

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

A Bill

SENATE BILL 374

5 By: Senator B. Davis
6 By: Representative Wing
7

For An Act To Be Entitled

8 AN ACT TO AMEND THE LAW CONCERNING THE CIVIL SERVICE
9 SYSTEM; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.
10

Subtitle

11 TO AMEND THE LAW CONCERNING THE CIVIL
12 SERVICE SYSTEM.
13

14 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:
15

16 SECTION 1. Arkansas Code § 14-51-301(b)(3), concerning the rules and
17 regulations governing examinations for fire departments and police
18 departments, is amended to read as follows:
19

20 (3)(A) Public advertisement of all examinations ~~by publication~~
21 ~~of notice in some newspaper having a bona fide circulation in the city and by~~
22 ~~posting of notice at the city hall~~ at least ten (10) days before the date of
23 the examinations.
24

25 (B)(i) ~~The examinations may be held on the first Monday in~~
26 ~~April or the first Monday in October, or both, and more often if necessary~~
27 ~~under such rules and regulations as may be prescribed by the board shall be~~
28 held as needed by the chief of the fire department or police department who
29 shall determine the:
30

- 31 (a) Time of the exams;
- 32 (b) Date of the exams; and
- 33 (c) Frequency of the exams.

34 (ii) The commission shall have only an indirect role
35 in an examination under subdivision (b)(3)(B)(i) of this section, which
36 excludes the commission from:



1 (a) Engaging in interviews; or

2 (b) Proctoring exams.

3 (iii) The commission may observe an examination
4 under subdivision (b)(3)(B)(i) of this section so long as the commission does
5 not interfere with the examination schedule set by the chief of the fire
6 department or police department;

7
8 SECTION 2. Arkansas Code § 14-51-301(b)(4)(A)(i)(b), concerning the
9 rules and regulations related to the creation of an eligibles list for fire
10 departments and police departments, is amended to read as follows:

11 (b) If the board creates an eligibles list on
12 an as-needed basis and a vacancy is created as a result of death,
13 termination, resignation, demotion, retirement, or promotion, the chief of
14 the fire department or police department shall notify the ~~board~~ commission
15 within five (5) business days, and the board shall schedule of the scheduling
16 of an examination to establish an eligibles list from which an appointment or
17 promotion shall be made unless the position is determined to be eliminated or
18 not funded by the governing body of the city.

19
20 SECTION 3. Arkansas Code § 14-51-301(b)(7)(A), concerning the rules
21 and regulations governing fire departments and police departments, is amended
22 to read as follows:

23 (7)(A) A period of probation not to exceed eighteen (18) months
24 for potential fire department appointees and at least one (1) year but no
25 longer than two (2) years for potential law enforcement appointees before any
26 appointment is complete and ~~six (6)~~ twelve (12) months before any promotion
27 is complete.