



## ARKANSAS SENTENCING COMMISSION

1302 Pike Avenue, Suite E • North Little Rock, AR 72114

Phone: (501) 682-5001 • Fax: (501) 682-5018

### **Impact Assessment for HB1655 Sponsored by Representative Long**

**Subtitle** TO CREATE THE OFFENSE OF HUMAN SMUGGLING; TO CREATE THE OFFENSE OF HARBORING ILLEGAL IMMIGRANTS

**Impact Summary**<sup>1</sup> Cannot be determined. The proposed bill creates new felony criminal offenses for which the likely number of occurrences is unknown.

**Change from Current Law**<sup>2</sup> Amends Title 5 of Arkansas Code Annotated (A.C.A.) by adding an additional chapter, Immigration. Under the proposed bill, the new offenses of human smuggling and harboring illegal immigrants are created. The first offense is a Class D felony, and a subsequent offense is a Class C felony for both new offenses. Under current law, no criminal offense exists that shares elements or courses of conduct with the proposed new felonies. Knowingly transporting an individual into the State who has entered the United States in violation of law and knowingly concealing, harboring or shielding in individual from detection who has entered the United States in violation of law are specific courses of conduct related to the new Immigration chapter created with this proposed bill.

**Impact Information** The proposed bill creates new offenses that are both Class D felonies for a first offense and Class C felonies for any subsequent offenses.

The likely number of occurrences with the creation of the proposed new felony offenses is unknown. The proposed bill contains new courses of conduct that do not share elements with an existing criminal offense in the Arkansas Criminal Code. For this reason, the potential impact on correctional resources cannot be determined.

---

<sup>1</sup> This impact assessment was prepared 3/12/2025 3:51 PM by the staff of the Arkansas Sentencing Commission pursuant to A. C. A. § 16-90-802(d)(6) with data supplied by the Department of Corrections and the Administrative Office of the Courts. A micro-simulation model may be used for bills which have the potential for significant impact on correctional resources. The following designations will be used: "minimal" = less than 10 offenders per year will be affected; "medium" = would require budgetary increases for ADC costs; and "major" = would require budgetary increases for ADC costs and construction costs for additional beds.

<sup>2</sup> Standard punishment ranges:

Class Y 10-40 years or life  
Class A 6-30 years; up to \$15,000  
Class B 5-20 years; up to \$15,000

Class C 3-10 years; up to \$10,000  
Class D 0-6 years; up to \$10,000  
Unclassified As specified in statute

Misdemeanors  
Class A Up to 1 year; up to \$2,500  
Class B Up to 90 days; up to \$1,000  
Class C Up to 30 days; up to \$500