



February 05, 2025

---

# Chapter VII - Elections

---

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>Chapter VII - Elections .....</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>Districts - Reapportionment .....</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>Private Act of 1953 Chapter 42 .....</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>Voter Registration .....</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>Private Acts of 1945 Chapter 173 .....</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>Voting Precincts .....</b>	<b>10</b>
<b>Private Acts of 1947 Chapter 259 .....</b>	<b>11</b>
<b>Private Acts of 1951 Chapter 700 .....</b>	<b>11</b>
<b>Elections - Historical Notes .....</b>	<b>11</b>

# Chapter VII - Elections

## Districts - Reapportionment

### Private Act of 1953 Chapter 42

**SECTION 1.** That the Civil Districts of Unicoi County be and are hereby rearranged into five Civil Districts, and the numbers of said Districts and the boundaries of same established as hereinafter provided, to-wit:

#### FIRST DISTRICT

The First Civil District shall consist of the territory within the following boundaries: Beginning at a point on the line between the State of North Carolina and the State of Tennessee where Greene County and Unicoi County join, and running thence along the boundary line between Greene and Unicoi Counties to a point known as Wilson Knob on top of Rich Mountain, this being the division line between the 7th and 9th voting precincts of Unicoi County; thence along the line between said 7th and 9th voting precincts, along the top of Higgin's Ridge to a point near the end of said Ridge; thence continuing with the division line between said voting precincts, passing a cemetery and crossing South Indian Creek and U. S. Highway 23 and 19W Northeast of Earnestville and continuing to the point where said division line intersects the line between 7th and 8th voting precincts; thence continuing, in an easterly direction, along the division line between said 7th and 8th voting precincts to a point in the center of the Nolichucky River at the line between North Carolina and Tennessee; thence along said boundary line between the States of North Carolina and Tennessee to the beginning point at the Greene County line, including the 1st, 8th, 9th, and 10th voting precincts of Unicoi County. Mr. R. M. Sams and Mr. Labe Gentry shall serve as Justices of the Peace for this said First Civil District of Unicoi County, Tennessee, until September 1, 1954, with their successors to be selected by the voters at the general county elections in August, 1954.

#### SECOND DISTRICT

The Second Civil District shall consist of the territory within the following boundaries: Beginning at a point on the line between the States of North Carolina and Tennessee, in the center of the Nolichucky River, and running thence along the line between North Carolina and Tennessee to a point on said line, in the Unaka National Forest, designated by the U. S. Forest Service as its corner No. 389; thence in a northwesterly direction, a direct line to the head of Martin Creek; thence with the center of Martin Creek, as it meanders, to the center of the Nolichucky River; thence down the center of the Nolichucky River, as it meanders, to the line between Washington and Unicoi Counties; thence along the line between Washington and Unicoi Counties, in a Westerly and Southwesterly direction, to the Greene County line; thence along the line between Greene and Unicoi Counties, in a Southeasterly direction, to the Wilson Knob on top of Rich Mountain, the corner to the First Civil District, hereinbefore described; thence along the line of said First Civil District to a point in the center of the Nolichucky River at the line between North Carolina and Tennessee, the point of beginning. Mr. Dewey Frye and Mr. Bernie Bailey shall serve as Justices of the Peace for this said Second Civil District of Unicoi County, Tennessee, until September 1, 1954, with their successors to be selected by the voters at the general county elections in August, 1954.

#### THIRD DISTRICT

The Third Civil District shall consist of the territory within the following boundaries: Beginning at a point on the line between the States of North Carolina and Tennessee, in the Unaka National Forest, designated by the U. S. Forest Service of Corner No. 389, and running thence along the line between North Carolina and Tennessee, in a Northeasterly direction, to a point designated by said Forest Service as corner No. 379; thence in a Northerly direction, a direct line, to the center of Rock Creek; thence down the center of Rock Creek, and the Northern prong thereof, in a Northwesterly direction, to the center of North Indian Creek; thence North 70 West to the line between Washington and Unicoi Counties on the Buffalo Mountain; thence along the line between Washington and Unicoi Counties, in a Westerly and Southwesterly direction, to the center of the Nolichucky River, the corner to the Second Civil District, hereinbefore described; thence along the line of said Second Civil District to a point on the line between North Carolina and Tennessee, the point of beginning. The county town being located in this Civil District, Mr. L. H. Alfred, Mr. A. F. Beckelheimer and Mr. Fred D. Booth shall serve as Justices of the Peace for this said Third Civil District of Unicoi County, Tennessee, until September 1, 1954, with their successors to be selected by the voters at the general county elections in August, 1954.

