

1 State of Arkansas  
2 89th General Assembly  
3 Regular Session, 2013  
4

As Engrossed: S3/13/13  
**A Bill**

HOUSE BILL 1517

5 By: Representative Hammer  
6 By: Senator J. English  
7

### 8 For An Act To Be Entitled

9 AN ACT TO EXTEND VETERANS PREFERENCE IN HIRING TO  
10 SCHOOL DISTRICTS; TO CLARIFY THE VETERANS PREFERENCE  
11 LAW; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.  
12  
13

### 14 Subtitle

15 TO EXTEND VETERANS PREFERENCE IN HIRING  
16 TO SCHOOL DISTRICTS AND CLARIFY THE  
17 VETERANS PREFERENCE LAW.  
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19

20 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:  
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22 SECTION 1. Arkansas Code § 21-3-302(c), concerning veterans  
23 preference, is amended to read as follows:

24 (c) ~~In every department or~~ A state agency ~~of state government or~~  
25 institution of higher education ~~with employee positions~~ subject to the  
26 Uniform Classification and Compensation Act, § 21-5-201 et seq., or a school  
27 district as defined under § 6-20-1903, shall provide a veterans preference in  
28 interviewing and hiring to an applicant if the applicant:

29 (1) Indicates on the employment application that he or she is:

30 (A) a A veteran; who voluntarily submits official proof of  
31 ~~his or her status as a veteran,~~

32 (B) A disabled veteran; or

33 (C) a The surviving spouse of a deceased veteran who  
34 ~~remains is~~ unmarried at the time the preference is sought of application for  
35 employment and remains unmarried until the decision to hire is made; and who  
36 ~~is a citizen and resident of this state shall be entitled to employment~~



1 ~~preference in a position over other applicants after meeting substantially~~  
2 ~~equal qualifications.~~

3 (2) Is a citizen and resident of this state; and

4 (3) Meets substantially equal qualifications of other  
5 applicants.

6  
7 SECTION 2. Arkansas Code § 21-3-302(h), concerning veterans  
8 preference, is amended to read as follows:

9 (h) ~~Nothing in this~~ This section shall does not be construed to apply  
10 to the position of elective an elected official or political appointees  
11 appointee in: any department,

12 (1) A state agency, or institution of higher education subject  
13 to the Uniform Classification and Compensation Act, § 21-5-201 et seq.;

14 (2) A school district as defined under § 6-20-1903; or

15 (3) to any The administrative assistant or secretary of an  
16 elected official or political appointee person holding a strictly  
17 confidential administrative or secretarial position in relation to the  
18 appointing officer.

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20 SECTION 3. Arkansas Code § 21-3-303(b), concerning failure to hire a  
21 disabled veteran, is amended to read as follows:

22 (b) The written reason shall become a part of the employment  
23 application records of the department, state agency, or institution of higher  
24 education subject to the Uniform Classification and Compensation Act, § 21-5-  
25 201 et seq., or a school district as defined under § 6-20-1903, and be  
26 retained for the same period of time as all other employment applications as  
27 established by law or agency policy.

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29 */s/Hammer*

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32 **APPROVED: 03/19/2013**