

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: H4/1/25

## A Bill

HOUSE BILL 1885

By: Representative Barnett

### For An Act To Be Entitled

AN ACT CONCERNING LAW ENFORCEMENT; TO REQUIRE A LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICER INVOLVED IN A DEADLY USE OF FORCE INCIDENT TO BE PLACED ON TEMPORARY LEAVE AND ATTEND THERAPY; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

### Subtitle

CONCERNING LAW ENFORCEMENT; AND TO REQUIRE A LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICER INVOLVED IN A DEADLY USE OF FORCE INCIDENT TO BE PLACED ON TEMPORARY LEAVE AND ATTEND THERAPY.

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

SECTION 1. Arkansas Code Title 12, Chapter 6, Subchapter 7, is amended to add an additional section to read as follows:

12-6-703. Deadly use of force – Definitions.

(a) As used in this section:

(1) "Deadly use of force incident" means an incident in which a law enforcement officer uses physical force that results in a person's death; and

(2) "Law enforcement officer" mean a person vested by law with a duty to maintain public order and to make arrests for offenses.

(b) After a deadly use of force incident, a law enforcement agency shall:

(1) Immediately place on paid administrative leave a law enforcement officer whose use of physical force resulted in the deadly use of



force incident;

(2)(A) Provide mandatory sessions of professional in-person or virtual mental health counseling or therapy by a licensed counselor, psychiatrist, or psychologist to the law enforcement officer:

(i) At no cost to the law enforcement officer; and

(ii) For a period of not less than ninety (90) days.

(B) The minimum ninety-day-period as described in subdivision (b)(2)(A) of this section shall be extended for up to ninety (90) days if additional mental health counseling or therapy sessions are recommended by the licensed counselor, psychiatrist, or psychologist treating the law enforcement officer; and

(3) Allow the law enforcement officer to return to normal active duty only after receiving:

(A) Notice from the prosecuting attorney investigating the deadly use of force incident that he or she does not intend to file criminal charges against the law enforcement officer as a result of the deadly use of force incident; and

(B) Documentation from the licensed counselor, psychiatrist, or psychologist providing mental health counseling or therapy to the law enforcement officer stating that:

(i) The law enforcement officer has attended sessions of mental health counseling or therapy during the period of paid administrative leave; and

(ii) He or she recommends that the law enforcement officer return to normal active duty.

(c) A law enforcement agency is relieved of any requirement under this section if the law enforcement officer whose use of physical force resulted in a deadly use of force incident is charged with a criminal offense as a result of the deadly use of force incident.

/s/Barnett