

1 State of Arkansas
2 92nd General Assembly
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4

As Engrossed: S1/30/19

A Bill

SENATE BILL 142

5 By: Senator Teague
6

For An Act To Be Entitled

8 AN ACT TO ALLOW A FOR-PROFIT CORPORATION TO CONVERT
9 TO A NONPROFIT CORPORATION; TO DECLARE AN EMERGENCY;
10 AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.
11

Subtitle

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14 TO ALLOW A FOR-PROFIT CORPORATION TO
15 CONVERT TO A NONPROFIT CORPORATION; AND
16 TO DECLARE AN EMERGENCY.
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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 § 4-27-202, concerning articles of
22 incorporation, is amended to add a new subsection to read as follows:

23 (d)(1) A for-profit corporation may convert to a nonprofit corporation
24 under the Arkansas Nonprofit Corporation Act, §§ 4-28-201 – 4-28-206 and 4-
25 28-209 – 4-28-224, or the Arkansas Nonprofit Corporation Act of 1993, § 4-33-
26 101 et seq., upon the filing of an amendment to the corporation's articles of
27 incorporation under either § 4-28-206 or § 4-33-202.

28 (2) After the filing and conversion have taken place, the
29 converted corporation shall comply with either the Arkansas Nonprofit
30 Corporation Act, §§ 4-28-201 – 4-28-206 and 4-28-209 – 4-28-224, or the
31 Arkansas Nonprofit Corporation Act of 1993, § 4-33-101 et seq.
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33 SECTION 2. Arkansas Code § 4-28-206 is amended to read as follows:
34 4-28-206. Articles of incorporation generally.

35 (a) Any association of persons or for-profit corporation organized
36 under the Arkansas Business Corporation Act of 1987, § 4-27-101 et seq.



1 desirous of becoming incorporated under the provisions of the Arkansas
2 Nonprofit Corporation Act, §§ 4-28-201 – 4-28-206 and 4-28-209 – 4-28-224,
3 shall file with the circuit court of the county in which the main office or
4 principal place of business of the proposed corporation is located or
5 proposed to be located signed and verified articles of incorporation, which
6 shall set forth the following:

7 (1) The name of the corporation;

8 (2) The period of duration, which may be perpetual;

9 (3) The purposes for which the corporation is organized;

10 (4) Any provisions, not inconsistent with law, which the
11 incorporators elect to set forth in the articles of incorporation for the
12 regulation of the internal affairs of the corporation, including any
13 provision for distribution of assets on dissolution or final liquidation;

14 (5) The address of its main office or principal place of
15 business, and the name of its registered agent at that address;

16 (6) The number of directors constituting the initial board of
17 directors and the names and addresses of the persons who are to serve as the
18 initial directors; ~~and~~

19 (7) The name and address of each incorporator;

20 (8) A statement that the corporation:

21 (A) Is a nonprofit corporation; and

22 (B) Has converted under the Arkansas Nonprofit Corporation
23 Act, §§ 4-28-201 – 4-28-206 and 4-28-209 – 4-28-224; and

24 (9)(A) A description of the treatment of shares of stock.

25 (B) The description of the treatment of shares of stock:

26 (i) may provide for the exchange of shares of stock
27 for certificates of membership if the corporation has members; or

28 (ii) shall provide that the shares of stock be
29 canceled by the board of directors if the corporation does not have members.

30 (b) If the circuit court finds that the articles of incorporation
31 conform to law and that the incorporation is for a lawful purpose and is in
32 the best interests of the public, the court may issue an order approving the
33 incorporation of the proposed association of persons.

34 (c) If the court approves the incorporation, the articles of
35 incorporation in duplicate, signed and verified, and a copy of the order of
36 the court approving the incorporation shall be transmitted to the Secretary

1 of State, who shall, when all fees have been paid as prescribed in the
2 Arkansas Nonprofit Corporation Act, §§ 4-28-201 – 4-28-206 and 4-28-209 – 4-
3 28-224:

4 (1) ~~File~~ file the original of the articles in his or her office;
5 and

6 (2) ~~Issue~~ issue a certificate of incorporation to which he or
7 she shall affix the other copy of the articles endorsed with the word “Filed”
8 and the month, day, and year of the filing and return the certificate of
9 incorporation to the incorporators or their representative.

10 (d) A corporation may amend its articles of incorporation from time to
11 time, provided that the amendments are lawful under the Arkansas Nonprofit
12 Corporation Act, §§ 4-28-201 – 4-28-206 and 4-28-209 – 4-28-224. A copy of
13 all amendments shall be filed with the Secretary of State within thirty (30)
14 days after their passage.

15 (e)(1) A for-profit corporation may convert to a nonprofit corporation
16 under the Arkansas Nonprofit Corporation Act, §§ 4-28-201 – 4-28-206 and 4-
17 28-209 – 4-28-224, or the Arkansas Nonprofit Corporation Act of 1993, § 4-33-
18 101 et seq., upon the filing of an amendment to the corporation’s articles of
19 incorporation with the information required under this section.

20 (2) If an entity is a for-profit corporation that is converting
21 to a nonprofit corporation, the conversion shall be approved by a three-
22 fourths (3/4) vote of the shareholders of the business corporation.

23 (f) A conversion to a nonprofit corporation under this chapter is
24 effective when an amendment to the articles of incorporation is filed with
25 the Secretary of State and the Secretary of State has collected the filing
26 fees, service fees, and copying fees required under § 4-33-122.

27 (g) A conversion to a nonprofit corporation under this chapter is not
28 a dissolution.

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30 SECTION 3. Arkansas Code § 4-33-202(a), concerning articles of
31 incorporation, is amended to read as follows:

32 (a) The articles of incorporation must set forth:

33 (1) a corporate name for the corporation that satisfies the
34 requirements of § 4-33-401;

35 (2) one (1) of the following statements:

36 (i) this corporation is a public benefit corporation;

1 (ii) this corporation is a mutual benefit corporation; or
2 (iii) this corporation is a religious corporation.

3 (3) the information required by § 4-20-105(a);
4 (4) the name and address of each incorporator;
5 (5) whether or not the corporation will have members; ~~and~~
6 (6) provisions not inconsistent with law regarding the
7 distribution of assets on dissolution;

8 (7) If converting to a nonprofit corporation from another form
9 of entity, then the articles of incorporation shall include:

10 (A) A statement that the corporation:
11 (i) is a nonprofit corporation; and
12 (ii) has converted under the Arkansas Nonprofit
13 Corporation Act of 1993, § 4-33-101 et seq;

14 (B)(i) A description of the treatment of shares of stock.
15 (ii) The description of the treatment of shares of
16 stock:

17 (a) may provide for the repurchase or exchange
18 of shares of stock for certificates of membership if the corporation has
19 members, and if the shares are repurchased, then the nonprofit corporation
20 shall cancel the shares; or

21 (b) shall provide that the shares of stock be
22 canceled by the board of directors if the corporation does not have members;
23 and

24 (C) A statement that the Internal Revenue Service has been
25 notified or will be notified within a reasonable time of the conversion and
26 federal regulations were followed regarding the conversion.

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28 SECTION 4. Arkansas Code § 4-33-202(c), concerning articles of
29 incorporation, is amended to read as follows:

30 (c)(1) Each incorporator named in the articles must sign the articles.

31 (2) If an entity is a for-profit corporation that is converting
32 to a nonprofit corporation, the conversion shall be approved by a three-
33 fourths (3/4) vote of the shareholders of the business corporation.

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35 SECTION 5. Arkansas Code § 4-33-202, concerning articles of
36 incorporation, is amended to add additional subsections to read as follows:

