

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 1289

By: Representative Unger

## For An Act To Be Entitled

AN ACT TO AMEND THE DUTIES OF THE ARKANSAS WATERWAYS  
COMMISSION; TO CREATE AN ARKANSAS WATERWAYS  
COMMISSION POLICE FORCE; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

## Subtitle

TO AMEND THE DUTIES OF THE ARKANSAS  
WATERWAYS COMMISSION; AND TO CREATE AN  
ARKANSAS WATERWAYS COMMISSION POLICE  
FORCE.

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

SECTION 1. Arkansas Code § 15-23-202, concerning the duties of the Arkansas Waterways Commission, is amended to add an additional subsection to read as follows:

(c) The Arkansas Waterways Commission may:

(1) Protect and police the property of the commission, in cooperation with the law enforcement agencies and officers having jurisdiction in the area where the property of the commission is located; and

(2) Appoint one (1) or more persons to be designated by the commission as an Arkansas Waterways Commission law enforcement officer to aid and supplement the law enforcement agencies of this state in the protection of the persons and property of the commission subject to § 15-23-201 et seq.

SECTION 2. Arkansas Code Title 15, Chapter 23, Subchapter 2, is amended to add an additional section to read as follows:

15-23-206. Jurisdiction and powers.



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(a) An Arkansas Waterways Commission law enforcement officer may:

(1) Arrest a person, whether on or off the Arkansas Waterways Commission's property, for the violation of a law on the commission's property, under § 16-81-106(b) and (c); and

(2) Carry weapons for the reasonable purposes of carrying out the duties of a law enforcement officer of the commission.

(b) A law enforcement officer of the commission shall be a certified law enforcement officer under § 12-9-101 et seq.