

GOVERNING BODIES

What is the difference between an ordinance and a resolution?

An ordinance is a permanent law. A resolution is temporary in nature, and for that reason, it is more appropriately used when a city wants to make known its intent on certain matters. *Kruzich v. West Memphis Util. Comm'n.*, 257 Ark. 187, 189, 515 S.W.2d 71, 72 (1974).

Proper subjects of an ordinance would include zoning, animal control, building codes, the setting of salaries and juvenile curfews, just to name a few. Resolutions are commonly used to approve specific expenditures and contracts or to recognize an employee or citizen for distinguished service to the city.