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**Attorney General Griffin Announces Arkansas Can Now  
Enforce Recently Passed Election Laws**

*Griffin: 'I am pleased with the Department of Justice's decision, which allows Arkansas to enforce Act 991 in elections going forward'*

**LITTLE ROCK** – Attorney General Tim Griffin today issued the following statement after the U.S. Department of Justice precleared the new Arkansas law requiring city and county candidates to receive a majority of votes cast to win an election:

“I am pleased with the Department of Justice’s decision, which allows Arkansas to enforce Act 991 in elections going forward.”

Under a 1990 court order, Arkansas is required to obtain preclearance from the U.S. Department of Justice on any law that relates to a majority-vote requirement in any general election. Act 991, passed earlier this year, requires candidates for county and municipal offices to obtain a majority of the votes cast to be elected. If no candidate receives a majority, the top two candidates must participate in a runoff. The prior law, enacted in 2011, allowed a candidate to be elected by a majority, like Act 991, or with a plurality under certain circumstances.

To view the preclearance letter, [click here](#).

## **About Attorney General Tim Griffin**

Tim Griffin was sworn in as the 57th Attorney General of Arkansas on January 10, 2023, having previously served as the state's 20th Lieutenant Governor from 2015-2023. From 2011-2015, Griffin served as the 24th representative of Arkansas's Second Congressional District, where he served on the House Committee on Ways and Means, House Armed Services Committee, House Committee on Foreign Affairs, House Committee on Ethics and House Committee on the Judiciary while also serving as a Deputy Whip for the Majority.

Griffin is currently an officer in the Arkansas Army National Guard and holds the rank of colonel. Griffin served as an officer in the U.S. Army Reserve Judge Advocate General's (JAG) Corps for more than 28 years. In 2005, Griffin was mobilized to active duty as an Army prosecutor at Fort Campbell, Kentucky, and served with the 101st Airborne Division (Air Assault) in Mosul, Iraq.

His previous assignments include serving as the Commander of the 2d Legal Operations Detachment in New Orleans, Louisiana; the Commander of the 134th Legal Operations Detachment at Fort Bragg, North Carolina; and as a Senior Legislative Advisor to the Under Secretary of Defense for Personnel and Readiness at the Pentagon. Griffin earned a master's degree in strategic studies as a Distinguished Honor Graduate from the U.S. Army War College, Carlisle Barracks, Pennsylvania.

Griffin also served as U.S. Attorney for the Eastern District of Arkansas, and Special Assistant to the President and Deputy Director of Political Affairs for President George W. Bush; Special Assistant to Assistant Attorney General Michael Chertoff, Criminal Division, U.S. Department of Justice; Special Assistant U.S. Attorney, U.S. Attorney's Office, Eastern District of Arkansas; Senior Investigative Counsel, Government Reform and Oversight Committee, U.S. House of Representatives; and Associate Independent Counsel, Office of Independent Counsel David M. Barrett, In re: HUD Secretary Henry Cisneros.

Griffin is a graduate of Magnolia High School, Hendrix College in Conway, and Tulane Law School in New Orleans. He attended graduate school at Oxford University. He is admitted to practice law in Arkansas (active) and Louisiana (inactive). Griffin lives in Little Rock with his wife, Elizabeth, a Camden native, and their three children.

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