

INTERIM STUDY PROPOSAL 2023-110

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3 REQUESTING THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC HEALTH, WELFARE, AND
4 LABOR TO STUDY THE OPERATIONS OF THE ARKANSAS WASTE TIRE PROGRAM
5 AND THE POTENTIAL FOR IMPROVING THE STRENGTH OF THE ARKANSAS
6 WASTE TIRE PROGRAM.

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8 WHEREAS, improperly managed or stockpiled tires can be costly to clean
9 up and hazardous to the environment and public health, presenting a fire risk
10 and ideal habitat for the breeding of mosquitoes and other disease-
11 transmitting vectors; and

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13 WHEREAS, waste tires present a difficult disposal problem for
14 landfills; and

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16 WHEREAS, processed waste tires are a valuable commodity that can be
17 beneficially recycled into many products, including advanced pavement
18 surfaces, tire-derived fuel, flooring and molded products, rubber mulch and
19 surfaces, and civil engineering aggregate; and

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21 WHEREAS, waste tire end-market development programs, including economic
22 incentives to reduce the high cost of producing commodities and products from
23 waste tires, are proven strategies to drive better end-of-life outcomes for
24 waste tires; and

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26 WHEREAS, these end-market development programs also support economic
27 development and jobs in the recycling industry; and

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29 WHEREAS, free-market waste tire programs have been shown to be
30 effective and capture almost all waste tires in a state; and

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32 WHEREAS, the Arkansas waste tire programs require substantial
33 improvements in order to produce better financial and environmental outcomes,

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35 NOW THEREFORE,

1 BE IT PROPOSED BY THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC HEALTH, WELFARE, AND LABOR
2 OF THE NINETY-FOURTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:

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4 THAT the Senate Committee on Public Health, Welfare, and Labor study
5 the operations of the Arkansas waste tire program and the potential for
6 improving the financial and environmental strength of the Arkansas waste tire
7 program, including without limitation:

8 (1) The full-cost accounting of the current program, including
9 the full-cost accounting of each used tire program district;

10 (2) Appropriate definitions for tire categories by size and use
11 for small, large, extra-large, and off-the-road, also known as "OTR", tires
12 and appropriate associate disposal fees;

13 (3) Where and how any tire disposal fee should be applied for
14 all scrapped tires generated;

15 (4) Innovations in other state programs that encourage higher-
16 end uses for waste tires, including market-development programs and
17 incentives to processors;

18 (5) An assessment of whole tire and processed material
19 inventories and any steps to be taken to reduce the number of tires or
20 processed materials currently not properly disposed of in legal storage or
21 illegal dump sites;

22 (6) Recommendations for changes to the waste tire program that
23 will put the program on a sustainable financial footing while providing for
24 efficient management of the state's waste tires and better environmental
25 outcomes for Arkansas;

26 (7) An investigation of potential state actions to create
27 markets and outlets for used tire materials and products;

28 (8) Analysis of manifest systems for efficiency, modernization,
29 and effectiveness; and

30 (9) Any steps to be taken to reduce illegal dumping in the
31 future.

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34 Respectfully submitted,

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Senator Missy Irvin

District 24

Senator John Payton

District 22

Prepared by: JMB/JMB