

1 State of Arkansas
2 94th General Assembly
3 Regular Session, 2023
4

A Bill

SENATE BILL 362

5 By: Senators Hester, B. Davis
6 By: Representative McCollum
7

For An Act To Be Entitled

9 AN ACT TO AMEND THE LAW CONCERNING CERTAIN
10 COMMISSIONS; TO AMEND THE LAW REGARDING THE STATE
11 PARKS, RECREATION, AND TRAVEL COMMISSION; TO AMEND
12 THE MEMBERSHIP OF THE STATE PARKS, RECREATION, AND
13 TRAVEL COMMISSION; TO AMEND THE CALLING OF MEETINGS
14 OF AND A QUORUM FOR THE STATE PARKS, RECREATION, AND
15 TRAVEL COMMISSION; TO ELIMINATE COMMISSIONER EMERITUS
16 POSITIONS; TO AMEND THE LAW CONCERNING THE
17 MISSISSIPPI RIVER PARKWAY COMMISSION OF ARKANSAS; AND
18 FOR OTHER PURPOSES.
19
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Subtitle

21 TO AMEND THE MEMBERSHIP AND THE CALLING
22 OF MEETINGS OF AND A QUORUM FOR THE STATE
23 PARKS, RECREATION, AND TRAVEL COMMISSION;
24 TO ELIMINATE COMMISSIONER EMERITUS
25 POSITIONS; AND TO AMEND THE MISSISSIPPI
26 RIVER PARKWAY COMMISSION.
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30 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:
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32 SECTION 1. Arkansas Code § 15-11-202(a), concerning the makeup of the
33 State Parks, Recreation, and Travel Commission, is amended to read as
34 follows:

35 (a) The State Parks, Recreation, and Travel Commission shall consist
36 of fifteen (15) regular members, of whom at least:



1 (1) ~~Four (4) are~~ One (1) is active in media, including without
2 limitation newspaper, television, radio, ~~Internet~~ internet, or the video
3 service provider industry;

4 (2) Seven (7) have primary occupations in tourism, including
5 without limitation:

6 (A) Persons having occupations in the recreational or
7 travel field of endeavor; and

8 (B) Owners or operators of food service, lodging, or
9 travel-oriented businesses such as boat docks, marinas, theme parks, camp
10 grounds, tourist resorts, caves, caverns, highway gift shops, and firms
11 commonly known as tourist attractions;

12 (3) ~~One (1) is a historian with knowledge of Arkansas's historie~~
13 ~~background~~ Five (5) are from the public at large;

14 (4) One (1) is a representative of either employment or
15 avocation in recreation and conservation; and

16 (5) ~~One (1) is a representative of either employment or~~
17 ~~avocation in arts and culture; and~~

18 ~~(6)~~ One (1) is sixty (60) years of age or older, serving as a
19 representative of the elderly who shall not be actively engaged in or retired
20 from the professions set out in subdivisions (a)(1)-~~(5)~~, (2), and (4) of this
21 section.

22
23 SECTION 2. Arkansas Code § 15-11-202(b), concerning the members of the
24 State Parks, Recreation, and Travel Commission, is repealed.

25 ~~(b) In addition to the membership under subsection (a) of this~~
26 ~~section, the membership of the commission may include one (1) or more~~
27 ~~commissioners emeriti if designated under § 15-11-203.~~

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29 SECTION 3. Arkansas Code § 15-11-203 is repealed.

30 ~~15-11-203. Commissioner emeritus.~~

31 ~~(a) A person shall be known and designated as a "commissioner~~
32 ~~emeritus" if he or she:~~

33 ~~(1) Has served for at least twenty four (24) years as a member~~
34 ~~of the State Parks, Recreation, and Travel Commission, as established by §§~~
35 ~~15-11-201, 15-11-202, and 15-11-204—15-11-207, or its predecessor~~
36 ~~commissions; and~~

1 ~~(2) Was known and designated as a “commissioner emeritus” under~~
2 ~~this section on or before July 22, 2015.~~

3 ~~(b) A commissioner emeritus shall serve as a member of the commission~~
4 ~~for the remainder of his or her life, shall be notified of all commission~~
5 ~~meetings, and is entitled to the same expenses and other allowances for~~
6 ~~attending commission meetings as is provided by law for other commission~~
7 ~~members.~~

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9 SECTION 4. Arkansas Code § 15-11-204(d) and (e), concerning the
10 calling of meetings of and a quorum for the State Parks, Recreation, and
11 Travel Commission, are amended to read as follows:

12 (d) Meetings shall be at the call of the Chair of the State Parks,
13 Recreation, and Travel Commission either at his or her own instance or upon
14 the written request of ~~at least seven (7)~~ a majority of members.

15 ~~(e) A quorum shall consist of not fewer than seven (7) members present~~
16 ~~at any regular or special meeting. A majority affirmative vote of that number~~
17 ~~shall be necessary for the disposition of any business.~~

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19 SECTION 5. Arkansas Code § 27-69-202(b), concerning the members of the
20 Mississippi River Parkway Commission of Arkansas, is repealed.

21 ~~(b)(1) Any person who has served, is now serving, or serves in the~~
22 ~~future as a member of the Mississippi River Parkway Commission of Arkansas,~~
23 ~~as established by this subchapter, who has served or serves twenty (20) years~~
24 ~~as a member of the Mississippi River Parkway Commission of Arkansas, and as~~
25 ~~pilot or president of the Mississippi River Parkway Commission, shall, from~~
26 ~~and after February 3, 1983, be known and designated as a “commissioner~~
27 ~~emeritus”.~~

28 ~~(2) A commissioner emeritus shall serve as a member of the~~
29 ~~Mississippi River Parkway Commission of Arkansas for the remainder of his or~~
30 ~~her life and shall be notified of all Mississippi River Parkway Commission of~~
31 ~~Arkansas meetings and is entitled to the same expenses and other allowances~~
32 ~~for attending Mississippi River Parkway Commission of Arkansas meetings as is~~
33 ~~provided by law for other Mississippi River Parkway Commission of Arkansas~~
34 ~~members.~~

35 ~~(3) The Governor of the State of Arkansas shall cause an~~
36 ~~appropriate commission to be prepared and issued to each commissioner~~

1 ~~emeritus of the Mississippi River Parkway Commission of Arkansas, who shall~~
2 ~~file it with the Secretary of State and take the official oath of office~~
3 ~~before entering upon his or her duties as a commissioner emeritus of the~~
4 ~~Mississippi River Parkway Commission of Arkansas.~~

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6 SECTION 6. DO NOT CODIFY. TEMPORARY LANGUAGE. This act shall not
7 shorten the term of any current member of the State Parks, Recreation, and
8 Travel Commission but shall be implemented as terms expire and by filling
9 vacancies on the commission.

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