

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

1 State of Arkansas As Engrossed: S2/3/25 S2/5/25

2 95th General Assembly

A Bill

3 Regular Session, 2025

SENATE BILL 12

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5 By: Senator B. King

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For An Act To Be Entitled

9 AN ACT TO AMEND THE FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT OF
10 1967; TO AMEND ARKANSAS LAW CONCERNING COMMUNICATIONS
11 REGARDING REDISTRICTING BY THE BOARD OF
12 APPORTIONMENT; TO ESTABLISH A PENALTY; AND FOR OTHER
13 PURPOSES.

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Subtitle

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TO AMEND THE FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT

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OF 1967; AND TO AMEND ARKANSAS LAW

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CONCERNING COMMUNICATIONS REGARDING

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REDISTRICTING BY THE BOARD OF

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APPORTIONMENT.

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23 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:

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25 SECTION 1. Arkansas Code Title 25, Chapter 19, is amended to add an
26 additional section to read as follows:

27 25-19-113. Board of Apportionment communications - Definition.

28 (a) As used in this section, "communication regarding redistricting"

29 means a written communication, electronic communication, or oral

30 communication concerning the apportionment of the state for representatives

31 or otherwise pertaining to the drawing of legislative districts.

32 (b) A communication regarding redistricting by one (1) or more members

33 of the Board of Apportionment or staff of the board:

34 (1) Shall be:

35 (A) Written;

36 (B) Electronic; or



1 (C) An oral communication recorded at a public meeting
2 under § 25-19-106(d)(1); and

3 (2) Is a public record subject to this chapter.

4 (c) If one (1) or more members of the board or staff of the board
5 receive an oral communication regarding redistricting other than one recorded
6 at a public meeting under § 25-19-106(d)(1), the member of the board or his
7 or her staff shall:

8 (1) Inform the speaker that all communications by one (1) or
9 more members of the board or staff of the board must be:

10 (A) Written;

11 (B) Electronic; or

12 (C) An oral communication recorded at a public meeting
13 under § 25-19-106(d)(1); and

14 (2) Take all reasonable steps to remove himself or herself from
15 the oral communication that is not recorded at a public meeting under § 25-
16 19-106(d)(1).

17 (d) This section does not prohibit discussion regarding the
18 apportionment of the state for representatives at a public meeting of the
19 board.

20 (e) This section shall not be construed to exempt a public record of
21 the board from disclosure under this chapter if the public record would
22 otherwise be deemed to be made open under this chapter.

23 (f) A person who knowingly violates subdivision (b)(1) of this section
24 upon conviction is guilty of a Class A misdemeanor.

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26 /s/B. King
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