

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 1431

By: Representatives K. Moore, McCullough, Hudson

By: Senator Irvin

For An Act To Be Entitled

AN ACT TO AMEND THE DEFINITIONS UNDER THE DOMESTIC ABUSE ACT OF 1991; TO PROHIBIT THE ISSUANCE OF AN ORDER OF PROTECTION ENJOINING A PARTY FROM ENGAGING IN COURSE OF CONTROL OR DISTURBING THE PEACE EX PARTE; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

Subtitle

TO AMEND THE DEFINITIONS UNDER THE DOMESTIC ABUSE ACT OF 1991; AND TO PROHIBIT THE ISSUANCE OF AN ORDER OF PROTECTION ENJOINING A PARTY FROM ENGAGING IN COURSE OF CONTROL OR DISTURBING THE PEACE EX PARTE.

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

SECTION 1. Arkansas Code § 9-15-103(4), concerning the definition of "domestic abuse" under the Domestic Abuse Act of 1991, is amended to read as follows:

(4) "Domestic abuse" means:

(A) Physical harm, bodily injury, assault, or the infliction of fear of imminent physical harm, bodily injury, or assault between family or household members; ~~or~~

(B) Any sexual conduct between family or household members, whether minors or adults, that constitutes a crime under the laws of this state; or

(C) A pattern of behavior as defined by "course of



control" or "disturbing the peace" under § 9-15-219;

SECTION 2. Arkansas Code § 9-15-219(a)(2), concerning the definition of "disturbing the peace" under the Domestic Abuse Act of 1991, is amended to read as follows:

(2)(A) "Disturbing the peace" means a pattern of behavior that unreasonably destroys the mental or emotional calm of a family or household member based on the totality of the circumstances.

~~(B) "Disturbing the peace" includes without limitation course of control.~~

SECTION 3. Arkansas Code § 9-15-219(b), concerning the entry of an order enjoining a party from engaging in course of control or disturbing the peace under the Domestic Abuse Act of 1991, is amended to read as follows:

(b) A court may enter an ~~ex parte~~ order enjoining a party from engaging in course of control or disturbing the peace, including without limitation through one (1) or more of the following acts: