

State of Arkansas
95th General Assembly
Regular Session, 2025

A Bill

HOUSE BILL 1914

By: Representative Long

For An Act To Be Entitled

AN ACT TO AMEND THE LAW CONCERNING THE ARKANSAS MOTOR CARRIER ACT, 1955; TO REQUIRE AN OPERATOR OF A COMMERCIAL MOTOR VEHICLE TO HAVE ENGLISH LANGUAGE PROFICIENCY; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

Subtitle

TO AMEND THE LAW CONCERNING THE ARKANSAS MOTOR CARRIER ACT, 1955; AND TO REQUIRE AN OPERATOR OF A COMMERCIAL MOTOR VEHICLE TO HAVE ENGLISH LANGUAGE PROFICIENCY.

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

SECTION 1. Arkansas Code Title 23, Chapter 13, Subchapter 2, is amended to add an additional section to read as follows:

23-13-266. Operating a commercial motor vehicle without sufficient English language proficiency.

(a) A person commits the offense of operating a commercial motor vehicle without sufficient English language proficiency if the person:

- (1) Operates a commercial motor vehicle, as defined under 49 C.F.R. 390.5T, as it existed on January 1, 2025, in the state; and
- (2) Cannot read or speak the English language sufficiently to:
 - (A) Converse with the general public;
 - (B) Understand highway traffic signs and signals in the English language;
 - (C) Respond to official inquiries; and



(D) Make entries on reports and records.

(b) Operating a commercial motor vehicle without sufficient English language proficiency is a violation subject to a fine under § 23-13-257.