

State of Arkansas  
94th General Assembly  
Regular Session, 2023

# A Bill

SENATE BILL 557

By: Senator Crowell  
By: Representative Wooldridge

## For An Act To Be Entitled

AN ACT TO AMEND THE ARKANSAS ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY  
ACT OF 1973; TO AMEND THE MEMBERSHIP OF THE ARKANSAS  
NATURAL HERITAGE COMMISSION; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

## Subtitle

TO AMEND THE ARKANSAS ENVIRONMENTAL  
QUALITY ACT OF 1973; AND TO AMEND THE  
MEMBERSHIP OF THE ARKANSAS NATURAL  
HERITAGE COMMISSION.

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

SECTION 1. Arkansas Code § 15-20-305(a), concerning the members of the Arkansas Natural Heritage Commission, is amended to read as follows:

(a)(1) The Arkansas Natural Heritage Commission shall consist of fifteen (15) members.

(2)(A)(i) Nine (9) of the members shall be appointed by the Governor from persons with an interest in the preservation of natural areas, with two (2) members to be appointed from each congressional district and one (1) member to be appointed from the state at large.

~~(ii) One (1) member of the commission shall be a member of the board of directors of a levee or drainage district.~~

~~(iii) One (1) member shall be chosen from a list of five (5) persons jointly nominated by the Arkansas Farm Bureau Federation and the Agricultural Council of Arkansas~~ appointed by the Governor shall be actively or principally engaged, or shall have been actively or principally



engaged, in the production of agriculture on property owned by the member.

~~(iv) One (1) member shall be appointed by the Governor from the state at large subject to confirmation by the Senate.~~

~~(v) (iii) One (1) member shall be appointed by the Governor after consulting the Arkansas Wildlife Federation and subject to confirmation by the Senate~~ appointed by the Governor shall have an interest in the protection, restoration, and management of the state's habitats, plants, and animals.

(B) Three (3) members shall be appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives to serve at the pleasure of the Speaker of the House of Representatives.

(C) Three (3) members shall be appointed by the President Pro Tempore of the Senate to serve at the pleasure of the President Pro Tempore of the Senate.

SECTION 2. DO NOT CODIFY. TEMPORARY LANGUAGE. This act shall not shorten the term of any current member of the Arkansas Natural Heritage Commission but shall be implemented as terms expire and by filling vacancies on the commission.

**APPROVED: 4/11/23**