#### FOURTH DISTRICT

The Fourth Civil District shall consist of the territory within the following boundaries: Beginning at a point on the line between Washington and Unicoi Counties, on the Buffalo Mountain, the corner to the Third Civil

District, hereinbefore described, and running thence along the line between Washington and Unicoi Counties, in a Northeasterly direction, to a point which is the division line between the 4th and 11th voting precinct of Unicoi County; thence along the division line between said 4th and 11th voting precinct, in a Southeasterly direction, to a point on the Rattlesnake Ridge and on the line of the 2nd voting precinct; thence along the line between the 4th and 2nd voting precincts, in a Northeasterly direction, along Stone Mountain, to the line between Carter and Unicoi Counties; thence along the line between Carter and Unicoi Counties, in a Southwesterly direction, to the line between North Carolina and Tennessee; thence along the North Carolina-Tennessee line to the U. S. Forest Service corner 379 on the Unaka Mountain, the corner to the Third Civil District, hereinbefore described; thence along the line of said Third Civil District, in a Northwesterly direction, to the Washington County line on the Buffalo Mountain, the point of beginning. Mr. Sam Jones and Mr. Clarence McInturff shall serve as Justices of the Peace for this Fourth Civil District of Unicoi County, Tennessee until September 1, 1954, with their successors to be selected by the voters at the general county elections in August, 1954.

#### FIFTH DISTRICT

The Fifth Civil District shall consist of the territory within the following boundaries: Beginning at a point on the line between Carter County and Unicoi County, on the Stone Mountain, the corner to the Fourth Civil District, and running thence with the line between Carter and Unicoi Counties, Northeasterly, Northwesterly and Southwesterly to the Washington County line at the Haynes Knob on the Buffalo Mountain; thence with the Washington County- Unicoi County Line, along the Buffalo Mountain, in a Southwesterly direction, across the Pinnacle, and to the Fourth Civil District line, as hereinbefore described; thence with the line of said Fourth Civil District to the Carter County line, the point of beginning. Mr. Earl McInturff and Mr. W. R. Anderson shall serve as Justices of the Peace for this Fifth Civil District of Unicoi County, Tennessee until September 1, 1954, with their successors to be selected by the voters at the general county elections in August, 1954.

**SECTION 2.** That the number of Civil Districts of Unicoi County, as herein established, shall not be increased or diminished except by Act of the General Assembly of the State of Tennessee.

**SECTION 3.** That this Act shall take effect from and after its passage, the public welfare requiring it, and all laws in conflict with this Act are hereby repealed.

Passed: February 20, 1953.

## Voter Registration

### Private Acts of 1945 Chapter 173

**COMPILER'S NOTE:** Some of the provisions of this act may be superseded by general law.

**SECTION 1.** That in order to require voters to vote in election precincts in which they reside, to secure the freedom and purity of the ballot box in certain Counties by preventing plural voting and to encourage and facilitate the registration of voters in such Counties, all Counties of the State of Tennessee having a population of not less than 14,100 nor more than 14,200 inhabitants according to the Federal Census of 1940 or according to any subsequent Federal Census, are exempted from the operation of Sections 1996 to 2026, inclusive, of the 1932 Official Code of the State of Tennessee; the laws established by such Code provision shall be inapplicable in said Counties and the registration of voters in such Counties shall be on a permanent basis as provided hereinafter.

**SECTION 2.** That  
*Registration Is Prerequisite to Voting.*

In addition to the other requirements of law, each voter shall be registered as herein provided before being allowed to exercise the elective franchise in any election (including municipal and nominating primary elections) held in any civil district, ward or voting precinct.

**SECTION 3.** That  
*Place of Registration.*

Voters are entitled to be registered only in the voting precinct in which they maintain actual or legal residence; provided, that for the purpose of voting in any municipal election in which voting is authorized on property qualification, a voter not otherwise qualified to vote in such election may be registered on property qualifications in any one of the voting precincts wherein such voter may own property, but such registration shall be valid only for municipal elections. And provided further, that a voter may register and vote in any voting precinct within the Civil District in which he lives or maintains legal residence if outside a municipality, or if within a municipality, then in any voting precinct within the Ward in which he lives, or maintains legal residence.

