

Stricken language would be deleted from and underlined language would be added to the law as it existed prior to this session of the General Assembly.

1 State of Arkansas
2 85th General Assembly
3 Regular Session, 2005

A Bill

HOUSE BILL 2491

4
5 By: Representative Rankin
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7

For An Act To Be Entitled

9 AN ACT TO INCREASE THE AMOUNT OF THE LETTER OF
10 CREDIT FOR NEW BAIL BOND COMPANIES; TO REQUIRE
11 OWNERS OF NEW BAIL BOND COMPANIES TO HAVE BEEN
12 LICENSED BAIL BOND AGENTS FOR AT LEAST TWO (2)
13 YEARS; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.
14

Subtitle

15 TO INCREASE THE LETTER OF CREDIT FOR
16 BAIL BOND COMPANIES AND TO REQUIRE
17 OWNERS OF BAIL BOND COMPANIES TO BE
18 LICENSED BAIL BONDSMEN FOR TWO (2)
19 YEARS.
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22

23 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:
24

25 SECTION 1. Arkansas Code § 17-19-202(c)(1), pertaining to an
26 application for a professional bail bond company license, is amended to read
27 as follows:

28 (c)(1) An application for a professional bail bond company license
29 shall be accompanied by proof that the applicant:

30 (A) ~~is~~ Is an Arkansas partnership, firm, or corporation, a
31 foreign corporation registered and authorized to conduct business in the
32 State of Arkansas, or an individual who is a resident of the state; ~~and~~
33 (B) Has at least one (1) owner or partner that has been
34 licensed for at least two (2) years during the last three (3) years by the
35 State of Arkansas as a professional bail bondsman.

36 (2) A corporation shall file proof that its most recent annual



1 franchise tax has been paid to the Secretary of State.

2
 3 SECTION 2. Arkansas Code § 17-19-205(a)(2), pertaining to the letter
 4 of credit for a professional bail bond company, is amended to read as
 5 follows:

6 (2)(A) The letter of credit or certificate of deposit shall be
 7 approved by the board as to form and sufficiency and shall be conditioned
 8 upon faithful performance of the duties of the licensee.

9 (B) The minimum amount for any professional bail bond
 10 company initially licensed on or before July 1, 1989, shall be twenty-five
 11 thousand dollars (\$25,000).

12 (C) The minimum amount for any professional bail bond
 13 company initially licensed after July 1, 1989, but before July 1, 2005, shall
 14 be one hundred thousand dollars (\$100,000).

15 (D) The minimum amount for any professional bail bond
 16 company initially licensed on or after July 1, 2005, shall be two hundred
 17 fifty thousand dollars (\$250,000).

18 ~~(D)~~(E) Professional bail bond companies and professional
 19 bail bondsmen who were licensed under Act 400 of 1971 [repealed] prior to
 20 March 8, 1989, shall only be required to file or have on file with the board
 21 a letter of credit or certificate of deposit approved by the board as to form
 22 and sufficiency, in a minimum amount of five thousand dollars (\$5,000),
 23 conditioned upon the faithful performance of the duties of the licensee,
 24 provided they do not exceed the maximum amount of unsecured bond commitments
 25 as provided in § 17-19-304.

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 27 SECTION 3. EMERGENCY CLAUSE. It is found and determined by the
 28 General Assembly of the State of Arkansas that the liability of bail bond
 29 companies has increased dramatically; and that this act is necessary to
 30 ensure that bail bond companies are able to perform their duties. Therefore,
 31 an emergency is declared to exist and this act being necessary for the
 32 preservation of the public peace, health, and safety shall become effective
 33 on July 1, 2005.