

Stricken language would be deleted from and underlined language would be added to present law.

1 State of Arkansas
2 93rd General Assembly
3 Regular Session, 2021
4

As Engrossed: H3/29/21

A Bill

HOUSE BILL 1726

5 By: Representatives Shepherd, Wardlaw, Barker, Fielding, Womack, Bragg, McClure, M. McElroy
6 By: Senators T. Garner, Gilmore, Beckham, A. Clark
7

For An Act To Be Entitled

9 AN ACT TO TRANSFER THE OUACHITA RIVER COMMISSION FROM
10 THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE TO THE DEPARTMENT OF
11 PARKS, HERITAGE, AND TOURISM; TO CREATE AN
12 INTERDEPARTMENTAL STATE ENTITY TRANSFER; TO AMEND THE
13 ENTITIES SUBJECT TO A CABINET-LEVEL DEPARTMENT
14 TRANSFER TO THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE; AND FOR
15 OTHER PURPOSES.
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Subtitle

18 TO TRANSFER THE OUACHITA RIVER COMMISSION
19 FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE TO THE
20 DEPARTMENT OF PARKS, HERITAGE, AND
21 TOURISM; AND TO CREATE AN
22 INTERDEPARTMENTAL STATE ENTITY TRANSFER.
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26 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:
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28 SECTION 1. Arkansas Code § 15-23-804(f), concerning members of the
29 Ouachita River Commission, is amended to read as follows:

30 (f) Members of the Ouachita River Commission shall receive no pay for
31 their services, but whenever the General Assembly shall have appropriated
32 funds to the Ouachita River Waterways Project Trust Fund administered by the
33 ~~Arkansas Natural Resources Commission through the Department of Agriculture~~
34 Department of Parks, Heritage, and Tourism, they may, upon proper application
35 to the ~~Arkansas Natural Resources Commission~~ department, be reimbursed for
36 expenses in accordance with § 25-16-902.



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2 SECTION 2. Arkansas Code § 25-38-202(b)(3)(A)(ii)(q), concerning the
3 creation of the Department of Agriculture and appointment of the Secretary of
4 the Department of Agriculture, is repealed.

5 ~~(q) — Ouachita River Commission;~~

6
7 SECTION 3. Arkansas Code § 25-38-206(a)(19), concerning the transfer
8 of personnel, administrative functions, human resources, and accounting
9 offices to the Department of Agriculture, is repealed.

10 ~~(19) — The Ouachita River Commission;~~

11
12 SECTION 4. Arkansas Code § 25-43-202(a)(19), concerning state entities
13 transferred to the Department of Agriculture, is repealed.

14 ~~(19) — The Ouachita River Commission, created under § 15-23-803;~~

15
16 SECTION 5. Arkansas Code § 25-43-1302(a), concerning state entities
17 transferred to the Department of Parks, Heritage, and Tourism, is amended to
18 add an additional subdivision to read as follows:

19 (22) The Ouachita River Commission, created under § 15-23-803.

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21 SECTION 6. DO NOT CODIFY. Cabinet-level department transfer of
22 Ouachita River Commission.

23 (a) The Ouachita River Commission is transferred from the Department
24 of Agriculture to the Department of Parks, Heritage, and Tourism.

25 (b) The administrative functions of the commission are transferred by
26 a cabinet-level department transfer under § 25-43-1302 from the Department of
27 Agriculture to the Department of Parks, Heritage, and Tourism.

28 (c) The statutory authority, powers, duties, functions, records,
29 personnel, property, unexpended balances of appropriations, allocations, or
30 other funds, including the functions of budgeting or purchasing of the
31 commission, are transferred to the Department of Parks, Heritage, and
32 Tourism.

33 (d)(1) The transfer of the commission does not affect the orders,
34 rules, regulations, directives, or standards made or promulgated by the
35 commission before the effective date of this act.

36 (2) The orders, rules, regulations, directives, or standards

1 under subdivision (d)(1) of this section shall continue with full force and
2 effect until amended or repealed under authority given by law.

3 (e) The members of the commission, and their successors, shall
4 continue to be selected in the manner and serve for the terms provided by the
5 statutes applicable to the commission.

6 (f) The Department of Agriculture shall grant access to and provide
7 all information requested by the Department of Parks, Heritage, and Tourism
8 to accomplish transfer of the commission and the mission of the commission.

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11 /s/Shepherd
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