

*As Engrossed: 2/5/91*

1 **State of Arkansas**  
2 **78th General Assembly**  
3 **Regular Session, 1991**

**A BILL ACT 309 OF 1991**  
**HOUSE BILL 1515**

4 **By: Representatives Shaver, Jones, Foster and Blair**

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**For An Act To Be Entitled**

8 "AN ACT TO AMEND ARKANSAS CODE 12-29-202; AND FOR OTHER  
9 PURPOSES."

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

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13 *SECTION 1. Arkansas Code 12-29-202 is hereby amended to read as*  
14 *follows:*

15 *"12-29-202. Classification committee - Classifications - Award of*  
16 *additional good time.*

17 *(a) There is established a classification committee to be defined by*  
18 *administrative regulations approved by the Board of Correction.*

19 *(b) Members of the committee will be selected by wardens or supervisors*  
20 *of the various units or centers of the department per the current department*  
21 *regulation governing their selection and approved by the director.*

22 *(c) This committee shall meet as often as necessary to classify the*  
23 *inmates into four (4) classes according to behavior, good discipline, medical*  
24 *condition, and job responsibility.*

25 *(d) (1) Inmates in Class I shall be allowed to earn thirty (30) days*  
26 *reduction for each month served in the Department of Correction;*

27 *(2) Those in Class II shall be allowed to earn twenty (20) days*  
28 *reduction for each month served in the Department of Correction;*

29 *(3) Those in Class III shall be allowed to earn eight (8) days for each*  
30 *month served in the Department of Correction;*

31 *(4) Those in Class IV shall not be entitled to earn meritorious good*  
32 *time.*

33 *(e) Inmates may be reclassified as often as the committee deems*  
34 *necessary and/or in accordance with current department regulations to carry*  
35 *out the purpose of this subchapter and to maintain good discipline, order, and*  
36 *efficiency at the institutions.*

1           (f) Upon recommendation of the classification committee, the director  
2 may recommend to the Board of Correction additional days of meritorious good  
3 time awards for completion of rehabilitative programs, special jobs performed,  
4 and/or as a result of heroic acts or other exceptional circumstances. The  
5 Board of Correction shall give special consideration in awarding such good  
6 time to inmate participation in education programs offered by the Department  
7 of Correction. These awards will be given as defined by administrative  
8 regulation approved by the Board of Correction.

9           (g) (1) Any person who is awaiting disposition of charges or who is  
10 sentenced by a circuit court to the Department of Correction and is awaiting  
11 transfer to the Department of Correction may be awarded additional meritorious  
12 good time upon their arrival at the Department of Correction for the  
13 successful completion of a Graduate Equivalent Degree (G.E.D.), successful  
14 completion of a substance-abuse treatment program, successful completion of a  
15 vocational-technical program or course, or successful completion of college  
16 courses, provided the program or course has been approved and certified by the  
17 Board of Correction.

18           (2) The meritorious good time awarded pursuant to this subsection shall  
19 be at the same rate as prescribed for similar programs under the guidelines  
20 established by the Board of Correction.

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22           SECTION 2. CODE. All provisions of this Act of a general and permanent  
23 nature are amendatory to the Arkansas Code of 1987 Annotated and the Arkansas  
24 Code Revision Commission shall incorporate the same in the Code.

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26           SECTION 3. SEVERABILITY. If any provision of this Act or the  
27 application thereof to any person or circumstance is held invalid, such  
28 invalidity shall not affect other provisions or applications of the Act which  
29 can be given effect without the invalid provision or application, and to this  
30 end the provisions of this Act are declared to be severable.

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32           SECTION 4. GENERAL REPEALER. All laws and parts of laws in conflict  
33 with this Act are hereby repealed.

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35           SECTION 5. EMERGENCY. It is hereby found and determined by the General

1 Assembly that rewards for rehabilitation are important tools and that this Act  
2 provides such rewards and should be given immediate effect. Therefore, an  
3 immediate preservation of the public peace, health and safety shall be in full  
4 force and effect from and after its passage and approval.

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*/s/J. L. Shaver, et al*

APPROVED: 3-1-91