

1 State of Arkansas  
2 94th General Assembly  
3 Regular Session, 2023  
4

# A Bill

SENATE BILL 428

5 By: Senator Caldwell  
6 By: Representative Hollowell  
7

## For An Act To Be Entitled

9 AN ACT TO AMEND THE LAW CONCERNING THE PINE TREE  
10 RESEARCH STATION; TO ALLOW THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF  
11 THE UNIVERSITY OF ARKANSAS TO ENTER INTO A LEASE  
12 AGREEMENT WITH THE DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES; TO  
13 DECLARE AN EMERGENCY; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.  
14

## Subtitle

15  
16 TO AMEND THE LAW CONCERNING THE PINE TREE  
17 RESEARCH STATION; TO ALLOW THE BOARD OF  
18 TRUSTEES OF THE UNIVERSITY OF ARKANSAS TO  
19 ENTER INTO A LEASE AGREEMENT WITH THE  
20 DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES; AND TO  
21 DECLARE AN EMERGENCY.  
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23  
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25 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:  
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27 SECTION 1. Arkansas Code § 6-64-718, concerning the preservation of  
28 Pine Tree Research Station, is amended to add an additional subsection to  
29 read as follows:

30 (e)(1) All property commonly known as the "Pine Tree Research  
31 Station", located in St. Francis County, Arkansas, acquired by the Board of  
32 Trustees of the University of Arkansas from the United States of America,  
33 acting through the United States Forest Service in 1978, consisting of  
34 buildings and approximately five (5) acres of real property formerly used by  
35 the Department of Human Services may be leased to the department.

36 (2) A lease agreement executed under subdivision (e)(1) of this



1 section shall include an agreement between the Board of Trustees of the  
2 University of Arkansas and the department stating that the department shall  
3 be responsible for all upkeep, maintenance, and improvement of the buildings  
4 and approximately five (5) acres of real property subject to the lease under  
5 subdivision (e)(1).

6 (3) All lease payments or funds provided to the Board of  
7 Trustees of the University of Arkansas by the department under a lease  
8 agreement executed under subdivision (e)(1) of this section shall be used for  
9 the upkeep and maintenance of the property commonly known as the "Pine Tree  
10 Research Station", located in St. Francis County, except the funds shall not  
11 be used for the upkeep and maintenance of the portion of the "Pine Tree  
12 Research Station" used for row crop cultivation in the year 2020.

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14 SECTION 2. EMERGENCY CLAUSE. It is found and determined by the  
15 General Assembly of the State of Arkansas that the Pine Tree Research  
16 Station, located in St. Francis County, Arkansas, acquired by the Board of  
17 Trustees of the University of Arkansas from the United States of America,  
18 acting through the United States Forest Service in 1978, has buildings and  
19 approximately five (5) acres of real property formerly used by the Department  
20 of Human Services located on the property; that the department provides  
21 essential services to impaired individuals in the state; that the department  
22 is in need of facilities to provide services for the health and safety of  
23 certain impaired individuals; and that this act is immediately necessary  
24 because time restricted funds are available to assist in the provision of  
25 services by the department in facilities located at Pine Tree Research  
26 Station. Therefore, an emergency is declared to exist, and this act being  
27 immediately necessary for the preservation of the public peace, health, and  
28 safety shall become effective on:

29 (1) The date of its approval by the Governor;

30 (2) If the bill is neither approved nor vetoed by the Governor,  
31 the expiration of the period of time during which the Governor may veto the  
32 bill; or

33 (3) If the bill is vetoed by the Governor and the veto is  
34 overridden, the date the last house overrides the veto.