

1 STATE OF OKLAHOMA

2 2nd Session of the 58th Legislature (2022)

3 HOUSE BILL 3680

By: Roberts (Sean)

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5
6 AS INTRODUCED

7 An Act relating to elections; amending 26 O.S. 2021,
8 Section 7-130, which relates to poll watchers; making
9 certain acts unlawful; providing for penalty; and
10 providing an effective date.

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

13 SECTION 1. AMENDATORY 26 O.S. 2021, Section 7-130, is
14 amended to read as follows:

15 Section 7-130. A. Any candidate or any recognized political
16 party shall be entitled to have a watcher present at any place where
17 an official count is being conducted. Such watcher must be
18 commissioned in writing by the candidate, or by the chair of the
19 recognized political party of the county in which the watcher is
20 being authorized. Such commission must be filed with the secretary
21 of the appropriate county election board no later than 5:00 p.m. on
22 Wednesday preceding the election. Watchers must subscribe to an
23 oath to observe all laws and rules prescribed for watchers as
24 hereinafter provided. Such oath must be administered by the

1 inspector of the precinct in which the watcher is authorized.
2 Watchers shall be entitled to observe the voting device both before
3 the polls are opened and after the polls are closed; provided,
4 further, that such watchers shall not be present at the polling
5 place at other times. Watchers may be commissioned to observe
6 voting device testing and to accompany personnel assigned to repair
7 or maintain machines during the period of the election. In such
8 case, the watchers shall be limited to observing the repair or
9 maintenance work being performed and making a written record of such
10 work. Any watcher who violates the law prescribed for watchers
11 shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor.

12 B. Any person who illegally removes, obstructs the view, or
13 otherwise restricts the free movement of a watcher shall, upon
14 conviction, be guilty of a felony pursuant to Section 16-101 of this
15 title.

16 SECTION 2. This act shall become effective November 1, 2022.

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