**SECTION 4.** That

*Registration Permanent.*

Registration of voters shall be continuous or permanent, so that when a voter has been registered it will be unnecessary thereafter for such voter to re-register except in those cases in which the voter either:

- (a) moved to another voting precinct;
- (b) changes name by marriage or otherwise;
- (c) loses the legal right to vote by a Court judgment.

As amended by: Private Acts of 1949, Chapter 243

**SEC. 5.** That

*Those Entitled to Register; Effective Date of Registration.*

All persons qualified to vote under existing laws at the date of application for registration, including those otherwise qualified who will arrive at the legal voting age by the date of the next succeeding election following the application to register, and those otherwise qualified who have lived in the State for twelve (12) months and in the county in which they apply for registration six (6) months by the date of the next succeeding election, and also those otherwise qualified who have had any disability to vote removed by the date of their application to register shall be entitled to be registered as voters under the provisions of this Act; provided, however, that any registration or re-registration hereunder shall be ineffective to entitle a registrant to vote in any election until such registration or re-registration has been in effect for twenty (20) days from the date thereof.

**SEC. 6.** That

*Termination and Cancellation of Registration.*

The registration of any person hereunder shall become void whenever such persons either:

- (a) moved his residence to another voting precinct
- (b) changes name by marriage or otherwise, or
- (c) loses the right to vote by Court judgment or
- (d) dies.

When a registration is terminated it is the duty of the Registrar and the County Election Commission to cancel the registration of such person by endorsing on the face of the registration records at the name of such person that the registration is terminated as of a certain date and the reason for termination.

No person shall be re-registered in a voting precinct different than that in which such person's registration has been terminated and canceled until the Registrar in the voting precinct in which registration is applied for has received a certificate signed by the Registrar of the voting precinct of former registration, or from the County Election Commission that the former registration therein has been canceled. Certificates evidencing cancellation or registration shall be furnished at any time and without charge to any former registrant by the Registrar of the voting precinct in which such person was formerly registered or by the County Election Commission of the county in which such voter was formerly registered. Upon the completion of re-registration the certificate of cancellation of former registration shall be retained by the Registrar.

As amended by:

Private Acts of 1949, Chapter 243

**SECTION 7.** That

*Registration Periods.*

- (a) The first registration under the provisions of this Act shall take place in each voting precinct for ten successive days beginning the first Tuesday in the month of August, 1945. It shall be the duty of Registrars for each voting precinct on the days designated for registration herein to open an office for the registration of voters in some convenient place in each voting precinct and to keep such office open from nine o'clock A.M. until nine o'clock P.M. for the purpose of registering voters who appear in their own proper person before said Registrants.
- (b) In addition, any person entitled to register or re-register shall be registered by the County Election Commission at its office, or selected place of business, in the county seat, which shall be open for business during regularly appointed hours, and shall conduct its business therein, replacing lost registration certificates, correcting and copying permanent registration forms and performing the other duties required of the Commission, and that the County Election Commissioners may employ a Registrar-at-large for the County who is authorized to act for the Commission in issuing, canceling, correcting, copying and replacing permanent registrations and the forms and certificates relating thereto.
- (c) The County Election Commission is authorized to register as absentee voters in any voting precinct any person who has formerly been a registered voter in such voting precinct and who is required by regular business or occupation and habitual duties to be absent from the city and county in which registered, upon the filing of an affidavit of such person with the

Election Commission setting forth the place of legal residence within the voting precinct and the necessity for absence therefrom, together with the other information required for registration.

**SECTION 8.** That

*Commissioners of Election Shall Appoint Registrars; County Shall Pay for Registration.*

It shall be the duty of the Commissioners of Election in each county to appoint Registrars of voters for each voting precinct, to designate the place in each voting precinct at which the Registrars shall maintain their offices on the days of registration, to purchase and furnish the Registrar with the required registration books, stationery and forms at the expense of the respective counties; and said Commissioners shall certify the necessary expense of registration together with the other costs to the County Judge or Chairman, who shall issue his warrant on the County Treasury to pay for the same. The Commissioners of Election and the Registrars shall be held accountable as custodians for the registration books, stationery and forms hereinafter provided for. A majority of the Commissioners of Election shall have full power to act in all matters concerning registration of voters, and at least ninety (90) days prior to every period of registration shall appoint two (2) registrars of voters for each voting precinct, both of whom shall be residents of the voting precinct in which they are intended to serve, and not more than one of whom shall be for the same political party. Each permanent registration form and certification of registration shall be signed by both registrars or by the Registrar-at-Large.

