1	State of Arkansas	As Engrossed: H3/18/25 <b>A Bill</b>	
2	95th General Assembly	A DIII	HOUSE DILL 1711
3	Regular Session, 2025		HOUSE BILL 1711
4	Dry Domacontative Uncon		
5	By: Representative Unger		
6	By: Senators F. Love, Hester	^	
7 8		For An Act To Be Entitled	
9	AN ACT TO	AMEND THE LAW CONCERNING MUNICIPAL	L PORT
10		ES; TO AMEND THE POWERS OF A MUNICI	
11		; TO ALLOW A MUNICIPAL PORT AUTHORI	
12		A POLICE FORCE; TO ESTABLISH THE H	
13		A MUNICIPAL PORT AUTHORITY LAW ENH	
14		AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.	
15			
16			
17		Subtitle	
18	TO A	ALLOW A MUNICIPAL PORT AUTHORITY TO	
19	ESTA	ABLISH A POLICE FORCE; AND TO	
20	ESTA	ABLISH THE POWERS AND DUTIES OF A	
21	MUNI	CIPAL PORT AUTHORITY LAW ENFORCEME	NT
22	OFFI	ICER.	
23			
24	BE IT ENACTED BY THE	GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF AF	RKANSAS:
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26	SECTION 1. Ark	ansas Code Title 14, Chapter 186, S	Subchapter 2, is
27	amended to add an add	itional section to read as follows:	:
28	<u>14-186-216. Mu</u>	nicipal port authority police force	<u>e — Establishment —</u>
29	Powers and duties.		
30	<u>(a)(l) A munic</u>	ipal port authority may:	
31	<u>(A)</u>	Establish and organize a municipa	al port authority
32	police force;		
33	<u>(B)</u>	Appoint one (1) or more persons a	<u>as a municipal port</u>
34	authority law enforce	ment officer to aid and supplement	the law enforcement
35	agencies of this stat	e in the protection of the persons,	, property, and
36	facilities of the mun	icipal port authority; and	



1	(C) Apply for a grant applicable to law enforcement in		
2	order to support the funding of a municipal port authority police force.		
3	(2) A municipal port authority that establishes and organizes a		
4	municipal port authority police force under subdivision (a)(l)(A) of this		
5	section may fund the municipal port authority police force using:		
6	(A) Fees collected by the municipal port authority from		
7	the operations of the municipal port authority authorized under this		
8	subchapter; and		
9	(B) Funds received from grants.		
10	(3) A municipal port authority police force established and		
11	organized under subdivision (a)(l)(A) of this section shall exercise		
12	concurrent jurisdiction with law enforcement of the municipality and of the		
13	county in which the municipal port authority facilities are located.		
14	(b)(1) A municipal port authority law enforcement officer appointed		
15	under this section shall:		
16	(A) Be a certified law enforcement officer under § 12-9-		
17	101 et seq; and		
18	(B) Except to the extent limited by the municipal port		
19	authority:		
20	(i) Protect the property of the municipal port		
21	authority;		
22	(ii) Preserve and maintain proper order and decorum		
23	on the property of the municipal port authority;		
24	(iii) Prevent unlawful assemblies and disorderly		
25	conduct on the property of the municipal port authority;		
26	(iv) Cooperate with law enforcement agencies and		
27	officers having jurisdiction where the property and facilities of the		
28	municipal port authority are located; and		
29	(v) Exclude and eject persons from and prevent		
30	trespass upon the property, facilities, and waterways under the control of		
31	the municipal port authority.		
32	(2) A municipal port authority law enforcement officer appointed		
33	under this section may:		
34	(A) Arrest a person under § 16-81-106(b) and (c), whether		
35	on or off the property of the municipal port authority, for the violation of		
36	a law on the property of the municipal port authority;		

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1	(B) Carry weapons for the reasonable purposes of carrying		
2	out the duties of a municipal port authority law enforcement officer;		
3	(C) Regulate the operation and parking of motor vehicles		
4	on the grounds of the municipal port authority and other grounds under the		
5	control of the municipal port authority;		
6	(D) Regulate the operation and docking of watercraft on		
7	the waterways under the control of the municipal port authority and on all		
8	waterways adjoining and traversing the waterways and property of the		
9	municipal port authority; and		
10	<u>(E)</u> Patrol:		
11	(i) The industrial facilities of the municipal port		
12	<u>authority;</u>		
13	(ii) The portion of roads adjacent to the perimeter		
14	of the grounds of the municipal port authority;		
15	<u>(iii) The portion of a shore or bank of a waterway</u>		
16	that is adjacent to the grounds of the municipal port authority; and		
17	(iv) Navigable waterways adjacent to the facilities		
18	of the municipal port authority in a distance not to exceed five (5) miles		
19	upriver or downriver from the facilities of the municipal port authority.		
20	(c) A municipal port authority may promulgate rules providing for the		
21	operation and organization of a municipal port authority police force.		
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23	/s/Unger		
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