REQUESTING THE ARKANSAS LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL OF THE NINETIETH
ARKANSAS GENERAL ASSEMBLY TO REFER TO THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON
PUBLIC HEALTH, WELFARE, AND LABOR A STUDY OF THE PRESENT
STATUTORY FRAMEWORK REGARDING WASTE TIRES WITH THE GOAL OF
FINDING SOLUTIONS TO THE CONTINUING PROBLEMS THAT ESCAPE THE
EXISTING FRAMEWORK.

WHEREAS, although Arkansas created in 1991 a statewide program to
protect the public health and the state’s environmental quality by setting
and implementing standards to be followed in the hauling, storage, recycling,
and disposal of waste tires, problems with waste tires continue to affect
public health and safety and the environment in this state; and

WHEREAS, waste tire dumps can attract rodents and mosquitoes,
create the danger of disease, and present serious fire hazard; and
in recent days, a fire erupted in an illegal waste tire dump in Southeast
Pulaski County; and

WHEREAS, in recent days, a fire erupted in an illegal waste tire dump
in Southeast Pulaski County; and

WHEREAS, according to the Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality
that fire caused chemicals in the tires to break down and leak into the
ground; and

WHEREAS, the department reported that any groundwater contamination
resulting from the fire would fall under Arkansas Department of Environmental
Quality solid waste regulations, but the site is not considered a hazardous
waste dump; and

WHEREAS, the fire erupted despite the repeated attempts of the
Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality to contact the owners of the
property to begin the process of remediation; and
WHEREAS, this fire and its consequences occurred despite the extensive statutory framework presently in place in this state and despite the long struggle by state and local to control illegal waste tire dumps; and

WHEREAS, a study by the Southern Legislative Conference shows that new legislation is needed across the region to confront the continuing problem of illegal waste tire dumping,

NOW THEREFORE,

BE IT PROPOSED BY THE ARKANSAS LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL OF THE NINETIETH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:

THAT the Arkansas Legislative Council of the Ninetieth Arkansas General Assembly refer to the Senate Committee on Public Health, Welfare, and Labor a study of the present statutory framework regarding waste tires with the goal of finding solutions to the continuing problems that escape the existing framework.

Respectfully submitted,

Senator Linda Chesterfield
District 30

By: MGF/LNS