

Stricken language would be deleted from and underlined language would be added to the law as it existed prior to this session of the General Assembly.

1 State of Arkansas
2 83rd General Assembly
3 Regular Session, 2001
4

A Bill

Act 899 of 2001
HOUSE BILL 2182

5 By: Representative R. Smith
6 By: Senator T. Smith
7

For An Act To Be Entitled

10 AN ACT TO AMEND THE ARKANSAS TOURISM DEVELOPMENT ACT
11 TO ADD A DEFINITION OF "HIGH UNEMPLOYMENT"; TO REMOVE
12 THE REQUIREMENT THAT TWENTY-FIVE PERCENT OF VISITORS
13 BE FROM OUT-OF-STATE; TO CLARIFY INCOME TAX CREDITS
14 IN HIGH UNEMPLOYMENT COUNTIES; AND FOR OTHER
15 PURPOSES.
16

Subtitle

18 AN ACT TO AMEND THE TOURISM DEVELOPMENT
19 ACT TO DEFINE "HIGH UNEMPLOYMENT"; TO
20 REMOVE OUT-OF-STATE VISITATION
21 REQUIREMENT; AND TO CLARIFY INCOME TAX
22 CREDITS IN HIGH UNEMPLOYMENT COUNTIES.
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25 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:
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27 SECTION 1. Arkansas Code 15-11-503 is amended to add an additional
28 subsection to read as follows:

29 "High unemployment" means an unemployment rate equal to or in excess of
30 one hundred fifty percent (150%) of the state's average unemployment rate for
31 the preceding calendar year as specified by statewide annual labor force
32 statistics compiled by the Arkansas Employment Security Department, when the
33 state's annual average unemployment rate is six percent (6%) or below. When
34 the state's annual average unemployment rate is above six percent (6%), "high
35 unemployment" means equal to or in excess of three percent (3%) above the
36 state's average unemployment rate for the preceding calendar year as

1 specified by statewide annual labor force statistics compiled by the Arkansas
2 Employment Security Department;

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4 SECTION 2. Arkansas Code 15-11-506(b)(3)(D) is amended to read as
5 follows:

6 (D) The approved company shall not receive a credit
7 against the Arkansas sales tax imposed by § 26-52-301 et seq. with respect to
8 any calendar year if:

9 ~~(i) In any calendar year following the fourth year~~
10 ~~of the agreement, the tourism attraction project fails to attract at least~~
11 ~~twenty five percent (25%) of its visitors from among persons who are not~~
12 ~~residents of the state; or~~

13 ~~(ii) In~~ in any calendar year following the first
14 year of the agreement, the tourism attraction project is not operating and
15 open to the public on a regular and persistent basis.

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17 SECTION 3. Arkansas Code 15-11-509(c) is amended to read as follows:

18 (c) The Revenue Division of the Department of Finance and
19 Administration shall authorize an income tax credit allowed under this
20 section shall increase by a factor of four (4) equal to four hundred (400)
21 times the average hourly wage paid, with a maximum credit of six thousand
22 dollars (\$6,000) if the business is located in a high unemployment county
23 ~~that had an unemployment rate equal to or in excess of one hundred fifty~~
24 ~~percent (150%) of the state's average unemployment rate for the preceding~~
25 ~~calendar year as specified by statewide annual labor force statistics~~
26 ~~compiled by the Arkansas Employment Security Department.~~

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30 APPROVED: 3/19/2001