

1 State of Arkansas  
2 92nd General Assembly  
3 Regular Session, 2019  
4

*As Engrossed: S2/12/19*  
**A Bill**

HOUSE BILL 1365

5 By: Representatives M. Gray, Speaks  
6 By: Senator Irvin  
7

**For An Act To Be Entitled**

9 AN ACT TO ENSURE THAT LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS AND  
10 PERSONNEL ARE PROTECTED FROM LIFE-THREATENING  
11 DISEASES; TO AMEND THE HIV SHIELD LAW TO INCLUDE  
12 PROTECTION FOR LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS AND PERSONNEL  
13 AND EMERGENCY RESPONSE WORKERS; AND FOR OTHER  
14 PURPOSES.  
15  
16

**Subtitle**

18 TO ENSURE THAT LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS  
19 AND PERSONNEL ARE PROTECTED FROM LIFE-  
20 THREATENING DISEASES; TO AMEND THE HIV  
21 SHIELD LAW TO INCLUDE PROTECTION FOR LAW  
22 ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS AND PERSONNEL AND  
23 EMERGENCY RESPONSE WORKERS.  
24  
25

26 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:  
27

28 SECTION 1. Arkansas Code § 20-13-1501(2), concerning the definition of  
29 "emergency response worker" concerning protection from life-threatening  
30 diseases, is amended to read as follows:

31 (2) "Emergency response worker" means:

- 32 (A) Paramedics;
- 33 (B) Emergency response employees;
- 34 (C) Firefighters;
- 35 (D) First response workers;
- 36 (E) Emergency medical technicians;



1 (F) Emergency medical services personnel;  
 2 (G) Volunteers making an authorized emergency response;  
 3 ~~and~~  
 4 (H) Law enforcement officers and personnel; and  
 5 ~~(H)-(I)~~ A person rendering services as a “Good Samaritan”  
 6 under the “Good Samaritan” law, § 17-95-101;  
 7

8 SECTION 2. Arkansas Code § 20-13-1502(a)(1), concerning testing of  
 9 possible exposure of emergency response workers to airborne or blood-borne  
 10 diseases, is amended to read as follows:

11 (a)(1) Consent is not required for a healthcare provider or healthcare  
 12 facility to test an individual for an airborne or blood-borne disease when a  
 13 healthcare provider, ~~or~~ an employee of a healthcare facility, or emergency  
 14 response worker has a type of contact with an individual that may transmit an  
 15 airborne or blood-borne disease, as determined by a physician in his or her  
 16 medical judgment.  
 17

18 SECTION 3. Arkansas Code § 20-15-905(a) and (b), concerning the  
 19 definitions and testing under the HIV Shield Law, are amended to read as  
 20 follows:

21 (a) As used in this section:

22 (1) "Affected individual" means a healthcare provider, employee  
 23 of a health facility, or emergency response worker who is involved in a  
 24 direct skin or mucous membrane contact with the blood or bodily fluids of  
 25 another individual;

26 (2) "Emergency response worker" means:

27 (A) Paramedics;  
 28 (B) Emergency response employees;  
 29 (C) Firefighters;  
 30 (D) First response workers;  
 31 (E) Emergency medical technicians;  
 32 (F) Emergency medical services personnel;  
 33 (G) Volunteers making an authorized emergency response;  
 34 (H) Law enforcement officers and personnel; and  
 35 (I) A person rendering services as a “Good Samaritan”  
 36 under the “Good Samaritan” law, § 17-95-101;

