

1 State of Arkansas
2 95th General Assembly
3 Regular Session, 2025
4

A Bill

HOUSE BILL 1141

5 By: Representative R. Scott Richardson
6 By: Senator J. Bryant
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For An Act To Be Entitled

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9 AN ACT TO CREATE CRIMINAL OFFENSES RELATED TO
10 DECEPTIVE AND INJURIOUS MEDIA IN THE COURSE OF
11 ELECTION CAMPAIGNS; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.
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Subtitle

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15 TO CREATE CRIMINAL OFFENSES RELATED TO
16 DECEPTIVE AND INJURIOUS MEDIA IN THE
17 COURSE OF ELECTION CAMPAIGNS.
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19 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:
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21 SECTION 1. Arkansas Code § 7-1-103(a), concerning misdemeanors under
22 the laws governing elections in the State of Arkansas, is amended to add
23 additional subdivisions to read as follows:

24 (25) It shall be unlawful for a person to purposefully deceive
25 the audience and injure a candidate or influence the results of an election
26 by entering into a contract or other agreement to print, publish, or
27 broadcast political advertising that purports to emanate from a source other
28 than its true source;

29 (26) It shall be unlawful for a person to purposefully deceive
30 the audience and injure a candidate or influence the results of an election
31 by representing in a campaign communication that the communication emanates
32 from a source other than its true source;

33 (27)(A) It shall be unlawful for a person to purposefully injure
34 a candidate or influence the result of an election by:

35 (i) Creating or causing to be created a deep fake
36 video; and



1 (ii) Publishing, distributing, or causing to be
2 published or distributed the deep fake video during the period beginning
3 ninety (90) days before the date of the election and ending on the date of
4 the election.

5 (B) As used in this subdivision (a)(27), "deep fake video"
6 means a video that appears to depict a real person performing an action that
7 did not occur in reality; and

8 (28)(A) It shall be unlawful for a person to purposefully
9 deceive the audience and influence the results of an election by:

10 (i) Creating or causing to be created an altered
11 image; or

12 (ii) Publishing, distributing, or causing to be
13 published or distributed an altered image during the period beginning ninety
14 (90) days before the date of the election and ending on the date of the
15 election.

16 (B) It is an affirmative defense to prosecution for an
17 offense under this subdivision (a)(28) that the person included a clear label
18 on the image stating that the image has been altered.

19 (C)(i) As used in this subdivision (a)(28), "altered
20 image" means an image that has been manipulated to change the physical
21 appearance of an individual or depict an individual performing an action that
22 did not occur in reality.

23 (ii) As used in this subdivision (a)(28), "altered
24 image" does not include:

25 (a) A cartoon, caricature, or any other image
26 that a reasonable viewer would understand to be a satirical representation of
27 the individual; or

28 (b) An image altered only to change the
29 saturation, brightness, contrast, color, or any other superficial quality of
30 the image.

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