For An Act To Be Entitled
AN ACT CONCERNING THE AWARD OF A SERVICE WEAPON UPON
THE RETIREMENT OR DEATH OF AN EMPLOYEE OF THE
DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTION TO THE EMPLOYEE’S SURVIVING
CHILD; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

Subtitle
CONCERNING THE AWARD OF A SERVICE WEAPON
UPON THE RETIREMENT OR DEATH OF AN
EMPLOYEE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTION
TO THE EMPLOYEE’S SURVIVING CHILD.

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

SECTION 1. Arkansas Code § 12-27-143 is amended to read as follows:
12-27-143. Award of service weapon upon retirement or death.
When a Department of Correction employee retires from service with at least twenty (20) years of service or dies while still employed with the department, in recognition of and appreciation for the service of the retiring or deceased employee, the Director of the Department of Correction may award the service weapon carried by the employee at the time of his or her retirement from service or death to:
(1) The employee; or
(2) The employee’s spouse if the spouse is eligible under applicable state and federal laws to possess a firearm; or
"(3)(A) The surviving child of the employee if there is no surviving spouse and the surviving child is eligible under applicable state
and federal laws to possess a firearm.

(B)(i) If there is more than one (1) surviving child of
the employee, the service weapon may be awarded to the oldest surviving child
if he or she is eligible under applicable state and federal laws to possess a
firearm.

(ii) If the oldest of the surviving children is not
eligible to possess a firearm under applicable state and federal laws, then
the service weapon may be awarded to the next-oldest surviving child if he or
she is eligible to possess a firearm under applicable state and federal laws.

/s/D. Wallace

APPROVED: 2/13/19