

1 State of Arkansas  
2 93rd General Assembly  
3 Regular Session, 2021  
4

# A Bill

SENATE BILL 623

5 By: Senators Irvin, B. Ballinger, Beckham, Bledsoe, Caldwell, L. Chesterfield, A. Clark, B. Davis, J.  
6 Dismang, L. Eads, Elliott, J. English, Flippo, T. Garner, Gilmore, K. Hammer, J. Hendren, Hill, K.  
7 Ingram, B. Johnson, M. Johnson, G. Leding, Rapert, Rice, B. Sample, G. Stubblefield, J. Sturch, D.  
8 Sullivan, Teague, C. Tucker, D. Wallace  
9 By: Representatives Payton, Bentley, Lundstrum, Miller, Scott, B. Smith, Wing

## For An Act To Be Entitled

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11  
12 AN ACT TO CREATE THE CLIMATE REGULATORY ARKANSAS  
13 PLUMBING ACT; TO CREATE A CERTIFIED CLIMATE  
14 REGULATORY PLUMBING PLUMBER INSPECTOR; TO CREATE THE  
15 CLIMATE REGULATORY ARKANSAS PLUMBING OVERSIGHT  
16 COMMITTEE; TO DECLARE AN EMERGENCY; AND FOR OTHER  
17 PURPOSES.  
18

## Subtitle

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21 TO CREATE THE CLIMATE REGULATORY ARKANSAS  
22 PLUMBING ACT; AND TO DECLARE AN  
23 EMERGENCY.  
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26 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:  
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28 SECTION 1. Arkansas Code Title 8, Chapter 10, is amended to add an  
29 additional subchapter to read as follows:

### Subchapter 5 – Climate Regulatory Arkansas Plumbing Act

#### 8-10-501. Title.

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32 This subchapter shall be known and may be cited as the "Climate  
33 Regulatory Arkansas Plumbing Act".  
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#### 8-10-502. Legislative findings and intent.

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1           (a) The General Assembly finds that:

2                   (1) Arkansas is one (1) of only eight (8) states that allows its  
3 citizens to own and operate an outhouse;

4                   (2) Outhouses are an important part of the state's  
5 infrastructure;

6                   (3) There are fewer and fewer outhouses in the state each year;

7                   (4) With proper maintenance and regular inspections, the  
8 greenhouse gas emissions from outhouses can be maintained at an acceptable  
9 level; and

10                  (5) Additional outhouses are necessary for the annual Outhouse  
11 Races in Mountain View, Arkansas, which is one of the single most important  
12 and competitive athletic competitions in the state.

13           (b) It is the intent of the General Assembly to:

14                   (1) Promote the use, maintenance, and inspection of outhouses;

15                   (2) Provide for regular inspections of outhouses in the state to  
16 reduce any excess greenhouse gas emissions that could have a negative effect  
17 on the environment; and

18                   (3) Promote attendance at the Outhouse Races that occur in  
19 October of each year in Mountain View, Arkansas as part of the Bean Festival.

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21           8-10-503. Certification of Climate Regulatory Arkansas Plumbing  
22 plumber inspectors.

23           (a) The Division of Environmental Quality shall certify an applicant  
24 as a Climate Regulatory Arkansas Plumbing plumber inspector if the applicant  
25 has at least one (1) week of relevant experience in any state.

26           (b) The division shall establish the process for applying for  
27 certification under this section by rule.

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29           8-10-504. Climate Regulatory Arkansas Plumbing inspection requirement.

30           (a) An outhouse located in this state shall be inspected quarterly by  
31 a certified Climate Regulatory Arkansas Plumbing plumber inspector, an  
32 inspector from the Division of Environmental Quality, and an inspector from  
33 the Department of Health.

34           (b) An inspection conducted under this section shall focus on ensuring  
35 that the construction, operation, and maintenance of the outhouse is in line  
36 with division standards to prevent greenhouse gas emissions that are

1 destructive to the environment and that contribute to climate change.

2 (c)(1) An outhouse that does not meet the requirements of an  
3 inspection under this section shall be decommissioned.

4 (2) An outhouse that is decommissioned under subdivision (c)(1)  
5 of this section shall be sent to Stone County, Arkansas to be used in the  
6 annual Outhouse Races that occur as part of the Bean Festival each October.

7 (d) The division and the department shall adopt rules to implement  
8 this section.

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10 8-10-505. Climate Regulatory Arkansas Plumbing Oversight Committee.

11 (a) There is created the Climate Regulatory Arkansas Plumbing  
12 Oversight Committee.

13 (b)(1) The committee shall have the following members:

14 (A) The Governor, the Honorable Asa Hutchinson;

15 (B) The Speaker of the House of Representatives, the  
16 Honorable Matthew Shepherd;

17 (C) The President Pro Tempore of the Senate, the Honorable  
18 Jimmy Hickey; and

19 (D) The persons elected in the future to the offices of  
20 Governor, Speaker of the House of Representatives, and President Pro Tempore  
21 of the Senate.

22 (2) Because of the overwhelming need to provide continuity and  
23 special expertise in oversight of Climate Regulatory Arkansas Plumbing  
24 inspections, the members listed in subdivision (b)(1)(A)-(C) of this section  
25 shall serve in perpetuity.

26 (3) The members identified in subdivision (b)(1)(D) of this  
27 section shall serve on the committee while they hold the specified office.

28 (c) The committee shall:

29 (1) Ensure that all quarterly inspections conducted under this  
30 subchapter are completely in a timely manner;

31 (2) Monitor greenhouse gas emissions from outhouses in the  
32 state; and

33 (3) Report annually to the Legislative Council regarding the  
34 committee's findings and recommendations for:

35 (A) Improving the number and operation of outhouses in the  
36 state;

