

State of Arkansas  
95th General Assembly  
Regular Session, 2025

## A Bill

HOUSE BILL 1608

By: Representative Rose  
By: Senator K. Hammer

### For An Act To Be Entitled

AN ACT TO AMEND THE LAW CONCERNING THE MANAGEMENT OF PUBLIC RECORDS AND ARCHIVES; TO REQUIRE APPROVAL OF THE ARKANSAS STATE ARCHIVES PRIOR TO THE DESTRUCTION OF CERTAIN DOCUMENTS; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

### Subtitle

TO AMEND THE LAW CONCERNING THE MANAGEMENT OF PUBLIC RECORDS AND ARCHIVES; AND TO REQUIRE APPROVAL OF THE ARKANSAS STATE ARCHIVES PRIOR TO THE DESTRUCTION OF CERTAIN DOCUMENTS.

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

SECTION 1. Arkansas Code § 13-4-204(a), concerning destruction of an original document, is amended to read as follows:

(a) When any document is recorded by the means prescribed by § 13-4-201, the paper original may be destroyed unless the document is over fifty (50) years old and handwritten ~~or~~ and has been determined to be of historical value by the Arkansas State Archives.

SECTION 2. Arkansas Code § 13-4-301(b)(1), concerning retention and destruction of county records, is amended to read as follows:

(b)(1) If a record is photographically or electronically transferred to other media of a permanent nature, the original documents may be destroyed, except that no handwritten records over fifty (50) years old shall be destroyed without the consultation and approval of the Arkansas State



Archives.

**APPROVED: 3/18/25**