STATE OF ARKANSAS
House of Representatives

Newsletter From Rep. Fred Allen

District 77

March 10, 2025

Summary for March 10, 2025

On Monday, the House passed several bills related to elections and referendums.

SB188 requires the Secretary of State to post all approved ballot titles and the full text of proposed measures on their website.

SB209 stipulates that the Secretary of State will not count signatures collected by a canvasser if it's determined that the canvasser violated Arkansas laws related to canvassing, perjury, forgery, or fraudulent practices.

SB210 mandates that a signer must read the petition's ballot title in the presence of a canvasser.

SB296 states that any additional polling sites for early voting must be approved by a unanimous vote of the county board of election commissioners.

SB272 requires that voter registration application forms be delivered with the blank party affiliation field.

The House also passed **HB1583**, which mandates coverage for acquired brain injury and allows DHS to seek a waiver to provide needed services to beneficiaries under the Arkansas Medicaid Program.

HB1429 allows interpreting physicians to interpret diagnostic mammograms via telemedicine, expanding access for rural hospitals.

HB1641 amends the harassment law to include the use of a tracking device as an offense.

HB1628 adds second-degree sexual assault to the list of offenses for which a court may issue an extended post-conviction no-contact order.

HB1563 makes knowingly exposing someone to fentanyl a restricted release felony, requiring the offender to serve at least 85% of their sentence.

HB1517 establishes the "Earned Wage Access Services Act," providing consumer protections for earned wage access services.