

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

A Bill

SENATE BILL 144

5 By: Senator B. King
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For An Act To Be Entitled

9 AN ACT CONCERNING THE BACKLOG OF INMATES AWAITING
10 TRANSFER TO THE DIVISION OF CORRECTION; TO ALLOW
11 CERTAIN COUNTIES TO ENTER INTO COUNTY JAIL STATE
12 INMATE CLOSE-TO-HOME PARTNERSHIPS TO JOINTLY
13 CONSTRUCT, EXPAND, OR IMPROVE A FACILITY TO OPERATE
14 AS A SHARED COUNTY JAIL; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.
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Subtitle

18 CONCERNING THE BACKLOG OF INMATES
19 AWAITING TRANSFER TO THE DIVISION OF
20 CORRECTION; AND TO ALLOW CERTAIN
21 COUNTIES TO ENTER INTO COUNTY JAIL STATE
22 INMATE CLOSE-TO-HOME PARTNERSHIPS.
23

24 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:
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26 SECTION 1. Arkansas Code Title 12, Chapter 41, Subchapter 5, is
27 amended to add an additional section to read as follows:

28 12-41-512. County jail state inmate close-to-home partnership.

29 (a) Two (2) or more adjoining counties of the state may enter into a
30 county jail state inmate close-to-home partnership agreement to jointly:

31 (1) Construct, expand, or improve a facility for a shared county
32 jail to house inmates awaiting transfer to the Division of Correction; and

33 (2) Manage and operate the shared county jail.

34 (b) Two (2) or more adjoining counties may enter into a partnership
35 agreement under subsection (a) of this section if:

36 (1) One (1) or more of the counties is one (1) of the eight (8)



1 counties that contribute the most inmates to the total population of the
2 Division of Correction as determined by the Division of Correction as of
3 January 1, 2025;

4 (2) The partnership agreement is approved by a vote of the
5 quorum court of each county; and

6 (3) The partnership agreement is approved by the Board of
7 Corrections.

8 (c) In addition to any sources of funding provided by law, the costs
9 associated with the construction, expansion, or improvement of a facility for
10 a shared county jail pursuant a partnership agreement under this section may
11 be provided from funds authorized by the General Assembly.

12 (d) A partnership agreement under this section must be approved by the
13 Board of Corrections before June 30, 2027.

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