



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

**OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY**  
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March 17, 2021

Senator Ricky Hill, Co-Chair  
Representative Monte Hodges, Co-Chair  
PEER/Review Subcommittee  
Joint Budget Committee  
State Capitol Building  
Little Rock, AR 72201

RE: FY 21 C.A.R.E.S. Appropriation Request(s)

Dear Co-Chairs:

Pursuant to Act 2 of 2020, Section 36, I am forwarding for appropriate action as required by law, the attached C.A.R.E.S. Appropriation Request(s) that have received my approval as Chief Fiscal Officer of the State.

Sincerely,

  
Larry W. Walther  
Cabinet Secretary

LWW

Attachment(s)



myarkansaspbs.org

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March 17, 2021

Secretary Larry Walther  
Arkansas Department of Finance & Administration  
1509 West 7<sup>th</sup> Street  
Little Rock, AR 72201

BA: 0516

Func Area: EDUC

Fund: FHCCARE

FC: Z89

CI: 590:00:47

RE: C.A.R.E.S. Appropriation Act 2 of 2020

Dear Secretary Walther:

Arkansas PBS made a request to the C.A.R.E.S. Act Steering Committee for additional funding to help complete the expansion of the broadcast footprint of our signal to reach 99.5% of available homes in Arkansas. The COVID-19 pandemic showed that AR PBS is vital as a source of high-quality educational material as displayed during the public school closures last Spring and our broadcast of "Arkansas AMI". Because of the rural nature of Arkansas and the lack of broadband access to many areas of the State, broadcast is the most efficient means of reaching this population.

The Steering Committee approved our request for additional funding so we will need additional FY 2021 appropriation to expend the awarded funds to continue our response to the educational needs of Arkansas students during the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic.

The total amount of appropriation requested is \$1,220,000 and we ask that it be added to the following Fund, Fund Center and Commitment Item:

- Fund FHCCARE, Fund Center Z89
- Commitment Item 590:00:47 Broadcast Area Expansion

Please let me know if you have questions or need any additional information at (501) 682-4125 or [fwiedower@myarkansaspbs.org](mailto:fwiedower@myarkansaspbs.org).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Fred H. Wiedower".

Fred Wiedower

Deputy Director, Finance & Administration (CFO)