State of Arkansas  
91st General Assembly  
Regular Session, 2017  

A Bill  
HOUSE BILL 1273  

By: Representative Hammer  
By: Senator Rapert  

For An Act To Be Entitled  

AN ACT TO REQUIRE AN ACT BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY TO  
AUTHORIZE THE CONSTRUCTION OR REMOVAL OF A MONUMENT  
ON STATE CAPITOL GROUNDS BEFORE THE MONUMENT CAN BE  
CONSIDERED BY THE CAPITOL ARTS AND GROUNDS  
COMMISSION; TO DECLARE AND EMERGENCY; AND FOR OTHER  
PURPOSES.  

Subtitle  

TO REQUIRE AN ACT BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY  
TO AUTHORIZE THE CONSTRUCTION OR REMOVAL  
OF A MONUMENT ON STATE CAPITOL GROUNDS;  
AND TO DECLARE AN EMERGENCY.  

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

SECTION 1. Arkansas Code § 22-3-503(c), concerning the powers and  
duties of the Capitol Arts and Grounds Commission, is amended to read as  
follows:  

(c)(1) Any monument on the State Capitol grounds approved by the  
commission must be authorized by an act of the General Assembly. A monument  
shall not be constructed on or removed from the State Capitol grounds unless  
authorized by an act of the General Assembly.  

(2) The commission shall not consider the construction of a  
monument on the State Capitol grounds or the removal of a monument from the  
State Capitol grounds without legislative authorization under subdivision  
(c)(1) of this section.
SECTION 2. EMERGENCY CLAUSE. It is found and determined by the General Assembly of the State of Arkansas that legislative oversight should be provided for the construction of a monument on State Capitol grounds or the removal of a monument from the State Capitol grounds; that legislative oversight is currently only provided after a monument’s construction or removal is approved by the Capitol Arts and Grounds Commission; and that this act is immediately necessary because it ensures that the General Assembly have proper oversight of monuments on State Capitol grounds. Therefore, an emergency is declared to exist, and this act being immediately necessary for the preservation of the public peace, health, and safety shall become effective on:

(1) The date of its approval by the Governor;
(2) If the bill is neither approved nor vetoed by the Governor, the expiration of the period of time during which the Governor may veto the bill; or
(3) If the bill is vetoed by the Governor and the veto is overridden, the date the last house overrides the veto.

APPROVED: 02/22/2017