

CHAPTER NO. 575

HOUSE BILL NO. 2125

By Representatives Buck, Cooper, Bone, Hood

Substituted for: Senate Bill No. 2583

By Senator Burks

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 65, Chapter 29, relative to elections conducted by certain telephone cooperatives.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 65-29-118, is amended by designating the existing language of subsection (b)(1) as (b)(1)(A) and by adding the following new (b)(1)(B):

(B) Notwithstanding the provisions of this section to the contrary, in any cooperative organized under this chapter which provides service in five (5) or more counties, including a county containing and physically divided by a United States government corps of engineers dam and reservoir project of thirty-four thousand (34,000) acres or more, and which serves less than twenty thousand (20,000) subscribers as of April 15, 1986, any election to voluntarily dissolve such cooperative shall be held on voting machines and under the supervision of the election commission. The voting machines for any such election shall remain open for nine (9) full hours from 8:00 A.M. until 5:00 P.M. Any election contest pursuant to this subpart shall be filed and tried by the criminal court of the county where the election occurs. The board of directors is hereby authorized to contract with any county election commission, or the employees thereof, affected by the terms of this subpart for the purpose of holding an election pursuant to the provisions of this subpart. Any election as to whether to voluntarily dissolve any such cooperative shall also be conducted at an annual or special meeting that is held on a Saturday. For any such election to be held on or after September 1, 2000, notice of such meeting shall be published once a week for two (2) successive weeks in a newspaper of general circulation in each county served by the cooperative at least three (3) weeks prior to the meeting at which the election will be conducted. The results of any such election shall be announced as immediately as possible after the voting machines close at 5:00 P.M.

SECTION 2. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law, the public welfare requiring it.

PASSED: February 24, 2000

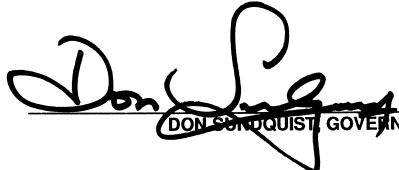


JOHN S. WILDER
SPEAKER OF THE SENATE



JIMMY NAIFEH, SPEAKER
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

APPROVED this 2nd day of March 2000



DON SUNDQUIST, GOVERNOR