

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 1948

By: Representative Boyd

For An Act To Be Entitled

AN ACT CONCERNING THE ARKANSAS PUBLIC DEFENDER
COMMISSION; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

Subtitle

CONCERNING THE ARKANSAS PUBLIC DEFENDER
COMMISSION.

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

SECTION 1. Arkansas Code § 16-87-202 is amended to read as follows:

16-87-202. Arkansas Public Defender Commission — ~~Fund created.~~

(a) There is hereby created the Arkansas Public Defender Commission.

(b)(1) The commission shall be composed of seven (7) members appointed by the Governor for five-year terms.

(2) At least four (4) members of the commission shall be attorneys who are licensed to practice law in the State of Arkansas and experienced in the defense of persons accused of crimes.

(3) At least one (1) member of the commission shall be a ~~county judge, and at least one (1) member shall be a~~ trial judge who hears criminal cases.

(4) ~~No more than two (2) members of the commission shall be residents of the same~~ There shall be appointed at least one (1) member from each congressional district, and no two (2) members of the commission shall be residents of the same county.

(5) A commission member shall be eligible for reappointment and shall continue in office until a successor is appointed and qualified.

(6) The Governor shall designate one (1) commission member to



serve as chair.

(c)(1) The commission shall meet at least once each quarter upon the call of the chair.

(2) Commission members shall serve without compensation but may receive expense reimbursement in accordance with § 25-16-901 et seq.