

1 State of Arkansas
2 90th General Assembly
3 Regular Session, 2015

HCR 1005

4
5 By: Representative Pitsch
6 By: Senator Files

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8 **HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION**

9 REQUESTING THAT THE ARKANSAS CONGRESSIONAL DELEGATION
10 STUDY THE CREATION OF AN INTERSTATE COMPACT FOR
11 COMMERCE AMONG STATES BENEFITTING FROM AND
12 PARTICIPATING IN THE MCCLELLAN-KERR ARKANSAS RIVER
13 NAVIGATION SYSTEM.

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16 **Subtitle**

17 REQUESTING THAT THE ARKANSAS
18 CONGRESSIONAL DELEGATION STUDY THE
19 CREATION OF AN INTERSTATE COMPACT FOR
20 COMMERCE AMONG STATES BENEFITTING FROM
21 AND PARTICIPATING IN THE MCCLELLAN-KERR
22 ARKANSAS RIVER NAVIGATION SYSTEM.

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25 WHEREAS, the McClellan-Kerr Arkansas River Navigation System is a four-
26 hundred-forty-five-mile navigation system consisting of eighteen (18) locks
27 and dams, thirteen (13) of which are in Arkansas; and

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29 WHEREAS, two thousand (2,000) semitrucks serve the ports on the
30 McClellan-Kerr Arkansas River Navigation System daily, providing jobs and
31 opportunities to the trucking industry that may otherwise be nonexistent; and

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33 WHEREAS, the McClellan-Kerr Arkansas River Navigation System is a vital
34 tool in Arkansas's economic development; and

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36 WHEREAS, the McClellan-Kerr Arkansas River Navigation System faces



1 funding challenges in part because of federal budget constraints and the
2 elimination of earmark provisions in Congress; and

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4 WHEREAS, navigation on the nation's inland waterways is solely within
5 the discretion of the federal government; and

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7 WHEREAS, an interstate compact would provide additional opportunities
8 for permissible federal spending to address the obligation the federal
9 government has to maintain its inland waterways; and

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11 WHEREAS, an interstate compact may allow businesses and entities with
12 the most interest in the promotion of the McClellan-Kerr Arkansas River
13 Navigation System to participate in funding alternatives; and

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15 WHEREAS, the McClellan-Kerr Arkansas River Navigation System provides a
16 benefit to Arkansas, Oklahoma, Missouri, Kansas, and Texas by providing a
17 cost-effective and environmentally friendly way to transport goods at a
18 fraction of the cost of overland transportation,

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20 NOW THEREFORE,

21 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE NINETIETH GENERAL
22 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS, THE SENATE CONCURRING THEREIN:

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24 THAT the House of Representatives and the Senate request the Arkansas
25 congressional delegation to study the creation of an interstate compact for
26 commerce related to the McClellan-Kerr Arkansas River Navigation System that
27 allows for private, state, and federal cooperation in the repair and
28 improvement of the McClellan-Kerr Arkansas River Navigation System and
29 promotes the economic growth of the states that benefit from and participate
30 in the McClellan-Kerr Arkansas River Navigation System.

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32 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT upon adoption of this resolution, the Chief
33 Clerk of the House shall mail a copy of this resolution to the following:

- 34 (1) Each member of the Arkansas congressional delegation;
35 (2) The Governors of Oklahoma, Missouri, Kansas, and Texas;
36 (3) The Speakers of the Houses of Representatives of Oklahoma,

1 Missouri, Kansas, and Texas; and
2 (4) The Presidents Pro Tempore of the Senates of Oklahoma,
3 Missouri, Kansas, and Texas.

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