State of Arkansas 1 As Engrossed: H2/15/99 S3/1/99 A Bill 2 82nd General Assembly 3 Regular Session, 1999 HOUSE BILL 1462 4 By: Representative Teague 5 By: Senator Hill 6 7 8 For An Act To Be Entitled 9 "AN ACT TO AMEND ARKANSAS CODE 12-85-102 TO PROVIDE 10 THAT STATE EMPLOYEES CERTIFIED AS DISASTER SERVICE 11 12 VOLUNTEERS MAY BE GRANTED PAID LEAVE NOT TO EXCEED FIFTEEN WORKING DAYS DURING ANY CALENDAR YEAR INSTEAD 13 OF ANY TWELVE-MONTH PERIOD; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES." 14 15 **Subtitle** 16 "TO PROVIDE THAT STATE EMPLOYEES 17 18 CERTIFIED AS DISASTER SERVICE VOLUNTEERS MAY BE GRANTED PAID LEAVE NOT TO EXCEED 19 20 FIFTEEN WORKING DAYS DURING ANY FISCAL YEAR INSTEAD OF ANY TWELVE-MONTH PERIOD." 21 22 23 24 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS: 25 26 SECTION 1. Arkansas Code 12-85-102 is amended to read as follows: "12-85-102. Terms of Leave. 27 28 (a) An employee of a state agency who is trained and certified as a 29 disaster service volunteer by the American Red Cross, whose specialized disaster relief services are requested by the Red Cross in connection with a 30 31 disaster, and who obtains consent from the chief executive officer of his state agency may be granted leave from work with pay for not more than fifteen 32 (15) working days in any twelve-month period calendar year to participate in 33 specialized disaster relief, without loss of seniority, pay, annual leave, 34 35 sick leave, compensatory time, offset time, or overtime wages. (b) The state agency shall compensate an employee granted leave under 36

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this section at the employee's regular rate of pay for those regular work hours during which the employee is absent from work.

- (c) Leave under this subchapter shall be granted only for disaster relief services occurring within the State of Arkansas or for disaster relief services occurring within states contiguous to the State of Arkansas.
- (d) An employee deemed to be on leave under this chapter shall not be deemed to be an employee of the state for purposes of workers' compensation."

9 SECTION 2. All provisions of this act of a general and permanent nature 10 are amendatory to the Arkansas Code of 1987 Annotated and the Arkansas Code 11 Revision Commission shall incorporate the same in the Code.

SECTION 3. If any provision of this act or the application thereof to any person or circumstance is held invalid, such invalidity shall not affect other provisions or applications of the act which can be given effect without the invalid provision or application, and to this end the provisions of this act are declared to be severable.

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

21 /s/ Teague