**SECTION 9.** That

*Notice of First Registration.*

It shall be the duty of the Commissioners of Election to give at least ten (10) days' notice of the time and place of the first registration to be held under the provisions of this Act in some newspaper published in the county wherein such registration is to be held, or give like notice by written or printed notices posted in three or more public places in each voting precinct of the county.

**SECTION 10.** That

*Permanent Registration Forms.*

(a) Permanent registration forms for the registration of voters shall be prepared and supplied by the Commissioners of Election in sufficient quantities to enable all eligible voters to register. Such forms shall consist of an equal number of original forms one color and duplicate forms of another color. Each set of original and duplicate registration forms shall be serially number and each of such forms shall be suitable for locking in a loose-leaf binder, shall be approximately ten (10) inches by ten (10) inches so as to contain on the face thereof a margin of approximately two (2) inches for binding and shall contain the information hereinafter required.

(b) Space shall be provided on both the original and the duplicate forms at the top for the word "original" on the original forms and the word "duplicate" on the duplicate forms, to be followed immediately below the words "Permanent Registration" on both forms, which shall contain the following information concerning each applicant for registration:

1. The full name, including middle initials, if any. In the case of a man, the name shall be prefixed by the word "Mr." and in the case of a woman the name shall be prefixed by the words "Mrs." or "Miss".
2. The place of residence and street address, including number of house, if numbered; if not numbered, then a designation of its location, and if not the owner thereof, the name of owner or renter. If the applicant resides at a hotel, apartment or boarding house, or institution, such additional information may be included as may be deemed necessary to give the exact location of the applicant's place of residence.
3. The applicant's statement that he is 21 years of age or over, that he is a citizen of the United States and of the State of Tennessee, and that he will have resided in the State of Tennessee for at least one year and in the County for at least six (6) months immediately preceding the next general election, all of which shall be indicated by the word "yes".
4. Whether he is a native-born citizen or a citizen by naturalization.
5. Applicant's color.
6. The voting precinct, including post office and county from which he was last register
7. Whether the applicant is married or single.
8. His vocation.
9. Whether or not applicant has ever been disqualified as a voter by judgment of decree of any court; if so, when and by what Court reinstated.
10. The signature in person or by mark of the applicant; provided, however, that if the applicant is totally disabled so that he cannot write or make his mark, the Registrar or County Election Commissioner may sign for such applicant.
11. Immediately above the space for the signature of the applicant shall be printed these

words: "I, being duly sworn on oath (or affirmation) depose and say (or affirm) to the best of my knowledge and belief that the foregoing statements made by me are true and correct." 12. The filing date of the application and the signature of Registrar or other person authoriz For the purpose of taking affidavits of applicants for registration the Registrars and Commissioners of Election are empowered to administer oaths to applicants. Immediately to the right of the above permanent registration and identification statement shall be printed a column approximately 2½ inches wide for subsequent changes of address or removal of such applicant from one district to another.

(c) The original and duplicate registration form shall be substantially in the following form with the County Election Commission being hereby given express authority to prescribe the exact forms necessary to effectuate and carry out the purposes of this Act.

ORIGINAL

No. \_\_\_\_\_

*Permanent Registration*

Mr.

Name Mrs. \_\_\_\_\_

Miss Full Name

Resident \_\_\_\_\_

Number Street or Road

Exact Location \_\_\_\_\_ Apt. No. \_\_\_\_\_

Room Number \_\_\_\_\_ Floor No. \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ Ward \_\_\_\_\_ Voting Precinct \_\_\_\_\_

Are you 21 years of age or over; are you a citizen of the United States and of Tennessee; will you have resided in Tennessee at least one year and in the County at least six months on or before the next General Election \_\_\_\_\_

Are you a native born or naturalized citizen? \_\_\_\_\_

Color \_\_\_\_\_

Where last registered \_\_\_\_\_

State of Tennessee )

County of \_\_\_\_\_ ) ss

I, being duly sworn by oath (or affirmation), depose and say (or affirm) to the best of my knowledge and belief that the foregoing statements made by me are true and correct.

