

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 975 of the Regular Session**

1 State of Arkansas  
2 87th General Assembly  
3 Regular Session, 2009  
4

# A Bill

HOUSE BILL 1558

5 By: Representative Reep  
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7

## For An Act To Be Entitled

8  
9 AN ACT TO PROVIDE THAT THE BUREAU OF LEGISLATIVE  
10 RESEARCH SHALL AVOID ALL REFERENCES TO  
11 INDIVIDUALS WITH MENTAL RETARDATION; AND FOR  
12 OTHER PURPOSES.  
13

## Subtitle

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15 TO PROVIDE THAT THE BUREAU OF  
16 LEGISLATIVE RESEARCH SHALL AVOID ALL  
17 REFERENCES TO INDIVIDUALS WITH MENTAL  
18 RETARDATION.  
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21 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:  
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23 SECTION 1. Arkansas Code § 1-2-124, concerning respectful language for  
24 persons with disabilities, is amended to read as follows:

25 (b)(1) In any bill or resolution, the Bureau of Legislative Research  
26 shall avoid all references to:

- 27 (A) "Disabled";
- 28 (B) "Developmentally disabled";
- 29 (C) "Mentally disabled";
- 30 (D) "Mentally ill";
- 31 (E) "Mentally retarded";
- 32 (F) "Handicapped";
- 33 (G) "Cripple"; and
- 34 (H) "Crippled".

35 (2) The Arkansas Code Revision Commission shall change such



1 references in any existing statute or resolution as sections including these  
2 references are republished or otherwise amended by law.

3 (3) The Bureau of Legislative Research and the Arkansas Code  
4 Revision Commission shall replace the inappropriate terms in subdivision  
5 (b)(1) of this section with the following terms:

- 6 (A) "Individuals with disabilities";
- 7 (B) "Individuals with developmental disabilities";
- 8 (C) "Individuals with mental illness";
- 9 ~~(D) "Individuals with mental retardation";~~ and
- 10 ~~(E)~~(D) "Individuals with intellectual disabilities".

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12 **APPROVED: 4/7/2009**

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