

1 State of Arkansas  
2 94th General Assembly  
3 Regular Session, 2023  
4

As Engrossed: S2/15/23

# A Bill

HOUSE BILL 1018

5 By: Representative S. Meeks  
6 By: Senator B. Johnson  
7

## For An Act To Be Entitled

9 AN ACT TO AUTHORIZE A MEMBER OF A MUNICIPAL FIRE  
10 DEPARTMENT BOMB SQUAD TO LAWFULLY CARRY A WEAPON IN  
11 CERTAIN CIRCUMSTANCES; TO ALLOW MEMBERS OF A  
12 MUNICIPAL FIRE DEPARTMENT BOMB SQUAD TO CARRY A  
13 CONCEALED HANDGUN WITHOUT A LICENSE TO CARRY A  
14 CONCEALED HANDGUN IN CERTAIN CIRCUMSTANCES; AND FOR  
15 OTHER PURPOSES.  
16  
17

## Subtitle

18  
19 *TO ALLOW MEMBERS OF A MUNICIPAL FIRE*  
20 *DEPARTMENT BOMB SQUAD TO LAWFULLY CARRY A*  
21 *WEAPON IN CERTAIN CIRCUMSTANCES.*  
22  
23

24 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:  
25

26 SECTION 1. Arkansas Code § 5-73-119(e)(2), concerning circumstances in  
27 which possessing a handgun on school property is permissible, is amended to  
28 read as follows:

29 (2) The person is a law enforcement officer, correctional  
30 officer, member of a municipal fire department bomb squad who is authorized  
31 to carry a concealed handgun under § 12-15-204, or member of the armed forces  
32 acting in the course and scope of his or her official duties;  
33

34 SECTION 2. Arkansas Code § 5-73-120(c)(2), concerning circumstances in  
35 which carrying a weapon is permissible, is amended to read as follows:

36 (2) The person is a law enforcement officer, correctional



1 officer, member of a municipal fire department bomb squad who is authorized  
2 to carry a concealed handgun under § 12-15-204, or member of the armed forces  
3 acting in the course and scope of his or her official duties;

4  
5 SECTION 3. Arkansas Code § 5-73-122(a)(1)-(2), concerning carrying a  
6 firearm in publicly owned buildings or facilities, is amended to read as  
7 follows:

8 (a)(1) Except as provided in § 5-73-322, § 5-73-306(5), § 16-21-147,  
9 and this section, it is unlawful for a person other than a law enforcement  
10 officer, either on-duty or off-duty, a security guard in the employ of the  
11 state or an agency of the state or any city or county, a member of a  
12 municipal fire department bomb squad who is authorized to carry a concealed  
13 handgun under § 12-15-204, or any state or federal military personnel, to  
14 knowingly carry or possess a loaded firearm or other deadly weapon in any  
15 publicly owned building or facility or on the State Capitol grounds.

16 (2) It is unlawful for any person other than a law enforcement  
17 officer, either on-duty or off-duty, a security guard in the employ of the  
18 state or an agency of the state or any city or county, a member of a  
19 municipal fire department bomb squad who is authorized to carry a concealed  
20 handgun under § 12-15-204, or any state or federal military personnel, to  
21 knowingly carry or possess a firearm, whether loaded or unloaded, in the  
22 State Capitol Building or the Arkansas Justice Building in Little Rock.

23  
24 SECTION 4. Arkansas Code Title 12, Chapter 15, Subchapter 2, is  
25 amended to add an additional section to read as follows:

26 12-15-204. Bomb squad – Concealed carry of a handgun authorized.

27 (a) A member of a municipal fire department bomb squad may carry a  
28 concealed handgun if he or she:

29 (1) Has successfully completed the part-time law enforcement  
30 officer course of study approved by the Arkansas Commission on Law  
31 Enforcement Standards and Training, as required for specialized police  
32 personnel;

33 (2) Is acting in his or her official capacity as a member of a  
34 municipal fire department bomb squad;

35 (3) Is not subject to any disciplinary action that suspends his  
36 or her authority as a member of the municipal fire department bomb squad;

