



County Technical Assistance Service  
INSTITUTE *for* PUBLIC SERVICE

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# Elections - Historical Notes

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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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## Elections - Historical Notes

The following is a listing of acts for DeKalb County which affected the elective process, but which have been superseded or repealed. They are listed here for historical and reference purposes. Also referenced below is an act which repeals prior law without providing new substantive provisions.

1. Acts of 1847-48, Chapter 111, provided that on the second Monday in February, 1848 and each following year, the Sheriff of DeKalb County should hold and supervise an election in Alexandria for the purpose of electing town officers.
2. Acts of 1849-50, Chapter 1, was passed in order to remedy some confusion as to when elections for county officials should be held in DeKalb County. It provided that elections should be held as they were in other counties of the state.
3. Acts of 1893, Chapter 67, provided for redistricting and divided DeKalb County into five civil districts. This was repealed by Acts of 1897, Chapter 218.
4. Acts of 1905, Chapter 170, established the Twenty-Third Civil District of DeKalb County and provided that two Justices of the Peace be elected from that district.
5. Private Acts of 1919, Chapter 525, made the general registration and election law of the state not applicable to DeKalb County.
6. Private Acts of 1923, Chapter 355, amended the general law regulating absentee voting as it applied to DeKalb County.
7. Private Acts of 1945, Chapter 513, provided that in all primary, general, and special elections, the polls in the Ninth Civil District of DeKalb County should remain open until 5:00 p.m.
8. Private Acts of 1947, Chapter 795, authorized the Quarterly County Court of DeKalb County to attach and detach Civil Districts Nos. 10, 18 and 26 by proper resolution and attach them to other Civil Districts.
9. Private Acts of 1961, Chapter 111, provided that primary elections for county offices, if held, would be held by the County Primary Election Commissioners and provided that the costs of such elections were to be paid by the political parties. This was superseded by general law found in T.C.A. 2-12-109 (Expenses of county election commission) and 2-13-203 (Methods of nominations for other offices).
10. Private Acts of 1949, Chapter 771, created the Democratic Party executive committee in Dekalb County. This act was repealed by Private Acts of 2014, Chapter 50.

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