O-25- 79

ORDINANCE NO. ____

AN ORDINANCE EVIDENCING THE INTENT OF THE CITY OF NORTH LITTLE ROCK, ARKANSAS, TO ELECT ITS COUNCIL MEMBERS BY WARD; DECLARING AN EMERGENCY; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

WHEREAS, Ark. Code Ann. § 14-43-307 details the requirements for the election of council members of cities of the first class;

WHEREAS, Act 283 of 2025 amended Ark. Code Ann. § 14-43-307 to require that all cities with the mayor-council form of government who elect council members by ward to enact and file an ordinance with the county clerk; and

WHEREAS, the City of North Little Rock (the "City") is a city of the first class of Arkansas, and there is a need to adopt an ordinance evidencing the City's intent to elect its council members by ward.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF NORTH LITTLE ROCK, ARKANSAS:

SECTION 1: That all council members of the City of North Little Rock, Arkansas, shall be elected by ward, and each council member shall be voted upon by the qualified electors of the ward from which he or she is a candidate.

SECTION 2: That the City has established wards of substantially equal population so that each council member elected from each ward shall represent substantially the same number of people in the City.

SECTION 3: That all ordinances or parts of ordinance in conflict herewith are hereby repealed to the extent of the conflict.

SECTION 4: That the provisions of this Ordinance are hereby declared to be severable and if any section, phrase or provision shall be declared or held invalid, such invalidity shall not affect the remainder of the sections, phrases or provisions.

SECTION 5: It is hereby found and determined that the passage of this Ordinance is immediately necessary in order to insure the proper and orderly governance of the City of North Little Rock, Arkansas, and being necessary for the immediate preservation of the public health, safety and welfare, THEREFORE, an emergency is hereby declared to exist and this Ordinance shall be in full force and effect from and after its passage and approval.

PASSED: APPROVED:

_____ _____

Mayor Terry Hartwick

SPONSORS:

Terry C. Hartwick

Mayor Terry C. Hartwick

ATTEST:

Diane Whitbey, City Clerk

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

Amy Beckman Fields, City Attorney

PREPARED BY THE OFFICE OF THE CITY ATTORNEY/kt

FILED 11:00 A.M. _____ P.M.

By Amy Fields CA

DATE 10-7-25

Diane Whitbey, City Clerk and Collector
North Little Rock, Arkansas