

1 INTERIM STUDY PROPOSAL 2015-157

2
3 REQUESTING THE ARKANSAS LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL OF THE NINETIETH
4 ARKANSAS GENERAL ASSEMBLY TO REFER TO THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON
5 PUBLIC HEALTH, WELFARE, AND LABOR A STUDY OF THE PRESENT
6 STATUTORY FRAMEWORK REGARDING WASTE TIRES WITH THE GOAL OF
7 FINDING SOLUTIONS TO THE CONTINUING PROBLEMS THAT ESCAPE THE
8 EXISTING FRAMEWORK.
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10 WHEREAS, although Arkansas created in 1991 a statewide program to
11 protect the public health and the state's environmental quality by setting
12 and implementing standards to be followed in the hauling, storage, recycling,
13 and disposal of waste tires, problems with waste tires continue to affect
14 public health and safety and the environment in this state; and
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16 WHEREAS, waste tire dumps can attract rodents and mosquitoes,
17 create the danger of disease, and present serious fire hazard; and
18 in recent days, a fire erupted in an illegal waste tire dump in Southeast
19 Pulaski County; and
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21 WHEREAS, in recent days, a fire erupted in an illegal waste tire dump
22 in Southeast Pulaski County; and
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24 WHEREAS, according to the Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality
25 that fire caused chemicals in the tires to break down and leak into the
26 ground; and
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28 WHEREAS, the department reported that any groundwater contamination
29 resulting from the fire would fall under Arkansas Department of Environmental
30 Quality solid waste regulations, but the site is not considered a hazardous
31 waste dump; and
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33 WHEREAS, the fire erupted despite the repeated attempts of the
34 Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality to contact the owners of the
35 property to begin the process of remediation; and
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1 WHEREAS, this fire and its consequences occurred despite the extensive
2 statutory framework presently in place in this state and despite the long
3 struggle by state and local to control illegal waste tire dumps; and
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5 WHEREAS, a study by the Southern Legislative Conference shows that new
6 legislation is needed across the region to confront the continuing problem of
7 illegal waste tire dumping,
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9 NOW THEREFORE,

10 BE IT PROPOSED BY THE ARKANSAS LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL OF THE NINETIETH GENERAL
11 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:
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13 THAT the Arkansas Legislative Council of the Ninetieth Arkansas General
14 Assembly refer to the Senate Committee on Public Health, Welfare, and Labor a
15 study of the present statutory framework regarding waste tires with the goal
16 of finding solutions to the continuing problems that escape the existing
17 framework.
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19 Respectfully submitted,
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23 Senator Linda Chesterfield
24 District 30
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27 By: MGF/LNS
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