1	ORDINANCE NO		
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3	AN ORDINANCE TO PERMIT THE SELECTION OF THREE (3)		
4	MEMBERS OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS FROM DESIGNATED		
5	DISTRICTS, TO BE REFERRED TO AS REGIONAL DISTRICTS THAT		
6	OVERLAP WARD BOUNDARIES AS A MEANS OF REPURPOSING THE		
7	THREE (3) CURRENT AT-LARGE POSITIONS; TO CALL AN		
8	ELECTION DURING THE 2022 GENERAL ELECTION ON THE ISSUE		
9	OF WHETHER TO UTILIZE REGIONAL DISTRICTS AS A MEANS OF		
10	REPURPOSING THE CURRENT THREE (3) AT-LARGE DISTRICTS; TO		
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12			
13	WHEREAS, as a result of the FUTURE-Little Rock process, it was decided to expand the membership		
14	of the Little Rock Board of Directors ("the Board of Directors") from seven (7) members elected At-Larg		
15	to eleven (11) members with a directly elected Mayor, three (3) members elected At-Large, and seven (7		
16	members elected from Wards; and,		
17	WHEREAS, in 2019 ARK. ACTS 1875 the Arkansas General Assembly granted municipalities the		
18	authority to modify this procedure so that instead of Directors elected at-large, a municipality may identify		
19	a larger Designated District, referred to here as a Regional Position, which can overlap the boundaries of		
20	various Wards; and,		
21	WHEREAS, the Governance Structure Study Group created pursuant to Little Rock, Ark., Resolution		
22	14,902 (December 3, 2018) has recommended the creation of three (3) Regional Positions as a means of		
23	repurpose the current three (3) At-Large Positions; and,		
24	WHEREAS, it is believed that this type of election would be beneficial to the City of Little Rock,		
25	Arkansas ("the City"), and would make election to the Board of Directors more readily available to a greater		
26	number of people.		
27	NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE CITY		
28	OF LITTLE ROCK, ARKANSAS:		
29	Section 1. The provisions of this ordinance shall be subject to approval by a majority of the electors		
30	voting on the issue during the General Election to be held on November 3, 2024.		
31	Section 2. The effective date for candidates who have been elected to fill a Regional Position shall be		
32	January 1, 2024, but successful candidates for a Regional Position shall first take office on January 1, 2025.		
33	Section 3. The purpose of this ordinance is to implement certain recommendations on the structure of		
34	municipal government recommended by the Governance Structure Study Group created pursuant to Little		
35	Rock, Ark., Resolution No. 14,902 (December 3, 2018), and submitted on October 23, 2019.		

1	Section 4. Definitions. For purposes of this ordinance, the following terms shall have the following		
2	meanings:		
3	At-Large Position refers to a position on the Little Rock Board of Directors for which the candidate i		
4	an elector and resides within the City of Little Rock, Arkansas, and every elector is eligible to vote on a		
5	candidate who seeks such a position.		
6	Regional District refers to the geographic boundaries of a Regional Position which may include		
7	portions of the geographic boundaries of one (1) or more Wards.		
8	Regional Position refers to a position on the Little Rock Board of Directors elected from a Regional		
9	District; to be eligible to seek election an elector resides within the boundaries of such a District, and only		
10	those electors who reside within the geographic boundaries of a Regional District are eligible to vote for a		
11	candidate.		
12	Section 5. Repurposing of Current At-Large Positions. Effective January 1, 2025, At-Large Position		
13	8, At-Large Position 9, and At-Large Position 10 shall be repurposed when members of the Board of		
14	Directors elected from Regional Position 8, Regional Position 9, and Regional Position 10, take their seats.		
15	Regional Position 8, Regional Position 9, and Regional Position 10, of the Board of Directors, as At-Large		
16	Districts, shall be repurposed as Regional Positions.		
17	Section 6. Creation of Regional Positions. Effective January 1, 2025, there shall be three (3)		
18	Regional Positions on the Board of Directors to be enumerated as Regional Position 8, Regional Position		
19	9, and Regional Position 10; the elector serving in such a position:		
20	(a) Shall have been elected in accordance with the provisions of this ordinance at the 2024		
21	General Election;		
22	(b) Shall be subject to all laws that impact service in any Board of Directors position.		
23	Section 7. Election of Regional Positions.		
24	(a) The geographic boundaries of a Regional District shall be established in the same manner		
25	as a Ward position on the Board of Directors as determined by Arkansas State Law, and as impacted		
26	by the most recent Federal Decennial Census.		
27	(b) To be eligible to hold a Regional Position, a candidate must reside within the geographical		
28	boundaries of the Regional District at the time of filing to be a candidate for such a position;		
29	(c) To be elected to hold a Regional Position, a candidate must receive more votes than any		
30	other candidate for the position.		
31	Section 8. The following question shall be referred to the electors of the City during the General		
32	Election held on in 2022:		
33	FOR the election of three (3) separate members of the Board of Directors		
34	from a distinct Regional District as a means of repurposing the current At-		
35	Large Positions		

