



# ARKANSAS DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE



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Governor

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Wes Ward  
Secretary of Agriculture

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The Honorable Tim Griffin  
Arkansas Attorney General  
323 Center Street, Suite 200  
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Attorney General Griffin,

During the 2023 Regular Session of the Arkansas General Assembly the state legislature passed Act 636 which amends the law concerning ownership and possession of real property; the law had an effective date of August 1, 2023. Act 636 provides that a "prohibited foreign-party controlled business" shall not acquire by grant, purchase, devise, descent, or otherwise any interest in public or private land in the state.

In accordance with Act 636, the Arkansas Department of Agriculture is directed to collect and analyze information concerning the unlawful sale or possession of agricultural land by prohibited foreign parties and report violations to the Arkansas Attorney General.

Since the passage of Act 636, one entity that has come to the attention of the Department is 4811 S Zero Street, LLC in Sebastian County. A preliminary investigation into this entity raises a reasonable suspicion of ownership ties to China and the Chinese Communist Party.

As of the date of this letter, China continues to be a country subject to the International Traffic in Arms Regulations (ITAR) and is subject to the prohibitions of Act 636.

The Arkansas Department of Agriculture believes that 4811 S Zero Street, LLC may be operating in violation of Act 636. Due to the reasonable suspicion of ownership ties with China and the Chinese Communist Party as well as the national security concerns associated with the site's proximity to Ebbing Air National Guard Base, we are reporting the potential violation to your office and requesting that you utilize the authority granted under Ark. Code Ann. § 18-11-7049(c)(2) to determine if a violation of Act 636 has in fact occurred, and if so, commence appropriate legal action.

Respectfully,

Wesley W. Ward  
Secretary of Agriculture  
State of Arkansas