

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 515 of the Regular Session

1 State of Arkansas
2 86th General Assembly
3 Regular Session, 2007
4

A Bill

SENATE BILL 704

5 By: Senator Steele
6
7

For An Act To Be Entitled

9 AN ACT REQUIRING USE OF RESPECTFUL LANGUAGE IN
10 THE ARKANSAS CODE REGARDING PERSONS WITH
11 DISABILITIES; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.
12

Subtitle

13 AN ACT REQUIRING USE OF RESPECTFUL
14 LANGUAGE IN THE ARKANSAS CODE REGARDING
15 INDIVIDUALS WITH DISABILITIES.
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19 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:
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21 SECTION 1. Arkansas Code Title 1, Chapter 2, Subchapter 1 is amended to
22 add an additional section to read as follows:

23 1-2-124. Respectful language – Disabilities.

24 (a)(1) The General Assembly recognizes that language used in reference
25 to individuals with disabilities shapes and reflects society's attitudes
26 towards people with disabilities. Many of the terms currently used demean the
27 humanity and natural condition of having a disability. Certain terms are
28 demeaning and create an invisible barrier to inclusion as equal community
29 members.

30 (2) The General Assembly finds it necessary to clarify preferred
31 language for new and revised laws by requiring the use of terminology that
32 puts the person before the disability.

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

35 (A) "Disabled";



1 veto.

APPROVED: 3/28/2007