

State of Arkansas
92nd General Assembly
Regular Session, 2019

A Bill

SENATE BILL 652

By: Senator M. Johnson

For An Act To Be Entitled

AN ACT TO NAME THE OFFICE BUILDING LOCATED AT 501 WOODLANE, LITTLE ROCK, ARKANSAS; TO HONOR GOVERNOR WINTHROP ROCKEFELLER; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

Subtitle

TO NAME THE OFFICE BUILDING LOCATED AT 501 WOODLANE, LITTLE ROCK, ARKANSAS; AND TO HONOR GOVERNOR WINTHROP ROCKEFELLER.

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

SECTION 1. DO NOT CODIFY. Legislative findings and intent.

The General Assembly finds that:

(1) Winthrop Rockefeller was born in New York City on May 1, 1912, to John D. Rockefeller, Jr. and Abby Aldrich Rockefeller;

(2) After his service with the United States Army in the Pacific Theatre during World War II, Winthrop Rockefeller moved to Arkansas in 1955 and established a cattle farm on Petit Jean Mountain in Conway County;

(3) Soon after relocating to Arkansas, Winthrop Rockefeller accepted an appointment from Governor Orval Faubus to serve as the first chairman of the Arkansas Industrial Development Commission, which is known today as the "Arkansas Economic Development Commission";

(4) Winthrop Rockefeller took this work seriously, and by the time he left the Arkansas Industrial Development Commission after nine (9) years, Arkansas had undergone a remarkable economic transformation, bringing more than six hundred (600) new industrial plants to Arkansas and providing ninety thousand (90,000) new jobs;



(5) Industrial employment grew by forty-seven and five-tenths percent (47.5%), and manufacturing wages grew by eighty-eight percent (88%) during his tenure for the Arkansas Industrial Development Commission while the national rise was only thirty-six percent (36%);

(6) In 1964, Winthrop Rockefeller held the Republican nomination in a failed gubernatorial election against incumbent Orval Faubus;

(7) In 1966, however, Winthrop Rockefeller was elected as the state's first Republican governor since the Reconstruction era and served until 1971; and

(8) While the Governor's Mansion was undergoing renovations during his first months in office, Governor Winthrop Rockefeller lived in the penthouse of the National Old Line Life Insurance Building, now known as the "501 Building", located at 501 Woodlane, Little Rock, Arkansas.

SECTION 2. DO NOT CODIFY. 501 Building renamed Winthrop Rockefeller Building.

(a) The office building known as the "501 Building" that is owned by the State of Arkansas and is located at 501 Woodlane, Little Rock, Arkansas, is renamed the "Winthrop Rockefeller Building".

(b) The Building Authority Division of the Department of Finance and Administration may make any improvements, arrangements, or contracts or authorize any construction needed to display the name of the "Winthrop Rockefeller Building" on or near the building at 501 Woodlane, Little Rock, Arkansas in furtherance of this act.