



May 06, 2025

Private Acts of 2002 Chapter 87

Dear Reader:

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We hope this information will be useful to you; reference to it will assist you with many of the questions that will arise in your tenure with county government. However, the *Tennessee Code Annotated* and other relevant laws or regulations should always be consulted before any action is taken based upon the contents of this document.

Please feel free to contact us if you have questions or comments regarding this information or any other CTAS website material.

Sincerely,

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Table of Contents

Private Acts of 2002 Chapter 87	3
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Private Acts of 2002 Chapter 87

SECTION 1. Chapter 117 of the Private Acts of 1953, and all acts amendatory thereto, are hereby repealed.

SECTION 2. Benton County shall be divided into six (6) school districts of substantially equal population, which shall be coextensive with the county legislative body districts established by resolution of the county legislative body from time to time.

SECTION 3. The Benton County Board of Education (the "board") shall consist of twelve (12) members, with two (2) members of the board being elected by the qualified voters in each school district on a non-partisan basis. Board members shall be elected to either Seat A or Seat B in each district. Board members shall be elected to staggered four (4) year terms so that every two (2) years the terms of one-half (½) the board members will expire, with the terms of board members holding Seat A expiring at the same time and the terms of board members holding Seat B expiring at the same time. Persons elected in the regular August general elections shall take office on September 1 following the election and shall serve until their successors are duly elected and qualified.

SECTION 4. To establish staggered terms as provided in Section 3, all incumbent board members shall remain on the board until the expiration of their current terms. Board members currently in office shall be assigned to Seat A or Seat B as follows:

District 1	Seat A	Mike Draper
	Seat B	Barry Carter
District 2	Seat A	William McDaniel
	Seat B	Mark Hargis
District 3	Seat A	Mike Winters
	Seat B	Tim Hyatt
District 4	Seat A	James Woodall
	Seat B	Bobby Arnold
District 5	Seat A	Brent Hedge
	Seat B	Joey Cooper
District 6	Seat A	Vernon Wade
	Seat B	Ruby Evans

At the regular August 2002 elections, board members in Seat A shall be elected to four (4) year terms in Districts 1, 2, 3, 4, and 6, and a board member shall be elected in Seat B to a two (2) year term in District 2. At the regular August 2004 elections, board members in Seat B shall be elected to four (4) year terms in Districts 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, and 6, and a board member shall be elected in Seat A to a two (2) year term in District 5. Thereafter, all board members shall be elected to four (4) year term as each member's term expires.

SECTION 5. The Benton County Board of education shall have the same powers, duties, privileges and qualifications as a board of education established pursuant to Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 49.

SECTION 6. If any provision of this act or the application thereof to any person or circumstance is held invalid, such invalidity shall not affect other provisions or applications of the act which can be given effect without the invalid provision or application, and to that end the provisions of this act are declared to be severable.

SECTION 7. This act shall have no effect unless it is approved by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the county legislative body of Benton County. Its approval or nonapproval shall be proclaimed by the presiding officer of the county legislative body of Benton County and certified by such officer to the Secretary of State.

SECTION 8. For the purposes of approving or rejecting the provisions of this act, it shall be effective upon becoming a law, the public welfare requiring it. For all other purposes, it shall become effective upon being approved as provided in section 7.

Passed: February 14, 2002.

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