

By: Senators Stone, Gilmore

SENATE RESOLUTION

TO RECOGNIZE AND CELEBRATE ARKANSAS FORESTRY DAY AT
THE STATE CAPITOL ON JANUARY 21, 2025.

Subtitle

TO RECOGNIZE AND CELEBRATE ARKANSAS
FORESTRY DAY AT THE STATE CAPITOL ON
JANUARY 21, 2025.

WHEREAS, private landowners own fifteen million three hundred thousand (15,300,000) acres of the state's forests and three million six hundred thousand (3,600,000) acres are publicly owned by federal, state, and other public entities; and

WHEREAS, forests provide more than five thousand (5,000) products we depend on every day; and

WHEREAS, the state's abundant forest resources have provided important economic and environmental benefits to the state and nation since the 1880s; and

WHEREAS, the state's forested lands are diverse in their makeup with six million two hundred thousand (6,200,000) acres of softwoods, one million nine hundred thousand (1,900,000) acres of oak and pine, and ten million four hundred thousand (10,400,000) acres of hardwoods; and

WHEREAS, forestry's value-added contribution to the state's economy is seven billion dollars (\$7,000,000,000); and



WHEREAS, the forest products industry supports twenty-six thousand nine hundred eighty (26,980) direct jobs and fifty-four thousand seven hundred fifty-nine (54,759) total jobs; and

WHEREAS, one (1) in fourteen (14) Arkansans owns forestland; and

WHEREAS, sixty-seven percent (67%) of the state's forests are owned by family forest landowners; and

WHEREAS, Arkansas families depend on the one billion eight hundred fifty million dollars (\$1,850,000,000) in direct wages provided by the forest products industry; and

WHEREAS, the average compensation in the forest products industry is higher than both the national and Arkansas average wage; and

WHEREAS, for every one (1) job created by the forestry industry in the State of Arkansas, two and four-tenths (2.4) jobs are created indirectly; and

WHEREAS, timber harvesters and forest landowners follow voluntary best management practices that protect water quality; and

WHEREAS, the state's forests provide unparalleled scenic beauty; and

WHEREAS, forests in Arkansas support habitat for more than six hundred (600) species of fish and wildlife; and

WHEREAS, the state's forest landowners manage their land to protect and enhance habitat for threatened and endangered species;

WHEREAS, since 1947 the Arkansas Forestry Association has served as the voice of forestry for the state's entire forestry community,

NOW THEREFORE,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE NINETY-FIFTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE

STATE OF ARKANSAS:

THAT the Senate recognize and celebrate Arkansas Forestry Day at the State Capitol Building on January 21, 2025.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT upon its adoption, a copy of this resolution shall be transmitted to the President of the Arkansas Forestry Association by the Secretary of the Senate.