

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

State of Arkansas
91st General Assembly
Regular Session, 2017

As Engrossed: S3/7/17 H3/17/17

A Bill

SENATE BILL 550

By: Senator T. Garner
By: Representatives Ballinger, Hammer

For An Act To Be Entitled

*AN ACT TO PROTECT ACCESS TO PLACES OF EMPLOYMENT,
RIGHTS OF WAY, PRIVATE REAL PROPERTY, AND PUBLIC
INFRASTRUCTURE; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.*

Subtitle

*TO PROTECT ACCESS TO PLACES OF
EMPLOYMENT, RIGHTS OF WAY, PRIVATE REAL
PROPERTY, AND PUBLIC INFRASTRUCTURE.*

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

*SECTION 1. Arkansas Code Title 5, Chapter 71, Subchapter 2, is amended
to add an additional section to read as follows:*

5-71-218. Unlawful mass picketing.

*(a) As used in this section, "mass picketing" means the assembly of
persons in the use of pickets or demonstrations at or near a business,
school, or private facility.*

*(b) A person commits the offense of unlawful mass picketing if the
person knowingly:*

(1) Engages in mass picketing that:

*(A) Obstructs access by the mass picketing to the pursuit
of lawful work or employment; or*

(B) Obstructs:

*(i) The entrance to or egress from a place of
employment; or*

(ii) Free use of public roads, streets, highways,



railways, airports, or other rights-of-way of travel or conveyance; or

(2) Engages in mass picketing at a private residence that:

(A) Obstructs the entrance to or exit from the private residence; or

(B) Includes a threat of violence or intimidation communicated near or contiguous to the private residence.

(c) This section does not apply to a person who is validly exercising his or her rights as guaranteed by the United States Constitution or the Arkansas Constitution.

(d) Unlawful mass picketing is a Class A misdemeanor.

(e)(1) A person or entity who is harmed by unlawful mass picketing under this section may seek injunctive relief in the circuit court having jurisdiction to enjoin a person engaged in unlawful mass picketing from participating in unlawful mass picketing.

(2) A court hearing a petition for injunctive relief under this subsection may award court costs and reasonable attorney's fees to a prevailing party as well as order a civil fine of up to one thousand dollars (\$1,000) per day for a person who violates an order enjoining him or her from engaging in unlawful mass picketing.

/s/T. Garner