

Stricken language would be deleted from and underlined language would be added to the law as it existed prior to this session of the General Assembly.  
**Act 1358 of the Regular Session**

1 State of Arkansas  
2 85th General Assembly  
3 Regular Session, 2005  
4

# A Bill

SENATE BILL 809

5 By: Senator Higginbothom  
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## For An Act To Be Entitled

9 AN ACT TO MAKE AN APPROPRIATION TO THE DEPARTMENT  
10 OF HIGHER EDUCATION FOR CREATION OF REGIONAL  
11 CENTERS OF EXCELLENCE AT COLLEGE AND UNIVERSITIES  
12 IN ARKANSAS; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.  
13

## Subtitle

14  
15 AN ACT FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF HIGHER  
16 EDUCATION - REGIONAL CENTERS OF  
17 EXCELLENCE AT COLLEGE AND UNIVERSITIES  
18 IN ARKANSAS GENERAL IMPROVEMENT  
19 APPROPRIATION.  
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23 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:  
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25 SECTION 1. APPROPRIATIONS - REGIONAL CENTERS OF EXCELLENCE AT COLLEGE AND  
26 UNIVERSITIES IN ARKANSAS. There is hereby appropriated, to the Department of  
27 Higher Education, to be payable from the General Improvement Fund or its  
28 successor fund or fund accounts, the following:

29 (A) For creation of regional Centers of Excellence at Colleges and  
30 Universities in Arkansas, the sum of .....\$20,000,000.  
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32 SECTION 2. DISBURSEMENT CONTROLS. (A) No contract may be awarded nor  
33 obligations otherwise incurred in relation to the project or projects  
34 described herein in excess of the State Treasury funds actually available  
35 therefor as provided by law. Provided, however, that institutions and



1 agencies listed herein shall have the authority to accept and use grants and  
 2 donations including Federal funds, and to use its unobligated cash income or  
 3 funds, or both available to it, for the purpose of supplementing the State  
 4 Treasury funds for financing the entire costs of the project or projects  
 5 enumerated herein. Provided further, that the appropriations and funds  
 6 otherwise provided by the General Assembly for Maintenance and General  
 7 Operations of the agency or institutions receiving appropriation herein shall  
 8 not be used for any of the purposes as appropriated in this act.

9 (B) The restrictions of any applicable provisions of the State Purchasing  
 10 Law, the General Accounting and Budgetary Procedures Law, the Revenue  
 11 Stabilization Law and any other applicable fiscal control laws of this State  
 12 and regulations promulgated by the Department of Finance and Administration,  
 13 as authorized by law, shall be strictly complied with in disbursement of any  
 14 funds provided by this act unless specifically provided otherwise by law.

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 16 SECTION 3. LEGISLATIVE INTENT. It is the intent of the General Assembly  
 17 that any funds disbursed under the authority of the appropriations contained  
 18 in this act shall be in compliance with the stated reasons for which this act  
 19 was adopted, as evidenced by the Agency Requests, Executive Recommendations  
 20 and Legislative Recommendations contained in the budget manuals prepared by  
 21 the Department of Finance and Administration, letters, or summarized oral  
 22 testimony in the official minutes of the Arkansas Legislative Council or  
 23 Joint Budget Committee which relate to its passage and adoption.

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 25 SECTION 4. EMERGENCY CLAUSE. It is found and determined by the General  
 26 Assembly, that the Constitution of the State of Arkansas prohibits the  
 27 appropriation of funds for more than a two (2) year period; that the  
 28 effectiveness of this Act on July 1, 2005 is essential to the operation of  
 29 the agency for which the appropriations in this Act are provided, and that in  
 30 the event of an extension of the Regular Session, the delay in the effective  
 31 date of this Act beyond July 1, 2005 could work irreparable harm upon the  
 32 proper administration and provision of essential governmental programs.  
 33 Therefore, an emergency is hereby declared to exist and this Act being  
 34 necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health and  
 35 safety shall be in full force and effect from and after July 1, 2005.

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APPROVED: 3/29/2005