

State of Arkansas
93rd General Assembly
Regular Session, 2021

A Bill

HOUSE BILL 1617

By: Representatives Richardson, Slape

For An Act To Be Entitled

AN ACT TO REQUIRE A LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICER EMPLOYED BY A PUBLIC LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCY TO SUBMIT TO MENTAL AND BEHAVIORAL HEALTH COUNSELING AS A QUALIFICATION TO SERVE AS A LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICER; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

Subtitle

TO REQUIRE A LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICER EMPLOYED BY A PUBLIC LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCY TO SUBMIT TO MENTAL AND BEHAVIORAL HEALTH COUNSELING AS A QUALIFICATION TO SERVE AS A LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICER.

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

SECTION 1. Arkansas Code Title 12, Chapter 9, Subchapter 1, is amended to add an additional section to read as follows:

12-9-124. Mental and behavioral health counseling.

(a) A law enforcement officer employed by a public law enforcement agency shall submit to mental and behavioral health counseling by a third-party trained medical professional:

(1) Every five (5) years; and

(2) After responding to or being involved in the investigation or prosecution of an offense during which a person was killed or seriously physically injured or a minor was physically injured.

(b) The mental and behavioral health counseling described in this section is a requirement in order to serve as a law enforcement officer



employed by a public law enforcement agency.

(c) The public law enforcement agency employing the law enforcement officer shall provide a third-party trained medical professional to perform the mental and behavioral health counseling.

(d) The results of the mental and behavioral health counseling under this section shall be given to the law enforcement officer and to his or her direct supervisor and employer and shall be included in the personnel file of the law enforcement officer.