

1 STATE OF OKLAHOMA

2 1st Session of the 60th Legislature (2025)

3 SENATE BILL 214

By: Goodwin

6 AS INTRODUCED

7 An Act relating to initiative and referendum;
8 amending 26 O.S. 2021, Section 12-116, which relates
9 to special elections on state questions; specifying
time period for certain elections; amending 34 O.S.
10 Sections 12 and 25, which relate to
proclamation by Governor and time for submission of
initiated and referred measures; specifying time
11 period for certain election; conforming language;
making language gender neutral; and declaring an
emergency.

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14 BE IT ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA:

15 SECTION 1. AMENDATORY 26 O.S. 2021, Section 12-116, is
16 amended to read as follows:

17 Section 12-116. In the event the Governor or the Legislature
18 shall call for a special statewide election on any measure to be
19 submitted to a vote of the people, the election shall be held not
20 fewer than seventy (70) days nor more than two hundred fifty (250)
21 days from the date the election is called. Such special statewide
22 election may be on the same date as a primary or general election or
23 may be on some other date set by the Governor or the Legislature.

24 In the event the board of county commissioners or the governing body

1 of a municipality or school district or technology center school
2 district or any other governmental subdivision calls for a special
3 election on any question, the election shall be held not fewer than
4 sixty (60) days from the date the election is called; provided, that
5 a special election called by a school or technology center school
6 district to be held on the date of the annual school runoff election
7 shall not be held fewer than forty-five (45) days from the date the
8 special election is called. A special election to fill a vacancy
9 for member of the board of education of a school district or to fill
10 a vacancy for municipal office shall be scheduled not fewer than
11 sixty (60) days from the date the election is called.

12 SECTION 2. AMENDATORY 34 O.S. 2021, Section 12, is

13 amended to read as follows:

14 Section 12. When an initiative or referendum petition has been
15 properly filed with sufficient signatures thereon, as provided in
16 this title, and all objections or protests have been resolved or the
17 period for filing such has expired, the Secretary of State shall, in
18 writing, notify the Governor, who shall issue a proclamation setting
19 forth the substance of the measure and the date on which the vote
20 will be held which shall be a date between seventy (70) days and two
21 hundred fifty (250) days after such notification. Such special
22 statewide election may be on the same date as a primary or general
23 election or may be on some other date set by the Governor.

1 SECTION 3. AMENDATORY 34 O.S. 2021, Section 25, is
2 amended to read as follows:

3 Section 25. Whenever any measure shall be initiated by the
4 people in the manner provided by law, or whenever the referendum
5 shall be demanded against any measure passed by the Legislature,
6 same shall be submitted to the people for their approval or
7 rejection at the next regular election; provided, the Governor shall
8 have power, in his or her discretion but in accordance with the
9 requirements of Section 12 of this title, to call a special election
10 to vote upon such questions, or to designate the mandatory primary
11 election as a special election for such purpose.

12 SECTION 4. It being immediately necessary for the preservation
13 of the public peace, health or safety, an emergency is hereby
14 declared to exist, by reason whereof this act shall take effect and
15 be in full force from and after its passage and approval.

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