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

OFFICE OF BUDGET
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February 9, 2015


Senator Gary Stubblefield, Co-Chair
Representative Fredrick J. Love, Co-Chair
JBC-PEER/Review Subcommittee
Arkansas General Assembly
State Capitol Building
Little Rock, AR 72201

RE: FY15 Appropriation and/or Fund Transfer Request(s)

Dear Co-Chairs:

I am forwarding for appropriate action as required by law, the attached Appropriation and/or Fund Transfer Request(s) that have received my approval as Chief Fiscal Officer of the State.

Sincerely,


Larry W. Walther
Director

LWW:es

Attachment(s)



January 21, 2015

Larry W. Walthers, Director
Department of Finance & Administration
1509 W 7th St., Room 401
Little Rock, AR 72201

OK
-BBS

Dear Mr. Walthers:

Please approve the request to transfer Appropriations based on our Act 280 in Section 20, Transfer of Appropriation.

Please transfer as follows:

SECTION 3. Appropriation – Unemployment Benefits and Expenses – Cash

<u>FUND CENTER</u>	<u>FUND</u>	<u>FISCAL YEAR</u> <u>2014-2015</u>
From:		
C29- UI Benefits-	1770000-510:00:23	\$8,000,000.00
To:		
C27A- Training Allowance-	1770200-502:00:02	\$3,000,000.00
C27B-Payments to Contractors-	1770200-502:00:02	\$5,000,000.00

The Trade Adjustment Assistance (TAA) Program makes use of federal funding to provide an array of services to workers separated from their jobs due to foreign trade. While most of the costs of these services center on occupational training and associated training costs, such as participant travel assistance, the TAA Program can also assist in the cost of job search efforts and the cost of relocation when a program participant must move in order to accept new employment. In addition, the TAA program provides wage subsidy assistance to qualified employers when a participant enters into a TAA Program approved and employer provided "on the job training" (OJT) program. The use of these federal funds is critical for the TAA Program



State of Arkansas
Department of

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Asa Hutchinson
Governor

Daryl Bassett
Director

staff in Arkansas to continue to provide assistance to eligible dislocated workers in occupational training, related job search and, if needed, relocation allowances for the purpose of returning these workers to the workforce.

The TAA Program in Arkansas has continued to experience a steady increase in program related benefits costs primarily due to increased costs of training provider tuition, fees, approved supply items for training, and associated participant travel costs.

This request for a transfer of appropriation is due to these increased program related benefits of Travel Allowance & Payments to Participant Contractors in our TAA program.

The increase in Travel Allowance is due to Arkansas receiving approval from the U.S. Department of Labor of Travel Stipend Modifications. The mileage requirement for receipt of a Travel stipend was reduced from 50 miles one-way to 10 miles one-way.

The Trade Adjustment Assistance Program frequently enters into contracts with schools in order to pay for training that has been approved under the program. Approved training must consist of scheduled classroom training. The increase of payments to participant contractors is due to the increase cost of tuition, fees, tools and books required by the school and the cost of required supplies appropriate for students in this program. Books and tools must be on the official school required list for approval of purchase.

Please consider this request and notify DWS if approved. You may call Bryan Hicks at 682-3108 or Gary Sumners at 683-4704 if you have questions or need more information.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in purple ink, appearing to read "Daryl Bassett".

Daryl Bassett