

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 87th General Assembly
3 Regular Session, 2009
4

As Engrossed: H3/18/09

A Bill

HOUSE BILL 2032

5 By: Representative Allen
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For An Act To Be Entitled

9 AN ACT TO AMEND THE ARKANSAS EARTHQUAKE PROGRAM
10 BY INCREASING DISASTER PREPAREDNESS AND DISASTER
11 EVACUATION, SHELTERS, STOCKPILES, AND REBUILDING
12 PLANS; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.
13

Subtitle

14 AN ACT TO AMEND THE ARKANSAS EARTHQUAKE
15 PROGRAM BY INCREASING DISASTER
16 PREPAREDNESS.
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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 § 12-77-103(a)(2), concerning the Arkansas*
23 *earthquake program, is amended to read as follows:*

24 (2) *The program shall coordinate all activities involved in*
25 *mitigation and preparedness regarding seismic events. Toward that end, the*
26 *earthquake program shall include but not be limited to:*

27 (A) Continued assessment from proper scientific
28 authorities of the seismic risk to the state;

29 (B) Training and education of state and local government
30 officials, employees, and citizens of Arkansas regarding preparation and
31 protective measures that can be taken before, during, and after an
32 earthquake;

33 (C) Planning coordination, guidance, and assistance to all
34 state and local government officials in preparation for, response to , and
35 recovery from earthquakes;

36 (D) Coordination of earthquake program activities with



1 comparable agencies of the federal government and other states; and
2 (E) The dissemination of information to the public
3 pertaining to earthquake hazards, especially to Arkansans living near the New
4 Madrid Fault, protective measures, seismic resistance in building
5 construction, and appropriate actions to be taken before, during, and after
6 an earthquake, and other matters the Arkansas Department of Emergency
7 Management shall determine to be necessary or appropriate to educate, inform,
8 and equip citizens in this state to deal with any earthquake.

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10 SECTION 2. Arkansas Code Title 12, Chapter 77 is amended to add three
11 additional sections to read as follows:

12 12-77-105. Purpose.

13 The purpose of §§ 12-77-105 through 12-77-107 is to:

- 14 (1) Increase disaster preparedness in Arkansas; and
15 (2) Increase earthquake preparedness in all areas along the New
16 Madrid Fault that have significant earthquake risk but a low level of public
17 awareness.

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19 12-77-106. Duties.

20 The Arkansas Department of Emergency Management shall coordinate a
21 Disaster Preparedness Program designed to protect the lives and property of
22 Arkansas citizens in case of flooding and other disasters and create public
23 preparedness materials that can be disseminated to the public, including
24 without limitation:

25 (1) Training and education of state and local government
26 officials, school districts, personnel, and citizens of Arkansas regarding
27 preparation and protective measures that can be taken before, during, and
28 after an earthquake;

29 (2) Planning coordination, guidance, and assistance to all state
30 and local government officials in preparation for, response to, and recovery
31 from flooding; and

32 (3) Coordination of the Disaster Preparedness Program activities
33 with comparable agencies of the federal government and other states.

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35 12-77-107. Reports.

36 (a) The Arkansas Department of Emergency Management shall present a

1 report on disaster preparedness including a review of the New Madrid Fault.
2 (b) The department shall make recommendations for improvements to the
3 cochairs of the Legislative Council on or before November 1 each year.

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5 /s/ Allen
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