

2 State of Arkansas  
3 93rd General Assembly  
4 Regular Session, 2021

# A Bill

HOUSE BILL 1948

5  
6 By: Representative Boyd

7 Filed with: Arkansas Legislative Council  
8 pursuant to A.C.A. §10-3-217.

## For An Act To Be Entitled

9  
10 AN ACT CONCERNING THE ARKANSAS PUBLIC DEFENDER  
11 COMMISSION; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

### Subtitle

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14 CONCERNING THE ARKANSAS PUBLIC DEFENDER  
15 COMMISSION.  
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19 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:

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21 SECTION 1. Arkansas Code § 16-87-202 is amended to read as follows:

22 16-87-202. Arkansas Public Defender Commission — ~~Fund created.~~

23 (a) There is hereby created the Arkansas Public Defender Commission.

24 (b)(1) The commission shall be composed of seven (7) members appointed  
25 by the Governor for five-year terms.

26 (2) At least four (4) members of the commission shall be  
27 attorneys who are licensed to practice law in the State of Arkansas and  
28 experienced in the defense of persons accused of crimes.

29 (3) At least one (1) member of the commission shall be a ~~county~~  
30 ~~judge, and at least one (1) member shall be a~~ trial judge who hears criminal  
31 cases.

32 (4) ~~No more than two (2) members of the commission shall be~~  
33 ~~residents of the same~~ There shall be appointed at least one (1) member from  
34 each congressional district, and no two (2) members of the commission shall  
35 be residents of the same county.

1           (5) A commission member shall be eligible for reappointment and  
2 shall continue in office until a successor is appointed and qualified.

3           (6) The Governor shall designate one (1) commission member to  
4 serve as chair.

5           (c)(1) The commission shall meet at least once each quarter upon the  
6 call of the chair.

7           (2) Commission members shall serve without compensation but may  
8 receive expense reimbursement in accordance with § 25-16-901 et seq.

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11 Referred requested by the Arkansas House of Representatives

12 Prepared by: MBM/KFW  
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