



County Technical Assistance Service  
INSTITUTE *for* PUBLIC SERVICE

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# Run-Off Elections

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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,

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# Run-Off Elections

## Private Acts of 1977 Chapter 110

**SECTION 1.** When no candidate for any county elective office in Wayne County receives a majority of votes cast in an election, a run-off election shall be held three (3) weeks from the day of the initial election. The names of the candidates placing first and second in the initial election shall be placed on the ballot in the run-off election as to all contests where no candidate received a majority of the votes cast, subject to the following exceptions: (1) Where there was a tie for first place in the initial election, only the names of the candidates so tying shall be placed on the ballot in the run-off election; and (2) Where there is a tie for second place in the initial election and the candidate placing first did not receive a majority of votes cast, only the names of the candidates placing first and tying for second shall be placed on the ballot in the run-off election.

**SECTION 2.** The candidate who receives the highest number of votes cast for the office in the run-off election shall be declared the winner. If two or more persons receive an equal and the highest number of votes cast for the same office in the run-off election, the winner shall be decided by the Quarterly County Court of Wayne County.

**SECTION 3.** This act shall have no effect unless it is approved by a majority of the voters voting in an election to be held for the purpose of approving or rejecting it. Within sixty (60) days after this act becomes a law, the County Election Commissioners of Wayne County shall call an election for Wayne County to be held not less than thirty (30) days nor more than ninety (90) days from the date of the call. The ballots used in the election shall have printed on them the title of this act and voters shall vote for or against its approval. The votes cast in the election shall be canvassed and the results proclaimed by the County Election Commissioners and certified by them to the Secretary of State as provided by law in the cases of general elections. The qualifications of voters voting on the question shall be the same as those required for participation in general elections. All laws applicable to general elections shall apply to the determination of the approval or rejection of this act. The cost of the election shall be paid by Wayne County.

**SECTION 4.** For the purpose of calling a referendum to approve or disapprove this act, it shall take effect upon becoming a law, the public welfare requiring it. For all other purposes, it shall take effect upon being approved as provided in Section 3.

Passed: May 16, 1977.

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