

1 State of Arkansas
2 95th General Assembly
3 Regular Session, 2025
4
5 By: Representative Tosh
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7

A Bill

HOUSE BILL 1049

For An Act To Be Entitled

9 AN ACT TO AMEND ARKANSAS LAW CONCERNING CRIMINAL
10 OFFENSES; TO CRIMINALIZE UNLAWFUL SQUATTING; AND FOR
11 OTHER PURPOSES.

Subtitle

15 TO AMEND ARKANSAS LAW CONCERNING
16 CRIMINAL OFFENSES; AND TO CRIMINALIZE
17 UNLAWFUL SQUATTING.

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19 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:
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21 SECTION 1. Arkansas Code Title 5, Chapter 39, Subchapter 2, is amended
22 to add an additional section to read as follows:

23 5-39-215. Unlawful squatting.

24 (a) A person commits the offense of unlawful squatting if he or she:

25 (1) Knowingly enters upon the premises of another person;

26 (2) Knowingly resides on the premises of the other person under

27 (a)(1) of this section for any period of time;

28 (3) Knowingly acts without lawful authority under subdivisions

29 (a)(1) and (2) of this section; and

30 (4) Cannot produce at least one (1) of the following documents:

31 (A) A deed or mortgage statement in his or her name;

32 (B) A lease agreement that includes the name and signature
33 of the other person or an authorized representative of the other person; or

34 (C) A receipt or other reliable evidence of rent payment
35 paid to the other person or an authorized representative of the other person
36 dated within the last sixty (60) days.



1 (b) Unlawful squatting is a Class B misdemeanor.

2 (c) A law enforcement agency shall not accept a report of unlawful
3 squatting unless the report is by an owner of the premises or an authorized
4 representative of the owner.

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