Sworn to and subscribed before me this \_\_\_\_\_

day of \_\_\_\_\_, 19\_\_\_\_\_.

Signature of Applicant

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Signature of Registrar or other person  
taking Affidavit

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Authority to take Affidavit

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

(Signature of Second Registrar (if registered in Voting Precinct)

INDEX

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

First four letters of surname  
Change in Address

TO \_\_\_\_\_

CITY \_\_\_\_\_

WARD \_\_\_\_\_ DISTRICT \_\_\_\_\_  
 DATE \_\_\_\_\_  
 TO \_\_\_\_\_  
 CITY \_\_\_\_\_  
 WARD \_\_\_\_\_ DISTRICT \_\_\_\_\_  
 DATE \_\_\_\_\_  
 TO \_\_\_\_\_  
 CITY \_\_\_\_\_  
 WARD \_\_\_\_\_ DISTRICT \_\_\_\_\_  
 DATE \_\_\_\_\_  
 TO \_\_\_\_\_  
 CITY \_\_\_\_\_  
 WARD \_\_\_\_\_ DISTRICT \_\_\_\_\_  
 DATE \_\_\_\_\_  
 TO \_\_\_\_\_  
 CITY \_\_\_\_\_  
 WARD \_\_\_\_\_ DISTRICT \_\_\_\_\_  
 DATE \_\_\_\_\_

(Note the termination of this registration by an endorsement across the face canceling it, giving date and reason therefor with signature and authority of person canceling and drawing a line across the unused portion of the voting form on reverse hereof. Withdraw canceled certificates from binder and file with the Commissioners of Election after two whole years.)

**SECTION 11.** [Deleted by Private Acts of 1949, Chapter 243, Section 3.]

**SECTION 12.** That  
*Certification of Registration.*

At the time of registration each registered voter will be given a signed card, approximately 2½ inches by 4 inches, attesting his resignation and identity as a registrant in substantially the following form:

PERMANENT REGISTRATION CERTIFICATE

Mr.

This is to certify that Mrs. \_\_\_\_\_

Miss

of the \_\_\_\_\_ voting precinct of \_\_\_\_\_, Tennessee, was duly registered on the

\_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 19 \_\_\_\_\_;  
*City County*

Registration No. \_\_\_\_\_, Color \_\_\_\_\_, Age \_\_\_\_\_;  
 Residence \_\_\_\_\_,

and is entitled to vote when otherwise qualified twenty (20) days after the issuance of this certificate, provided there is no change of residence before offering to vote.

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Registrars or Commissioner of Election*

On the reverse side of the permanent registration certificate shall be printed the first full paragraph of Section 6 of this Act.

**SECTION 13.** That  
*Correction of Errors and Replacement of Lost Certificates.*

The Commissioners of Election are authorized to replace any permanent registration certificate on the affidavit or affirmation of the registrant that such permanent registration certificate has been lost and cannot be found. The Commissioners of Election are authorized to correct any errors upon the registration records which are apparent on the face of said record or which are called to their attention by affidavit of the registrant.

**SECTION 14.** That  
*Filing Registration Forms.*

The original and duplicate registration forms when filled out shall be filed alphabetically by voting precincts in the office of the Commissioners of Election in separate sets of locked binders, one for permanent office records and the other for use in the polling places on election day. Each binder shall be divided by



appropriate alphabetical index tabs and if desirable, either the permanent or the duplicate permanent registration forms may be divided into two or more volumes. The original permanent registration forms shall not be removed from the office of the Commissioners of Election except upon the orders of a court of competent jurisdiction, and shall be kept posted from the duplicate permanent registration forms. The duplicate copy of the permanent registration form shall be used by the Registrars in the polling places at elections. The permanent registration forms shall be the official record of a person's eligibility to vote in any election.

