

1 State of Arkansas
2 93rd General Assembly
3 Regular Session, 2021
4

A Bill

HOUSE BILL 1360

5 By: Representatives M. Berry, Bentley, Slape, Wardlaw, Watson
6 By: Senator Irvin
7

For An Act To Be Entitled

9 AN ACT TO ESTABLISH THE LAW ENFORCEMENT FAMILY RELIEF
10 CHECK-OFF PROGRAM; TO ESTABLISH THE LAW ENFORCEMENT
11 FAMILY RELIEF TRUST FUND; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.
12
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Subtitle

15 TO ESTABLISH THE LAW ENFORCEMENT FAMILY
16 RELIEF CHECK-OFF PROGRAM; AND TO
17 ESTABLISH THE LAW ENFORCEMENT FAMILY
18 RELIEF TRUST FUND.
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21 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:
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23 SECTION 1. Arkansas Code Title 19, Chapter 5, Subchapter 11, is
24 amended to add an additional section to read as follows:

25 19-5-1155. Law Enforcement Family Relief Trust Fund.

26 (a) There is created on the books of the Treasurer of State, the
27 Auditor of State, and the Chief Fiscal Officer of the State a trust fund to
28 be known as the "Law Enforcement Family Relief Trust Fund".

29 (b) The fund shall consist of:

30 (1) All moneys generated from the Law Enforcement Family Relief
31 Check-off Program under § 26-51-2511;

32 (2) Any gifts, grants, bequests, devises, and donations received
33 under the program under § 26-51-2511; and

34 (3) Any other revenues as may be authorized by law.

35 (c) The fund shall be used exclusively by the Secretary of the
36 Department of Public Safety as stated in § 26-51-2511.



1 (d) All moneys deposited into the fund, all interest earned on
 2 deposits, and the fund balance in the fund may be disbursed as appropriated
 3 in each fiscal year of the biennium for the program.
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5 SECTION 2. Arkansas Code Title 26, Chapter 51, Subchapter 25, is
 6 amended to add an additional section to read as follows:

7 26-51-2511. Law Enforcement Family Relief Check-off Program.

8 (a)(1) There is created the Law Enforcement Family Relief Check-off
 9 Program.

10 (2) It is the purpose of this section to provide a means by
 11 which an individual taxpayer may designate a portion or all of his or her
 12 income tax refund to be withheld and contributed for the purposes stated in
 13 this section.

14 (b) The Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration
 15 shall:

16 (1) Include on the Arkansas individual income tax forms,
 17 including those forms on which a husband and wife file separately on the same
 18 form and on all corporate income tax forms, a designation as follows:

19 “(A) If you are entitled to a refund, check if you wish to
 20 designate [] \$1, [] \$5, [] \$10, [] \$20, [] \$_____ (write in amount),
 21 or [] all refund due of your tax refund for the Law Enforcement Family
 22 Relief Check-off Program. Your refund will be reduced by this amount.

23 (B) If you owe an additional amount, check if you wish to
 24 contribute an additional [] \$1, [] \$5, [] \$10, [] \$20, [] \$_____
 25 (write in amount) for the Law Enforcement Family Relief Check-off Program. If
 26 you wish to make a contribution to the program, you must enclose a separate
 27 check for the amount of your contribution, payable to the Law Enforcement
 28 Family Relief Check-off Program.”;

29 (2) Certify quarterly to the Treasurer of State the amount
 30 contributed to the Law Enforcement Family Relief Check-off Program through
 31 this state income tax check-off during the quarter as authorized by this
 32 section; and

33 (3) Promulgate all rules and all income tax forms, returns, and
 34 schedules necessary to carry out the Law Enforcement Family Relief Check-off
 35 Program under this section.

36 (c) Upon receiving the quarterly certification under subdivision

1 (b)(2) of this section, the Treasurer of State shall:

2 (1) Deduct from the:

3 (A) Individual Income Tax Withholding Fund the amount
 4 certified by the Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration as
 5 contributed to the Law Enforcement Family Relief Check-off Program on
 6 individual income tax forms; and

7 (B) Corporate Income Tax Withholding Fund the amount
 8 certified by the Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration as
 9 contributed to the Law Enforcement Family Relief Check-off Program on
 10 corporate income tax forms; and

11 (2) Credit the amount certified each quarter under subdivision
 12 (b)(2) of this section to the Law Enforcement Family Relief Trust Fund.

13 (d)(1) The Secretary of the Department of Public Safety or his or her
 14 designee shall use the funds in the Law Enforcement Family Relief Trust Fund
 15 to provide financial assistance to the family of an Arkansas-certified law
 16 enforcement officer who is:

17 (A) Killed in the line of duty; or

18 (B) Diagnosed by a medical professional with a terminal
 19 illness.

20 (2) The eligibility criteria for receiving grants under the
 21 grant Law Enforcement Family Relief Check-off Program shall include without
 22 limitation:

23 (A) The need of the family;

24 (B) The salary of the Arkansas-certified law enforcement
 25 officer; and

26 (C) Any other factors that establish the family's
 27 financial hardship.

28 (3) The Secretary of the Department of Public Safety may:

29 (A) Accept any gifts, grants, bequests, devises, and
 30 donations made to the State of Arkansas for the purpose of funding the Law
 31 Enforcement Family Relief Check-off Program; and

32 (B) Deposit any gifts, grants, bequests, devises, and
 33 donations received under this section into the Law Enforcement Family Relief
 34 Check-off Program.

35 (4) The Secretary of the Department of Public Safety shall
 36 promulgate all rules necessary to implement the grant program created under

1 this section.

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3 SECTION 3. DO NOT CODIFY. Rules.

4 (a) When adopting the initial rules required under this act, the
5 Secretary of the Department of Public Safety and the Secretary of the
6 Department of Finance and Administration shall file their final rules with
7 the Secretary of State for adoption under § 25-15-204(f):

8 (1) On or before January 1, 2022; or

9 (2) If approval under § 10-3-309 has not occurred by January 1,
10 2022, as soon as practicable after approval under § 10-3-309.

11 (b) The Secretary of the Department of Public Safety and the Secretary
12 of the Department of Finance and Administration shall file the proposed rules
13 with the Legislative Council under § 10-3-309(c) sufficiently in advance of
14 January 1, 2022, so that the Legislative Council may consider the rules for
15 approval before January 1, 2022.

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17 SECTION 4. DO NOT CODIFY. TEMPORARY LANGUAGE.

18 All income tax forms, returns, and schedules shall be updated to
19 reflect the Law Enforcement Family Relief Check-off Program created under §
20 26-51-2511, for the tax year beginning January 1, 2022.

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22 SECTION 5. EFFECTIVE DATE.

23 This act is effective for tax years beginning on and after January 1,
24 2022.