

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

State of Arkansas
92nd General Assembly
Regular Session, 2019

As Engrossed: H3/12/19 H3/18/19
A Bill

HOUSE BILL 1744

By: Representatives Capp, Bentley, Maddox, Pilkington, Vaught, C. Fite
By: Senators B. Johnson, M. Pitsch

For An Act To Be Entitled

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

Subtitle

TO CREATE THE ATV TOURISM AND TRAIL
EXPANSION STUDY.

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

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

(a) The General Assembly finds that:

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

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

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

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

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

(c)(1) The chairs of the House Agriculture, Forestry, and Economic



Development Committee and the Senate Agriculture, Forestry, and Economic Development Committee shall call the first joint meeting for purposes of beginning the study within sixty (60) days of the effective date of this act.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

(f) On or before December 1, 2020, the House Agriculture, Forestry, and Economic Development Committee and the Senate Agriculture, Forestry, and Economic Development Committee shall file with the Legislative Council a final written report of their activities, findings, and recommendations, and

the study shall be complete upon that submission.

/s/Capp