

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

# A Bill

HOUSE BILL 1624

5 By: Representative Gazaway  
6 By: Senator J. Boyd  
7

## For An Act To Be Entitled

8  
9 AN ACT TO AMEND THE ARKANSAS LAW CONCERNING THE  
10 MEMBERSHIP OF COUNTY LAW LIBRARY BOARDS; AND FOR  
11 OTHER PURPOSES.  
12  
13

## Subtitle

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15 TO AMEND THE ARKANSAS LAW CONCERNING THE  
16 MEMBERSHIP OF COUNTY LAW LIBRARY BOARDS.  
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18 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:  
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20 SECTION 1. Arkansas Code § 16-23-102 is amended to read as follows:  
21 16-23-102. County law library boards.

22 (a)(1) A county law library established pursuant to this chapter shall  
23 be under the control of a county law library board of not less than three (3)  
24 nor more than five (5) persons, who shall be practicing attorneys residing in  
25 the county and who shall be appointed by the county court from attorneys  
26 nominated by the county bar association or, in counties where there is no  
27 county bar association, by a regional bar association which includes that  
28 county.

29 (2) In any county in which there are fewer than three (3)  
30 practicing attorneys, the board shall be composed of not less than three (3)  
31 nor more than five (5) persons, including the practicing attorney or  
32 attorneys in the county together with one (1) or more additional persons who  
33 are legal residents and qualified electors of the county, appointed by the  
34 county court.

35 ~~(b)(3)~~ Members of the board under this subsection (a) shall be  
36 appointed for a term of five (5) years, but the initial appointments shall be



1 so arranged that the terms of each member initially appointed expire in  
2 succeeding years.

3 (4) A vacancy on the board shall be filled in the manner of the  
4 original appointment for the remainder of the term.

5 (b)(1) In addition to the members of the board appointed under  
6 subsection (a) of this section, the following shall be appointed to the board  
7 by the county court:

8 (A) One (1) circuit court judge residing in the county or  
9 presiding over a circuit court in the county; and

10 (B) One (1) district court judge residing in the county or  
11 presiding over a district court in the county.

12 (2) The appointment of a circuit court judge and district court  
13 judge under subdivision (b)(1) of this section:

14 (A) Shall be for a term of two (2) years;

15 (B) Shall begin on the first day of January following a  
16 general election; and

17 (C) May be for consecutive or nonconsecutive terms.

18 (3) A vacancy in an appointment of a circuit court judge or  
19 district court judge under subsection (b)(1) of this section shall be filled  
20 in the manner of the original appointment for the remainder of the term.

21 (c)(1) The board shall have charge of the operation and maintenance of  
22 the county law library and the custody and care of the county law library's  
23 property. The board shall direct the expenditure of funds derived for county  
24 law library purposes under this chapter, and any other funds received by the  
25 county, or the board, for the use of the county law library.

26 (2) Any excess funds in the county law library book fund not  
27 needed for the operation and maintenance of the county law library may be  
28 expended by the board for any other purpose necessary for improvement in the  
29 administration of justice in the county.

30 (3)(A) The board may dispose of any personal property of the  
31 county law library it determines is junk, scrap, discarded, or otherwise of  
32 no value to the county law library.

33 (B) The board may dispose of the personal property under  
34 subdivision (c)(3)(A) of this section by methods that include without  
35 limitation private sale, public sale, gift, or destruction.

36 (d)(1) The board, subject to approval of the county court, is

1 authorized, in implementation of the purposes of this chapter, to enter into  
 2 agreements with any person, including other public bodies, in this state  
 3 pertaining to the operation and maintenance of a county law library.

4 (2) Without limiting the generality of the foregoing, agreements  
 5 entered into pursuant to the provisions hereof may contain provisions:

6 (A) Making available to any institution of higher learning  
 7 the county law library, and related facilities, and the books, volumes,  
 8 treatises, pamphlets, and other educational materials located therein;

9 (B) Authorizing the institution to maintain, locate, and  
 10 relocate in the county law library, select, replace, supervise the use of,  
 11 buy, sell, lend, borrow, receive bequests and donations of, and otherwise  
 12 deal in and contract concerning, such books, volumes, treatises, pamphlets,  
 13 and other educational materials; and

14 (C) Providing for the operation, maintenance, and  
 15 supervision of the county law library and related facilities for the benefit  
 16 of the institution, the county, judges and attorneys, and the public.

17 (3) The agreements may make available to the institution all or  
 18 a portion of the collections of the costs levied pursuant to the provisions  
 19 of this chapter, for the purpose of performing the obligations of the  
 20 institution thereunder.

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 22 SECTION 2. DO NOT CODIFY. IMPLEMENTATION OF ADDITIONAL MEMBERS OF  
 23 COUNTY LAW LIBRARY BOARDS. (a) Within thirty (30) days of the effective  
 24 date of this act, the county court shall make initial appointments to a  
 25 county law library board under § 16-23-102(b).

26 (b) The initial appointments under subsection (a) of this section  
 27 shall expire on the first day of January following the next general election.

28 (c) Subsequent appointments under § 16-23-102(b) shall be for a term  
 29 of two (2) years.

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