

1 State of Arkansas
2 94th General Assembly
3 Regular Session, 2023
4

As Engrossed: H3/15/23

A Bill

HOUSE BILL 1496

5 By: Representatives Hawk, Evans, Jean, *McCullough*
6 By: Senator Crowell
7

For An Act To Be Entitled

9 AN ACT TO AMEND THE LAW CONCERNING ABUSE OF AN
10 ATHLETIC CONTEST OFFICIAL; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

Subtitle

14 TO AMEND THE LAW CONCERNING ABUSE OF AN
15 ATHLETIC CONTEST OFFICIAL.
16
17

18 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:
19

20 SECTION 1. Arkansas Code § 5-13-209 is amended to read as follows:
21 5-13-209. Abuse of athletic contest officials.

22 (a) A person commits abuse of an athletic official if, ~~with the~~
23 ~~purpose of causing physical injury to another person, the person strikes or~~
24 ~~otherwise physically abuses an athletic contest official~~ immediately prior
25 to, during, or immediately following an interscholastic, intercollegiate, or
26 any other organized amateur or professional athletic contest in which ~~the~~ an
27 athletic contest official is participating, the person:

28 (1) With the purpose of causing serious physical injury to an
29 athletic contest official, causes serious physical injury to an athletic
30 contest official;

31 (2) With the purpose of causing physical injury to an athletic
32 contest official, causes serious physical injury to an athletic contest
33 official;

34 (3) With the purpose of causing physical injury to an athletic
35 contest official, causes physical injury to an athletic contest official; or

36 (4) Purposely creates apprehension of imminent physical injury



1 in an athletic contest official.

2 (b) Abuse of an athletic contest official is a:

3 1) Class A ~~misdemeanor~~, B felony under subdivision (a)(1) of
4 this section;

5 (2) Class C felony under subdivision (a)(2) of this section;

6 (3) Class A misdemeanor under subdivision (a)(3) of this section
7 with a minimum fine of two thousand five hundred dollars (\$2,500); and

8 (4) Class A misdemeanor under subdivision (a)(4) of this
9 section.

10 /s/Hawk

11

12

13

APPROVED: 3/30/23

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

26

27

28

29

30

31

32

33

34

35

36