

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 84th General Assembly  
3 Regular Session, 2003  
4

*As Engrossed: S3/17/03 S3/25/03*

# A Bill

SENATE BILL 939

5 By: Senator Steele  
6 *By: Representatives Bledsoe, Green*  
7

## For An Act To Be Entitled

10 AN ACT TO AMEND ARKANSAS CODE § 8-7-1103 TO  
11 AUTHORIZE THE ARKANSAS DEPARTMENT OF  
12 ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY TO PROVIDE LOANS AND GRANTS  
13 FOR THE ASSESSMENT, INVESTIGATION, AND  
14 REMEDIATION OF ABANDONED INDUSTRIAL, COMMERCIAL,  
15 OR AGRICULTURAL SITES; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.  
16

## Subtitle

18 AN ACT TO AMEND ARKANSAS CODE § 8-7-  
19 1103 TO AUTHORIZE THE ARKANSAS  
20 DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY TO  
21 PROVIDE LOANS AND GRANTS.  
22  
23

24 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:  
25

26 *SECTION 1. Arkansas Code § 8-7-1103 is amended to read as follows:*  
27 *8-7-1103. Department's authority.*

28 *(a) The Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality shall have*  
29 *authority regarding a voluntary response program to provide the following:*

30 *(1) Opportunities for technical assistance for voluntary*  
31 *response actions;*

32 *(2) Adequate opportunities for public participation, including*  
33 *prior notice and opportunity for comment in appropriate circumstances, in*  
34 *selecting response actions;*

35 *(3) Streamlined procedures to ensure expeditious voluntary*  
36 *response actions;*



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1 (4) Oversight and enforcement authorities or other mechanisms  
2 that are adequate to ensure that:

3 (A) Voluntary response actions will protect human health  
4 and the environment and be conducted in accordance with applicable federal  
5 and state laws; and

6 (B) If the person conducting the voluntary response action  
7 fails to complete the necessary response activities, including operation and  
8 maintenance or long-term monitoring activities, the necessary response  
9 activities are completed;

10 (5) Mechanisms for approval of a voluntary response action plan;  
11 and

12 (6) A requirement for certification or similar documentation  
13 from the state to the person conducting the voluntary response action  
14 indicating that the response is complete.

15 (b) The department may establish and administer a revolving loan fund  
16 to make secured and unsecured loans or grants to eligible participants for  
17 the purpose of financing the assessment, investigation, or remedial actions  
18 at abandoned industrial, commercial, or agricultural sites.

19  
20 SECTION 2. EMERGENCY CLAUSE. It is found and determined by the  
21 General Assembly of the State of Arkansas that there is an urgent need to  
22 return abandoned, idled, and underused industrial, commercial, and  
23 agricultural properties, otherwise known as Brownfield sites, to productive  
24 uses; that the state would benefit by allowing grant funds already received  
25 from the federal government, as well as future grant awards and other moneys  
26 received by the Department of Environmental Quality, to be used to clean-up  
27 Brownfield sites; that a successful revolving loan fund program will assist  
28 the department to reach its goal of returning Brownfield sites to productive  
29 uses. Therefore, an emergency is declared to exist and this act being  
30 necessary for the preservation of the public peace, health, and safety shall  
31 become effective on July 1, 2003.

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33 /s/ Steele  
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