

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

As Engrossed: S3/30/09

# A Bill

SENATE BILL 985

4  
5 By: Senator Elliott  
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## For An Act To Be Entitled

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9 *AN ACT TO PROVIDE APPOINTMENT RECOMMENDATIONS FOR*  
10 *ARKANSAS STATE BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS THAT*  
11 *LICENSE OR OTHERWISE REGULATE HEALTH PROFESSIONS*  
12 *TO ENSURE THAT STATE HEALTH-RELATED AGENCIES,*  
13 *BOARDS, AND COMMISSIONS ARE COMPOSED TO REFLECT*  
14 *THE DIVERSITY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS; AND FOR*  
15 *OTHER PURPOSES.*

## Subtitle

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18 *TO PROVIDE THAT EACH STATE HEALTH-*  
19 *RELATED AGENCY, BOARD, AND COMMISSION*  
20 *REFLECTS THE DIVERSITY OF THE STATE.*  
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23 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:  
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25 *SECTION 1. Arkansas Code Title 20, Chapter 1 is amended to add an*  
26 *additional subchapter to read as follows:*

27 *20-1-101. Purposes.*

28 *The purposes of this subchapter are to:*

29 *(1) Provide appointment recommendations for Arkansas state*  
30 *boards and commissions that license or otherwise regulate health-related*  
31 *professions to ensure board and commission compositions that reflect the*  
32 *diversity of the State of Arkansas; and*

33 *(2) Ensure that cultural competency, health disparities, and*  
34 *other minority health issues are adequately represented in the health policy*  
35 *decisions determined by state health-related agencies, boards and commissions*  
36 *for the State of Arkansas.*



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2 20-1-102. Minority members of state health-related agencies, boards,  
3 and commissions.

4 (a) The appointing authorities for state health-related agencies,  
5 boards, and commissions shall consider appointment recommendations submitted  
6 by minority health-related professional associations.

7 (b) The recommending organizations under this section include without  
8 limitation:

9 (1) The Arkansas Medical, Dental and Pharmaceutical Association;

10 (2) The Arkansas Metro Association of Black Social Workers;

11 (3) The Arkansas Black Nurses Association;

12 (4) The National Association of Hispanic Nurses, Arkansas

13 Chapter; and

14 (5) The National Pharmacists Association of Arkansas.

15 (c) Recommendations for appointments under this section shall:

16 (1) Be submitted to the appointing authorities at least thirty  
17 (30) days before the expiration of a position in a state health-related  
18 agency, board, or commission relevant to the field or practice of the  
19 recommending body;

20 (2) Be submitted to the appointing authorities anytime before  
21 the appointing authority fills a position that has opened due to resignation  
22 or removal before the end of the originally appointed term;

23 (3) Be submitted by an officially designated officer or  
24 committee on behalf of the recommending organization; and

25 (4) Include correspondence on official organizational letterhead  
26 and the resume or curriculum vitae of a recommended candidate.

27 (d) The health-related agencies, boards, and commissions that  
28 recommendations may be considered for under this section include without  
29 limitation:

30 (1) The Arkansas Board of Podiatric Medicine;

31 (2) The Arkansas Psychology Board;

32 (3) The Arkansas Social Work Licensing Board;

33 (4) The Arkansas State Board of Dental Examiners;

34 (5) The Arkansas State Medical Board;

35 (6) The Arkansas State Board of Pharmacy;

36 (7) The Board of Examiners in Speech-Language Pathology and

1 Audiology; and

2 (8) The State Board of Optometry.

3 (e) This section does not change or affect any existing delineations  
4 for minority appointments.

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6 /s/ Elliott

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