

1 **State of Arkansas**  
2 **78th General Assembly**  
3 **Regular Session, 1991**

# A Bill

**HOUSE BILL**

4 **By: Representatives Watts, Purdom, Horn and McGee**

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## **For An Act To Be Entitled**

8 "AN ACT TO ESTABLISH MANDATORY TRAINING STANDARD FOR  
9 CONSTABLES OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS; AND FOR OTHER  
10 PURPOSES."

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

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14 SECTION 1. As used in this act "board" means the Constable Training  
15 Standards Board created by this act.

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17 SECTION 2. (a) There is created the Constable Training Standards Board  
18 to be composed of two (2) constables, two (2) sheriffs, one (1) private  
19 citizen. The members of the board shall be appointed by the Governor.

20 (b) Members of the board shall serve for staggered terms of four (4)  
21 years. Initial members shall determine their terms by lot so that three (3)  
22 members serve for a term of four (4) years and two (2) members serve for a  
23 term of two (2) years.

24 (c) A vacancy on the board shall be filled for the unexpired term.

25 (d) The members of the board shall annually select a chairman.

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27 SECTION 3. (a) The board shall establish minimum training standards  
28 for constables. The standards shall require one hundred (100) hours of  
29 training. The standards may take into account different requirements for  
30 urban and rural areas. The basic training course shall not exceed the part-  
31 time law enforcement officers' training requirements under Arkansas Code 12-9-  
32 104.

33 (b) The board shall consult and cooperate with counties,  
34 municipalities, agencies of this state, other governmental agencies and with  
35 universities, colleges, junior colleges, community colleges and other

1 institutions or organizations concerning the development of constable training  
2 schools and programs or courses of instruction for constables.

3 (c) The board shall issue a certificate to constables who meet the  
4 training standards.

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6 SECTION 4. The minimum training standards of the board shall be adopted  
7 pursuant to the Administrative Procedure Act, Arkansas Code 25-15-201 et seq.

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9 SECTION 5. (a)(1) Constables elected to office after 1990 shall be  
10 required to complete one hundred (100) hours of training as set forth by this  
11 act.

12 (2) A constable who, prior to the effective date of this act, has  
13 completed at least one hundred (100) hours of law enforcement training shall  
14 be entitled to certification by the board upon adequate proof of completion of  
15 the required hours of training.

16 (b) Every constable shall complete the minimum training required by  
17 this act within one year after taking office. If a constable fails to meet  
18 the requirements within one (1) year after taking office:

19 (1) he or she shall be prohibited from performing any duties of a  
20 constable until the training requirements are met; and

21 (2) he or she shall cease to be eligible to receive compensation  
22 from the county for serving as a constable until the constable meets the  
23 minimum standards.

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25 SECTION 6. All provisions of this act of a general and permanent nature  
26 are amendatory to the Arkansas Code of 1987 Annotated and the Arkansas Code  
27 Revision Commission shall incorporate the same in the  
28 Code.

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30 SECTION 7. If any provision of this Act or the application thereof to  
31 any person or circumstance is held invalid, such invalidity shall not affect  
32 other provisions or applications of the act which can be given effect without  
33 the invalid provision or application, and to this end the provisions of this  
34 act are declared to be severable.

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1           SECTION 8. All laws or parts of laws in conflict with this act are  
2 hereby repealed.