

Stricken language would be deleted from and underlined language would be added to present law.
Act 477 of the Regular Session

State of Arkansas
94th General Assembly
Regular Session, 2023

As Engrossed: H3/1/23 S3/7/23
A Bill

HOUSE BILL 1499

By: Representative Pilkington
By: Senator J. Boyd

For An Act To Be Entitled

AN ACT TO EXECUTE A FEASIBILITY STUDY ON THE
DEVELOPMENT OF AN ARKANSAS SPACEPORT; AND FOR OTHER
PURPOSES.

Subtitle

TO EXECUTE A FEASIBILITY STUDY ON THE
DEVELOPMENT OF AN ARKANSAS SPACEPORT.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:

SECTION 1. DO NOT CODIFY. TEMPORARY LANGUAGE.

(a) As used in this section, "spaceport" means an installation and related facilities utilized for the takeoff, landing, retrieval, servicing, and monitoring of vehicles capable of entering space.

(b) The Arkansas Economic Development Commission shall:

(1) Conduct a study to determine the feasibility of developing a spaceport in Arkansas; or

(2) Hire or engage a third party to conduct a study to determine the feasibility of developing a spaceport in Arkansas.

(c) The feasibility study shall include an assessment of:

(1) The spaceport recommendations included in the final report issued by the Arkansas Council on Future Mobility in December 2022;

(2) The potential market for a spaceport, including without limitation:

(A) Analysis of the demand and interest in developing a spaceport; and



(B) Proposed locations for a spaceport;

(3) Organization and technological requirements, including without limitation:

(A) A study of qualifications needed to operate a spaceport;

(B) Special technology and equipment needed for startup and maintenance;

(C) Workforce requirements; and

(D) Necessary financial investing in the aerospace industry; and

(4) Financial and economic analysis, including without limitation:

(A) An assessment of startup costs and operating costs;

(B) The potential revenue projections;

(C) The possible funding sources; and

(D) The likely potential economic impact on the state.

(d) If funding is available, the feasibility study shall be completed no later than January 1, 2024.

(e) After completion of the feasibility study, the commission shall submit a feasibility report and the commission's recommendations concerning the development of a spaceport in Arkansas to the:

(A) Governor;

(B) Arkansas Department of Transportation; and

(C) Legislative Council.

/s/Pilkington

APPROVED: BECAME LAW ON 4/4/23 WITHOUT THE GOVERNOR'S SIGNATURE.