**SECTION 15.** That  
*Registrars to Attend Elections.*

On the day of any election the Registrars for each voting precinct shall attend at the place of holding said election, with the duplicate permanent registration form book which shall be evidence of registration, and they shall occupy a place inside the polling precincts and as each voter therein registered shall vote, said Registrars shall insert in the voting record form of said voter the number of the stub on the ballot furnished such voter; and said Registrars shall make a list of the names of the voters and return the same to the officer holding the election, who shall file the same with the election returns. In voting precincts in which voting machines are used, the number on the Registrar's slip given to the voter shall be noted on the voting record instead of the ballot stub number.

**SECTION 16.** That  
*Compensation of Registrars.*

For each day's attendance during the various registration periods and for attendance at the polls, the Registrars shall be compensated in the sum of \$4.00 per day each, to be paid out of the County Treasury on the warrant of the Judge or Chairman of the County Court upon the certification of the account by the Commissioners of Election, provided, that the compensation herein provided may be increased by action of the County Court in any county. In case of municipal elections, the compensation of the Registrars shall be paid by the municipality for which said election was held.

**SECTION 17.** That  
*Affidavit as to Correctness of Registration Books.*

At the end of any period of registration, the Registrars shall make affidavit before any officer in their county authorized by law to administer oaths on a form provided by the Commissioners of Election as to the correctness of their registration and that they have in all respect in conducting such registration complied with the provisions of this Chapter. This affidavit shall be filed with the Election Commission when the permanent registration forms are returned to it.

**SECTION 18.** That  
*Oath of Registrars.*

Before entering upon the performance of any duties pertaining to their offices, each Registrar shall take and subscribe to the following oath upon a form supplied by the Commissioners of Election:

"I do solemnly swear (or affirm) that I will faithfully and impartially keep the register of voters in my voting precinct, that I will not knowingly register or allow to be registered any person not a legally qualified voter and that I will not knowingly prevent any person from registering who is a legally qualified voter, so help me God."

**SECTION 19.** That  
*Denial of Registration.*

If the Registrars do not permit an applicant for registration to register or are divided as to the applicant's right to register, said applicant shall not be registered, provided, however, any applicant denied registration shall be entitled to apply to the Commissioners of Election for registration within three (3) days or upon any day upon which the office of the Commissioners of Election is open and obtain the ruling of the Commissioners of Election upon his right to be registered, and the action of the Board of Commissioners therein shall be final.

**SECTION 20.** That  
*Refusal or Inability of Registrars to Act.*

In case of the temporary absence of a duly appointed Registrar on any of the days fixed for registration or election, from sickness or other cause, the Commissioners of Election shall select a person from the political party to which such Registrar belongs, to act for and in the stead of the absent Registrar during such temporary absence; provided, however, that said temporary Registrar shall subscribe to the oath undertaken by regular Registrars before entering upon the duties required.

**SECTION 21.** That  
*Division of Voting Precincts.*

If any voting precinct shall be divided after coming under the provisions of this Chapter, it shall be the

duty of the Commissioners of Election to separate the permanent registration forms in the binders of the old precinct according to the residences of the respective registrants and provide new binders for the new voting precinct, restoring to the old binders the permanent registration forms of those registrants who remain in the old voting precinct.

**SECTION 22.** That

*Primary Elections.*

When primary elections are held on the same day as general elections, the Commissioners of Elections shall furnish to the primary election officials of each party and at each polling place a certified copy of the names of all persons registered in such precinct for use in determining the qualifications of those who may offer to vote in such primary. Space shall be provided on each certified list for the primary election officials to enter the primary ballot number of each registrant who votes in such primary opposite the registrant's name. Immediately after the election, the primary election officials shall return this certified list to the Registrars in each voting precinct, who shall enter the primary ballot number together with an indication of the primary in which the registrant has voted upon the voting record of each registrant on the permanent registration form of each registrant. Each Registrar shall be allowed compensation for one additional day for this work.

**SECTION 23.** That

*Custody of Registration Books.*

Between registration periods and elections and until the next election or registration period, the permanent registration forms shall be kept by the Commissioners of Election for safekeeping and said Commissioners shall be held responsible for the same as in the case of other public records. Any entries on permanent registration forms signed by the Registrant and the Registrars shall be prima facie evidence of the truth thereof, and any such statement shall be admissible evidence in the Courts of this State without further attestation when presented by the Commissioners of Elections in response to a subpoena.