1	AGAINST the election of three (3) separate members of the Board of		
2	Directors from a distinct Regional District as a means of repurposing the		
3	current At-Large Positions		
4	DESCRIPTION		
5	A Regional Position refers to a position on the Little Rock Board of Directors which		
6	represents a Regional District comprised of boundaries that overlap the boundaries of other		
7	Districts. To be eligible to seek election to a Regional Position, a candidate shall reside within		
8	the boundaries of such a Regional District at the time the person files to be a candidate.		
9	Section 9. As set forth more fully in the ballot title and government description contained in Section		
10	8 of this ordinance, the Board of Directors, pursuant to authority granted in Ark. Code Ann. § 14-61-107		
11	hereby refers to the electorate the question of repurposing the At-Large Positions on the Board of Directors		
12	as Regional Positions with candidates elected from a Regional District who will first take office on January		
13	1, 2025. Also, the creation of three (3) Designated Positions on the Board of Directors to first be elected at		
14	the General Election of 2024, and to take office on January 1, 2025. In addition, to be a successful candidate		
15	for a Regional Position, a person must reside within the boundaries of the Regional District on the date the		
16	candidate files for the office. Only electors who reside within the boundaries of a Regional District are		
17	eligible to vote for a candidate for that Regional Position.		
18	Section 10. The Mayor and City Clerk are directed to complete any and all proclamations required by		
19	law to be filed for the November 2022 General Election, and to prepare and publish any notices or		
20	advertisements required, and further to perform all necessary acts to have the Pulaski County Election		
21	Commission and other officers assure that this matter is placed upon a ballot for the November 2022		
22	General Election.		
23	Section 11. Severability. In the event any title, section, paragraph, item, sentence, clause, phrase, or		
24	word of this ordinance is declared or adjudged to be invalid or unconstitutional, such declaration or		
25	adjudication shall not affect the remaining portions of the ordinance which shall remain in full force and		
26	effect as if the portion so declared or adjudged invalid or unconstitutional was not originally a part of the		
27	ordinance.		
28	Section 13. Repealer. All laws, ordinances, resolutions, or parts of the same, that are inconsistent with		
29	the provisions of this resolution, are hereby repealed to the extent of such inconsistency including, but not		
30	limited to, Little Rock, Ark., Ordinance No. 16,435 (June 1, 1993) and Little Rock, Ark., Ordinance No.		
31	19,761 (June 12, 2007).		
32	Section 14. Emergency Clause. In light of changes in Arkansas State Law, and the recommendations		
33	of the Governance Structure Study Group, it is deemed important that the structure of the Little Rock Board		
34	of Directors consist of a directly elected Mayor, three (3) members elected from Regional Districts which		
35	shall overlap various Ward boundaries, and seven (7) members elected by Ward; further, the ability to		
36	implement a government structure permitted by State Statute is essential to the public health, safety, and		

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welfare; an emergency is, therefore, declared to exist, and this ordinance shall be in full force and ef	
as set forth above, from and after the date of its passage although the election called for in this ordina	
will not take place until 2022.	
PASSED: November 16, 2021	
ATTEST:	APPROVED:
Susan Langley, City Clerk	Frank Scott, Jr., Mayor
APPROVED AS TO LEGAL FORM:	
Thomas M. Carpenter, City Attorney	
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