as follows:

15 Section 3-119. A. If fewer than ~~five hundred (500)~~ seven
16 hundred fifty (750) registered voters are affected, an area
17 constituting the maximum area possible without crossing boundaries
18 of any district court judicial district electoral division or any
19 congressional, legislative or county commissioner district may be
20 designated as a subprecinct.

21 ~~B.~~ 1. Registration records shall be maintained for
22 subprecincts in like manner as for other precincts.

1 2. Subprecincts need not have a polling place separate from
2 another precinct, nor shall they be required to have separate
3 precinct officials.

4 3. The secretary of the county election board may authorize
5 registered voters of a subprecinct to vote at a specific adjacent
6 precinct. ~~Provided, separate~~ Separate election materials shall be
7 ~~there afforded~~ provided for the subprecinct ~~in order~~ so that a
8 separate certification will be made of the ~~subprecinct's~~ election
9 results of the subprecinct. Appropriate ballots shall be issued to
10 the voters of the subprecinct.

11 B. With the written permission of the Secretary of the State
12 Election Board, a secretary of a county election board may assign
13 the same precinct officials to two or more adjacent precincts
14 subject to the following:

15 1. The precincts must share the same election day polling place
16 in a manner consistent with state law;

17 2. The combined number of registered voters in the precincts
18 based on the most recent monthly voter registration statistics shall
19 not exceed seven thousand five hundred (7,500);

20 3. The secretary of the county election board shall submit the
21 request in writing stating the reason or reasons for the request and
22 demonstrating that the proposed number of precinct officials to be
23 assigned is sufficient to adequately serve the number of voters who
24 are registered in the precincts; and

1 4. Separate election materials shall be provided for each
2 precinct so that a separate certification shall be made of the
3 election results of each precinct. Appropriate ballots shall be
4 issued to the voters of each precinct.

5 SECTION 3. This act shall become effective November 1, 2023.

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