**SECTION 24.** That

*Criminal Offenses: Fines and Imprisonment.*

It shall be a criminal offense against the laws of this State for any person to register or to have his name registered as a qualified voter under this Chapter when he is not entitled to vote; to vote or attempt to vote on a certification of registration or permanent registration form issued to some one other or otherwise than the person voting or offering to vote on the same; to procure or induce any other person to register or be registered as a voter, such person not legally qualified as such; to induce or procure any other person to vote or attempt to vote on any registration certificate or permanent registration form issued to another or otherwise than the person voting or offering to vote on the same; to alter, change, forge or counterfeit or procure the same to be done by another, any of the registration forms or books provided for in this Chapter; to issue, circulate, or in any way use, or attempt to use, any fraudulent certificate or registration or permanent registration form, the same not having been regular issued by duly appointed and legally qualified Registrars or Commissioners of Election as provided for in this Chapter; to willfully and knowingly vote or attempt to vote on a registration which has not been in effect twenty (20) days prior to the day of the election; and for any Registrar to willfully refuse to register any legally qualified voter; for any person to knowingly and willfully make any statement which is materially false in an application for registration or in any affidavit required under this Chapter. Any person convicted of either of the aforesaid offenses shall be fined not less than \$50.00 nor more than \$1,000.00; or be confined in the county jail not less than thirty (30) days nor more than eleven months and twenty-nine days, or both, in the discretion of the Court; and, upon conviction, it shall be part of the judgment of the Court that such person shall be deprived of the right to vote, or to hold office under the laws of this State for the term of three years from the date of such conviction.

**SECTION 25.** That if any section, paragraph, or sentence of this Act be held unconstitutional for any reason, it is the expressed intent of the Legislature that such holding shall not invalidate any other portion of this Act in that the same would have been enacted without such section.

**SECTION 26.** That the Commissioners of Election in each County are empowered to incur such expenses as they may deem necessary in the execution of this Act and to employ such personnel as is required to execute it. The expenses incurred therefor shall be paid from County funds upon the certification of the Chairman of the Commissioners of Election to the County Judge.

**SECTION 27.** That this Act shall take effect from and after its passage, the public welfare requiring it.

Passed: February 6, 1945.

## Voting Precincts

## Private Acts of 1947 Chapter 259

**COMPILER'S NOTE:** This act should be read in conjunction with Private Acts of 1951, Chapter 700 which follows this act.

**SECTION 1.** That voting precincts within the civil districts of Unicoi County be and are hereby established, and the numbers of said precincts and the boundaries of same established as hereinafter provided, to-wit:

### WITHIN THE FIRST CIVIL DISTRICT

The First Civil District shall have the following voting precincts within the boundaries described:

- 1st. voting precinct at the Rocky Fork School, and embraces the territory now within said precinct.
- 8th. voting precinct at the voting booth now used and embraces the territory now within said precinct.
- 9th. voting precinct at the Clear Branch School, and embraces the territory now within said precinct.
- 10th. voting precinct at the Flagpond School, and embraces all of the territory now within said precinct.

### WITHIN THE SECOND CIVIL DISTRICT

- 6th. voting precinct at a place in the Bumpas Cove to be selected and furnished by the Unicoi County Court, and embraces all of the territory formerly contained in the old Sixth Civil District.
- 7th. voting precinct at the Temple Hill School, and embraces all of the territory now within said precinct.
- 12th. voting precinct at the Love's Chapel School, and embraces all of the territory contained in the present Second Civil District not included in the 6th and 7th voting precincts.

### WITHIN THE THIRD CIVIL DISTRICT

- 5th. voting precinct at the Love Street School, and embraces all of the territory within the Third Civil District to the south and west of the center of Gay Street, and Gay Street extended.
- 13th. voting precinct at the Elm Street School, and embraces all of the territory within the Third Civil District to the North and East of the center of Gay Street and Gay Street extended.

### WITHIN THE FOURTH CIVIL DISTRICT

- 2nd. voting precinct at the Limestone Cove School, and embraces all of the territory now within said precinct.
- 11th. voting precinct at the Fishery School, and embraces all the territory within the Fourth Civil District not included in the 2nd. voting precinct.

### WITHIN THE FIFTH CIVIL DISTRICT

- 3rd. voting precinct at the Fagan's Chappel School, and embraces all of the territory now within said precinct.
- 4th. voting precinct at the Unicoi School, and embraces all of the territory within the Fifth Civil District not included in the Third voting precinct.

