

State of Arkansas  
90th General Assembly  
Regular Session, 2015

# A Bill

SENATE BILL 731

By: Senator B. Pierce

## For An Act To Be Entitled

AN ACT TO MODIFY THE MILITARY FAMILY RELIEF TRUST FUND AND THE MILITARY FAMILY RELIEF CHECK-OFF PROGRAM; TO PROVIDE MEMBERS OF THE ARKANSAS NATIONAL GUARD AND RESERVE COMPONENTS OF THE ARMED FORCES WITH EMERGENCY FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE; TO DECLARE AN EMERGENCY; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

## Subtitle

TO MODIFY THE MILITARY FAMILY RELIEF TRUST FUND AND THE MILITARY FAMILY RELIEF CHECK-OFF PROGRAM; TO PROVIDE MEMBERS OF THE NATIONAL GUARD AND RESERVE WITH EMERGENCY FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE; AND TO DECLARE AN EMERGENCY.

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

SECTION 1. Arkansas Code § 19-5-1127(b)(1), concerning all moneys collected for the Military Family Relief Trust Fund, is amended to read as follows:

(b)(1) All moneys collected under ~~§§ 26-35-1302 and 26-35-1303~~ § 26-51-2506 shall be deposited into the State Treasury to the credit of the fund.

SECTION 2. Arkansas Code § 19-5-1127(c), concerning use of moneys for assistance to members and families of members of the Arkansas National Guard and the reserve components of the armed forces from the Military Family



Relief Trust Fund, is amended to read as follows:

(c) The fund shall be used exclusively by the Adjutant General or his or her designee to assist members and ~~the~~ families of members of the Arkansas National Guard and reserve components of the armed forces ~~who serve on active duty for a minimum of thirty (30) days as a result of September 11, 2001.~~

SECTION 3. Arkansas Code § 19-5-1127(d), concerning the administration of the Military Family Relief Trust Fund, is amended to read as follows:

(d) The Treasurer of State shall credit to the fund the amount certified each quarter in accordance with ~~§ 26-35-1303~~ § 26-51-2506.

SECTION 4. Arkansas Code § 26-51-2506(i)(2)(A), concerning the administration and issuance of funds to members and families of members of the Arkansas National Guard and the reserve components of the armed forces pursuant to the Military Family Relief Check-Off Program, is amended to read as follows:

(2)(A) The grant program created under this section shall assist members and ~~the~~ families of members of the Arkansas National Guard and the reserve components of the armed forces ~~who serve on active duty for a minimum of thirty (30) days as a result of September 11, 2001.~~

SECTION 5. EMERGENCY CLAUSE. It is found and determined by the General Assembly of the State of Arkansas that the Arkansas National Guard members risk their lives to protect and defend our country; that the Military Family Relief Trust Fund and the Military Family Relief Check-Off Program were created to provide short term emergency financial assistance in the form of grants to members and their families; that the fund provides a valuable means to assist and improve morale and welfare of members of the Arkansas National Guard and reserve components of the armed forces, and that there is a need to modify the Military Family Relief Fund and the Military Family Relief Check-Off Program because there are members and their families in current circumstances beyond the control of the members who require assistance that is not currently available from any other reasonable source, and if assistance is not made available, irreparable harm will result. 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.

**APPROVED: 03/12/2015**