

Stricken language would be deleted from and underlined language would be added to present law.  
Act 1058 of the Regular Session

State of Arkansas  
90th General Assembly  
Regular Session, 2015

As Engrossed: H2/26/15  
**A Bill**

HOUSE BILL 1401

By: Representatives Love, C. Armstrong, Baltz, K. Ferguson, Leding, Nicks, Payton, B. Smith, Speaks,  
Sullivan, Tosh, Walker

**For An Act To Be Entitled**

AN ACT TO AMEND THE LAW CONCERNING DEATH BENEFITS FOR  
CERTAIN PUBLIC EMPLOYEES; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

**Subtitle**

TO AMEND THE LAW CONCERNING DEATH  
BENEFITS FOR CERTAIN PUBLIC EMPLOYEES.

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

SECTION 1. Arkansas Code § 21-5-701 is amended to read as follows:

21-5-701. Definitions.

As used in this subchapter:

(1) "Child" or "children" means any natural child, adopted child, or stepchild who is eligible under § 21-5-707;

(2) "Coroner" means a coroner or a deputy coroner who is engaged in official duty at a crime scene or death location;

~~(2)(3)~~ (3) "Covered public employee" means a a police officer, firefighter, state highway employee, state correction employee, Department of Community Correction employee, jailer, qualified emergency services worker, wildlife enforcement officer, emergency medical technician, Arkansas Forestry Commission employee, commissioned law enforcement personnel, or emergency response personnel of the State Parks Division of the Department of Parks and Tourism;

~~(3)(4)~~ (4) "Department of Community Correction employee" means any employee of the Department of Community Correction who ~~becomes~~ is subject to injury through contact with parolees, probationers, or center residents;



~~(4)~~(5) “Emergency medical technician” means emergency medical ~~technicians~~ services personnel as defined in § 20-13-202;

~~(5)~~(6) “Firefighter” means any member of a fire department or fire fighting unit of any city of the first class or city of the second class, or any town, or any unincorporated rural area of this state, who actively engages in the fighting of fires on either a regular or voluntary basis, or any instructor of the Arkansas Fire Training Academy, or any member of the fire fighting organization of the ~~Camp Robinson Military Reservation or of Fort Chaffee~~ Arkansas National Guard Robinson Maneuver Training Center or of the Arkansas National Guard Fort Chaffee Maneuver Training Center;

(7) “Jailer” means an employee of a city, town, or county who, while engaged in official duty as a detention or transport officer, is subject to injury through contact with inmates, detainees, parolees, or probationers;

~~(6)~~(8) “Police officer” means:

(A) Any law enforcement officer engaged in official duty who is a member of any regular or auxiliary police force on a full-time or part-time basis, the Department of Arkansas State Police, or any member of the law enforcement organization of ~~Camp Robinson or of Fort Chaffee~~ the Arkansas National Guard Robinson Maneuver Training Center or of the Arkansas National Guard Fort Chaffee Maneuver Training Center;

(B) A sheriff or deputy sheriff of ~~any~~ a county who is engaged in official duty; or

(C) ~~Any~~ A constable or night marshal of ~~any~~ a town of this state engaged in official duty;

~~(7)~~(9) “Qualified emergency services worker” means a state, local, volunteer, and other emergency ~~services workers~~ responder as defined in § 12-75-103;

~~(8)~~(10) “State correction employee” means ~~any~~ a employee of the Department of Correction or the ~~Department of Correction School District~~ Corrections School System who ~~becomes~~ is subject to injury through contact with inmates or parolees of the Department of Correction;

~~(9)~~(11) “State highway employee” means an employee of the Arkansas State Highway and Transportation Department who is physically present on a roadway, bridge, or right-of-way of the state highway system or other public transportation facility and who is:

(A) Actively engaged in highway maintenance, construction, traffic operations, or the official duties of his or her employment; or

(B) Supervising, reviewing, evaluating, inspecting highway maintenance, construction, or traffic operations; and

~~(10)~~(12) "Wildlife enforcement officer" means ~~any~~ an employee of the Arkansas State Game and Fish Commission who actively engages, on a full-time or part-time basis, in the enforcement of the boating safety laws and regulations enacted for the protection of game, fish, furbearing animals, and other wildlife of the State of Arkansas.

SECTION 2. Arkansas Code § 21-5-705(a)(1), concerning state payments of claims to designated beneficiaries or survivors, is amended to read as follows:

(1) Police officer, wildlife enforcement officer ~~of the Arkansas State Game and Fish Commission~~, commissioned law enforcement officer or emergency response employee of the State Parks Division of the Department of Parks and Tourism, Department of Community Correction employee, ~~or~~ employee of the Department of Correction, jailer, or coroner whose death occurred:

*/s/Love*

**APPROVED: 04/04/2015**