

State of Arkansas
95th General Assembly
Regular Session, 2025

A Bill

SENATE BILL 521

By: Senator B. Davis
By: Representative Unger

For An Act To Be Entitled

AN ACT TO AMEND THE LAW CONCERNING LAW ENFORCEMENT
TRAINING REIMBURSEMENT; TO EXTEND THE TIME PERIOD
AFTER COMPLETION OF TRAINING FOR WHICH REIMBURSEMENT
IS REQUIRED; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

Subtitle

TO AMEND THE LAW CONCERNING LAW
ENFORCEMENT TRAINING REIMBURSEMENT; AND
TO EXTEND THE TIME PERIOD AFTER
COMPLETION OF TRAINING FOR WHICH
REIMBURSEMENT IS REQUIRED.

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

SECTION 1. Arkansas Code § 12-9-209 is amended to read as follows:
12-9-209. Reimbursement for training costs or expenses.

(a)(1) If a ~~county, city, town, or state agency~~ law enforcement agency
pays the costs or expenses for training a law enforcement officer ~~at a state-~~
~~funded or municipally operated law enforcement training academy~~ and another
~~county, city, town, or state agency~~ law enforcement agency employs that law
enforcement officer within ~~eighteen (18)~~ twenty-four (24) months after
completion of the training in a position requiring a certificate of training
from a state-funded or municipally operated law enforcement training academy,
the ~~county, city, town, or state agency~~ law enforcement agency that employs
the law enforcement officer, at the time of employing the law enforcement
officer, shall reimburse the ~~county, city, town, or state agency~~ law
enforcement agency for all or a portion of the costs or expenses incurred by



1 the ~~county, city, town, or state agency~~ law enforcement agency for the
 2 training of the law enforcement officer at the state-funded or municipally
 3 operated law enforcement training academy, unless the law enforcement officer
 4 has been terminated by the ~~county, city, town, or state agency~~ law
 5 enforcement agency that paid the costs or expenses of training, in which case
 6 no reimbursement is required from the ~~county, city, town, or state agency~~ law
 7 enforcement agency employing the law enforcement officer.

8 (2) Reimbursement may be sought ~~only from the first county,~~
 9 ~~city, town, or state agency~~ by each successive law enforcement agency that
 10 employed the law enforcement officer after the ~~county, city, town, or state~~
 11 ~~agency~~ first law enforcement agency paid the costs or expenses of training
 12 within the twenty-four-month period after the date of the law enforcement
 13 officer's completion of training.

14 (3) Reimbursement shall include any salary, travel expenses,
 15 food, lodging, or other costs, including nonrecoverable equipment costs,
 16 required to be paid by the ~~county, city, town, or state agency,~~ law
 17 enforcement agency as follows:

18 (A) If the law enforcement officer is employed within ~~two~~
 19 ~~(2)~~ twelve (12) months after completion of the training, the employing law
 20 enforcement agency shall reimburse the total of the costs or expenses of
 21 training; or

22 (B) If the law enforcement officer is employed more than
 23 ~~two (2)~~ twelve (12) months but not more than ~~six (6)~~ twenty-four (24) months
 24 after completion of the training, the employing law enforcement agency shall
 25 reimburse ~~eighty percent (80%)~~ fifty percent (50%) of the costs or expenses
 26 of training;

27 ~~(C) If the law enforcement officer is employed more than~~
 28 ~~six (6) months but not more than ten (10) months after completion of the~~
 29 ~~training, the employing agency shall reimburse sixty percent (60%) of the~~
 30 ~~costs or expenses of training;~~

31 ~~(D) If the law enforcement officer is employed more than~~
 32 ~~ten (10) months but not more than fourteen (14) months after completion of~~
 33 ~~the training, the employing agency shall reimburse forty percent (40%) of the~~
 34 ~~costs or expenses of training; or~~

35 ~~(E) If the law enforcement officer is employed more than~~
 36 ~~fourteen (14) months but not more than eighteen (18) months after completion~~

1 ~~of the training, the employing agency shall reimburse twenty percent (20%) of~~
 2 ~~the costs or expenses of training.~~

3 (b)(1) A request for reimbursement shall:

4 (A) Be in writing;

5 (B) Contain an itemized list of costs to be reimbursed;

6 and

7 (C) Be made by the original employing law enforcement
 8 agency to the subsequent employing law enforcement agency within six (6)
 9 months of the date on which the law enforcement officer was hired by the
 10 subsequent law enforcement agency.

11 (2) If any ~~county, city, town, or state agency~~ law enforcement
 12 agency that employs a law enforcement officer whose costs or expenses of
 13 training were paid by another ~~county, city, town, or state agency~~ law
 14 enforcement agency fails to make reimbursement for the costs or expenses of
 15 training as required in subsection (a) of this section, the ~~county, city,~~
 16 ~~town, or state agency~~ law enforcement agency entitled to reimbursement shall
 17 notify the Treasurer of State.

18 ~~(2)(3)~~ (3) The Treasurer of State shall then withhold the amount of
 19 the reimbursement due for training the law enforcement officer from the
 20 county or municipal aid of the employing ~~county, city, town, or state agency~~
 21 law enforcement agency or from funds appropriated to the employing state
 22 agency and shall remit the amount to the ~~county, city, town, or state agency~~
 23 law enforcement agency that is entitled to the reimbursement under the
 24 provisions of this section.

25 ~~(c)(1)~~ (c) A private community with a population of more than five
 26 thousand (5,000) persons that employs certified law enforcement officers is
 27 entitled to reimbursement under this section and may remit the reimbursed
 28 costs or expenses under subsection (a) of this section to an entity
 29 contracting with the private community that paid the training costs or
 30 expenses of the certified law enforcement officers.

31 (d) A law enforcement agency that employs on a permanent basis a law
 32 enforcement officer who has completed training at a state-funded or
 33 municipally-operated law enforcement training academy shall comply with this
 34 section.

35 ~~(2)(e)~~ (e) As used in this ~~subsection,~~ section:

36 (1) "Law enforcement agency" means the same as defined in § 12-

1 9-102; and

2 (2) "~~private~~ Private community" means the same as defined in §
3 14-14-814.

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5 SECTION 2. Arkansas Code § 12-9-602(a)(1), concerning the employment
6 or appointment, or separation from employment or appointment of a law
7 enforcement officer, is amended to read as follows:

8 (a)(1)(A) An employing law enforcement agency shall immediately notify
9 the Division of Law Enforcement Standards and Training, in a manner adopted
10 by the division, of the employment or appointment, or separation from
11 employment or appointment, of any law enforcement officer.

12 (B) Upon notification by an employing law enforcement
13 agency of employment or appointment of any law enforcement officer, if the
14 law enforcement officer completed required training from a state-funded or
15 municipally-operated law enforcement training academy within the last twenty-
16 four (24) months, the division shall notify the previous employing law
17 enforcement agency that paid the costs or expenses for training the law
18 enforcement officer.

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20 SECTION 3. EFFECTIVE DATE. This act is effective on and after January
21 1, 2026.

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24 **APPROVED: 4/17/25**
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