

Stricken language would be deleted from present law. Underlined language would be added to present law.

1 State of Arkansas *As Engrossed: H1/24/97 H1/29/97 H1/31/97 H3/10/97 H3/17/97*

2 81st General Assembly

A Bill

3 Regular Session, 1997

HOUSE BILL 1151

4

5 By: Representatives Jones, Curran, McJunkin, Northcutt, Davis, Choate, *Shoffner and Jeffress*

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For An Act To Be Entitled

9 "AN ACT TO PROVIDE THAT ALL ELECTED COUNTY TREASURERS MUST
10 MEET MINIMUM CONTINUING EDUCATION REQUIREMENTS; AND FOR
11 OTHER PURPOSES."

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Subtitle

14 "THE ARKANSAS COUNTY TREASURERS
15 CONTINUING EDUCATION ACT.

16

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

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19 SECTION 1. Within one (1) year after the date on which a person first
20 takes office as elected county treasurer, the county treasurer shall
21 successfully complete a six (6) hour course of instruction in the performance
22 of the duties of county treasurer.

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24 SECTION 2. A county treasurer, who has not previously attained
25 certification, shall attain certification in the Arkansas County Treasurers
26 Association Continuing Education and Certification Program by completing
27 thirty (30) hours of instructions within twenty-four (24) months after the
28 date of taking office or, if already in office, within twenty-four (24) months
29 from the effective date of this act. The six (6) hour course in Section 1
30 required for first term treasurers shall be applied towards the required
31 thirty (30) hours for certification. This section shall not be construed so
32 as to deny any incumbent county treasurer, or newly elected county treasurer
33 who had, prior to election, worked as a deputy county treasurer, the benefit
34 of any continuing education hours that may have been earned prior to the
35 effective date of this act.

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1 SECTION 3. A county treasurer must update his/her certification by
2 completing a minimum of eighteen (18) hours of instruction through the
3 Arkansas County Treasurers Continuing Education and Certification Program
4 every twenty-four (24) months.

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6 SECTION 4. The program of continuing education shall be directed by the
7 Arkansas County Treasurers Continuing Education Board of Directors as
8 established by Act 944 of 1987. The Board of Directors shall develop programs
9 and instructional material in association with the Center for Government
10 Training at Southern Arkansas University Tech, or another accredited public
11 institution of higher education at the direction of the Board of Directors.

12 (i) The Board of Directors shall promulgate the rules for excused
13 absences and the approved means for course makeup.

14 (ii) The Board of Directors shall offer a minimum of eighteen (18)
15 hours continuing education credit in even numbered years and a minimum of
16 twenty-four (24) hours of continuing education credit in odd numbered years to
17 cover the required six (6) hour course in Section 1.

18 (iii) Upon completion of the requirements of Section 2 for
19 certification and of Section 3 for certification-update a county treasurer
20 shall be issued a continuing education certification or certification-update
21 in such for as may be filed in the official records of the local county to
22 signify compliance by the county treasurer with the requirements by this act.

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24 SECTION 5. When, in the judgement of the Arkansas County Treasurers
25 Continuing Education Board of Directors, a county treasurer has failed to meet
26 the requirements of this act notice of such failure shall:

27 (1) be forwarded to such county treasurer by certified mail. The
28 notice shall contain such information so as to place the treasurer on notice
29 of impending board action and shall give the treasurer forty-five (45) days
30 from date of receipt to contact the board in order to present evidence, if any
31 exists, as to why the board should take no further actions as provided by law;
32 and

33 (2) after the evidence has been reviewed by the board, the notice
34 required by subsection (1) shall be forwarded, if necessary, to the quorum
35 court in the county in which the treasurer serves and shall be presented to
36 the court by the presiding officer during the next regularly scheduled meeting

1 of the quorum court. The notice, as presented to court shall be included in
2 official minutes of meeting.

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4 SECTION 6. Grandfather Clause. Any elected county treasurer having
5 served at least six (6) years, prior to the effective date of this act, and
6 not previously certified through the county treasurers continuing education
7 program, may be certified by virtue of years served. Certification will be
8 granted upon receipt of a written request from the official with proper
9 documentation of years served. Certification under this section does not
10 relieve the certified treasurer of any subsequent certification updates
11 required under Section 3.

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13 SECTION 7. All provisions of this act of a general and permanent nature
14 are amendatory to the Arkansas Code of 1987 Annotated and the Arkansas Code
15 Revision Commission shall incorporate the same in the Code.

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17 SECTION 8. If any provision of this act or the application thereof to
18 any person or circumstance is held invalid, such invalidity shall not affect
19 other provisions or applications of the act which can be given effect without
20 the invalid provision or application, and to this end the provisions of this
21 act are declared to be severable.

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23 SECTION 9. All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this act are
24 hereby repealed.

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26 SECTION 10. This act becomes effective on January 1, 1999.

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28 /s/Rep. Jones, et al

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