

State of Arkansas

77th General Assembly

Regular Session, 1989

A Bill

HOUSE BILL

1035

By: Representative Purdom

For An Act To Be Entitled

"AN ACT TO AMEND CHAPTER 23 OF TITLE 15 OF THE ARKANSAS CODE TO ESTABLISH THE BUFFALO NATIONAL RIVER COMMISSION; TO PRESCRIBE THE FUNCTIONS AND DUTIES OF THE COMMISSION; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES."

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:

SECTION 1. Chapter 23 of Title 15 of the Arkansas Code is hereby amended by adding a new subchapter to read as follows:

"Subchapter 7. Buffalo National River Commission.

15-23-701. There is hereby created the Buffalo National River Commission. The commission shall be composed of (1) the county judge of Baxter County, (2) the county judge of Marion County, (3) the county judge of Newton County, (4) the county judge of Searcy County, (5) one qualified elector of each of the above named counties to be appointed by the Governor, (6) each member of the Arkansas Senate and of the Arkansas House of Representatives whose legislative district encompasses or touches any portion of the Buffalo National River, and (7) the director of the Arkansas Department of Parks and Tourism. The four original citizen members appointed by the Governor shall be appointed for terms such that one will expire in 1990, one in 1991, one in 1992, and one in 1993. Thereafter, the terms of citizen members appointed by the Governor shall be four (4) years.

15-23-702. The Governor shall designate one of the members to serve as chairman of the commission at the first meeting of the commission. The person designated as chairman of the commission shall call a meeting of the commission within sixty (60) days after his or her appointment and designation as chairman. At the first meeting of the commission, the commission shall select from its membership a chairman and such other officers as it deems

appropriate. The chairman first selected by the commission and each chairman selected by the commission thereafter shall serve as chairman of the commission for a term of two (2) years.

15-23-703. The commission shall meet at least two times per year and at such other times as it deems appropriate. The chairman shall notify all members of the commission of each meeting of the commission and in addition shall cause notice of all meetings to be sent to each newspaper published in Baxter County, Marion County, Newton County and Searcy County.

15-23-704. Members of the commission shall serve without compensation.

15-23-705. The commission shall have the authority and responsibility to confer and advise with all governmental entities and all individuals having authority or responsibility to make or implement decisions or policies regarding the Buffalo National River and its environs."

SECTION 2. All provisions of this Act of a general and permanent nature are amendatory to the Arkansas Code of 1987 Annotated and the Arkansas Code Revision Commission shall incorporate the same in the Code.

SECTION 3. All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this Act are hereby repealed.

SECTION 4. EMERGENCY. It is hereby found and determined by the General Assembly that decisions concerning the Buffalo National River vitally affect the local governments and the various communities in the area of the river; that there is currently no body authorized to confer and advise with the governmental entities and individuals having authority and responsibility to make and implement decisions or policies regarding the Buffalo National River and its environs; that this act is designed to establish a body with such authority and responsibility and should be given effect immediately. Therefore, an emergency is hereby declared to exist and this Act being necessary for the preservation of the public peace, health and safety shall be in full force and effect from and after its passage and approval.