

1 INTERIM STUDY PROPOSAL 2019-189

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3 REQUESTING THAT THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON STATE AGENCIES AND  
4 GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS CONDUCT A STUDY OF THE LOST 40 AND THE  
5 FEASIBILITY OF THE STATE ASSUMING MANAGEMENT OF THE LOST 40 TO  
6 CREATE A STATE PARK.

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8 WHEREAS, the Lost 40 is a forty-acre tract of forest in southeastern  
9 Calhoun County located along a tributary of Moro Creek known as Wolf Branch;  
10 and

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12 WHEREAS, the Lost 40 is known for its large, mature trees, with some  
13 trees estimated to be more than two hundred (200) years old and standing more  
14 than one hundred fifty (150') feet tall; and

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16 WHEREAS, the Lost 40 is described generally as a mixed bottomland  
17 hardwood-loblolly pine forest, with a variety of forest and soil types  
18 present on the tract of land; and

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20 WHEREAS, nearly one hundred fifty (150) different species of plants,  
21 including thirty-eight (38) different varieties of trees, have been  
22 documented as being present on the tract by the Arkansas Natural Heritage  
23 Commission; and

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25 WHEREAS, the Lost 40 is currently owned by PotlatchDeltic Corporation  
26 and is protected by a forty-year cooperative management agreement signed in  
27 1996 by PotlatchDeltic Corporation and the Arkansas Natural Heritage  
28 Commission; and

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30 WHEREAS, access to the Lost 40 is currently very limited; and

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32 WHEREAS, the Lost 40 is believed to be among some of the last remaining  
33 untouched forests in this state, which makes the Lost 40 a unique area that  
34 could provide individuals with a rare opportunity to study information on an  
35 original forest structure in the region and to appreciate the natural beauty  
36 for which this state is known,

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NOW THEREFORE,  
BE IT PROPOSED BY THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON STATE AGENCIES AND GOVERNMENTAL  
AFFAIRS OF THE NINETY-THIRD GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:

THAT the Senate Committee on State Agencies and Governmental Affairs  
conduct a study of the Lost 40, including a review of the cooperative  
agreement between PotlatchDeltic Corporation and the Arkansas Natural  
Heritage Commission, and of the feasibility of the state assuming management  
of the Lost 40 in order to turn the Lost 40 into a state park for public use.

Respectfully submitted,

Senator Trent Garner  
District 27

Prepared by: CRH/CRH