

1 State of Arkansas
2 95th General Assembly
3 Regular Session, 2025
4

A Bill

HOUSE BILL 1607

5 By: Representative Rose
6 By: Senator B. Davis
7

For An Act To Be Entitled

8
9 AN ACT TO CREATE THE OFFICE OF OUTDOOR RECREATION
10 WITHIN THE DEPARTMENT OF PARKS, HERITAGE, AND
11 TOURISM; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.
12
13

Subtitle

14
15 TO CREATE THE OFFICE OF OUTDOOR
16 RECREATION WITHIN THE DEPARTMENT OF
17 PARKS, HERITAGE, AND TOURISM.
18

19 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:
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21 SECTION 1. Arkansas Code § 14-270-202(a), concerning the
22 elements of the FUN Parks Grants Program, is amended to read as follows:

23 (a) There is ~~hereby~~ established the FUN Parks Grants Program to be
24 administered by the ~~Department of Parks, Heritage, and Tourism~~ Office of
25 Outdoor Recreation.
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27 SECTION 2. Arkansas Code § 14-270-203 is amended to read as follows:
28 14-270-203. Authorization.

29 The ~~Department of Parks, Heritage, and Tourism~~ Office of Outdoor
30 Recreation ~~is herein authorized to~~ may promulgate procedures, rules, or
31 guidelines necessary for the administration of the FUN Parks Grants Program.
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33 SECTION 3. Arkansas Code Title 25, Chapter 43, Subchapter 13, is
34 amended to add an additional section to read as follows:

35 25-43-1310. Office of Outdoor Recreation – Creation – Powers and
36 Duties.



1 (a) There is created the Office of Outdoor Recreation within the
2 Department of Parks, Heritage, and Tourism.

3 (b) The Secretary of the Department of Parks, Heritage, and Tourism
4 may delegate duties and responsibilities to the office.

5 (c)(1) The secretary may employ a Director of the Office of Outdoor
6 Recreation.

7 (2) The director shall serve as the coordinator for the
8 development of an organizational framework to ensure that outdoor recreation
9 programs and policies are well-planned and coordinated.

10 (3)(A) The director, in cooperation with the Parks, Recreation,
11 and Tourism Grant Advisory Committee, shall administer the FUN Parks Grants
12 Program under § 14-270-202.

13 (B) Funding for the FUN Parks Grants Program shall be from
14 the Parks and Tourism Outdoor Recreation Grants Fund as specified in § 19-5-
15 1051.

16 (d) The office shall promulgate rules necessary for the implementation
17 and maintenance of the FUN Parks Grants Program including without limitation
18 rules concerning the:

19 (1) Grant application procedure;

20 (2) Grant selection criteria;

21 (3) Usage limitations on grant money; and

22 (4) Accountability procedures for grant recipients.

23 (e) The director shall provide an annual written report to the State
24 Parks, Recreation, and Travel Commission on the activities of the office.

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27 **APPROVED: 3/18/25**
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