

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 86th General Assembly
3 Regular Session, 2007
4

As Engrossed: H3/7/07 H3/13/07

A Bill

HOUSE BILL 2460

5 By: Representatives Webb, Adcock, T. Baker, Blount, Bond, T. Bradford, Breedlove, E. Brown, J.
6 Brown, Burris, Cash, Cheatham, Chesterfield, Cook, D. Creekmore, Dickinson, S. Dobbins, Dunn,
7 Edwards, Garner, Hall, Harrelson, House, Hoyt, D. Hutchinson, Hyde, D. Johnson, J. Johnson, W.
8 Lewellen, Lovell, Maloch, Moore, Pate, Pennartz, Petrus, Pickett, Pierce, Powers, S. Prater, Rainey,
9 Reep, Reynolds, J. Roebuck, Saunders, Schulte, Shelby, L. Smith, Stewart, Sullivan, Sumpter, Wagner,
10 Walters, Wills, Woods, *Rosenbaum, Maxwell*
11 By: Senators Argue, Broadway, Brown, Bryles, Faris, J. Jeffress, Madison, Malone, Salmon, R.
12 Thompson, *Crumbly*
13
14

For An Act To Be Entitled

15 AN ACT TO ESTABLISH THE GOVERNOR'S COMMISSION ON
16 GLOBAL WARMING; TO DIRECT THE COMMISSION TO STUDY
17 ISSUES RELATED TO GLOBAL WARMING AND THE EMERGING
18 CARBON MARKET; TO ESTABLISH A GLOBAL WARMING
19 POLLUTANT REDUCTION GOAL AND COMPREHENSIVE
20 STRATEGIC PLAN; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.
21

Subtitle

22
23 TO ESTABLISH THE GOVERNOR'S COMMISSION
24 ON GLOBAL WARMING; TO DIRECT THE
25 COMMISSION TO STUDY ISSUES RELATED TO
26 GLOBAL WARMING; AND TO ESTABLISH A
27 GLOBAL WARMING POLLUTANT REDUCTION GOAL
28 AND COMPREHENSIVE STRATEGIC PLAN.
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32 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:
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34 SECTION 1. Commission established – Membership.

35 (a) The Governor's Commission on Global Warming is hereby created and
36 established, referred to hereafter as the "commission".



1 (b) The commission shall be composed of twenty-one (21) members
2 appointed as follows:

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

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

7 (3) Seventeen (17) members appointed by the Governor as follows:

8 (A) One (1) member from the public energy sector;

9 (B) One (1) member from a rural electric cooperative;

10 (C) One (1) member from the municipal energy sector;

11 (D) Two (2) members from the agriculture sector;

12 (E) One (1) member from the forestry sector;

13 (F) Two (2) members from separate nonprofit environmental
14 organizations;

15 (G)(i) Three (3) members who are scientists from an
16 accredited state institution of higher education;

17 (ii) One (1) of the three (3) scientists shall be a
18 climatologist;

19 (H) One (1) member from the state Chamber of
20 Commerce/Associated Industries of Arkansas;

21 (I) One (1) member of the AFL-CIO;

22 (J) One (1) member who is an economist from an accredited
23 state institution of higher education;

24 (K) One (1) member from the construction industry with
25 experience in sustainable energy construction or design; and

26 (L) Two (2) members who are citizens at large.

27 (c) The commission shall establish and appoint an advisory body
28 composed of the directors of the following state agencies or his or her
29 designee:

30 (1) Arkansas Agriculture Department;

31 (2) Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality;

32 (3) Arkansas Forestry Commission;

33 (4) Arkansas Highway and Transportation Department;

34 (5) Arkansas Natural Resources Commission;

35 (6) Arkansas Public Service Commission;

36 (7) Arkansas State Game and Fish Commission;

- 1 (8) Department of Economic Development;
2 (9) Department of Parks and Tourism; and
3 (10) Oil and Gas Commission.

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5 SECTION 2. Co-chairs.

6 The commission shall have two (2) co-chairs to be elected from among
7 the members of the commission.

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9 SECTION 3. Quorum.

10 A quorum of the commission shall consist of a majority of the members.

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12 SECTION 4. Vacancies.

13 A vacancy on the commission shall be filled as soon as possible by the
14 appointing authority.

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16 SECTION 5. Purpose and duties.

17 (a) The commission shall conduct an in-depth examination and
18 evaluation of the issues related to global warming and the potential impacts
19 of global warming on the state, its citizens, its natural resources, and its
20 economy, including without limitation, agriculture, travel and tourism,
21 recreation, insurance, and economic growth and development.

