

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

A Bill

HOUSE BILL 1948

5 By: Representative Boyd
6

For An Act To Be Entitled

8 AN ACT CONCERNING THE ARKANSAS PUBLIC DEFENDER
9 COMMISSION; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

Subtitle

12 CONCERNING THE ARKANSAS PUBLIC DEFENDER
13 COMMISSION.
14

15
16
17 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:
18

19 SECTION 1. Arkansas Code § 16-87-202 is amended to read as follows:
20 16-87-202. Arkansas Public Defender Commission — ~~Fund created.~~

21 (a) There is hereby created the Arkansas Public Defender Commission.

22 (b)(1) The commission shall be composed of seven (7) members appointed
23 by the Governor for five-year terms.

24 (2) At least four (4) members of the commission shall be
25 attorneys who are licensed to practice law in the State of Arkansas and
26 experienced in the defense of persons accused of crimes.

27 (3) At least one (1) member of the commission shall be a ~~county~~
28 ~~judge, and at least one (1) member shall be a~~ trial judge who hears criminal
29 cases.

30 (4) ~~No more than two (2) members of the commission shall be~~
31 ~~residents of the same~~ There shall be appointed at least one (1) member from
32 each congressional district, and no two (2) members of the commission shall
33 be residents of the same county.

34 (5) A commission member shall be eligible for reappointment and
35 shall continue in office until a successor is appointed and qualified.

36 (6) The Governor shall designate one (1) commission member to



1 serve as chair.

2 (c)(1) The commission shall meet at least once each quarter upon the
3 call of the chair.

4 (2) Commission members shall serve without compensation but may
5 receive expense reimbursement in accordance with § 25-16-901 et seq.

6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25
26
27
28
29
30
31
32
33
34
35
36