

State of Arkansas
92nd General Assembly
Regular Session, 2019

A Bill

HOUSE BILL 1944

By: Representative S. Meeks

By: Senator Elliott

For An Act To Be Entitled

AN ACT CONCERNING BLOCKCHAIN TECHNOLOGY; AND FOR
OTHER PURPOSES.

Subtitle

CONCERNING BLOCKCHAIN TECHNOLOGY.

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

SECTION 1. Arkansas Code Title 25, Chapter 32, is amended to add an additional section to read as follows:

25-32-122. Signatures and records secured through blockchain technology – Definitions.

(a) As used in this section:

(1) "Blockchain distributed ledger technology" means technology that uses a distributed, decentralized, shared, and replicated ledger that is:

(A) Either:

(i) Public; or

(ii) Private;

(B) Either:

(i) Permissioned; or

(ii) Permissionless; and

(C) Contains data that is:

(i) Securely protected with cryptography;

(ii) Immutable;

(iii) Auditable; and



(iv) Provides an uncensored truth;

(2) "Blockchain technology" means a shared, immutable ledger that facilitates the process of recording one (1) or more transactions and tracking one (1) or more tangible or intangible assets in a business network; and

(3) "Smart contract" means:

(A) Business logic that runs on a blockchain; or

(B) A software program that stores rules on a shared and replicated ledger and uses the stored rules for:

(i) Negotiating the terms of a contract;

(ii) Automatically verifying the contract; and

(iii) Executing the terms of a contract.

(b) A signature that is secured through blockchain technology shall be considered to be in electronic form and an electronic signature.

(c) A record or contract that is secured through blockchain technology shall be considered to be in electronic form and an electronic record.

(d)(1) A smart contract shall be considered a commercial contract.

(2) A contract that contains a smart contract term and relates to a transaction shall not be denied legal effect, validity, or enforceability.

APPROVED: 4/16/19