

State of Arkansas  
93rd General Assembly  
Regular Session, 2021

# A Bill

HOUSE BILL 1898

By: Representative Wardlaw

## For An Act To Be Entitled

AN ACT TO DEFINE "VEHICLE" AS AN EXTENSION OF A PERSON'S HOME; TO DEFINE THE TERM "JOURNEY" ACROSS ALL APPLICABLE LAWS; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

## Subtitle

TO DEFINE "VEHICLE" AS AN EXTENSION OF A PERSON'S HOME; AND TO DEFINE THE TERM "JOURNEY" ACROSS ALL APPLICABLE LAWS.

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

SECTION 1. Arkansas Code § 5-73-101, concerning definitions to be used in regard to weapons, is amended to add additional subdivisions to read as follows:

(12) "Journey" means a person has left his or her home or the curtilage of his or her home either on foot, horseback, bicycle, or in an automobile for any purpose or duration; and

(13) "Vehicle" means any automobile and is considered an extension of a person's home, with any protections that conveys.

SECTION 2. Arkansas Code § 5-73-120(b) and (c), concerning definitions and those places where a person is not prohibited from possessing a weapon, are amended to read as follows:

(b) As used in this section:

(1) "Club" means any instrument that is specially designed, made, or adapted for the purpose of inflicting serious physical injury or death by striking, including a blackjack, billie, and sap;



(2) "Handgun" means any firearm with a barrel length of less than twelve inches (12") that is designed, made, or adapted to be fired with one (1) hand;

~~(3) "Journey" means travel beyond the county in which a person lives; and~~

~~(4)~~(3) "Knife" means any bladed hand instrument three inches (3") or longer that is capable of inflicting serious physical injury or death by cutting or stabbing, including a dirk, a sword or spear in a cane, a razor, an ice pick, a throwing star, a switchblade, and a butterfly knife.

(c) It is permissible to carry a weapon under this section if at the time of the act of carrying the weapon:

(1) The person is in his or her own dwelling ~~or, in his or her personal vehicle, in his or her~~ place of business, or on property in which he or she has a possessory or proprietary interest;

(2) The person is a law enforcement officer, correctional officer, or member of the armed forces acting in the course and scope of his or her official duties;

(3) The person is assisting a law enforcement officer, correctional officer, or member of the armed forces acting in the course and scope of his or her official duties pursuant to the direction or request of the law enforcement officer, correctional officer, or member of the armed forces;

(4) The person is carrying a weapon when upon a journey, unless the journey is through a commercial airport when presenting at the security checkpoint in the airport or is in the person's checked baggage and is not a lawfully declared weapon;

(5) The person is a registered commissioned security guard acting in the course and scope of his or her duties;

(6) The person is hunting game with a handgun that may be hunted with a handgun under rules and regulations of the Arkansas State Game and Fish Commission or is en route to or from a hunting area for the purpose of hunting game with a handgun;

(7)(A) The person is a certified law enforcement officer, either on-duty or off-duty.

(B) If the person is an off-duty law enforcement officer, he or she may be required by a public school or publicly supported

institution of higher education to be in physical possession of a valid identification identifying the person as a law enforcement officer;

(8) The person is in possession of a concealed handgun and has a valid license to carry a concealed handgun under § 5-73-301 et seq., or recognized under § 5-73-321 and is not in a prohibited place as defined by § 5-73-306;

(9) The person is a prosecuting attorney or deputy prosecuting attorney carrying a firearm under § 16-21-147; or

(10) The person is in possession of a handgun and is a retired law enforcement officer with a valid concealed carry authorization issued under federal or state law.