

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 S4/3/09

A Bill

SENATE BILL 985

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

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

Subtitle

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17 *TO PROVIDE THAT EACH STATE HEALTH-*
18 *RELATED AGENCY, BOARD, AND COMMISSION*
19 *REFLECTS THE DIVERSITY OF THE STATE.*

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22 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:
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24 *SECTION 1. Arkansas Code Title 20, Chapter 1 is amended to add an*
25 *additional subchapter to read as follows:*

26 *20-1-101. Purposes.*

27 *The purposes of this subchapter are to:*

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

32 *(2) Ensure that cultural competency, health disparities, and*
33 *other minority health issues are adequately represented in the health policy*
34 *decisions determined by state health-related agencies, boards and commissions*
35 *for the State of Arkansas.*
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1 20-1-102. Minority members of state health-related agencies, boards,
2 and commissions.

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

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

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

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

10 (3) The Arkansas Black Nurses Association;

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

13 (5) The National Pharmacists Association of Arkansas; and

14 (6) The Arkansas State Board of Nursing.

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) If a recommendation for appointment under subsection (b) of this
28 section is not received within the time allotted for the appointment, the
29 appointing authority may make the appointment without a recommendation.

30 (e) The health-related agencies, boards, and commissions for which
31 recommendations may be considered under this section include:

32 (1) The Arkansas Board of Podiatric Medicine;

33 (2) The Arkansas Psychology Board;

34 (3) The Arkansas Social Work Licensing Board;

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

36 (5) The Arkansas State Medical Board;

- 1 (6) The Arkansas State Board of Pharmacy;
- 2 (7) The Board of Examiners in Speech-Language Pathology and
- 3 Audiology; and
- 4 (8) The State Board of Optometry.
- 5 (f) This section does not change or affect any existing delineations
- 6 for minority appointments.

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/s/ Elliott