

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

State of Arkansas
95th General Assembly
Regular Session, 2025

A Bill

HOUSE BILL 1219

By: Representative R. Scott Richardson

By: Senator C. Penzo

For An Act To Be Entitled

AN ACT CONCERNING LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS; TO REQUIRE LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES AND PUBLIC ENTITIES THAT EMPLOY LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS TO PROVIDE BODY-WORN CAMERAS; TO REQUIRE THE RECORDING OF LAW ENFORCEMENT INTERACTIONS WITH THE PUBLIC; TO REQUIRE RULEMAKING; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

Subtitle

TO REQUIRE LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES AND PUBLIC ENTITIES THAT EMPLOY LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS TO PROVIDE BODY-WORN CAMERAS; AND TO REQUIRE THE RECORDING OF LAW ENFORCEMENT INTERACTION WITH THE PUBLIC.

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

SECTION 1. Arkansas Code Title 12, Chapter 6, is amended to add an additional subchapter to read as follows:

Subchapter 9 – Body-Worn Cameras

12-6-901. Legislative intent.

It is the intent of the General Assembly to ensure that:

(1) Law enforcement officers and the public are provided the protection of recorded interactions between law enforcement officers and the public; and

(2) An accurate record of interactions between law enforcement



officers and the public is available for legal and training purposes.

12-6-902. Definitions.

As used in this subchapter:

(1)(A) "Law enforcement agency" means any police department, county sheriff's office, or other public agency, force, or organization whose primary responsibility is the enforcement of the criminal laws, traffic laws, highway laws, or game and fish laws of this state.

(B) "Law enforcement agency" includes without limitation a college or university police department; and

(2)(A) "Law enforcement officer" means a person that is:

(i) Employed by a law enforcement agency or other public entity; and

(ii) Vested by law with a duty to maintain public order and make arrests for offenses.

(B) "Law enforcement officer" includes without limitation a court bailiff, school resource officer, wildlife enforcement officer, game warden, officer of the State Capitol Police, county sheriff, and chief of police.

12-6-903. Body-worn cameras required.

(a) By December 31, 2026, a law enforcement agency or other public entity that employs a law enforcement officer shall:

(1) Provide a body-worn camera to each law enforcement officer the law enforcement agency or other public entity employs;

(2) Train each law enforcement officer the law enforcement agency or other public entity employs in the use of a body-worn camera; and

(3) Enact policies and procedures governing the use of a body-worn camera.

(b) A law enforcement officer shall:

(1) Wear a body-worn camera while on duty; and

(2) Ensure the body-worn camera records all official interaction between the law enforcement officer and the public while the law enforcement officer is on duty.

12-6-904. Rulemaking.

Any state agency, department, board, or commission that employs a law enforcement officer, including without limitation constitutional agencies, shall promulgate rules to implement this subchapter.

SECTION 2. DO NOT CODIFY. TEMPORARY LANGUAGE.

(a) When adopting the initial rules required under this act, the state agency, department, board, or commission shall file the final rules with the Secretary of State for adoption under § 25-15-204(f):

(1) On or before August 1, 2026; or

(2) If approval under § 10-3-309 has not occurred by August 1, 2026, as soon as practicable after approval under § 10-3-309.

(b) The state agency, department, board, or commission shall file the proposed rules with the Legislative Council under § 10-3-309(c) sufficiently in advance of August 1, 2026, so that the Legislative Council may consider the rules for approval before August 1, 2026.