



November 19, 2024

---

# Change of Boundary Lines

---

Dear Reader:

The following document was created from the CTAS website ([ctas.tennessee.edu](http://ctas.tennessee.edu)). This website is maintained by CTAS staff and seeks to represent the most current information regarding issues relative to Tennessee county government.

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,

The University of Tennessee  
County Technical Assistance Service  
226 Anne Dallas Dudley Boulevard, Suite 400  
Nashville, Tennessee 37219  
615.532.3555 phone  
615.532.3699 fax  
[www.ctas.tennessee.edu](http://www.ctas.tennessee.edu)

Table of Contents

|                                       |          |
|---------------------------------------|----------|
| <b>Change of Boundary Lines .....</b> | <b>3</b> |
| <b>Acts of 1893 Chapter 173 .....</b> | <b>3</b> |
| <b>Acts of 1897 Chapter 176 .....</b> | <b>3</b> |

# Change of Boundary Lines

## Acts of 1893 Chapter 173

**SECTION 1.** That the present boundary line between the counties of Lake and Obion be so changed as to read as follows: Beginning at a point in the present boundary line of said counties, on the west bank of Broad Slough, at the commencement of what is known as the Scatters, or Main Slough, draining Reelfoot Lake, at a large double leaning willow tree, marked with maple pointers twenty feet south-west of same, and an ash and three small cypress trees fifteen feet south; thence north 28 degrees east to what is known as "Willow Bar Two-head;" thence north 31 degrees east to the head of Rag Point (an island of green cypress trees) in the lake; and thence due north to the southern point of Horse Island, intersecting again the Lake and Obion County line.

**SECTION 2.** That all of said portion of Reelfoot Lake, and all territory therein included west of the above described line, and cut off from Obion County, by said survey, be added to Lake County; and that this act shall take effect from and after its passage, the public welfare requiring it.

Passed: April 10, 1893.

## Acts of 1897 Chapter 176

Whereas, a commission was appointed by the county courts of the counties of Lake and Obion to survey, fix, and establish the boundary line between said counties in accordance with the constitutional provision and legislative Act creating the county of Lake, as to that part of said boundary not already fixed by an Act of the General Assembly of 1893; and,

Whereas, said commissioners, L. Donaldson, of Lake County, and S. F. Howard, of Obion County as such commissioner, did survey, mark and establish said line and report to their respective counties; now, therefore,

**SECTION 1.** That the following line, be and the same shall constitute the boundary line between certain portions of the Counties of Lake and Obion; Beginning at a large double leaning willow tree on the west bank of Broad Slough, it being the beginning corner of the boundary line, established by the Act of the General Assembly of the State of Tennessee of 1893; running thence in a westerly direction with the center of Dredge Ditch to a stake in the center of the "Spill-way"; thence southwardly with the center of Free Bridges Dredge Ditch to the Dyer County line.

**SECTION 2.** That this Act take effect from and after its passage, the public welfare requiring it. Passed: January 22, 1897.

**COMPILER'S NOTE:** This Act, and Act of 1870, Chapter 30, were both part of the basis for the decision of the Supreme Court in State v. Hoffman, 210 Tenn. 686, 362 S.W.2d 231 (1962). The court held that this act determined the boundary line between Lake and Obion Counties and therefore the venue of the misdemeanor case before the court was in Lake County where the defendant, Hoffman, had been tried. And, further, that he had no standing to question the constitutionality of Chapter 173, since counties had long acquiesced in the boundary line established by this Act.

---

**Source URL:** <https://www.ctas.tennessee.edu/private-acts/change-boundary-lines-40>