

1 State of Arkansas
2 95th General Assembly
3 Regular Session, 2025

A Bill

HOUSE BILL 1024

4
5 By: Representative A. Collins
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For An Act To Be Entitled

8
9 AN ACT TO AMEND THE LAW CONCERNING PUBLIC EMPLOYEES;
10 TO REPEAL THE LAW PROHIBITING COLLECTIVE BARGAINING;
11 AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.
12
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Subtitle

14
15 TO AMEND THE LAW CONCERNING PUBLIC
16 EMPLOYEES; AND TO REPEAL THE LAW
17 PROHIBITING COLLECTIVE BARGAINING.
18

19 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:
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21 SECTION 1. Arkansas Code § 11-4-205 is amended to read as follows:
22 11-4-205. Right of collective bargaining not affected.

23 ~~(a) Except as provided in subsection (b) of this section, nothing~~
24 Nothing in this subchapter, including the provisions of § 11-4-218(b), shall
25 be deemed to interfere with, impede, or in any way diminish the right of
26 employers and employees to bargain collectively through representatives of
27 their own choosing in order to establish wages or other conditions of work.

28 ~~(b) Collective bargaining by public employees is prohibited under §~~
29 ~~21-1-801 et seq.~~
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31 SECTION 2. Arkansas Code Title 21, Chapter 1, Subchapter 8, is
32 repealed.

33 ~~Subchapter 8 — Collective Bargaining~~

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35 ~~21-1-801. Definitions.~~

36 ~~As used in this subchapter:~~



1 ~~(1)(A) “Public employee” means a person who performs a full-time~~
 2 ~~or part-time service for wages, salary, or other remuneration for a public~~
 3 ~~employer.~~

4 ~~(B) “Public employee” includes without limitation a state~~
 5 ~~employee under § 21-1-610.~~

6 ~~(C) “Public employee” does not include a:~~

7 ~~(i) Public safety officer, including without~~
 8 ~~limitation a:~~

9 ~~(a) Law enforcement officer; and~~

10 ~~(b) Firefighter; and~~

11 ~~(ii) Public transit system employee whose public~~
 12 ~~employer is a recipient of a federal grant administered by the Federal~~
 13 ~~Transit Administration;~~

14 ~~(2) “Public employer” means:~~

15 ~~(A) An agency, department, board, commission, division,~~
 16 ~~office, bureau, council, authority, or other instrumentality of the state,~~
 17 ~~including the offices of the various Arkansas elected constitutional officers~~
 18 ~~and the General Assembly and its agencies, bureaus, and divisions;~~

19 ~~(B) A state-supported college, university, technical~~
 20 ~~college, community college, or other institution of higher education or a~~
 21 ~~department, division, or agency of a state institution of higher education;~~

22 ~~(C) The Supreme Court, the Court of Appeals, the~~
 23 ~~Administrative Office of the Courts, the circuit courts, and prosecuting~~
 24 ~~attorneys’ offices; and~~

25 ~~(D) A public school district, school, or an office or~~
 26 ~~department of a public school district in Arkansas; and~~

27 ~~(3) “Strike” means a refusal to work organized by two (2) or~~
 28 ~~more public employees as a form of protest in an attempt to gain a concession~~
 29 ~~or concessions from a public employer.~~

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 31 ~~21-1-802. Collective bargaining prohibited.~~

32 ~~(a) A public employer shall not recognize a labor union or other~~
 33 ~~public employee association as a bargaining agent of public employees.~~

34 ~~(b) A public employer shall not collectively bargain or enter into any~~
 35 ~~collective bargaining contract with a labor union or other public employee~~
 36 ~~association or its agents with respect to any matter relating to public~~

1 ~~employees, public employees' employment with a public employer, or public~~
2 ~~employees' tenure with a public employer.~~

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4 ~~21-1-803. Prohibited activities.~~

5 ~~(a) A public employee willfully refuses to perform the duties of his~~
6 ~~or her employment with a public employer when, acting in concert with one (1)~~
7 ~~or more public employees, he or she:~~

8 ~~(1) Strikes or walks away from the duties of his or her~~
9 ~~employment with the public employer;~~

10 ~~(2) Physically obstructs the activity or operation of the public~~
11 ~~employer; or~~

12 ~~(3) Physically impedes the operations of a public employer.~~

13 ~~(b) A public employee who violates subsection (a) of this section~~
14 ~~shall be terminated by the public employer.~~

15 ~~(c) A public employee terminated under subsection (b) of this section~~
16 ~~is ineligible for employment with a public employer in any position or~~
17 ~~capacity for twelve (12) months after being terminated for willfully refusing~~
18 ~~to perform the duties of his or her employment with a public employer.~~

19 ~~(d) A public employer shall include in the public employer's personnel~~
20 ~~manual a statement that willfully refusing to perform the duties of his or~~
21 ~~her employment with a public employer constitutes grounds for dismissal.~~

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23 ~~21-1-804. Public employee associations.~~

24 ~~Public employees may form associations for the purpose of promoting the~~
25 ~~public employees' interests before a public employer.~~

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