

Stricken language would be deleted from and underlined language would be added to present law.
Act 67 of the Regular Session

State of Arkansas
89th General Assembly
Regular Session, 2013

As Engrossed: S1/24/13 H2/1/13

A Bill

SENATE BILL 71

By: Senators B. King, Bledsoe, Caldwell, A. Clark, J. English, Files, J. Hendren, Hester, Hickey, Holland, Irvin, J. Key, M. Lamoureux, Rapert, D. Sanders, G. Stubblefield, E. Williams, J. Woods
By: Representatives Bell, Harris, Alexander, D. Altes, Ballinger, Barnett, Bragg, Carnine, Clemmer, Collins, Cozart, Dale, Davis, Deffenbaugh, Dotson, C. Douglas, D. Douglas, Eubanks, Farrer, Fite, Gillam, Gossage, Hammer, Hobbs, Jean, Kerr, Lea, Linck, Lowery, S. Malone, Mayberry, D. Meeks, S. Meeks, Miller, Neal, Payton, Rice, Westerman, Womack

For An Act To Be Entitled

AN ACT TO BE KNOWN AS THE CHURCH PROTECTION ACT OF 2013; TO DECLARE AN EMERGENCY; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

Subtitle

TO BE KNOWN AS THE CHURCH PROTECTION ACT OF 2013; AND TO DECLARE AN EMERGENCY.

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

SECTION 1. Arkansas Code § 5-73-306(16), concerning the prohibition against carrying a concealed handgun in a church or other place of worship, is amended to read as follows:

(16)(A) Any church or other place of worship.

(B) However, this subchapter does not preclude a church or other place of worship from determining who may carry a concealed handgun into the church or other place of worship;

SECTION 2. EMERGENCY CLAUSE. It is found and determined by the General Assembly of the State of Arkansas that personal security is increasingly important; that the Second Amendment of the Constitution of the United States ensures a person's right to bear arms; and that this act is



immediately necessary because a person should be allowed to carry a firearm in a church that permits the carrying of a firearm for personal security. Therefore, an emergency is declared to exist, and this act being immediately necessary for the preservation of the public peace, health, and safety shall become effective on:

(1) The date of its approval by the Governor;

(2) If the bill is neither approved nor vetoed by the Governor, the expiration of the period of time during which the Governor may veto the bill; or

(3) If the bill is vetoed by the Governor and the veto is overridden, the date the last house overrides the veto.

/s/B. King

APPROVED: 02/11/2013