

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

State of Arkansas
91st General Assembly
Regular Session, 2017

A Bill

HOUSE BILL 1522

By: Representative Sorvillo

For An Act To Be Entitled

AN ACT TO AMEND THE LAW CONCERNING THE PROMULGATION
OF RULES GOVERNING MUNICIPAL FIRE AND POLICE
DEPARTMENTS TO PROTECT THE RIGHT TO SERVE; AND FOR
OTHER PURPOSES.

Subtitle

TO AMEND THE LAW CONCERNING THE
PROMULGATION OF RULES GOVERNING MUNICIPAL
FIRE AND POLICE DEPARTMENTS TO PROTECT
THE RIGHT TO SERVE.

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

SECTION 1. Arkansas Code § 14-51-301(b)(1)(A), concerning rules and regulations of civil service systems for police and fire departments, is amended to read as follows:

(1)(A)(i) The qualifications of each applicant for appointment to any position on the police or fire department.

(ii) The board shall not impose a residency restriction for applicants or employees.

SECTION 2. Arkansas Code § 14-52-101 is amended to read as follows:
14-52-101. Authorized in cities.

(a) The city council ~~shall have power to~~ may establish a city police department, ~~to~~ organize it under the general superintendence of the mayor, and ~~to~~ prescribe its duties and define its powers in such manner as will most effectually preserve the peace of the city, secure the citizens ~~thereof~~ of



the city from personal violence, and safeguard their property from fire and unlawful depredations.

(b) The city council shall not impose a residency restriction for police department employees or applicants.

SECTION 3. Arkansas Code § 14-52-102 is amended to read as follows:

14-52-102. Authorized in incorporated towns.

(a) The governing body of any an incorporated town may establish a police department for the incorporated town, prescribe its duties, and define its powers in such manner as will most effectively preserve the peace of the incorporated town, secure the citizens thereof of the incorporated town from personal violence, and safeguard their property from unlawful deprivations.

(b) The governing body of the incorporated town shall not impose a residency restriction for police department employees or applicants.

SECTION 4. Arkansas Code § 14-53-101(b), concerning the promulgation of rules governing a municipal fire department, is amended to read as follows:

(b)(1) The Except as provided in subdivision (b)(2) of this section, the city council shall promulgate rules that the city council deems expedient to govern the fire department that the city council deems expedient.

(2) The city council shall not impose a residency restriction for fire department employees or applicants.