

1 **State of Arkansas**
2 **79th General Assembly**
3 **Regular Session, 1993**

A Bill

HOUSE BILL 1180

4 **By: Representatives Thicksten, Hall, M. Wilson, Fairchild and Wyrick**

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For An Act To Be Entitled

8 "AN ACT TO AMEND ARKANSAS CODE ANNOTATED 6-82-1202 AND
9 6-82-1203 TO INCREASE THE NUMBER OF SCHOLARSHIPS WHICH MAY
10 BE AWARDED UNDER THE POLICE CORPS SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM; AND
11 FOR OTHER PURPOSES."

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Subtitle

14 "AN ACT TO INCREASE THE NUMBER OF SCHOLARSHIPS WHICH MAY
15 BE AWARDED UNDER THE POLICE CORPS SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM."

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

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19 SECTION 1. Arkansas Code Annotated 6-82-1202 is amended to read as
20 follows:

21 "6-82-1202. Arkansas Police Corps Planning Commission - Arkansas Police
22 Corps Program.

23 (a) There is hereby established the Arkansas Police Corps Planning
24 Commission.

25 (b) The commission shall be appointed by the Governor, and shall have
26 eleven (11) members:

27 (1) The Director of the Department of Higher Education;

28 (2) The Director of the Department of Arkansas State Police;

29 (3) The Director of the Arkansas Law Enforcement Training
30 Academy;

31 (4) A representative of the Arkansas Municipal Police
32 Association;

33 (5) A representative of the Arkansas Sheriff's Association;

34 (6) A representative of the Arkansas Police Chiefs Association;

35 (7) Two (2) faculty or administrators from institutions of higher

1 education with accredited criminal justice programs;

2 (8) Two (2) higher education financial aid administrators; and

3 (9) One (1) active certified law enforcement officer.

4 (c) The commission shall develop a state plan for implementation of the
5 Arkansas Police Corps Program:

6 (1) Such plan shall be based on results of a survey of Arkansas
7 law enforcement agencies, to be completed by January 1, 1992, regarding
8 projected manpower needs over a five-year period.

9 (2) The plan shall include rules and regulations for operation of
10 the Arkansas Police Corps Program and the Arkansas Police Corps Scholarship
11 Program to be promulgated by the commission no later than January 1, 1992.

12 (d) The police corps training plan adopted by the commission shall:

13 (1) Provide for the screening and selection of police corps
14 participants;

15 (2) State procedures for assignment of participants in the
16 Arkansas Police Corps to state, municipal police, and sheriffs_ offices; and

17 (3) Such other rules and regulations as may be necessary to
18 provide for the training of program participants, operation of the program,
19 and administration of the scholarship program.

20 (e) Should the federal government create a national police corps
21 program, the Arkansas Police Corps Planning Commission shall be the entity
22 designated to administer the state's participation in the federal program.

23 (f) *Based on available funding, a minimum of fifty (50) Police Corps*
24 *Scholarships shall be awarded no later than June 30, 1993, for part-time study*
25 *at an approved Arkansas institution of higher education. A minimum of twelve*
26 *(12) credit hours per year must be satisfactorily completed each academic*
27 *year."*

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29 SECTION 2. Arkansas Code Annotated 6-82-1203 is amended to read as
30 follows:

31 "6-82-1203. Number, amount, eligibility, and award of scholarships.

32 (a) (1) The number of scholarships awarded annually under this program
33 cannot exceed the expected number of officers needed by Arkansas police forces
34 or other law enforcement agencies; this number shall be determined from
35 results of the statewide manpower survey required under §6-82-1202.

1 (2) In no case, however, shall the number of new scholarships
2 awarded each year through this program be more than fifty (50). Any
3 *scholarships awarded under this program shall be contingent on the*
4 *availability of sufficient funds from a revenue source dedicated to this*
5 *purpose;*

6 (3) Additionally, the total number of scholarships shall not
7 exceed two hundred and fifty (250) at any one time.

8 (4) Any scholarships awarded under this program shall be
9 contingent on the availability of sufficient funds from a revenue source
10 dedicated to this purpose.

11 (b)(1) Scholarship recipients shall receive a police corps scholarship
12 equal to the lesser of one thousand five hundred fifty dollars (\$1,550) or
13 actual tuition costs.

14 (2) Each non-law enforcement recipient shall be required to
15 successfully complete the Arkansas Law Enforcement Training Academy curriculum
16 for basic certification after completing a course of study which results in
17 receipt of a bachelor's degree.

18 (3) A scholarship recipient who fails to secure a full-time paid
19 position as a police officer or law enforcement officer within one (1) year of
20 graduating from college and from the Arkansas Law Enforcement Training Academy
21 shall repay, with interest, the amount of any scholarship funds received under
22 this subchapter.

23 (4) Recipients of scholarship awards shall also be required to
24 complete one (1) full year of service as a state, municipal, or sheriff_s
25 department law enforcement officer for *every twenty-four (24) hours attempted*
26 *in which* scholarship aid was received under the program. Failure to meet this
27 service obligation shall mean that the scholarship recipient must repay, with
28 interest, the amount of any scholarship funds received under this subchapter.

29 (5) Scholarship recipients shall be selected by the commission.

30 (c) Scholarship awards shall be renewable for up to three (3)
31 additional years of study, provided that recipients meet continuing
32 eligibility criteria established through program rules and regulations.

33 (d) For academic years 1992-93 through 1996-97, eligible recipients
34 shall include *only* current law enforcement officers. Beginning with new
35 scholarships awarded for the 1997-98 academic year, eligibility for

1 scholarships can include applicants who intend to enter the field of law
2 enforcement but are not employed, and have not worked previously, as law
3 enforcement officers in addition to current law enforcement officers.
4 *Further, consideration may be given by the commission to awarding scholarships*
5 *to current law enforcement officers. "*

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7 SECTION 3. All provisions of this act of a general and permanent nature
8 are amendatory to the Arkansas Code of 1987 Annotated and the Arkansas Code
9 Revision Commission shall incorporate the same in the Code.

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11 SECTION 4. If any provision of this act or the application thereof to
12 any person or circumstance is held invalid, such invalidity shall not affect
13 other provisions or applications of the act which can be given effect without
14 the invalid provision or application, and to this end the provisions of this
15 act are declared to be severable.

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17 SECTION 5. All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this act are
18 hereby repealed.

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/s/Edward F. Thicksten, et al

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