

1 State of Arkansas As Engrossed: H3/12/19 H3/18/19

2 92nd General Assembly

A Bill

3 Regular Session, 2019

HOUSE BILL 1744

4

5 By: Representatives Capp, Bentley, Maddox, Pilkington, Vaught, C. Fite

6 By: Senators B. Johnson, M. Pitsch

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For An Act To Be Entitled

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AN ACT TO CREATE THE ATV TOURISM AND TRAIL EXPANSION

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STUDY; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

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Subtitle

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TO CREATE THE ATV TOURISM AND TRAIL

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EXPANSION STUDY.

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

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SECTION 1. TEMPORARY LANGUAGE. DO NOT CODIFY. ATV Tourism and Trail

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Expansion Study – Creation – Duties.

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(a) The General Assembly finds that:

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(1) Arkansas offers an abundance of all-terrain vehicle parks

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and trails that attract nationwide all-terrain vehicle tourism to the state;

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(2) Many small businesses rely heavily on the tourism generated

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by all-terrain vehicle parks and trails;

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(3) A large number of the state's all-terrain vehicle trails are

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located within national forests, and riding all-terrain vehicles is one of

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the fastest-growing recreational uses of the state's national forests; and

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(4) State parks currently do not allow use of all-terrain

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vehicles on state forest roads.

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(b) The House Agriculture, Forestry, and Economic Development

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Committee and the Senate Agriculture, Forestry, and Economic Development

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Committee shall meet jointly to conduct the ATV Tourism and Trail Expansion

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Study.

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(c)(1) The chairs of the House Agriculture, Forestry, and Economic



1 Development Committee and the Senate Agriculture, Forestry, and Economic
2 Development Committee shall call the first joint meeting for purposes of
3 beginning the study within sixty (60) days of the effective date of this act.

4 (2) Joint meetings for purposes of conducting the study may be
5 held at various sites around the state in order to study all-terrain vehicle
6 tourism and existing and potential all-terrain vehicle trail sites. All
7 meetings shall be open public meetings under the Freedom of Information Act
8 of 1967, Arkansas Code § 25-19-101 et seq.

9 (3) Joint meetings for purposes of conducting the study shall be
10 held at least one (1) time every three (3) months but may occur more often at
11 the call of the chairs.

12 (d) The purpose of the study is to make recommendations to the General
13 Assembly regarding the creation, development, and implementation of a
14 statewide all-terrain vehicle trails system utilizing existing state roads to
15 connect forest roads and all-terrain vehicle trails in national forests in
16 order to:

17 (1) Increase all-terrain vehicle tourism and economic
18 development in the state; and

19 (2) Promote the economic well-being of small businesses catering
20 to all-terrain vehicle tourism.

21 (e) In order to fulfill the purpose of this act, the House
22 Agriculture, Forestry, and Economic Development Committee and the Senate
23 Agriculture, Forestry, and Economic Development Committee shall conduct a
24 study to include without limitation the following:

25 (1) The feasibility of creating a statewide all-terrain vehicle
26 trails system;

27 (2) Criteria for acceptance of an existing state road into the
28 statewide all-terrain vehicle trails system;

29 (3) Issues surrounding administration of the statewide all-
30 terrain vehicle trails system, including consulting with the Arkansas
31 Department of Transportation and the Department of Parks and Tourism; and

32 (4) Similar all-terrain trails systems in other states.

33 (f) On or before December 1, 2020, the House Agriculture, Forestry,
34 and Economic Development Committee and the Senate Agriculture, Forestry, and
35 Economic Development Committee shall file with the Legislative Council a
36 final written report of their activities, findings, and recommendations, and

1 the study shall be complete upon that submission.

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/s/Capp

APPROVED: 4/3/19