

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

As Engrossed: H1/30/25

A Bill

HOUSE BILL 1169

5 By: Representative L. Johnson
6 By: Senator B. Davis
7

For An Act To Be Entitled

9 AN ACT TO CLARIFY THE ADMISSION CRITERIA FOR AN
10 INVOLUNTARY COMMITMENT TO INCLUDE A PERSON WHO IS IN
11 A MENTAL CONDITION AS A RESULT OF A MEDICAL
12 CONDITION; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.
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Subtitle

15 TO CLARIFY THE ADMISSION CRITERIA FOR AN
16 INVOLUNTARY COMMITMENT TO INCLUDE A
17 PERSON WHO IS IN A MENTAL CONDITION AS A
18 RESULT OF A MEDICAL CONDITION.
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21 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:
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23 *SECTION 1. Arkansas Code § 20-47-202, concerning definitions relating*
24 *to commitment and treatment for persons with mental illness, is amended to*
25 *add an additional subdivision to read as follows:*

26 *(22) "Behavioral health impairment" means a substantial*
27 *impairment of emotional processes, the ability to exercise conscious control*
28 *of one's actions, or the ability to perceive reality or to reason, when the*
29 *impairment is manifested by instances of extremely abnormal behavior or*
30 *extremely faulty perceptions that interfere with one (1) or more activities*
31 *of daily living.*
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33 *SECTION 2. Arkansas Code § 20-47-207(c)(1), concerning the admission*
34 *criteria into a healthcare facility for an involuntary commitment, is amended*
35 *to read as follows:*

36 (c) Involuntary Admission Criteria.



1 (1) A person shall be eligible for involuntary admission if he
2 or she is in ~~such~~ a mental condition as a result of ~~mental~~:

3 (A) A mental illness, disease, or disorder that he or she
4 poses a clear and present danger to himself or herself or others; or

5 (B) A medical condition, including without limitation
6 behavioral health impairment, mental disability, dementia, or other permanent
7 or temporary behavioral health or mental health impairment, that he or she
8 poses a clear and present danger to himself or herself or others.

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10 SECTION 3. Arkansas Code § 20-47-207(c)(2)(D)(ii), concerning the
11 definition of "a clear and present danger to himself or herself" relating to
12 the admission criteria into a healthcare facility for an involuntary
13 commitment, is amended to read as follows:

14 (ii) The person needs ~~mental~~ health treatment on a
15 continuing basis to prevent a relapse or harmful deterioration of his or her
16 ~~condition~~ mental condition as a result of subdivision (c)(1)(A) or (c)(1)(B)
17 of this section; and

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19 /s/L. Johnson
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