As amended by: Private Acts of 1953, Chapter 43  
Private Acts of 1953, Chapter 172

**SECTION 2.** That this Act shall take effect from and after its passage, the public welfare requiring it.

Passed: February 17, 1947.

## Private Acts of 1951 Chapter 700

**SECTION 1.** That Chapter 259, private Acts of 1947, the title of which is set out in the title of this Act, be, and the same is, hereby amended to provide an additional voting precinct, within the Second Civil District, which precinct will be the Thirteenth Precinct with voting place at the Bumpus Cove School House, and embraces all the territory formerly contained in the Old SIXTH CIVIL DISTRICT.

**SECTION 2.** That all laws or parts of laws in conflict with the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed.

**SECTION 3.** That this Act take effect from and after its passage, the public welfare requiring it.

Passed: March 16, 1951.

## Elections - Historical Notes

### **District - Reapportionment**

The acts listed below have affected the civil districts in Unicoi County, but are no longer operative regarding elections.

1. Private Acts of 1921, Chapter 197, changed the lines of the fifth and twelfth civil districts of Unicoi

County by removing from the twelfth civil district that portion which laid within the corporate limits of the town of Erwin, and extended the line of the fifth civil district to be up to and even with the said corporate line.

2. Private Acts of 1947, Chapter 310, divided Unicoi County into three civil districts which were described by their respective boundary lines and the number thereof shall not be increased or diminished except by act of the general assembly, but the existing terms of the justices of the peace and the constables in the former civil districts would be honored.

## **Elections**

The following is a listing of acts for Unicoi County which affected the elective process, but which have been superseded or repealed. They are listed here for historical and reference purposes.

1. Public Acts of 1881 (Ex. Sess.), Chapter 6, apportioned the representation in the general assembly of the state by creating senatorial districts and providing for the election of representatives by the counties of the state. The counties of Unicoi, Carter, Johnson, Sullivan and Washington composed the first senatorial district. One representative was jointly elected by the counties of Unicoi, Carter, Johnson, Washington, Greene and Sullivan.
2. Public Acts of 1882 (2nd Ex. Sess.), Chapter 27, divided the state into congressional districts for the election of representatives to United States Congress. The counties of Unicoi, Johnson, Carter, Sullivan, Washington, Hawkins, Greene, Hamblen, Hancock, Cocke, Claiborne and Grainger composed the first congressional district.
3. Public Acts of 1891, Chapter 131, divided the state into congressional districts for the election of representatives to United States Congress. The counties of Unicoi, Johnson Carter, Sullivan, Washington, Hawkins, Greene, Hamblen, Hancock, Claiborne, Cocke and Grainger composed the first congressional district.
4. Acts of 1891 (Ex. Sess.), Chapter 10, apportioned the representation in the general assembly of the state by creating senatorial districts and providing for the election of representatives by the counties of the state. The counties of Unicoi, Carter, Johnson, Washington and Greene composed the first senatorial district. One representative was jointly elected by the counties of Unicoi, Johnson, Sullivan, Washington, Greene, Hawkins and Hancock.
5. Public Acts of 1901, Chapter 109, divided the state into congressional districts for the election of representatives to United States Congress. The counties of Unicoi, Sullivan, Johnson, Carter, Washington, Greene, Hawkins, Hancock, Claiborne, Grainger, Cocke and Sevier composed the first congressional district.
6. Public Acts of 1901, Chapter 122, apportioned the representation in the general assembly of the state by creating senatorial districts and providing for the election of representatives by the counties of the state. The counties of Unicoi, Johnson, Carter, Washington and Greene composed the first senatorial district. One representative was jointly elected by the counties of Unicoi, Greene and Washington.
7. Private Acts of 1949, Chapter 160, provides that each person serving as an officer, judge or clerk in any election in Unicoi County would be paid \$5.00 per day for each day of service, the money to be paid out of the county treasury.
8. Private Acts of 1953, Chapter 13, set the hours in Unicoi County for opening the polls for general elections at 9:00 A.M. and for closing the polls at 6:00 P.M.

---

**Source URL:** <https://www.ctas.tennessee.edu/private-acts/chapter-vii-elections-32>