

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: H3/13/25

A Bill

HOUSE BILL 1306

By: Representatives Furman, Beck, Bentley, K. Brown, McClure, Milligan, Pilkington, Rye, Unger
By: Senator K. Hammer

For An Act To Be Entitled

AN ACT CONCERNING CIVIL IMMUNITY FOR A CHURCH OR
OTHER PLACE OF WORSHIP; TO PROVIDE CIVIL IMMUNITY FOR
VOLUNTEER SECURITY PERSONNEL IN A CHURCH OR OTHER
PLACE OF WORSHIP; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

Subtitle

CONCERNING CIVIL IMMUNITY FOR A CHURCH
OR OTHER PLACE OF WORSHIP; AND TO
PROVIDE CIVIL IMMUNITY FOR VOLUNTEER
SECURITY PERSONNEL IN A CHURCH OR OTHER
PLACE OF WORSHIP.

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

SECTION 1. Arkansas Code § 16-120-501, concerning definitions related to charitable immunity for a church or other place of worship, is amended to add an additional subdivision to read as follows:

(3) "Volunteer security person" means a person who provides safety, security, or protection for a church or other place of worship as authorized by the church or other place of worship to benefit persons in attendance at a meeting or other gathering held at or sponsored by the church or other place of worship without any express or implied promise of remuneration.

SECTION 2. Arkansas Code Title 16, Chapter 120, Subchapter 5, is amended to add an additional section to read as follows:

16-120-506. Civil immunity for volunteer security personnel.



(a) Except as provided in subsections (b) and (d) of this section, the following are not subject to civil liability for damages, injury, or death resulting from or arising out of a negligent act or omission by a volunteer security person who is providing safety, security, or protection services for a church or other place of worship:

(1) The volunteer security person providing the safety, security, or protection services; and

(2) The church or other place of worship for which the volunteer security person is providing safety, security, or protection services.

(b) A church or other place of worship or a volunteer security person is entitled to civil immunity under this section if the:

(1) Church or other place of worship *requires adequate training* in the provision of safety, security, or protection services for a person to become a volunteer security person; and

(2) Volunteer security person has received the training required by the church or other place of worship.

(c) The civil immunity provided by this section includes without limitation civil immunity for the use of nonlethal or lethal force in providing safety, security, or protection services.

(d) The civil immunity provided by this section does not apply to or include an act or omission that arises out of intentional, reckless, or grossly negligent conduct.

/s/Furman