

Stricken language would be deleted from and underlined language would be added to the law as it existed prior to this session of the General Assembly.

1 State of Arkansas  
2 84th General Assembly  
3 Regular Session, 2003  
4

# A Bill

HOUSE BILL 2363

5 By: Representatives Jackson, Milligan, Norton, Hathorn, Scroggin, Weaver  
6 By: Senator Laverty  
7  
8

## For An Act To Be Entitled

10 AN ACT TO CREATE THE ARKANSAS YOUNG AND BEGINNING  
11 FARMER ADVISORY BOARD, TO PROVIDE FOR APPOINTMENT  
12 OF MEMBERS, AND TO DESCRIBE ITS POWERS AND  
13 DUTIES; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.  
14

## Subtitle

15 TO CREATE THE ARKANSAS YOUNG AND  
16 BEGINNING FARMER ADVISORY BOARD.  
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20 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:  
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22 SECTION 1. Arkansas Code Title 2, Chapter 1, is amended to add an  
23 additional subchapter to read as follows:

24 Subchapter 2 - Arkansas Young and Beginning Farmer Advisory Board  
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26 2-1-201. Established.

27 (a) The Arkansas Young and Beginning Farmer Advisory Board is  
28 established to advise the agriculturally-related agencies of state government  
29 with respect to impact the agencies have on the future of agriculture and the  
30 agricultural way of life in Arkansas, and to help the young Arkansas farmers  
31 to appreciate their heritage and agricultural work in relation to the history  
32 and the economy of Arkansas.

33 (b) The offices of the board shall be located with the Arkansas  
34 Department of Economic Development in Little Rock, Pulaski County, Arkansas  
35 and the department shall provide administrative staff for the board and its  
36 committees.



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2-1-202. Board qualifications and terms.

(a) The Arkansas Young and Beginning Farmer Advisory Board shall consist of twenty-two (22) members who are residents and electors of this state.

(b)(1) The membership of the board shall be made up of young persons interested in the preservation and development of agriculture in Arkansas, and preservation of the agricultural way of life.

(2) Members of the board shall be under the age of forty-five (45) years at the beginning of the member's term.

(3)(A) At least sixteen (16) of the members shall be full-time farmers having eighty percent (80%) or more of the farmer's personal income from farming or agricultural activities; and

(B) The remainder of the board's membership may be less than full-time farmers or persons employed in an agriculturally-related business.

(c)(1) Except for the initial terms of the board, each member shall serve for a term of two (2) years. The term of office of each member of the board shall begin on January 15 following the expiration date of the predecessor's term and shall end on January 14 of the second year following the year in which the term commenced. The terms of the initial members shall be staggered evenly between one (1) year and two (2) years as may be determined by lot at the board's first meeting.

(2) Any vacancies arising in the membership of the board for any reason other than expiration of the regular terms shall be filled by appointment by the appointing authority effective until the expiration of the regular term.

2-1-203. Board membership.

The membership of the Arkansas Young and Beginning Farmer Advisory Board shall be as follows:

(1) Four (4) members appointed by the Governor;

(2) Two (2) members appointed by the Lieutenant Governor;

(3) One (1) member appointed by each United States Senator for Arkansas and shall represent the state at large;

(4) One (1) member appointed by each Arkansas Representative of the

1 United States House of Representatives who shall reside in the  
 2 Representative's congressional district;

3 (5) Two (2) members appointed by the President Pro Tempore of the  
 4 Arkansas Senate;

5 (6) Two (2) members appointed by the Speaker of the Arkansas House of  
 6 Representatives;

7 (7) Three (3) members appointed by the Dean of the University of  
 8 Arkansas College of Agriculture to represent each Cooperative Extension  
 9 Service area;

10 (8) One (1) member appointed by the Director of the Arkansas Livestock  
 11 and Poultry Commission;

12 (9) One (1) member appointed by the Director of the Arkansas Soil and  
 13 Water Conservation Commission;

14 (10) One (1) member appointed by the Director of the State Plant  
 15 Board;

16 (11) One (1) member appointed by the State Forester; and

17 (12) One (1) member appointed by the Director of the Arkansas  
 18 Department of Economic Development.

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 20 2-1-204. Powers and duties.

21 The Arkansas Young and Beginning Farmer Advisory Board shall:

22 (1) Communicate to the general public and the federal government the  
 23 importance of young and beginning farmers to agriculture in the State of  
 24 Arkansas;

25 (2) Address issues relating to the needs of young and beginning  
 26 farmers in Arkansas;

27 (3) Establish committees to develop projects relating to the aspects  
 28 of life for young and beginning farmers in Arkansas;

29 (4) Hold meetings of the board at least four (4) times a year during  
 30 each calendar quarter of the year, and report by December 31 of each year to  
 31 the Governor, the Speaker of the House of Representatives, and the President  
 32 Pro Tempore of the Senate; and

33 (5) Promulgate a mission statement and administrative procedures  
 34 necessary to implement the subchapter.

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 36 2-1-205. Meetings.

1       (a) The Dean of the University of Arkansas College of Agriculture  
2 shall call the first meeting of the Arkansas Young and Beginning Farmer  
3 Advisory Board.

4       (b)(1) At the first meeting, the board shall select from its  
5 membership a chair, a vice-chair, and a secretary that shall serve until the  
6 first meeting of the board in the following year.

7       (2) The board shall elect officers annually to serve one-year  
8 terms at the board's first meeting of each calendar year.

9       (c)(1) The board shall divide itself into four (4) committees for  
10 finance, education, environment, and product promotion.

11       (2) Each internal committee shall have a chair elected by the  
12 board.

13       (d) A quorum shall consist of not less than a majority of the  
14 membership of the board and the affirmative vote of that number is necessary  
15 for the disposition of the board's business.

16       (e)(1) Members of the board shall receive no pay for services with  
17 respect to attendance at each regular or special meeting of the board.

18       (2)(A) However, if funds are appropriated for the purpose,  
19 members are entitled to reimbursement under § 25-16-902 for each day the  
20 board is in session.

21       (B) Reimbursement is in an amount equal to the maximum  
22 daily allowance for meals and lodging paid, as provided by law, to a state  
23 employee for in-state travel, plus mileage at the rate per mile provided by  
24 law for the reimbursement of mileage expense for state employees for travel  
25 from their homes to the place of the meeting and return.

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27       2-1-206. Ancillary committee.

28       (a) The Arkansas Young and Beginning Farmer Advisory Board may  
29 establish under its administrative procedures an ancillary committee of  
30 outside agricultural representatives to assist and advise the board and work  
31 on projects designated by the board.

32       (b) The ancillary committee may be composed of members from each of  
33 the following organizations and agriculturally-related businesses:

34       (1) Arkansas Farm Bureau Federation, Inc.;

35       (2) Arkansas Cattlemen's Association;

36       (3) Arkansas Poultry Federation;

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- (4) The Arkansas aquaculture industry;
- (5) The Arkansas row crop producers; and
- (6) Other agriculture promotion groups, boards, and commissions.