

Stricken language would be deleted from and underlined language would be added to present law.

1 State of Arkansas *As Engrossed: H1/30/25 H2/6/25*

2 95th General Assembly

## A Bill

3 Regular Session, 2025

HOUSE BILL 1169

4

5 By: Representative L. Johnson

6 By: Senator B. Davis

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### 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

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17 TO CLARIFY THE ADMISSION CRITERIA FOR AN  
18 INVOLUNTARY COMMITMENT TO INCLUDE A  
19 PERSON WHO IS IN A MENTAL CONDITION AS A  
20 RESULT OF A MEDICAL CONDITION.

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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:*

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27 *(22) "Behavioral health impairment" means a substantial*  
28 *impairment of emotional processes, the ability to exercise conscious control*  
29 *of one's actions, or the ability to perceive reality or to reason, when the*  
30 *impairment is manifested by instances of extremely abnormal behavior or*  
31 *extremely faulty perceptions that interfere with one (1) or more activities*  
32 *of daily living.*

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34 *SECTION 2. Arkansas Code § 20-47-207(c)(1), concerning the admission*  
35 *criteria into a healthcare facility for an involuntary commitment, is amended*  
36 *to read as follows:*

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(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 that causes a behavioral health  
6 impairment, including without limitation dementia, encephalitis,  
7 or delirium, that he or she poses a clear and present danger to  
8 himself or herself or others.

9  
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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