

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 1589

By: Representative Schulz

By: Senator Crowell

For An Act To Be Entitled

AN ACT TO AMEND THE LAW CONCERNING THE FINANCIAL OPERATIONS OF A COUNTY; TO AMEND THE LAW CONCERNING THE ANNUAL COUNTY FINANCIAL REPORT; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

Subtitle

TO AMEND THE LAW CONCERNING THE FINANCIAL OPERATIONS OF A COUNTY; AND TO AMEND THE LAW CONCERNING THE ANNUAL COUNTY FINANCIAL REPORT.

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

SECTION 1. Arkansas Code § 14-15-805(1)(A), concerning the duties of a county treasurer, is amended to read as follows:

(1)(A) Receive and give receipt for all ~~moneys~~ revenues payable into the county treasury and to pay and disburse the ~~moneys~~ revenues on ~~warrants or~~ checks drawn by order of the county court.

SECTION 2. Arkansas Code § 14-15-805(2)(A), concerning the duties of a county treasurer, is amended to read as follows:

(2)(A) Refuse payment of any ~~warrant or~~ check that would cause a deficit balance in any special revenue account ~~without an appropriated transfer of general funds to cover the deficit~~, except as provided in this section.

SECTION 3. Arkansas Code § 14-15-805(2)(B)(ii), concerning the duties



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of a county treasurer, is amended to read as follows:

(ii) When the grant ~~moneys~~ revenues are received by the county, the ~~moneys~~ revenues shall be receipted to the proper grant fund by the county treasurer.

SECTION 4. Arkansas Code § 14-15-805(3)(C), concerning the duties of a county treasurer, is amended to read as follows:

(C) The treasurer shall refuse payment of any ~~warrant or~~ check that would cause a deficit balance of the general fund in aggregate.

SECTION 5. Arkansas Code § 14-15-806 is amended to read as follows:

14-15-806. Neglect or refusal to pay ~~warrant~~ check.

(a) If any county treasurer shall neglect or refuse to pay any ~~warrant or~~ check drawn on him or her by order of the county court of his or her county, having cash available in the fund on which the ~~warrant or~~ check is drawn, he or she shall forfeit and pay to the ~~holder of the warrant~~ claimant four (4) times the amount thereof.

(b) The forfeiture may be recovered by a civil action in the name of the party aggrieved against the treasurer and his or her securities, and the treasurer shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor in office and upon conviction shall be removed from office.

SECTION 6. Arkansas Code § 14-15-809 is amended to read as follows:

14-15-809. Resignation, removal, or death.

If he or she resigns, is removed from office, or dies, a county treasurer, or his or her executor or administrator, shall immediately make his or her settlement and deliver to his or her successor in office all things pertaining to the office, together with all the ~~moneys~~ monetary funds belonging to the county.

SECTION 7. Arkansas Code § 14-21-102 is amended to read as follows:

14-21-102. Annual financial report of the county.

(a)(1) The ~~clerk of the county court~~ county clerk or county comptroller and the county treasurer shall ~~make out or~~ cause to be made out a full and complete annual financial report of the county, in the form of a statement of revenues, expenditures, and changes in fund balances, using the

financial records of the county clerk and county treasurer, ~~giving~~.

(2) As a minimum for each reportable fund, the annual financial report of the county shall provide:

(A) The treasurer's report of the beginning January 1 cash balance of each fund;

(B) The treasurer's report as to the amount of revenue for each fund from each source classification;

(C) The treasurer's report as to the ending December 31 cash balance of each fund;

(D) ~~The county clerk's report as to the amount expended during the fiscal year for all purposes~~ expenditures for all purposes for each fund for the fiscal year from the county clerk's summary of expenditures report or the county comptroller's summary expenditure report; and

(E) A detailed statement of the bonded indebtedness and short-term indebtedness of the county.

~~(2)~~ (3)(A) The annual ~~county~~ financial report of the county shall include all operating accounts of the county for which the quorum court has appropriating control.

(B) The requirement under subdivision (a)(3)(A) of this section may be satisfied by presenting the annual financial report of the county with:

(i) Revenues and expenditures for the general fund, the road fund, and the other funds of the county in the aggregate; and

(ii) Changes in fund balances between January 1 and December 31.

~~(3)~~ (4)(A) ~~If the county clerk or county comptroller is compiling the annual financial report of the county, the county treasurer shall submit all revenue reports required under this section to the clerk of the county court~~ county clerk or county comptroller by March 1.

(B) If the county treasurer is compiling the annual financial report of the county, the county clerk or county comptroller shall submit all expenditure reports required under this section to the county treasurer by March 1.

(b)(1)(A) ~~The clerk of the county court~~ county clerk or county treasurer shall publish the annual financial report of the county:

(i) One (1) time in one (1) newspaper published in

the county; and

(ii) On a website owned or maintained by the county, the state, or the Association of Arkansas Counties.

(B) If a newspaper is not published in the county, the ~~clerk of the county court~~ county clerk or county treasurer shall publish the annual financial report of the county one (1) time in the newspaper having the largest circulation in the county.

(2)(A) The annual financial report shall be published by March 15 of each year for the previous fiscal year of the county in accordance with § 14-71-101.

(B) A report published under subdivision (b)(2)(A) of this section is not required to include any revenue or expenditure accruals for the months of January and February following the calendar fiscal year.

(c) All costs associated with the publication of the annual financial report of the county shall be charged to the budget of the county treasurer.

SECTION 8. Arkansas Code § 14-24-121(a), concerning the electronic transfer of county funds, is amended to read as follows:

(a) A disbursement of county funds used for a payment to a federal or state governmental entity or to a creditor by order of a court of competent jurisdiction may be made by electronic funds transfer if the:

(1) Claim has been submitted and approved through the county claim process; and

(2) Disbursement includes adequate supporting documentation.