

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

State of Arkansas  
94th General Assembly  
Regular Session, 2023

# A Bill

SENATE BILL 428

By: Senator Caldwell  
By: Representative Hollowell

## For An Act To Be Entitled

AN ACT TO AMEND THE LAW CONCERNING THE PINE TREE RESEARCH STATION; TO ALLOW THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE UNIVERSITY OF ARKANSAS TO ENTER INTO A LEASE AGREEMENT WITH THE DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES; TO DECLARE AN EMERGENCY; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

## Subtitle

TO AMEND THE LAW CONCERNING THE PINE TREE RESEARCH STATION; TO ALLOW THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE UNIVERSITY OF ARKANSAS TO ENTER INTO A LEASE AGREEMENT WITH THE DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES; AND TO DECLARE AN EMERGENCY.

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

SECTION 1. Arkansas Code § 6-64-718, concerning the preservation of Pine Tree Research Station, is amended to add an additional subsection to read as follows:

(e)(1) All property commonly known as the "Pine Tree Research Station", located in St. Francis County, Arkansas, acquired by the Board of Trustees of the University of Arkansas from the United States of America, acting through the United States Forest Service in 1978, consisting of buildings and approximately five (5) acres of real property formerly used by the Department of Human Services may be leased to the department.

(2) A lease agreement executed under subdivision (e)(1) of this



section shall include an agreement between the Board of Trustees of the University of Arkansas and the department stating that the department shall be responsible for all upkeep, maintenance, and improvement of the buildings and approximately five (5) acres of real property subject to the lease under subdivision (e)(1).

(3) All lease payments or funds provided to the Board of Trustees of the University of Arkansas by the department under a lease agreement executed under subdivision (e)(1) of this section shall be used for the upkeep and maintenance of the property commonly known as the "Pine Tree Research Station", located in St. Francis County, except the funds shall not be used for the upkeep and maintenance of the portion of the "Pine Tree Research Station" used for row crop cultivation in the year 2020.

SECTION 2. EMERGENCY CLAUSE. It is found and determined by the General Assembly of the State of Arkansas that the Pine Tree Research Station, located in St. Francis County, Arkansas, acquired by the Board of Trustees of the University of Arkansas from the United States of America, acting through the United States Forest Service in 1978, has buildings and approximately five (5) acres of real property formerly used by the Department of Human Services located on the property; that the department provides essential services to impaired individuals in the state; that the department is in need of facilities to provide services for the health and safety of certain impaired individuals; and that this act is immediately necessary because time restricted funds are available to assist in the provision of services by the department in facilities located at Pine Tree Research Station. Therefore, an emergency is declared to exist, and this act being immediately necessary for the preservation of the public peace, health, and safety shall become effective on:

(1) The date of its approval by the Governor;

(2) If the bill is neither approved nor vetoed by the Governor, the expiration of the period of time during which the Governor may veto the bill; or

(3) If the bill is vetoed by the Governor and the veto is overridden, the date the last house overrides the veto.