

"AN ACT TO MAKE AN APPROPRIATION TO SUPPLEMENT PRIVATE DONATIONS FOR EXPANSION OF THE LITTLE ROCK, FAYETTEVILLE AND FORT SMITH NATIONAL CEMETERIES; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES."

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:

SECTION 1. It is hereby found and determined by the Arkansas General Assembly that the Veterans Administration as operator of the various national cemeteries, has no current programs for replacement or expansion of current national cemeteries and that the veterans of Arkansas are deserving of interment at these locations in recognition of their service to the State and nation; that in order to remedy this situation, the veterans of the State have formed three charitable, not for profit organizations incorporated under the laws of Arkansas and recognized by the Internal Revenue Service; the Regional National Cemetery Improvement Corporation, Fayetteville, Arkansas (expansion of the Fayetteville National Cemetery), The Little Rock National Cemetery Expansion Corporation, Little Rock, Arkansas (expansion of the Little Rock National Cemetery), and The Fort Smith National Cemetery Expansion Corporation, Fort Smith, Arkansas (expansion of the Fort Smith National Cemetery); that these organizations have viable expansion plans for the respective national cemeteries with actual or implied concurrence from both the Veterans Administration and those entities and individuals directly involved; and that it is appropriate that the General Assembly provide funds to assist such organizations in their worthy efforts.

SECTION 2. There is hereby appropriated, to be payable from the General improvement Fund or its successor fund or fund accounts, for a grant to assist the Regional National Cemetery Improvement Corporation, The Little Rock National Cemetery Expansion Corporation and the Fort Smith National Cemetery Expansion Corporation in order to assist them in their efforts in improving, renovating or expanding the national cemeteries in their areas, the sum of.....\$75,000.

SECTION 3. On the effective date of this Act, the Chief Fiscal Officer of the State shall make the authorized transfer to the Arkansas Department of Veterans Affairs, who shall cause to be disbursed the sum of \$25,000 to each of the organizations set out in this Act.

SECTION 4. EMERGENCY. It is hereby found and determined by the General Assembly that it is urgent that action be taken by the State to provide financial assistance to the organizations that are currently working to expand the three national cemeteries in the State in order to assure that such cemeteries can be expanded to provide appropriate interment locations for Arkansas veterans; that this Act is designed to appropriate funds to assist in such projects and should be given effect immediately. Therefore, an emergency is hereby declared to exist and this Act being necessary for the preservation of the public peace, health and safety shall be in full force and effect from and after its passage and approval.

APPROVED: April 7, 1987
