

Stricken language would be deleted from and underlined language would be added to law as it existed prior to the 82nd General Assembly.

1 State of Arkansas
2 82nd General Assembly
3 Regular Session, 1999

A Bill

HOUSE BILL 1137

4
5 By: Representatives Lancaster, Simmons, B. Johnson, Milum, Gullett, J. Jeffress, French, Broadway,
6 Bevis, Salmon, G. Jeffress, Creekmore
7 By: Senators Scott, Edwards, Mahony, D. Malone, Roebuck, Hill, Ross, Gordon, Riggs, Hunter, K. Smith,
8 Canada, Wooldridge, Critcher, Bradford, Everett

For An Act To Be Entitled

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11
12 "AN ACT TO AMEND ARKANSAS CODE 15-31-101, 15-31-
13 102(a), AND 15-31-106(a)(1) TO CLARIFY THE MISSION AND
14 TO MORE SPECIFICALLY DEFINE THE POWERS, FUNCTIONS AND
15 DUTIES OF THE ARKANSAS FORESTRY COMMISSION; AND FOR
16 OTHER PURPOSES. "

Subtitle

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18
19 "TO AMEND THE ARKANSAS CODE TO CLARIFY
20 THE MISSION AND TO MORE SPECIFICALLY
21 DEFINE THE POWERS, FUNCTIONS AND DUTIES
22 OF THE ARKANSAS FORESTRY COMMISSION. "

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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 15-31-101 is amended to read as follows:
28 "15-31-101. Creation.

29 ~~For the purpose of raising the level of income of the people of this~~
30 ~~state through the development of its forest industry by providing~~
31 ~~comprehensive and uniform protection of forest trees and by making available~~
32 ~~technical assistance and information relating to the proper utilization of~~
33 ~~forest lands, including the most scientific methods of timber harvesting and~~
34 ~~artificial reforestation, there is created and established at the seat of~~
35 ~~government of this state a State Forestry Commission."~~

36 There is hereby created the Arkansas Forestry Commission. It shall be

1 the mission of the commission to promote forest resource health, conservation,
 2 and stewardship. The commission shall cooperate with federal and state
 3 agencies, forest landowners, residents, and organizations in the prevention,
 4 detection, and suppression of wildland fires, in the control of forest insects
 5 and diseases, in the growth and distribution of forest tree seedlings, and in
 6 providing technical assistance and information relating to the most scientific
 7 methods of timber harvesting, reforestation, forest resource protection and
 8 development, to the end that the forests throughout the State may be
 9 perpetuated."

10
 11 SECTION 2. Arkansas Code 15-31-102(a) is amended to read as follows:

12 "(a) The ~~State~~ Arkansas Forestry Commission shall consist of nine (9)
 13 members to be appointed by the Governor, by and with the advice and consent of
 14 the Senate, from resident electors of this state having a long-standing
 15 interest in the ~~industry as described in § 15-31-101~~ forest resources of
 16 Arkansas.

17 (1) Three (3) of the nine (9) members appointed to the commission
 18 shall be small tree farmers. As used in this section, 'small tree farmer'
 19 means a person owning timber acreage of two hundred fifty (250) acres or less.

20 (2) Each congressional district shall be represented on the
 21 commission."

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 23 SECTION 3. Arkansas Code 15-31-106(a)(1) is amended to read as follows:

24 "(1) Cooperate with the Secretary of Agriculture of the United States,
 25 or ~~his~~ the Secretary's authorized ~~representative~~ agent, with the College of
 26 Agriculture and School of Forest Resources of the University of Arkansas
 27 System, with the Arkansas Economic Development Commission, with other state
 28 agencies, and with ~~the~~ farmers, forest owners, and other residents ~~or~~ and
 29 organizations of the state to achieve the mission of the Arkansas Forestry
 30 Commission in the prevention and suppression of forest fires and in the
 31 control of forest insects and diseases; in the growing and distribution of
 32 forest planting stock; and in cooperation with the College of Agriculture of
 33 the University of Arkansas, in the gathering and dissemination of information
 34 concerning the growth, utilization, and renewal of forests; to the end that
 35 the forests throughout the state may be perpetuated;"

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1 SECTION 4. All provisions of this Act of a general and permanent nature
2 are amendatory to the Arkansas Code of 1987 Annotated and the Arkansas Code
3 Revision Commission shall incorporate the same in the Code.

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5 SECTION 5. If any provision of this Act or the application thereof to
6 any person or circumstance is held invalid, such invalidity shall not affect
7 other provisions or applications of the Act which can be given effect without
8 the invalid provision or application, and to this end the provisions of this
9 Act are declared to be severable.

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11 SECTION 6. All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this Act are
12 hereby repealed.