

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.

Act 1490 of the Regular Session

1 State of Arkansas
2 87th General Assembly
3 Regular Session, 2009

As Engrossed: S3/30/09 S4/3/09

A Bill

SENATE BILL 985

4
5 By: Senator Elliott
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For An Act To Be Entitled

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9 *AN ACT TO PROVIDE APPOINTMENT RECOMMENDATIONS FOR*
10 *ARKANSAS STATE BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS THAT*
11 *LICENSE HEALTH PROFESSIONS TO ENSURE THAT STATE*
12 *HEALTH-RELATED AGENCIES, BOARDS, AND COMMISSIONS*
13 *ARE COMPOSED TO REFLECT THE DIVERSITY OF THE*
14 *STATE OF ARKANSAS; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.*

Subtitle

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17 *TO PROVIDE THAT EACH STATE HEALTH-*
18 *RELATED AGENCY, BOARD, AND COMMISSION*
19 *REFLECTS THE DIVERSITY OF THE STATE.*

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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 20, Chapter 1 is amended to add an*
25 *additional subchapter to read as follows:*

26 *20-1-101. Purposes.*

27 *The purposes of this subchapter are to:*

28 *(1) Provide appointment recommendations for Arkansas state*
29 *boards and commissions that license or otherwise regulate health-related*
30 *professions to ensure board and commission compositions that reflect the*
31 *diversity of the State of Arkansas; and*

32 *(2) Ensure that cultural competency, health disparities, and*
33 *other minority health issues are adequately represented in the health policy*
34 *decisions determined by state health-related agencies, boards and commissions*
35 *for the State of Arkansas.*



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2 20-1-102. Minority members of state health-related agencies, boards,
3 and commissions.

4 (a) The appointing authorities for state health-related agencies,
5 boards, and commissions shall consider appointment recommendations submitted
6 by minority health-related professional associations.

7 (b) The recommending organizations under this section include without
8 limitation:

9 (1) The Arkansas Medical, Dental and Pharmaceutical Association;

10 (2) The Arkansas Metro Association of Black Social Workers;

11 (3) The Arkansas Black Nurses Association;

12 (4) The National Association of Hispanic Nurses, Arkansas

13 Chapter;

14 (5) The National Pharmacists Association of Arkansas; and

15 (6) The Arkansas State Board of Nursing.

16 (c) Recommendations for appointments under this section shall:

17 (1) Be submitted to the appointing authorities at least thirty
18 (30) days before the expiration of a position in a state health-related
19 agency, board, or commission relevant to the field or practice of the
20 recommending body;

21 (2) Be submitted to the appointing authorities anytime before
22 the appointing authority fills a position that has opened due to resignation
23 or removal before the end of the originally appointed term;

24 (3) Be submitted by an officially designated officer or
25 committee on behalf of the recommending organization; and

26 (4) Include correspondence on official organizational letterhead
27 and the resume or curriculum vitae of a recommended candidate.

28 (d) If a recommendation for appointment under subsection (b) of this
29 section is not received within the time allotted for the appointment, the
30 appointing authority may make the appointment without a recommendation.

31 (e) The health-related agencies, boards, and commissions for which
32 recommendations may be considered under this section include:

33 (1) The Arkansas Board of Podiatric Medicine;

34 (2) The Arkansas Psychology Board;

35 (3) The Arkansas Social Work Licensing Board;

36 (4) The Arkansas State Board of Dental Examiners;

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(5) The Arkansas State Medical Board;

(6) The Arkansas State Board of Pharmacy;

(7) The Board of Examiners in Speech-Language Pathology and
Audiology; and

(8) The State Board of Optometry.

(f) This section does not change or affect any existing delineations
for minority appointments.

/s/ Elliott

APPROVED: 4/10/2009