

1 State of Arkansas
2 90th General Assembly
3 Regular Session, 2015
4

A Bill

SENATE BILL 202

5 By: Senator Hester
6 By: Representative Ballinger
7

For An Act To Be Entitled

9 AN ACT TO AMEND THE LAW CONCERNING ORDINANCES OF
10 CITIES AND COUNTIES BY CREATING THE INTRASTATE
11 COMMERCE IMPROVEMENT ACT; TO DECLARE AN EMERGENCY;
12 AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.
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Subtitle

15 TO AMEND THE LAW CONCERNING ORDINANCES OF
16 CITIES AND COUNTIES BY CREATING THE
17 INTRASTATE COMMERCE IMPROVEMENT ACT AND
18 TO DECLARE AN EMERGENCY.
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22 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:
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24 SECTION 1. Arkansas Code Title 14, Chapter 1, is amended to add an
25 additional subchapter to read as follows:
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Subchapter 4 – Intrastate Commerce Improvement Act

14-1-401. Title.

29 This subchapter shall be known and may be cited as the "Intrastate
30 Commerce Improvement Act".
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14-1-402. Purpose – Finding.

33 (a) The purpose of this subchapter is to improve intrastate commerce
34 by ensuring that businesses, organizations, and employers doing business in
35 the state are subject to uniform nondiscrimination laws and obligations,
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1 regardless of the counties, municipalities, or other political subdivisions
2 in which the businesses, organizations, and employers are located or engage
3 in business or commercial activity.

4 (b) The General Assembly finds that uniformity of law benefits the
5 businesses, organizations, and employers seeking to do business in the state
6 and attracts new businesses, organizations, and employers to the state.

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8 14-1-403. Prohibited conduct.

9 (a) A county, municipality, or other political subdivision of the
10 state shall not adopt or enforce an ordinance, resolution, rule, or policy
11 that creates a protected classification or prohibits discrimination on a
12 basis not contained in state law.

13 (b) This section does not apply to a rule or policy that pertains only
14 to the employees of a county, municipality, or other political subdivision.

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16 SECTION 2. EMERGENCY CLAUSE. It is found and determined by the
17 General Assembly of the State of Arkansas that there are seventy-five (75)
18 counties and five hundred (500) cities and towns in the state; that each
19 county, city, and town can create its own local system for dealing with
20 discrimination; and that this act is immediately necessary to create
21 uniformity regarding discrimination laws across the state. Therefore, an
22 emergency is declared to exist, and this act being immediately necessary for
23 the preservation of the public peace, health, and safety shall become
24 effective on:

25 (1) The date of its approval by the Governor;

26 (2) If the bill is neither approved nor vetoed by the Governor,
27 the expiration of the period of time during which the Governor may veto the
28 bill; or

29 (3) If the bill is vetoed by the Governor and the veto is
30 overridden, the date the last house overrides the veto.

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