

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

State of Arkansas
93rd General Assembly
Regular Session, 2021

A Bill

HOUSE BILL 1758

By: Representative Eaves

For An Act To Be Entitled

AN ACT TO AMEND THE FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT OF 1967; TO AMEND THE LAW GOVERNING REQUESTS FOR PUBLIC RECORDS IN A CERTAIN MEDIUM OR FORMAT; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

Subtitle

TO AMEND THE FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT OF 1967; AND TO AMEND THE LAW GOVERNING REQUESTS FOR PUBLIC RECORDS IN A CERTAIN MEDIUM OR FORMAT.

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

SECTION 1. Arkansas Code § 14-14-112(a), concerning the bulk copying of public records in response to a request for public records, is amended to read as follows:

(a)(1) In the absence of an existing agreement or county ordinance, a county official may negotiate with a commercial, nonpress entity that requests bulk, public data regarding a reasonable fee for mass duplication, copying, or bulk electronic access of public records.

(2) The reasonable fee under subdivision (a)(1) of this section shall be verifiable and shall not exceed the limits of fees stated under §§ 25-19-105 and 25-19-109.

SECTION 2. Arkansas Code § 25-19-105(d)(2)(B), concerning requests for public records under the Freedom of Information Act of 1967, is amended to read as follows:



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(B) A citizen may request a copy of a public record in any:

(i) ~~medium~~ Medium in which the record is readily available; or

(ii) ~~in any~~ Native format in which the record exists or to which it is readily convertible with the custodian's existing software.

SECTION 3. Arkansas Code § 25-19-105(g), concerning public records under the Freedom of Information Act of 1967, is amended to read as follows:

(g) Any computer hardware or version of software acquired by an entity subject to § 25-19-103(7)(A) ~~after July 1, 2001,~~ shall:

(1) ~~be in full compliance~~ Fully comply with the requirements of this section;

(2) ~~and shall not~~ Not impede public access to records in electronic form; and

(3) Include the ability within the software to extract records in the native electronic form.