

1 INTERIM STUDY PROPOSAL 2019-123

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3 REQUESTING THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE, FORESTRY, AND  
4 ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT STUDY THE PERMITTING PROCESS IN OTHER STATES  
5 FOR ANIMAL WASTE.  
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7 WHEREAS, agriculture is the largest industry in Arkansas, and poultry,  
8 dairy, and swine farmers are a critical piece of that industry; and  
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10 WHEREAS, poultry and livestock produce animal waste that must be  
11 carefully stored and utilized in order to keep the waters of our state safe  
12 and to meet federal and state requirements; and  
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14 WHEREAS, due to the type of livestock or poultry involved, Arkansas  
15 farmers currently may be required to obtain permits regarding animal waste  
16 from, and be subject to enforcement by, different state agencies; and  
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18 WHEREAS, our farmers deserve efficiency in state government in  
19 permitting and enforcement processes, which will better maintain and grow our  
20 agricultural industry,  
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22 NOW THEREFORE,

23 BE IT PROPOSED BY THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE, FORESTRY, AND ECONOMIC  
24 DEVELOPMENT OF THE NINETY-SECOND GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:

25 THAT the House Committee on Agriculture, Forestry, and Economic  
26 Development conduct a study on the permitting processes used in other states  
27 for animal waste in order to review best practices and make recommendations  
28 on how to best streamline our permitting processes for Arkansas farmers while  
29 protecting water quality throughout the state.  
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31 Respectfully submitted,  
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34 Representative Mary Bentley

35 District 73

36 Prepared by: CRH/CRH