

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
5 By: Senator B. Johnson
6
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A Bill

SENATE BILL 714

For An Act To Be Entitled

9 AN ACT TO MAKE AN APPROPRIATION TO THE ARKANSAS
10 AGRICULTURE DEPARTMENT – STATE FORESTRY
11 COMMISSION; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.
12
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Subtitle

15 AN ACT FOR THE ARKANSAS AGRICULTURE
16 DEPARTMENT - STATE FORESTRY COMMISSION -
17 GENERAL IMPROVEMENT APPROPRIATION.
18
19

20 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:
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22 SECTION 1. APPROPRIATIONS. There is hereby appropriated, to the Arkansas
23 Agriculture Department – State Forestry Commission, to be payable from the
24 General Improvement Fund or its successor fund or fund accounts, the
25 following:

26 (A) For a grant for expenses associated with land acquisition,
27 construction, habitat restoration, research and maintenance of watershed
28 property around Lake Maumelle in order to continue good water quality for the
29 citizens of Central Arkansas as well as serving the interests of all the
30 citizens of Arkansas in the development of habitat restoration, research and
31 the maintenance of such lands, the sum of\$4,000,000.
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33 SECTION 2. DISBURSEMENT CONTROLS. (A) No contract may be awarded nor
34 obligations otherwise incurred in relation to the project or projects
35 described herein in excess of the State Treasury funds actually available
36 therefor as provided by law. Provided, however, that institutions and



1 agencies listed herein shall have the authority to accept and use grants and
 2 donations including Federal funds, and to use its unobligated cash income or
 3 funds, or both available to it, for the purpose of supplementing the State
 4 Treasury funds for financing the entire costs of the project or projects
 5 enumerated herein. Provided further, that the appropriations and funds
 6 otherwise provided by the General Assembly for Maintenance and General
 7 Operations of the agency or institutions receiving appropriation herein shall
 8 not be used for any of the purposes as appropriated in this act.

9 (B) The restrictions of any applicable provisions of the State Purchasing
 10 Law, the General Accounting and Budgetary Procedures Law, the Revenue
 11 Stabilization Law and any other applicable fiscal control laws of this State
 12 and regulations promulgated by the Department of Finance and Administration,
 13 as authorized by law, shall be strictly complied with in disbursement of any
 14 funds provided by this act unless specifically provided otherwise by law.

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 16 SECTION 3. NOT TO BE INCORPORATED INTO THE ARKANSAS CODE NOR PUBLISHED
 17 SEPARATELY AS SPECIAL, LOCAL AND TEMPORARY LAW. SPECIAL LANGUAGE.
 18 LEGISLATIVE INTENT. It is the intent of the General Assembly that a grant by
 19 the Arkansas Agricultural Department – State Forestry Commission for the
 20 acquisition of the property around Lake Maumelle is vital to serving the
 21 interests of Central Arkansas as well as the State of Arkansas. The
 22 distinctive nature of the land will provide the opportunity to perform native
 23 grass restoration and to perform research for developing a native grass seed
 24 bank for the State. This area also has unique Ouachita Mountain ecoregion
 25 cobble substrate with Gulf Coastal Plain ecoregion Cypress trees and
 26 hardwoods that need to be preserved for future recreational and research use.
 27 In addition, there is the potential for habitat restoration for grassland and
 28 wetland birds that are on the Arkansas Game and Fish Commission’s list of
 29 Arkansas Birds of Conservation Concern. The use of this property as a
 30 recreational and research land is likely to ensure the continued good water
 31 quality of Lake Maumelle as any commercial development of this property could
 32 lead to steep slopes and erodible soils which contribute to water quality
 33 degradation.

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 35 SECTION 4. EMERGENCY CLAUSE. It is found and determined by the General
 36 Assembly, that the Constitution of the State of Arkansas prohibits the

1 appropriation of funds for more than a one (1) year period; that the
2 effectiveness of this Act on July 1, 2009 is essential for the acquisition of
3 vital watershed property around Lake Maumelle to ensure the continued good
4 water quality of Lake Maumelle for the citizens of Central Arkansas and to
5 provide habitat restoration, research and maintenance for all citizens of the
6 state, and that in the event of an extension of the Regular Session, the
7 delay in the effective date of this Act beyond July 1, 2009 could work
8 irreparable harm upon the proper administration and provision of essential
9 governmental programs. Therefore, an emergency is hereby declared to exist
10 and this Act being necessary for the immediate preservation of the public
11 peace, health and safety shall be in full force and effect from and after
12 July 1, 2009.

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