

1 State of Arkansas
2 90th General Assembly
3 Regular Session, 2015
4

A Bill

SENATE BILL 910

5 By: Senator Hester
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For An Act To Be Entitled

8 AN ACT TO AMEND THE LAWS CONCERNING THE
9 ADMINISTRATION OF LEASES AND PERMITS FOR NATURAL
10 RESOURCES OF THE STATE AND THE NATURAL RESOURCES
11 COMMITTEE; TO INCREASE PENALTIES FOR REMOVING NATURAL
12 RESOURCES WITHOUT A PERMIT FROM OR LEASE WITH THE
13 COMMISSIONER OF STATE LANDS; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.
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Subtitle

16 TO AMEND THE LAWS CONCERNING THE
17 ADMINISTRATION OF LEASES AND PERMITS FOR
18 NATURAL RESOURCES OF THE STATE AND THE
19 NATURAL RESOURCES COMMITTEE; AND TO
20 INCREASE PENALTIES FOR REMOVING NATURAL
21 RESOURCES WITHOUT A PERMIT.
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25 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:
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27 SECTION 1. Arkansas Code § 22-5-803(a)(1), concerning penalties for
28 removing sand, gravel, oil, natural gas, casinghead gas, coal, minerals,
29 timber, or logs from the beds or bars of navigable rivers and lakes or from
30 state lands without obtaining a lease or permit from the Commissioner of
31 State Lands, is amended to read as follows:

32 (a)(1) ~~If any~~ Upon conviction a person, firm, company, corporation, or
33 association ~~shall remove~~ is guilty of a Class D felony if the person, firm,
34 company, corporation, or association without first obtaining a lease or
35 permit to do so from the Commissioner of State Lands knowingly removes any
36 sand, gravel, oil, natural gas, casinghead gas, coal or other minerals, or



1 any timber or logs from:

2 (A) ~~the~~ The beds or bars of navigable rivers and lakes in
3 this state; or

4 (B) ~~from any~~ Any other lands or interest in lands held in
5 the name of the ~~State of Arkansas without first obtaining a lease or permit~~
6 ~~to do so from the Commissioner of State Lands, that person, firm, company, or~~
7 ~~corporation shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor and upon conviction shall~~
8 ~~be punished by a fine of not less than three hundred dollars (\$300) and not~~
9 ~~more than one thousand dollars (\$1,000) state.~~

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11 SECTION 2. Arkansas Code § 22-5-804(a), concerning members of the
12 Natural Resources Committee, is amended to read as follows:

13 (a)(1) The Natural Resources Committee is created by this section and
14 shall be composed of the following members:

15 (A) ~~the~~ The Director of the Department of Finance and
16 Administration ~~or his or her designee;~~

17 (B) ~~the~~ The Director of Production and Conservation of the
18 Oil and Gas Commission;

19 (C) ~~the~~ The State Geologist;

20 (D) ~~the~~ The State Forester;

21 (E) ~~the~~ The Executive Director of the Arkansas ~~Soil and~~
22 ~~Water Conservation~~ Natural Resources Commission;

23 (F) ~~the~~ The Commissioner of State Lands;

24 (G) ~~the~~ The Executive Secretary of the Arkansas State Game
25 and Fish Commission;

26 (H) ~~the~~ The Director of the Department of Parks and
27 Tourism ~~or his or her designee;~~

28 (I) ~~the~~ The Director of the Arkansas Department of
29 Environmental Quality; and

30 (J) ~~the~~ The Director of the Arkansas Natural Heritage
31 Commission.

32 (2) A member of the committee may designate a person within the
33 member's organization to attend meetings and conduct committee business on
34 the member's behalf.

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