22 (b) Based on the commission's evaluation of the current global warming
23 data, the assessment of global warming mitigation strategies, and the
24 available global warming pollutant reduction strategies, the commission shall
25 set forth:

26 (1) A global warming pollutant reduction goal; and

27 (2) A comprehensive strategic plan for implementation of the
28 global warming pollutant reduction goal.

29 (c) The commission shall present its global warming pollutant
30 reduction goal and comprehensive strategic plan for consideration to the
31 Eighty-Seventh General Assembly and develop findings and recommendations as
32 may be directed thereafter by the Eighty-Seventh General Assembly.

33 (d) The purpose of the global warming pollutant reduction goal and
34 comprehensive strategic plan is to place Arkansas in a position to help
35 stabilize the global climate, to allow Arkansas to lead the nation in
36 attracting clean and renewable energy industries to our state, and to reduce

1 consumer energy dependence on current carbon-generating technologies and
2 expenditures.

3 (e) In fulfilling its purpose under this act, the commission shall:

4 (1) Review current scientific literature on the causes of global
5 warming;

6 (2) Review actions taken by the federal government and by other
7 states to address global warming;

8 (3) Evaluate the available data regarding emissions of
9 greenhouse gases from within the state and evaluate the extent to which
10 reductions in the emissions of greenhouse gases in the state may affect
11 global warming;

12 (4) Evaluate the economic opportunities for the state from the
13 emerging carbon market that may result from international, national, and
14 local efforts to address the effect of global warming;

15 (5) Conduct a cost-effectiveness analysis based on the projected
16 expenses of taking immediate action versus delayed action to address the
17 effect of global warming on individuals, households, local and state
18 governments, businesses, educational institutions, medical institutions,
19 agricultural operations, and other sectors identified by the commission; and

20 (6) Evaluate the benefit of any action taken at the state level,
21 either by or within this state or by other states, at the national level, or
22 at the international level to address the effect of global warming on
23 individuals, households, local and state governments, businesses, educational
24 institutions, agricultural operations, medical institutions, and other
25 sectors identified by the commission.

26 (7) The Governor's Commission on Global Warming is authorized to
27 accept gifts, grants, and donations for use in carrying out its purpose and
28 duties.

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30 SECTION 6. Additional duties.

31 The commission may work cooperatively with other states and federal
32 governmental agencies to organize a Governor's forum on global warming,
33 including its causes, impacts, challenges, and opportunities in the region.
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35 SECTION 7. Staffing.

36 Upon the prior approval of the Legislative Council of the General

1 Assembly, the Director of the Bureau of Legislative Research shall assign
2 professional staff to the commission to aid in its work.

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4 SECTION 8. Meetings.

5 The Governor shall convene the first meeting of the commission, which
6 shall be at the State Capitol. Further meetings shall be at the call of the
7 co-chairs.

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9 SECTION 9. Report.

10 The commission shall report its findings and recommendations to the
11 Governor on or before November 1, 2008, in order to report its findings and
12 recommendations to the Eighty-Seventh General Assembly.

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14 SECTION 10. Life of commission.

15 The commission shall be abolished on or before December 31, 2009, at
16 the discretion of the Governor.

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18 SECTION 11. EMERGENCY CLAUSE. It is found and determined by the
19 General Assembly of the State of Arkansas that it is imperative that Arkansas
20 study the scientific data, literature, and research on global warming to
21 determine whether global warming is an immediate threat to the citizens in
22 the State of Arkansas; that the potential impact of global warming on the
23 state and its citizens, its natural resources, and the economy necessitates a
24 thorough review by the state and a strategy to deal with the consequences of
25 global warming; that economic opportunities might arise from an emerging
26 carbon market tailored to reduce carbon emissions; that failure to take
27 necessary steps to prevent, stabilize, or mitigate the effects of global
28 warming will cause irreparable harm to the lives and livelihoods of
29 Arkansans; and that this act is immediately necessary to ensure the welfare
30 and well-being of the citizens of this state. Therefore, an emergency is
31 declared to exist and this act being immediately necessary for the
32 preservation of the public peace, health, and safety shall become effective
33 on:

34 (1) The date of its approval by the Governor;

35 (2) If the bill is neither approved nor vetoed by the Governor,
36 the expiration of the period of time during which the Governor may veto the

1 bill; or

2 (3) If the bill is vetoed by the Governor and the veto is
3 overridden, the date the last house overrides the veto.

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5 */s/ Webb, et al*

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