

State of Arkansas  
95th General Assembly  
Regular Session, 2025

## A Bill

SENATE BILL 368

By: Senator Irvin

By: Representative M. Shepherd

### For An Act To Be Entitled

AN ACT TO AMEND THE LAW CONCERNING MINERAL, TIMBER,  
AND OTHER RESOURCES ON STATE LANDS; TO REDUCE  
MEMBERSHIP OF THE NATURAL RESOURCES COMMITTEE; TO  
AMEND THE STATE AGENCIES REQUIRED TO RECEIVE  
NOTIFICATION RELATED TO LEASES AND PERMITS FOR  
MINERAL, TIMBER, AND OTHER RESOURCES ON STATE LANDS;  
AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

### Subtitle

TO AMEND THE LAW CONCERNING MINERAL,  
TIMBER, AND OTHER RESOURCES ON STATE  
LANDS; TO REDUCE MEMBERSHIP OF THE  
NATURAL RESOURCES COMMITTEE; AND TO  
AMEND THE NOTIFICATION RELATED TO LEASES  
AND PERMITS.

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

SECTION 1. Arkansas Code § 22-5-804(a), concerning the membership of  
the Natural Resources Committee, is amended to read as follows:

(a)(1) The Natural Resources Committee is created and shall be  
composed of the following members:

(A) The Secretary of the Department of Finance and  
Administration or his or her designee;

(B) ~~The Director of Production and Conservation of the Oil  
and Gas Commission~~ Secretary of the Department of Energy and Environment or  
his or her designee;



(C) ~~The State Geologist;~~

~~(D)~~ The Secretary of the Department of Agriculture or his or her designee;

~~(E)~~(D) The Commissioner of State Lands or his or her designee;

~~(F)~~(E) The Executive Secretary of the Arkansas State Game and Fish Commission or his or her designee;

~~(G)~~(F) The Secretary of the Department of Parks, Heritage, and Tourism or his or her designee;

~~(H)~~ ~~The Director of the Division of Environmental Quality;~~  
and

~~(I)~~(G) The Chair of the Arkansas Natural Heritage Commission or his or her designee.

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

SECTION 2. Arkansas Code § 22-5-807(a), concerning notice to and recommendations from interested agencies related to leases and permits on state lands related to mineral, timber, and other resources, is amended to read as follows:

(a) When an application for a lease or permit is filed with the Commissioner of State Lands for the taking or production of any sand, gravel, oil, natural gas, casinghead gas, coal, or other minerals or the severance of any timber or logs from state-owned lands, the Commissioner of State Lands shall so notify ~~the Office of the State Geologist,~~ the Arkansas Natural Resources Commission, ~~the Oil and Gas Commission,~~ the Arkansas State Game and Fish Commission, the Department of Parks, Heritage, and Tourism, ~~the Division of Environmental Quality,~~ the Arkansas Forestry Commission, the Department of Energy and Environment, and any other appropriate state agency that has or may have a particular interest in the area proposed to be covered by the lease or permit.

APPROVED: 4/3/25