

ARKANSAS LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

Officers

Senator Cecile Bledsoe
Senate Chair
Representative Jeff Wardlaw
House Chair
Senator Terry Rice
Senate Vice Chair
Representative Jim Dotson
House Vice Chair



Room 315, State Capitol Building
Little Rock, AR 72201

Marty Garity
Executive Secretary

Tel: 501-682-1937
Fax: 501-682-1936

May 3, 2020

Mr. Larry Walther
Arkansas Department of Finance and Administration
1509 West Seventh Street, Suite 401
Little Rock, AR 72201

Dear Secretary Walther

Pursuant to ALC Rule 16, the Co-Chairs of the Legislative Council and the ALC PEER Subcommittee determined that emergency approval of the following CARES Act appropriation request was necessary to enable the agency to perform essential services:

- *Providing a public education advertising campaign in response to the COVID-19 public health emergency in the amount of \$650,000 to the Arkansas Department of Parks, Heritage, and Tourism; and*
- *Providing assistance to businesses in the State of Arkansas in response to COVID-19 health and economic emergency in the amount of \$15,000,000 to the Arkansas Department of Commerce.*

In addition emergency approval is necessary for a *pay plan appropriation in the amount of \$220,000 to cover salaries of employees paid through the cash funds which have not received sufficient revenues due to the partial closure of state parks to the Arkansas Department of Parks, Heritage, and Tourism.*

As such, the Co-Chairs of the Legislative Council and the Co-Chairs of the ALC PEER Subcommittee acted on behalf of the Legislative Council in regard to this request. This request shall be filed as approved and reported to the Legislative Council at its next regularly scheduled meeting in accordance with ALC Rule 16.

Please notify each affected agency of this emergency approval.

Sincerely,



Marty Garrity
Executive Secretary

Attachment

Cc: Senator Cecile Bledsoe, Co-Chair, Arkansas Legislative Council
Representative Jeff Wardlaw, Co-Chair, Arkansas Legislative Council
Senator Bruce Maloch, Co-Chair, ALC PEER
Representative DeAnn Vaught, Co-Chair, ALC PEER

ALC - Performance Evaluation and Expenditure Review (PEER)
ALC Subcommittee Report for
Emergency Action
May 3, 2020

On April 30, 2020, Senator Cecile Bledsoe and Representative Jeff Wardlaw, Co-Chairs of the Legislative Council, and Senator Bruce Maloch and Representative DeAnn Vaught, Co-Chairs of the PEER Subcommittee, received written notification from Larry Walther, the Chief Fiscal Officer of the State, requesting emergency review and/or approval of requests for C.A.R.E.S. Appropriation and Pay Plan Appropriation .

Under Rule 16 of the Rules of the Arkansas Legislative Council, on May 3, 2020 the Co-Chairs of the Legislative Council and PEER Subcommittee unanimously determined that emergency review and/or approval was necessary to enable agencies to perform essential services. As such, the Co-Chairs of the Legislative Council and the Co-Chairs of the PEER Subcommittee may act on behalf of the Legislative Council in regard to the requests, and state herein that the requests shall be filed as reviewed and/or approved and reported to the Legislative Council at its next regularly scheduled meeting in accordance with Rule 16.

Below is a summary of the requests given emergency review and/or approval.

C.A.R.E.S. Appropriation Requests (Approval Items)

Department of Commerce - Arkansas Economic Development Commission - \$15,000,000

Department of Parks, Heritage, and Tourism - Division of Heritage - \$650,000

Pay Plan Appropriation Request (Review Item)

Department of Parks, Heritage, and Tourism - State Parks and Tourism Divisions - \$220,000

Respectfully Submitted,



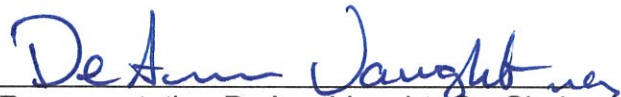
Senator Cecile Bledsoe, Co-Chair
Arkansas Legislative Council



Representative Jeff Wardlaw, Co-Chair
Arkansas Legislative Council



Senator Bruce Maloch, Co-Chair
ALC PEER Subcommittee



Representative DeAnn Vaught, Co-Chair
ALC PEER Subcommittee



STATE OF ARKANSAS
**Department of Finance
and Administration**

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April 30, 2020

Senator Cecile Bledsoe, Chair
Representative Jeff Wardlaw, Chair
Arkansas Legislative Council
State Capitol
Little Rock, AR 72201

RE: Emergency Action Procedures Request

Dear Co-Chairs:

This is to inform you that there are items for Legislative Council review that requires your immediate attention. Because of the time-sensitive nature of these items, the Department of Finance and Administration respectfully requests an expedited review.

Two items are requests for a CARES Appropriation under Act 2 of 2019. The first request is required to allow the Arkansas Department of Commerce provide assistance to businesses in the State of Arkansas in response to the COVID-19 health and economic emergency. Additional information in support of this request is attached. The second request is required to allow the Department of Parks, Heritage and Tourism to conduct a public awareness campaign in response to the ongoing COVID-19 emergency.

In addition, a third request seeks emergency Pay Plan Appropriation for the Arkansas Department of Parks, Heritage & Tourism. This appropriation is necessary to support the payment of salaries from the Conservation Tax for employees who were previously paid from agency cash funds. These cash funds are generated through the operation of state parks. Partial closure of these parks in response to the COVID-19 pandemic has resulted in a significant short fall in these revenues.

I ask that you please institute emergency action procedures for consideration of these matters and sign them out of Committee per Rule 16 of the Rules of the Arkansas Legislative Council.

Sincerely,

Handwritten signature of Larry W. Walther in black ink.
Larry W. Walther
Secretary

LWW:eas



Asa Hutchinson
Governor
Stacy Hurst
Secretary

April 29, 2020

Secretary Larry W. Walther
Department of Finance and Administration
1509 West Seventh Street, Suite 401
Little Rock, AR 72201

Dear Mr. Walther,

I respectfully request your approval for CARES appropriation, under Section 38 of Act 2 of 2020, in the amount of \$650,000 to the federal funds as determined by the Chief Fiscal Officer of the State. This Appropriation is necessary for contracting with an advertising firm in assisting the Economic Recovery Task Force appointed by the Governor of Arkansas to provide a public education advertising campaign in response to the COVID-19 public health emergency.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Cynthia Dunlap".

Cynthia Dunlap
Chief Fiscal Officer



Asa Hutchinson
GOVERNOR

Michael Preston
SECRETARY OF COMMERCE

April 29, 2020

Secretary Larry W. Walther
Department of Finance and Administration
1509 West Seventh Street, Suite 401
Little Rock, AR 72201

Dear Mr. Walther:

I respectfully request your approval for CARES appropriation, under Section 38 of Act 2 of 2020, in the amount of \$15,000,000 to federal funds as determined by the Chief Fiscal Officer of the State. This appropriation is necessary to provide assistance to businesses in the State of Arkansas.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Michael Preston", with a long, sweeping flourish extending to the right.

Michael Preston
Secretary

**REQUEST FOR SALARY and/or
PERSONAL SERVICES MATCHING APPROPRIATION
Fiscal Year 2020**

Agency Department of Parks, Heritage and Tourism

<u>Fund</u>	<u>Funds Center</u>	<u>Commitment Item</u>	<u>Additional Appropriation</u>
SPT0100	500	501:00:03	\$220,000

TOTAL \$220,000

Reason for requested increase:

Emergency Matching appropriation needed to allow Parks to utilize Conservation Funding to pay positions previously budgeted in Parks Cash revenues.

Agency # 0900