

State of Arkansas

77th General Assembly

Regular Session, 1989

A Bill

SENATE BILL

585

By: Senator Bookout

For An Act To Be Entitled

"AN ACT TO AMEND ARKANSAS CODE 24-3-102 TO DESIGNATE CERTAIN  
DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTION EMPLOYEES AS PUBLIC SAFETY MEMBERS;  
AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES."

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

SECTION 1. Arkansas Code 24-3-102 (5) is hereby amended to read as follows:

"(5) 'Public safety member' means a member whose covered employment is for personal services as a police officer or fire fighter. 'Police officer' means any regular or permanent employee, whose primary duty is law enforcement of a municipal police department, a county sheriff's office, or the Arkansas State Police, including probationary police officers, and shall also include wildlife officers of the Arkansas State Game and Fish Commission. The term 'police officer' shall not include any civilian employee of a police department or any person temporarily employed as a police officer during an emergency. 'Fire fighter' means any regular or permanent employee of a fire department whose primary duty is fire fighting, including probationary fire fighters, but the term 'fire fighter' shall not include any civilian of a fire department or any person temporarily employed as a fire fighter during an emergency. 'Public safety member' also includes officers and employees of the Department of Correction who have been employed by the Department for at least five (5) consecutive years, and who are in direct contact with inmates;"

SECTION 2. Subchapter 1 of Chapter 3 of Title 24 of the Arkansas Code is hereby amended by inserting an additional section at the end thereof to read as follows:

"24-3-107. (a) For purposes of determining benefits under this chapter, all

credited service, whenever earned, of persons who have been employed for at least five (5) consecutive years by the Department of Correction and who are in direct contact with inmates and all persons who are hereafter employed by the Department of Correction for at least five (5) consecutive years and who have direct contact with inmates shall be treated as public safety member service. The provisions of this act are to be given retroactive effect to members presently employed by the Department of Correction who meet the criteria described above.

(b) The additional cost to the System resulting from this section shall be the responsibility of the Arkansas Department of Correction and the Department shall pay to the System any additional percentage of covered payroll, as computed by actuarial determination, at the same time as the employer contributions are paid for other Department employees.

(c) It is the specific intent of this section to provide that the contributions determined by actuarial valuations shall be in addition to those required by Section 24-3-103(c)."

SECTION 3. All provisions of this act of a general and permanent nature are amendatory to the Arkansas Code of 1987 Annotated and the Arkansas Code Revision Commission shall incorporate the same in the Code.

SECTION 4. All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this Act are hereby repealed.

