

State of Arkansas  
95th General Assembly  
Regular Session, 2025

# A Bill

HOUSE BILL 1284

By: Representative Unger

## For An Act To Be Entitled

AN ACT TO AMEND THE LAW CONCERNING THE SUSPENSION OR REVOCATION OF A PERSON'S DRIVER'S LICENSE FOR FAILURE TO PAY A COURT-ORDERED FINE; TO AMEND THE LAW CONCERNING A RESTRICTED DRIVER'S PERMIT; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

## Subtitle

TO AMEND THE LAW CONCERNING THE SUSPENSION OR REVOCATION OF A PERSON'S DRIVER'S LICENSE FOR FAILURE TO PAY A COURT-ORDERED FINE; AND TO AMEND THE LAW CONCERNING A RESTRICTED DRIVER'S PERMIT.

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

SECTION 1. Arkansas Code § 16-13-708 is amended to read as follows:

16-13-708. Revocation of registration or license prohibited.

~~(a)(1)~~ A court ~~may~~ shall not request ~~in writing and under certification~~ that the Department of Finance and Administration revoke, suspend, or refuse to renew the motor vehicle registration or driver's license of a person who has failed to make satisfactory arrangements for the payment of a court-ordered fine.

~~(2) However, the court shall not make a request to the department as described under subdivision (a)(1) of this section before the court has scheduled a hearing to address the person's nonpayment of the court ordered fine and the person has failed to appear at the hearing.~~

~~(3) The court may issue an order for a restricted driving permit~~



~~in accordance with § 27-16-916.~~

~~(b) For driver's license revocation, suspension, or nonrenewal, the court must provide the department with the reason for the revocation, suspension, or nonrenewal, the amount the person owes the court, and the person's full name, date of birth, and last known address.~~

~~(c) For motor vehicle registration revocation, suspension, or nonrenewal, the court must provide the department with the reason for the revocation, suspension, or nonrenewal, the amount the person owes the court, and the person's full name and the license plate number or vehicle identification number of the person's vehicle.~~

~~(d)(1) An acquittal or a dismissal of a charge of failure to pay a fine or failure to appear at a hearing to address nonpayment of a fine that is used as the basis to revoke, suspend, or refuse to renew the person's driver's license or motor vehicle registration shall reverse the revocation of, suspension of, or refusal to renew the person's driver's license or motor vehicle registration under this section.~~

~~(2) Upon an acquittal or dismissal of a charge as described in subdivision (d)(1) of this section, the Office of Driver Services shall reinstate the person's driver's license or motor vehicle registration without charging a reinstatement fee, and the charge shall not be used to determine the number of previous offenses when administratively revoking, suspending, or refusing to renew the person's driver's license in the future.~~

SECTION 2. Arkansas Code § 27-16-916(a), concerning driver's license suspensions and the issuance of a restricted driver's license in certain circumstances, is amended to read as follows:

(a) Unless a person is eligible for a restricted driver's license as provided under this title, a district court may authorize a restricted driving permit upon the suspension of a person's driver's license under ~~§ 16-13-708~~ or § 16-17-131 and may permit a person whose driving privileges are suspended to drive to and from the following:

- (1) A mandatory court appearance;
- (2) A program or place where a court has ordered the person's presence or attendance;
- (3) A place of employment or as required in the scope of employment;

(4) A scheduled session or meeting of a support or counseling organization;

(5) An educational institution for the purpose of attending a class if the person is enrolled in a course of study or program of training at the educational institution;

(6) The educational institution or childcare facility of the person's child or children;

(7) A treatment program for persons who have addiction or abuse problems related to a substance or controlled substances;

(8) A doctor, hospital, or clinic appointment or admission for medical treatment or care for an illness, disease, or other medical condition of the person or a family member;

(9) A location for the enrollment, compliance, and participation in a specialty court program if the person is accepted into a specialty court program; and

(10) Any other location the court finds reasonable and necessary.