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95th Arkansas General Assembly: House Bill 1045 Prefiled Addressing Crop Residue Burns



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The 95th Arkansas General Assembly will convene on January 13, 2025.

Bill filing began on November 15th.

Representative Francis Cavenaugh of Walnut Ridge introduced House Bill 1045.

The Bill's provisions include:

- Requirements for an individual planning a crop residue burn.
- Addresses liability of an individual who has followed crop residue burn requirements.
- Provides civil penalties.

A crop residue burn would be required to:

- Submit a report to the Arkansas Department of Agriculture for approval before burning commences.
- Comply with the Arkansas Voluntary Smoke Management Guidelines for Row Crop Burning.

Individuals who conduct crop residue burns in compliance with the referenced requirements would not be liable in a civil action for any damage or injury caused by a fire in the crop residue burn.

Civil penalty provisions for violations include:

- \$25,000.00 for first violation.
- \$50,000.00 for second violation.
- \$75,000.00 for each subsequent violation beyond the second.

A copy of House Bill 1045 can be downloaded <u>here</u>.