

1 State of Arkansas
2 94th General Assembly
3 Regular Session, 2023
4

A Bill

HOUSE BILL 1159

5 By: Representatives M. Berry, Cavanaugh
6 By: Senator D. Sullivan
7

For An Act To Be Entitled

9 AN ACT TO PROHIBIT HAZING AT THE ARKANSAS LAW
10 ENFORCEMENT TRAINING ACADEMY; TO DEFINE HAZING; TO
11 ESTABLISH PENALTIES FOR HAZING; AND FOR OTHER
12 PURPOSES.
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Subtitle

16 TO PROHIBIT HAZING AT THE ARKANSAS LAW
17 ENFORCEMENT TRAINING ACADEMY; TO DEFINE
18 HAZING; AND TO ESTABLISH PENALTIES FOR
19 HAZING.
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22 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:
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24 SECTION 1. Arkansas Code Title 12, Chapter 9, Subchapter 2, is amended
25 to add an additional section to read as follows:

26 12-9-212. Prohibition against hazing – Definition.

27 (a)(1) As used in this section, “hazing” means:

28 (A) Knowing conduct on or off the property or training
29 environments of the Arkansas Law Enforcement Training Academy by a student,
30 instructor, or employee of the academy when the conduct is directed against
31 any other person and done for the purpose of:

32 (i) Intimidating the person;

33 (ii) Attacking by threatening the person with social
34 or other ostracism;

35 (iii) Submitting a person to ignominy, shame, or
36 disgrace among his or her fellow students or acts calculated to produce such



1 results;

2 (iv) Humbling the pride, stifling the ambition, or
 3 impairing the courage of the person attacked;

4 (v) Discouraging the person from remaining in
 5 academy;

6 (vi) Causing the person to leave the academy rather
 7 than submit to such acts;

8 (vii) Striking, beating, bruising, or maiming;

9 (viii) Seriously offering, threatening, or
 10 attempting to strike, beat, bruise, or maim;

11 (ix) Seriously offering, threatening, or attempting
 12 to do physical violence to any person at the academy; or

13 (x) Assaulting a person for the purpose of
 14 committing any of the acts, or producing any of the results defined in this
 15 section; or

16 (B) The playing of abusive or truculent tricks on or off
 17 the property or training environments of the Arkansas Law Enforcement
 18 Training Academy by a student, instructor, or employee of the academy, acting
 19 alone, or acting with others, upon another person to frighten or scare him or
 20 her.

21 (2) "Hazing" is limited to those actions taken and situations
 22 created in connection with education or affiliation with the academy; and

23 (3) "Hazing does not include customary athletic events or
 24 similar contests or competitions.

25 (b)(1) All instructors and employees responsible for training, or who
 26 are assigned a position of authority in the academy, shall complete annual
 27 training concerning hazing and the prevention of hazing at the academy.

28 (2) All training materials under subdivision (b)(1) of this
 29 section shall be approved by the Arkansas Commission on Law Enforcement
 30 Standards and Training.

31 (c) A student, instructor, or employee of the academy shall not
 32 knowingly engage in hazing or encourage, aid, or assist any other student,
 33 instructor, or employee in hazing.

34 (d) A person shall not knowingly permit, encourage, aid, or assist
 35 another person in hazing, or knowingly acquiesce to hazing, or fail to report
 36 promptly his or her knowledge or any reasonable information within his or her

1 knowledge of the presence and practice of hazing to the Secretary of the
2 Department of Public Safety for investigation.

3 (e) A violation this section is a:

4 (1) Class D felony if the actor is an instructor or employee of
5 the academy and the actor:

6 (A) Allows or participates in the hazing of a student of
7 the academy;

8 (B) The hazing causes physical injury to the student; or

9 (2) Class B misdemeanor if otherwise committed.

10 (f) In addition to any penalty provided by this section:

11 (1) A student convicted under this section shall be expelled
12 from the academy; and

13 (2) An instructor or employee of the academy convicted under
14 this section shall be terminated from employment with the academy.

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