

Stricken language would be deleted from and underlined language would be added to present law.

State of Arkansas  
90th General Assembly  
Regular Session, 2015

# A Bill

SENATE BILL 202

By: Senator Hester  
By: Representative Ballinger

## For An Act To Be Entitled

AN ACT TO AMEND THE LAW CONCERNING ORDINANCES OF  
CITIES AND COUNTIES BY CREATING THE INTRASTATE  
COMMERCE IMPROVEMENT ACT; TO DECLARE AN EMERGENCY;  
AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

## Subtitle

TO AMEND THE LAW CONCERNING ORDINANCES OF  
CITIES AND COUNTIES BY CREATING THE  
INTRASTATE COMMERCE IMPROVEMENT ACT AND  
TO DECLARE AN EMERGENCY.

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

SECTION 1. Arkansas Code Title 14, Chapter 1, is amended to add an  
additional subchapter to read as follows:

### Subchapter 4 – Intrastate Commerce Improvement Act

#### 14-1-401. Title.

This subchapter shall be known and may be cited as the "Intrastate  
Commerce Improvement Act".

#### 14-1-402. Purpose – Finding.

(a) The purpose of this subchapter is to improve intrastate commerce  
by ensuring that businesses, organizations, and employers doing business in  
the state are subject to uniform nondiscrimination laws and obligations,



regardless of the counties, municipalities, or other political subdivisions in which the businesses, organizations, and employers are located or engage in business or commercial activity.

(b) The General Assembly finds that uniformity of law benefits the businesses, organizations, and employers seeking to do business in the state and attracts new businesses, organizations, and employers to the state.

14-1-403. Prohibited conduct.

(a) A county, municipality, or other political subdivision of the state shall not adopt or enforce an ordinance, resolution, rule, or policy that creates a protected classification or prohibits discrimination on a basis not contained in state law.

(b) This section does not apply to a rule or policy that pertains only to the employees of a county, municipality, or other political subdivision.

SECTION 2. EMERGENCY CLAUSE. It is found and determined by the General Assembly of the State of Arkansas that there are seventy-five (75) counties and five hundred (500) cities and towns in the state; that each county, city, and town can create its own local system for dealing with discrimination; and that this act is immediately necessary to create uniformity regarding discrimination laws across the state. 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.