

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

SENATE BILL 521

By: Senator B. Davis
By: Representative Unger

For An Act To Be Entitled

AN ACT TO AMEND THE LAW CONCERNING LAW ENFORCEMENT TRAINING REIMBURSEMENT; TO EXTEND THE TIME PERIOD AFTER COMPLETION OF TRAINING FOR WHICH REIMBURSEMENT IS REQUIRED; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

Subtitle

TO AMEND THE LAW CONCERNING LAW ENFORCEMENT TRAINING REIMBURSEMENT; AND TO EXTEND THE TIME PERIOD AFTER COMPLETION OF TRAINING FOR WHICH REIMBURSEMENT IS REQUIRED.

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

SECTION 1. Arkansas Code § 12-9-209 is amended to read as follows:
12-9-209. Reimbursement for training costs or expenses.

(a)(1) If a ~~county, city, town, or state agency~~ law enforcement agency pays the costs or expenses for training a law enforcement officer ~~at a state-funded or municipally operated law enforcement training academy~~ and another ~~county, city, town, or state agency~~ law enforcement agency employs that law enforcement officer within ~~eighteen (18)~~ twenty-four (24) months after completion of the training in a position requiring a certificate of training from a state-funded or municipally operated law enforcement training academy, the ~~county, city, town, or state agency~~ law enforcement agency that employs the law enforcement officer, at the time of employing the law enforcement officer, shall reimburse the ~~county, city, town, or state agency~~ law enforcement agency for all or a portion of the costs or expenses incurred by



the ~~county, city, town, or state agency~~ law enforcement agency for the training of the law enforcement officer at the state-funded or municipally operated law enforcement training academy, unless the law enforcement officer has been terminated by the ~~county, city, town, or state agency~~ law enforcement agency that paid the costs or expenses of training, in which case no reimbursement is required from the ~~county, city, town, or state agency~~ law enforcement agency employing the law enforcement officer.

(2) Reimbursement may be sought ~~only from the first county, city, town, or state agency~~ by each successive law enforcement agency that employed the law enforcement officer after the ~~county, city, town, or state agency~~ first law enforcement agency paid the costs or expenses of training within the twenty-four-month period after the date of the law enforcement officer's completion of training.

(3) Reimbursement shall include any salary, travel expenses, food, lodging, or other costs, including nonrecoverable equipment costs, required to be paid by the ~~county, city, town, or state agency,~~ law enforcement agency as follows:

(A) If the law enforcement officer is employed within ~~two~~ (2) twelve (12) months after completion of the training, the employing law enforcement agency shall reimburse the total of the costs or expenses of training; or

(B) If the law enforcement officer is employed more than ~~two~~ (2) twelve (12) months but not more than ~~six~~ (6) twenty-four (24) months after completion of the training, the employing law enforcement agency shall reimburse ~~eighty percent (80%)~~ fifty percent (50%) of the costs or expenses of training;

~~(C) If the law enforcement officer is employed more than six (6) months but not more than ten (10) months after completion of the training, the employing agency shall reimburse sixty percent (60%) of the costs or expenses of training;~~

~~(D) If the law enforcement officer is employed more than ten (10) months but not more than fourteen (14) months after completion of the training, the employing agency shall reimburse forty percent (40%) of the costs or expenses of training; or~~

~~(E) If the law enforcement officer is employed more than fourteen (14) months but not more than eighteen (18) months after completion~~

~~of the training, the employing agency shall reimburse twenty percent (20%) of the costs or expenses of training.~~

(b)(1) A request for reimbursement shall:

(A) Be in writing;

(B) Contain an itemized list of costs to be reimbursed;

and

(C) Be made by the original employing law enforcement agency to the subsequent employing law enforcement agency within six (6) months of the date on which the law enforcement officer was hired by the subsequent law enforcement agency.

(2) If any ~~county, city, town, or state agency~~ law enforcement agency that employs a law enforcement officer whose costs or expenses of training were paid by another ~~county, city, town, or state agency~~ law enforcement agency fails to make reimbursement for the costs or expenses of training as required in subsection (a) of this section, the ~~county, city, town, or state agency~~ law enforcement agency entitled to reimbursement shall notify the Treasurer of State.

~~(2)(3)~~ (3) The Treasurer of State shall then withhold the amount of the reimbursement due for training the law enforcement officer from the county or municipal aid of the employing ~~county, city, town, or state agency~~ law enforcement agency or from funds appropriated to the employing state agency and shall remit the amount to the ~~county, city, town, or state agency~~ law enforcement agency that is entitled to the reimbursement under the provisions of this section.

~~(c)(1)~~ (1) A private community with a population of more than five thousand (5,000) persons that employs certified law enforcement officers is entitled to reimbursement under this section and may remit the reimbursed costs or expenses under subsection (a) of this section to an entity contracting with the private community that paid the training costs or expenses of the certified law enforcement officers.

(d) A law enforcement agency that employs on a permanent basis a law enforcement officer who has completed training at a state-funded or municipally-operated law enforcement training academy shall comply with this section.

~~(2)(e)~~ (e) As used in this ~~subsection,~~ section:

(1) "Law enforcement agency" means the same as defined in § 12-

9-102; and

(2) "~~private~~ Private community" means the same as defined in § 14-14-814.

SECTION 2. Arkansas Code § 12-9-602(a)(1), concerning the employment or appointment, or separation from employment or appointment of a law enforcement officer, is amended to read as follows:

(a)(1)(A) An employing law enforcement agency shall immediately notify the Division of Law Enforcement Standards and Training, in a manner adopted by the division, of the employment or appointment, or separation from employment or appointment, of any law enforcement officer.

(B) Upon notification by an employing law enforcement agency of employment or appointment of any law enforcement officer, if the law enforcement officer completed required training from a state-funded or municipally-operated law enforcement training academy within the last twenty-four (24) months, the division shall notify the previous employing law enforcement agency that paid the costs or expenses for training the law enforcement officer.

SECTION 3. EFFECTIVE DATE. This act is effective on and after January 1, 2026.