

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 87th General Assembly  
3 Regular Session, 2009

# A Bill

HOUSE BILL 2097

4  
5 By: Representative Greenberg  
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## For An Act To Be Entitled

8  
9 AN ACT CONCERNING A PUBLIC EMPLOYEE EXERCISING A  
10 RIGHT OR PRIVILEGE UNDER THE FREEDOM OF  
11 INFORMATION ACT OF 1967; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.  
12

## Subtitle

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14 CONCERNING A PUBLIC EMPLOYEE EXERCISING A  
15 RIGHT OR PRIVILEGE UNDER THE FREEDOM OF  
16 INFORMATION ACT OF 1967.  
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19 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:  
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21 SECTION 1. Arkansas Code § 21-1-503 is amended to read as follows:

22 21-1-503. Employer not to penalize employee's political activity.

23 (a) A public employee shall not be prohibited from communicating with  
24 an elected public official concerning a matter related to the public  
25 employee's job, except for a matter exempted under § 25-19-105.

26 (b) A public employee shall not be prohibited from exercising a right  
27 or privilege under the Freedom of Information Act of 1967, § 25-19-101 et  
28 seq.

29 ~~(b)(c)~~(1) It shall be unlawful for any public employer to discipline,  
30 to threaten to discipline, to reprimand either orally or in writing, to place  
31 any notation in a public employee's personnel file disciplining or  
32 reprimanding the public employee, or to otherwise discriminate against a  
33 public employee because the public employee exercised the right to  
34 communicate with an elected public official as granted under this subchapter.

35 (2) A public employer shall not be prohibited from disciplining  
36 a public employee who has intentionally made an untrue allegation to an



1 elected public official concerning a matter related to the public employee's  
2 job.

3 ~~(e)~~(d) Any person willfully violating a provision of this subchapter  
4 shall be guilty of a Class A misdemeanor.

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