

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
4

As Engrossed: H4/6/99
A Bill

HOUSE BILL 2195

5 By: Representative Womack
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8 **For An Act To Be Entitled**

9 " AN ACT TO REQUIRE THE ARKANSAS RURAL DEVELOPMENT
10 COMMISSION TO STUDY RURAL FIRE DEPARTMENTS AND THEIR
11 ISO RATINGS; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES. "

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13 **Subtitle**

14 "AN ACT TO REQUIRE THE ARKANSAS RURAL
15 DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION TO STUDY RURAL
16 FIRE DEPARTMENTS AND THEIR ISO RATINGS. "

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19 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:
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21 SECTION 1. It is found and determined by the General Assembly that:

22 (1) Approximately nine hundred forty (940) fire stations exist in the
23 state and approximately sixty percent (60%) have either a ten (10) or a nine
24 (9) in ISO ratings, which means homeowners must pay the highest insurance
25 rates;

26 (2) The availability of water is the main reason for the poor ratings,
27 because to get an ISO rating of eight (8) the fire department must be able to
28 pump two hundred fifty (250) gallons per minute for two (2) hours;

29 (3) Insurance premiums go down by thirty-five percent (35%) when an ISO
30 rating goes down from ten (10) to an eight (8);

31 (4) Reducing the ISO rating from a ten (10) to an eight (8) would
32 provide substantial savings to the homeowner and save the citizens of this
33 state millions of dollars; and

34 (5) Reducing the rate would also improve safety in the community.
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36 SECTION 2. The Arkansas Rural Development Commission shall conduct a

1 study of all rural fire departments and their ISO ratings. The study shall
2 include an examination of why so many fire departments have an ISO rating of
3 over eight (8), list needs of these fire departments in order to achieve a
4 better rating, and make recommendations for policies and programs necessary to
5 correct the problem. The Arkansas Rural Development Commission shall submit
6 its findings to the House and Senate Committees on Agriculture and Economic
7 Development and to the Governor by July 1, 2000.

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9 SECTION 3. All provisions of this act of a general and permanent nature
10 are amendatory to the Arkansas Code of 1987 Annotated and the Arkansas Code
11 Revision Commission shall incorporate the same in the Code.

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13 SECTION 4. If any provision of this act or the application thereof to
14 any person or circumstance is held invalid, such invalidity shall not affect
15 other provisions or applications of the act which can be given effect without
16 the invalid provision or application, and to this end the provisions of this
17 act are declared to be severable.

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19 SECTION 5. All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this act are
20 hereby repealed.

21 /s/ Womack
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