April 6, 2020

Senator Gary Stubblefield, Co-Chair
Representative Monte Hodges, Co-Chair
Performance Evaluation & Expenditure Review Committee
Joint Budget Committee
State Capitol Building
Little Rock, AR 72201

RE: Appropriation and/or Funds Transfer Request(s)

Dear Co-Chairs:

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

Sincerely,

[Signature]
Larry W. Walther
Cabinet Secretary

LWW

Attachment(s)
November 18, 2019

Mr. Larry Walther  
Director, Department of Finance and Administration  
1509 West Seventh Street, Suite 401  
Little Rock, Arkansas 72201

REFERENCE: Innovation and Project Development Fund Request

Dear Mr. Walther:

During the 91st General Assembly Regular Session of 2017, the Legislature passed Act 912 to create the positions of Chief Data Officer (CDO) and Chief Privacy Officer (CPO) within the Division of Information Systems. This request specifically relates to the funding for these two positions through the Innovation and Project Development Fund for FY2020.

The Department of Information Systems has actively worked with agencies to identify areas where data sharing would benefit both the state and the citizens of Arkansas as well as potentially result in significant cost reductions using the shared data. The role of the CDO is to work with these agencies to identify which projects would result in the best return on investment and how to accomplish that data sharing efficiently. The role the CPO is to ensure data sharing is done within the limitations of the law, both state and federal. These two roles are vital to the successful implementation of data sharing solutions and work directly with the Data and Transparency Panel to ensure the needs of the state are being addressed as it relates to interagency data sharing.

The Division of Information Systems is a cost recovery agency limited to a chargeback methodology of allowable costs as defined in 2 CFR § 200.405. The services performed by the CDO and CPO have statewide benefits that cannot be objectively charged or assigned to a cost objective in accordance with the relative benefits received. Because of this, we are requesting funds from the Innovation and Project Development Fund be approved to fund these positions.

This approval request is for an amount of $229,034 from the Innovation and Project Development Fund to cover the expenses associated with these positions. Attached you will find the calculations for this cost estimate.
Thank you for your consideration of this request and please feel free to contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Yessica Jones
Chief Technology Officer, State of Arkansas
Director, Division of Information Systems

CC: Paul Louthian, Deputy Director and Controller, DFA
Carder Hawkins, Deputy Director, DIS
Jay Harton, Chief Operating Officer, DIS
Amy Buss, Chief Fiscal Officer, DIS