

Stricken language would be deleted from and underlined language would be added to the law as it existed prior to this session of the General Assembly.

1 State of Arkansas  
2 84th General Assembly  
3 Regular Session, 2003  
4

# A Bill

HOUSE BILL 1889

5 By: Representative Hathorn  
6  
7

## For An Act To Be Entitled

9 AN ACT TO REVISE THE LICENSING REQUIREMENTS FOR  
10 BAIL BOND AGENTS; TO REVISE THE PROVISIONS  
11 CONCERNING BAIL BOND AGENTS AS SURETIES; TO  
12 PROVIDE FOR THE RIGHT TO AN ATTORNEY, PHYSICIAN,  
13 AND PHONE CALLS WHILE IN JAIL; AND FOR OTHER  
14 PURPOSES.

## Subtitle

15  
16 AN ACT TO REVISE THE PROVISIONS  
17 CONCERNING BAIL BOND AGENTS; AND TO  
18 PROVIDE FOR THE RIGHT TO AN ATTORNEY,  
19 PHYSICIAN, AND PHONE CALLS WHILE IN  
20 JAIL.  
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23

24 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:  
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26 SECTION 1. Arkansas Code § 16-84-103(b), concerning the qualification  
27 as a surety, is amended to read as follows:

28 (b)(1) The person or persons offered as surety shall be examined on  
29 oath in regard to their qualifications as surety, and any officer authorized  
30 to take bail is authorized to administer the oath, reduce the statements on  
31 oath to writing, and require the person offered as surety to sign the  
32 statement. Other proof may also be taken in regard to the sufficiency of the  
33 surety. Prior to submission to the court or magistrate, the statement shall  
34 also be signed by the sheriff or chief of police in the jurisdiction where  
35 the defendant is charged.

36 (2) Proof that the surety is a licensed professional bail



1 bondsman shall be deemed sufficient proof of the sufficiency of the surety  
2 and the surety ~~may~~ shall be accepted by all courts in this state or by any  
3 individual authorized to take bail under the provisions of § 16-84-102.

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5 SECTION 2. Arkansas Code § 16-85-101(a), concerning the right to an  
6 attorney while awaiting trial, is amended to read as follows:

7 (a) While confined to any prison or jail in this state awaiting trial,  
8 no prisoner shall be denied the right to:

9 (1) Consult an attorney of the prisoner's own choosing;

10 (2) Call a physician of the prisoner's own choosing if in need  
11 of one; or

12 (3) Place free telephone calls to a bondsperson if the calls are  
13 local calls.

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15 SECTION 3. Arkansas Code § 17-19-110(a), concerning licensed bail bond  
16 agents, is amended to read as follows:

17 (a) If a licensed bail bond agent has a current license with a current  
18 licensed professional bail bond company, the agent ~~may~~ shall be permitted to  
19 write a bail bond in any county with a current copy of his or her license, if  
20 the agent and the agent's company are in good standing with the courts in the  
21 jurisdiction where the bond is to be posted.