

Stricken language would be deleted from present law. Underlined language would be added to present law.

1 State of Arkansas
2 81st General Assembly
3 Regular Session, 1997

As Engrossed: H3/17/97

A Bill

HOUSE BILL 2128

4
5 By: Representative Hunton
6
7

For An Act To Be Entitled

8
9 "AN ACT TO CREATE THE RURAL FIRE DEPARTMENTS STUDY
10 COMMITTEE OF THE ARKANSAS GENERAL ASSEMBLY; AND FOR OTHER
11 PURPOSES."
12

Subtitle

13
14 "TO CREATE THE RURAL FIRE DEPARTMENTS
15 STUDY COMMITTEE."
16

17 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:

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19 SECTION 1. Arkansas Code 14-272-101 is amended to read as follows:

20 "14-272-101. Creation.

21 (a) There is hereby created the Rural Fire Departments Study ~~Commission~~
22 Committee of the General Assembly, to be composed of ~~sixteen (16) members to~~
23 ~~be appointed in the manner and to represent various interests as follows:~~

24 ~~—(1) Three (3) members of the Joint Interim Committee on Insurance and~~
25 ~~Commerce, one (1) to be a Senator and two (2) to be Representatives, to be~~
26 ~~appointed by the cochairmen of the Joint Interim Committee on Insurance and~~
27 ~~Commerce;~~

28 ~~—(2) Three (3) members of the Joint Interim Committee on City, County,~~
29 ~~and Local Affairs, one (1) to be a Senator and two (2) to be Representatives,~~
30 ~~to be appointed by the cochairmen of the Joint Interim Committee on City,~~
31 ~~County, and Local Affairs;~~

32 (1) Two (2) members of the House Interim Committee on Insurance and
33 Commerce to be appointed by the chairman of the committee;

34 (2) One (1) member of the Senate Interim Committee on Insurance and
35 Commerce to be appointed by the chairman of the committee;

36 (3) One (1) member of the House Interim Committee on Agriculture and

1 Economic Development to be appointed by the chairman of the committee;

2 (4) One (1) member of the House Interim Committee on City, County and
3 Local Affairs to be appointed by the chairman of the committee;

4 (5) One (1) member of the Senate Interim Committee on City, County and
5 Local Affairs to be appointed by the chairman of the committee;

6 ~~—(3) (6)~~ Two (2) members of the House of Representatives, to be
7 appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives; and

8 ~~—(4) (7)~~ Two (2) members of the Senate, to be appointed by the President
9 Pro Tempore of the Senate+.

10 (b) The following shall be nonvoting ex officio members of the
11 committee:

12 ~~—(5) (1)~~ One (1) member representing the Arkansas Farm Bureau
13 Federation, to be recommended by the Arkansas Farm Bureau Federation and
14 appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives;

15 ~~—(6) (2)~~ One (1) member representing the Independent Insurance Agents of
16 Arkansas, to be recommended by the Independent Insurance Agents of Arkansas
17 and appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives;

18 ~~—(7) (3)~~ One (1) member representing the County Judges Association, to
19 be recommended by the County Judges Association and appointed by the Speaker
20 of the House of Representatives;

21 ~~—(8) (4)~~ One (1) member representing the Arkansas Rural Fire Fighters
22 Association, to be recommended by the Arkansas Rural Fire Fighters Association
23 and appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives;

24 ~~—(9) (5)~~ One (1) member representing the Arkansas Council of
25 Professional Fire Fighters, to be recommended by the Arkansas Council of
26 Professional Fire Fighters and appointed by the Speaker of the House of
27 Representatives;

28 ~~—(10) (6)~~ One (1) member representing the Arkansas Municipal League, to
29 be recommended by the Arkansas Municipal League and appointed by the Speaker
30 of the House of Representatives+;

31 (7) One (1) member appointed by the Speaker of the House of
32 Representatives to represent the Arkansas State Firefighters' Association.

33 ~~—(b) (c)~~ The Speaker of the House of Representatives shall select one
34 (1) of the Representatives as cochairman, and the President Pro Tempore of the
35 Senate shall select one (1) of the Senators as cochairman.

36 ~~—(c) (d)~~(1) A member of the ~~commission~~ committee shall continue to serve

1 on the ~~commission~~ committee until he or she no longer wishes to serve or no
2 longer qualifies to represent or is a member of the committee, body, or
3 organization which he or she was appointed to represent.

4 (2) Any vacancy on the ~~commission~~ committee shall be filled by the
5 original appointing authority with another qualifying member of the committee,
6 body, or organization."

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8 SECTION 2. Arkansas Code 14-272-102 is amended to read as follows:

9 "14-272-102. Members - Compensation.

10 ~~— (a) Members of the commission, other than the legislative members,~~
11 ~~shall serve without compensation but may be reimbursed for expenses and travel~~
12 ~~in the maximum amounts prescribed by the Department of Finance and~~
13 ~~Administration for state employees.~~

14 ~~— (b)(1) Legislative members~~ Members of the commission committee, other
15 than ex officio members, shall be entitled to per diem and mileage at the same
16 rate authorized by law for attendance at meetings of ~~joint~~ interim committees
17 of the General Assembly and such per diem and mileage shall be paid from funds
18 appropriated for payment of per diem and mileage of members of interim
19 committees."

20 ~~— (2) Legislative members of the commission may receive payment for per~~
21 ~~diem and mileage from appropriated funds for the joint interim committees~~
22 ~~which they represent, for the joint interim committees on which they serve, or~~
23 ~~from appropriated funds for travel and expenses for the house of the General~~
24 ~~Assembly in which they serve.~~

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26 SECTION 3. Arkansas Code 14-272-103 is amended to read as follows:

27 "14-272-103. Funding study - Findings.

28 (a)(1) The Rural Fire Departments Study ~~Commission~~ Committee of the
29 General Assembly shall conduct an in-depth study of the funding of rural fire
30 departments to determine the sources and whether it is sufficient to provide
31 adequate fire protection in rural areas.

32 (2) The ~~commission~~ committee shall study and make recommendations for a
33 permanent source of funding for these rural fire departments.

34 (b) The ~~commission~~ committee shall also designate rural areas that do
35 not have adequate fire protection and make recommendations as to the needs of
36 these areas."

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SECTION 4. Arkansas Code 14-272-104 is amended to read as follows:

"14-272-104. Biennial reports.

The ~~commission~~ committee shall submit a biennial report and its recommendations for any proposed legislation to the ~~Joint Interim Committee~~ House and Senate Interim Committees on Insurance and Commerce, ~~and the Joint Interim Committee~~ House and Senate Interim Committees on City, County, and Local Affairs, and the House Interim Committee on Agriculture and Economic Development of the Arkansas General Assembly on or before September 1 of each even-numbered year."

SECTION 5. All provisions of this act of a general and permanent nature are amendatory to the Arkansas Code of 1987 Annotated and the Arkansas Code Revision Commission shall incorporate the same in the Code.

SECTION 6. If any provision of this act or the application thereof to any person or circumstance is held invalid, such invalidity shall not affect other provisions or applications of the act which can be given effect without the invalid provision or application, and to this end the provisions of this act are declared to be severable.

SECTION 7. All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this act are hereby repealed.

/s/Rep. Hunton