

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

State of Arkansas
95th General Assembly
Regular Session, 2025

As Engrossed: H1/16/25
A Bill

HOUSE BILL 1030

Representatives T. Shephard, A. Collins, D. Garner, Springer, Gonzales Worthen

For An Act To Be Entitled

AN ACT TO REQUIRE A SCHOOL RESOURCE OFFICER OR LAW ENFORCEMENT PERSONNEL ASSIGNED TO A PUBLIC SCHOOL CAMPUS OR EMPLOYED BY A PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT TO OBTAIN CERTIFICATION IN YOUTH MENTAL HEALTH FIRST AID; TO REQUIRE A SCHOOL COUNSELOR TO RECEIVE YOUTH MENTAL HEALTH FIRST AID TRAINING; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

Subtitle

TO REQUIRE A SCHOOL RESOURCE OFFICER OR LAW ENFORCEMENT PERSONNEL TO OBTAIN CERTIFICATION IN YOUTH MENTAL HEALTH FIRST AID; AND TO REQUIRE A SCHOOL COUNSELOR TO RECEIVE YOUTH MENTAL HEALTH FIRST AID TRAINING.

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

SECTION 1. *Arkansas Code § 6-10-128(d)(1)(A)(ii)*, concerning school resource officer training requirements, is amended to read as follows:

(ii)(a) ~~Attend a training in youth mental health as required by the State Board of Education~~ Obtain certification in Youth Mental Health First Aid.

(b) ~~The youth mental health training required under subdivision (d)(1)(A)(ii)(a) of this section shall be obtained~~ Youth Mental Health First Aid certification shall be maintained and renewed every four (4) years if the school resource officer remains assigned to or employed



by a public school district;

SECTION 2. Arkansas Code § 6-10-128(d)(1)(C)(ii), concerning continuing education hours for school resource officers, is amended to read as follows:

(ii) The ~~youth mental health~~ Youth Mental Health First Aid training required under subdivision (d)(1)(A)(ii) of this section and the school resource officer refresher training required under subdivision (d)(1)(B) of this section shall count towards the twelve (12) hours of public school-specific continuing education required under subdivision (d)(1)(C)(i) of this section in the years during which the ~~youth mental health~~ Youth Mental Health First Aid and school resource officer refresher trainings are completed.

SECTION 3. Arkansas Code § 6-18-2004(d), concerning school counselor training required for purposes of comprehensive student services, is amended to read as follows:

(d) By September 1, ~~2024~~ 2025, and every four (4) years following, a school counselor shall receive ~~youth mental health~~ Youth Mental Health First Aid training, as prescribed by the State Board of Education, to learn the risk factors and warning signs of mental health issues in adolescents, the importance of early intervention, and how to help an adolescent who is in crisis or expecting a mental health challenge.

/s/T. Shephard