

**Stricken language would be deleted from and underlined language would be added to the Arkansas Constitution.**

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

SJR 11

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By: Senators J. Payton, Stone, Flippo, Hill, Irvin, M. Johnson, Rice

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**SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION**

9 AN AMENDMENT TO THE ARKANSAS CONSTITUTION TO PROVIDE  
10 THAT THE CITIZENS OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS SHALL HAVE  
11 THE RIGHT TO KEEP AND BEAR ARMS FOR THEIR COMMON  
12 DEFENSE, FOR LAWFUL HUNTING AND RECREATIONAL USE, AND  
13 FOR ANY OTHER LAWFUL PURPOSE; PROVIDING THAT THE  
14 RIGHT TO KEEP AND BEAR ARMS INCLUDES WITHOUT  
15 LIMITATION THE POSSESSION AND USE OF AMMUNITION,  
16 FIREARM ACCESSORIES, AND FIREARM COMPONENTS;  
17 PROVIDING THAT THE RIGHT TO KEEP AND BEAR ARMS IS A  
18 NATURAL, FUNDAMENTAL, AND INDIVIDUAL RIGHT THAT SHALL  
19 NOT BE INFRINGED; AND PROVIDING THAT ANY RESTRICTION  
20 ON THE RIGHT TO KEEP AND BEAR ARMS UNDER THE ARKANSAS  
21 CONSTITUTION SHALL BE UPHELD ONLY IF IT IS NARROWLY  
22 TAILORED TO SERVE A COMPELLING STATE INTEREST.

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**Subtitle**

25 A CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT TO AMEND  
26 ARKANSAS CONSTITUTION, ARTICLE 2, § 5,  
27 TO PROTECT THE RIGHT TO KEEP AND BEAR  
28 ARMS.  
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31 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE NINETY-FIFTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE  
32 STATE OF ARKANSAS, AND BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, A MAJORITY OF ALL  
33 MEMBERS ELECTED TO EACH HOUSE AGREEING THERETO:

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35 THAT the following is proposed as an amendment to the Constitution of  
36 the State of Arkansas, and upon being submitted to the electors of the state



1 for approval or rejection at the next general election for Representatives  
 2 and Senators, if a majority of the electors voting thereon at the election  
 3 adopt the amendment, the amendment shall become a part of the Constitution of  
 4 the State of Arkansas, to wit:

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 6 SECTION 1. INTENT OF AMENDMENT. It is the intent of this amendment to  
 7 the Arkansas Constitution to protect the right to keep and bear arms granted  
 8 under the Arkansas Constitution.

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 10 SECTION 2. Arkansas Constitution, Article 2, § 5, is amended to read  
 11 as follows:

12 § 5. Right to keep and bear arms.

13 (a) The citizens of this State shall have the right to keep and bear  
 14 arms, for:

- 15 (1) ~~their~~ Their common defense;
- 16 (2) Lawful hunting and recreational use; and
- 17 (3) Any other lawful purpose.

18 (b) The right to keep and bear arms under subsection (a) of this  
 19 section includes without limitation the possession and use of:

- 20 (1) Ammunition;
- 21 (2) Firearm accessories; and
- 22 (3) Firearm components.

23 (c)(1) The right to keep and bear arms under subsection (a) of this  
 24 section is a natural, fundamental, and individual right that shall not be  
 25 infringed.

26 (2) Any restriction on the right to keep and bear arms under  
 27 subsection (a) of this section shall be upheld only if the restriction is  
 28 narrowly tailored to serve a compelling state interest.

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 30 SECTION 3. EFFECTIVE DATE. This amendment to the Arkansas  
 31 Constitution is effective on and after January 1, 2027.

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 33 SECTION 4. BALLOT TITLE AND POPULAR NAME. When this proposed  
 34 amendment is submitted to the electors of this state on the general election  
 35 ballot:

- 36 (1) The title of this joint resolution shall be the ballot

1 title; and

2                   (2) The popular name shall be "A Constitutional Amendment to  
3 Amend Arkansas Constitution, Article 2, § 5, to Protect the Right to Keep and  
4 Bear Arms.".

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