

1 State of Arkansas
2 93rd General Assembly
3 Regular Session, 2021
4

A Bill

HOUSE BILL 1333

5 By: Representatives Penzo, Slape, Lundstrum
6

For An Act To Be Entitled

8 AN ACT PERMITTING NONIMMGRANTS LEGALLY ADMITTED TO
9 THE UNITED STATES UNDER A COMPACT OF FREE ASSOCIATION
10 TO BE A CERTIFIED LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICER; TO BE
11 KNOWN AS THE "MARSHALLESE LAW ENFORCEMENT ACT"; AND
12 FOR OTHER PURPOSES.
13
14

Subtitle

15 PERMITTING NONIMMGRANTS LEGALLY ADMITTED
16 TO THE UNITED STATES UNDER A COMPACT OF
17 FREE ASSOCIATION TO BE A CERTIFIED LAW
18 ENFORCEMENT OFFICER; AND TO BE KNOWN AS
19 THE "MARSHALLESE LAW ENFORCEMENT ACT".
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23 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:
24

25 SECTION 1. DO NOT CODIFY. Title.

26 This act shall be known and may be cited as the "Marshallese Law
27 Enforcement Act".
28

29 SECTION 2. Arkansas Code § 12-8-202(a), concerning the qualifications
30 to be a police officer of the Division of Arkansas State Police, is amended
31 to read as follows:

32 (a)(1)(A) All applicants for positions as police officers of the
33 ~~Department~~ Division of Arkansas State Police shall be citizens of the United
34 States or nonimmigrants legally admitted to the United States under a Compact
35 of Free Association.

36 (B) However, the applicants must become citizens of the



1 State of Arkansas in order to commence employment.

2 (2) Any applicant shall be employed strictly upon an efficiency
3 basis irrespective of race, gender, religion, or political affiliation.

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5 SECTION 3. Arkansas Code Title 12, Chapter 9, Subchapter 1, is amended
6 to add an additional section to read as follows:

7 12-9-124. Certified officer required to be citizen or nonimmigrant
8 legally admitted to the United States under Compact of Free Association.

9 A person is ineligible to be a certified law enforcement officer if the
10 person is not:

11 (1) A citizen of the United States; or

12 (2) A nonimmigrant legally admitted to the United States under a
13 Compact of Free Association entered into on or before January 1, 2021.

14
15 SECTION 4. Arkansas Code § 12-9-304(j), concerning the qualifications
16 to become an auxiliary law enforcement officer, is amended to read as
17 follows:

18 (j) Every person appointed or serving as an auxiliary law enforcement
19 officer shall be ~~a citizen of the United States and shall be~~ at least twenty-
20 one (21) years of age.