

1 State of Arkansas  
2 90th General Assembly  
3 Regular Session, 2015  
4

# A Bill

HOUSE BILL 1643

5 By: Representative Womack  
6 By: Senator Hester  
7

## For An Act To Be Entitled

9 AN ACT TO AMEND ARKANSAS LAW CONCERNING THE  
10 ADMINISTRATION OF OATHS IN LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEES;  
11 AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.  
12  
13

## Subtitle

15 TO AMEND ARKANSAS LAW CONCERNING THE  
16 ADMINISTRATION OF OATHS IN LEGISLATIVE  
17 COMMITTEES.  
18  
19

20 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:  
21

22 SECTION 1. Arkansas Code § 10-2-306 is amended to read as follows:

23 10-2-306. Administration of oaths by committee – Depositions –  
24 Perjury.

25 (a) The chair or a member at any time acting as chair of a committee  
26 or subcommittee of either house of the General Assembly or joint committee or  
27 subcommittee of the two (2) houses of the General Assembly, or his or her  
28 designee, ~~when the committee is empowered to issue subpoenas for persons,~~  
29 ~~papers, or records,~~ shall be fully empowered to administer oaths.

30 (b) ~~and~~ The chair or a member at any time acting as chair of a  
31 committee of either house of the General Assembly or joint committee of the  
32 two (2) houses of the General Assembly, or his or her designee, when the  
33 committee is empowered to issue subpoenas for persons, papers, or records,  
34 shall be fully empowered to take depositions for the purpose for which the  
35 committee or joint committee is empowered to issue subpoenas for persons,  
36 papers, or records.



1           ~~(b)(1)(c)(1)~~ If a person subpoenaed to appear before the Senate, the  
2 House of Representatives, or a ~~Senate or House committee or joint interim~~  
3 ~~committee~~ committee of either house of the General Assembly or joint  
4 committee of the two (2) houses of the General Assembly fails to appear or  
5 produce subpoenaed material, the fact of the refusal to appear or produce  
6 subpoenaed material shall be certified to the circuit court of the county in  
7 which the hearing is held.

8           (2) The circuit court shall punish the person for contempt of  
9 the General Assembly under subdivision ~~(b)(1)(c)(1)~~ of this section in the  
10 same manner as punishment for contempt is imposed for failure to respond to a  
11 subpoena or directive of the circuit court.

12           ~~(e)(d)~~ A person who is administered the oath and who provides false  
13 testimony while under oath is guilty of perjury and subject to the penalties  
14 prescribed by law.

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16           SECTION 2. Arkansas Code § 10-2-307 is amended to read as follows:  
17           10-2-307. Subpoena by committee.

18           ~~The committee so empowered~~ A committee of either house of the General  
19 Assembly or a joint committee of the two (2) houses of the General Assembly  
20 may issue ~~its~~ a subpoena signed by its chair or acting chair for the  
21 attendance of witnesses and the production of papers or records, and the  
22 subpoena may be served by any officer authorized to serve process in civil  
23 cases.