

1 State of Arkansas
2 92nd General Assembly
3 Regular Session, 2019
4

A Bill

HOUSE BILL 1744

5 By: Representatives Capp, Bentley, Maddox, Pilkington, Vaught
6

For An Act To Be Entitled

8 AN ACT TO CREATE THE ATV TOURISM AND TRAIL EXPANSION
9 STUDY; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.
10

Subtitle

11 TO CREATE THE ATV TOURISM AND TRAIL
12 EXPANSION STUDY.
13

14
15
16
17 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:
18

19 SECTION 1. TEMPORARY LANGUAGE. DO NOT CODIFY. ATV Tourism and Trail
20 Expansion Study – Creation – Duties.

21 (a) The General Assembly finds that:

22 (1) Arkansas offers an abundance of all-terrain vehicle parks
23 and trails that attract nationwide all-terrain vehicle tourism to the state;

24 (2) Many small businesses rely heavily on the tourism generated
25 by all-terrain vehicle parks and trails;

26 (3) A large number of the state's all-terrain vehicle trails are
27 located within national parks, and riding all-terrain vehicles is one of the
28 fastest-growing recreational uses of the state's national parks; and

29 (4) State parks currently do not allow use of all-terrain
30 vehicles on state forest roads.

31 (b) The House Agriculture, Forestry, and Economic Development
32 Committee and the Senate Agriculture, Forestry, and Economic Development
33 Committee shall meet jointly to conduct the ATV Tourism and Trail Expansion
34 Study.

35 (c)(1) The chairs of the House Agriculture, Forestry, and Economic
36 Development Committee and the Senate Agriculture, Forestry, and Economic



1 Development Committee shall call the first joint meeting for purposes of
2 beginning the study within sixty (60) days of the effective date of this act.

3 (2) Joint meetings for purposes of conducting the study may be
4 held at various sites around the state in order to study all-terrain vehicle
5 tourism and existing and potential all-terrain vehicle trail sites. All
6 meetings shall be open public meetings under the Freedom of Information Act
7 of 1967, Arkansas Code § 25-19-101 et seq.

8 (3) Joint meetings for purposes of conducting the study shall be
9 held at least one (1) time every three (3) months but may occur more often at
10 the call of the chairs.

11 (d) The purpose of the study is to make recommendations to the General
12 Assembly regarding the creation, development, and implementation of a
13 statewide all-terrain vehicle trails system utilizing existing state roads to
14 connect forest roads and all-terrain vehicle trails in national parks in
15 order to:

16 (1) Increase all-terrain vehicle tourism and economic
17 development in the state; and

18 (2) Promote the economic well-being of small businesses catering
19 to all-terrain vehicle tourism.

20 (e) In order to fulfill the purpose of this act, the House
21 Agriculture, Forestry, and Economic Development Committee and the Senate
22 Agriculture, Forestry, and Economic Development Committee shall conduct a
23 study to include without limitation the following:

24 (1) The feasibility of creating a statewide all-terrain vehicle
25 trails system;

26 (2) Criteria for acceptance of an existing state road into the
27 statewide all-terrain vehicle trails system;

28 (3) Issues surrounding administration of the statewide all-
29 terrain vehicle trails system, including consulting with the Arkansas
30 Department of Transportation and the Department of Parks and Tourism; and

31 (4) Similar all-terrain trails systems in other states.

32 (f) On or before December 1, 2020, the House Agriculture, Forestry,
33 and Economic Development Committee and the Senate Agriculture, Forestry, and
34 Economic Development Committee shall file with the Legislative Council a
35 final written report of their activities, findings, and recommendations, and
36 the study shall be complete upon that submission.