



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

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

1509 West Seventh Street, Suite 401
Post Office Box 3278
Little Rock, Arkansas 72203-3278
Phone: (501) 682-2242
Fax: (501) 682-1029
www.arkansas.gov/dfa

July 22, 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 two (2) items for Legislative Council review that require your immediate attention. Because of the time-sensitive nature of this item, the Department of Finance and Administration respectfully requests an expedited review. The following requests have received my approval as Chief Fiscal Officer of the State.

The first item is a CARES Act Appropriation Request. This item is a request for additional CARES Act appropriation. The request is required to allow the Arkansas Department of Health to access additional federal funds awarded by the Arkansas CARES Act Steering Committee under Section 36 of Act of 2020, to establish a Comprehensive COVID-19 Response Plan that will outline collaborative efforts to be implemented in northwest and western Arkansas counties.

The second item is also a CARES Act Appropriation Request. This appropriation will be used by Arkansas Department of Health to expend funding awarded to the Arkansas Black Hall of Fame by the Arkansas CARES Act Steering Committee, under Section 36 of Act of 2020. Funds will be used to enhance the Foundation's current grant program and will focus on COVID-19 related issues.

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,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Larry W. Walther'.

Larry W. Walther, Secretary

LWW:db



Arkansas Department of Health

4815 West Markham Street • Little Rock, Arkansas 72205-3867 • Telephone (501) 661-2000
Governor Asa Hutchinson
Nathaniel Smith, MD, MPH, Secretary of Health

July 22, 2020

Secretary Larry Walther
Arkansas Department of Finance and Administration
1509 W. 7th ST, Room 401
Little Rock, AR 72201

RE: Arkansas Department of Health
Request for Appropriation for CARES Act Funding for the
Arkansas Black Hall of Fame Foundation - \$300,000

Dear Secretary Walter,

The Arkansas Department of Health (ADH) requests approval for \$300,000 in appropriation to expend funding awarded to the Arkansas Black Hall of Fame by the Arkansas CARES Act Steering Committee. Funds will be used to enhance the Foundation's current grant program and will focus on COVID-19 related issues.

The Foundation will disburse funds by means of sub-grants to recipients who submit requests for eligible expenses in response to food insecurity and housing issues related to senior citizens and other vulnerable populations to enable compliance with COVID-19 health precautions. ADH will develop guidelines to ensure that disbursements follow U.S. Treasury Department guidance.

Your consideration of this request is greatly appreciated.

Thank you,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Jo Thompson". The signature is fluid and cursive.

Jo Thompson, Chief Financial Officer
Arkansas Department of Health

CC: Dr. Jose Romero, Interim Secretary of Health
Stephanie Williams, ADH Chief of Staff
Don Adams, ADH Deputy Director, Administration
Renee Mallory, ADH Deputy Director, Public Health Programs



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July 22, 2020

Secretary Larry Walther
Arkansas Department of Finance and Administration
1509 W. 7th ST, Room 401
Little Rock, AR 72201

RE: Arkansas Department of Health
Request for Appropriation for CARES Act Funding for the
Northwest Arkansas Council - \$7,000,000

Dear Secretary Walter,

The Arkansas Department of Health (ADH) requests approval for \$7,000,000 in appropriation for the Northwest Arkansas Council to establish a Comprehensive COVID-19 Response Plan that will outline collaborative efforts to be implemented in northwest and western Arkansas counties. The plan includes the development of a dedicated contract tracing center for special populations in the region. Also, training of bilingual contact tracing staff to be deployed to local testing sites providing information and materials in Spanish and Marshallese is included in the plan. ADH will develop specific guidelines to ensure that disbursement of funds follow U.S. Treasury Department guidance.

Your consideration of this request is greatly appreciated.

Thank you,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Jo Thompson". The signature is fluid and cursive.

Jo Thompson, Chief Financial Officer
Arkansas Department of Health

CC: Dr. Jose Romero, Interim Secretary of Health
Stephanie Williams, ADH Chief of Staff
Don Adams, ADH Deputy Director, Administration
Renee Mallory, ADH Deputy Director, Public Health Programs