March 30, 2020

Mr. Larry Walther, Secretary  
Department of Finance & Administration  
1509 West 7th Street, Suite 401  
Little Rock, Arkansas 72201

Dear Mr. Walther:

Pursuant to ALC Rule 16, the Co-Chairs of the Legislative Council and the ALC PEER Subcommittee determined that emergency review and approval of the following appropriation request(s) was necessary to enable the agencies to perform essential services:

Cash Fund Appropriation Increase Requests:

- Department of Finance & Administration – Disbursing Officer, to allow for the continued bulk ordering of PPE equipment and other critical supplies necessary to protect Arkansas citizens during the COVID-19 Public Health Emergency - $44,500,00;

- Department of Health, to implement COVID-19 media campaign to help inform homebound citizens of the state - $1,500,000.

As such, the Co-Chairs of the Legislative Council and the Co-chairs of the ALC PEER Subcommittee acted on behalf of the Legislative Council in regard to this request. This request shall be filed as reviewed and approved and reported to the Legislative Council at its next regularly scheduled meeting in accordance with ALC Rule 16.

Please notify each affected agency of this emergency approval.

Sincerely,

Marty Garrity  
Executive Secretary

MG:sla
On March 30, 2020, Senator Cecile Bledsoe and Representative Jeff Wardlaw, Co-Chairs of the Legislative Council, and Senator Bruce Maloch and Representative DeAnn Vaught, Co-Chairs of the PEER Subcommittee, received written notification from Larry Walther, the Chief Fiscal Officer of the State, requesting emergency review of requests for Cash Fund Appropriation Increase.

Under Rule 16 of the Rules of the Arkansas Legislative Council, on March 30, 2020 the Co-Chairs of the Legislative Council and PEER Subcommittee unanimously determined that emergency review was necessary to enable agencies to perform essential services. As such, the Co-Chairs of the Legislative Council and the Co-Chairs of the PEER Subcommittee may act on behalf of the Legislative Council in regard to these requests, and state herein that the requests shall be filed as reviewed and reported to the Legislative Council at its next regularly scheduled meeting in accordance with Rule 16.

Below is a summary of the requests given emergency review.

Cash Fund Appropriation Increase Requests (Review Items)
Department of Health - $1,500,000
Department of Finance and Administration - Disbursing Officer - $44,500,000

Respectfully Submitted,

Senator Cecile Bledsoe, Co-Chair
Arkansas Legislative Council

Representative Jeff Wardlaw, Co-Chair
Arkansas Legislative Council

Senator Bruce Maloch, Co-Chair
ALC PEER Subcommittee

Representative DeAnn Vaught, Co-Chair
ALC PEER Subcommittee
March 30, 2020

Senator Cecile Bledsoe, Chair
Representative Jeff Wardlaw, Chair
Arkansas Legislative Council
State Capitol
Little Rock, AR 72201

RE: Emergency Action Procedures Request

Dear Co-Chairs:

This is to inform you that there are items for Legislative Council review that requires your immediate attention. Because of the time-sensitive nature of this item, the Department of Finance and Administration respectfully requests an expedited review. The following requests have received my approval as Chief Fiscal Officer of the State.

A request for a Cash Fund Appropriation Increase for Department of Finance and Administration- Disabusing Officer. This request has received my approval as Chief Fiscal Officer of the State. The additional appropriation is necessary to allow for the continued bulk ordering of ventilators, personal protective equipment and other critical supplies necessary to protect the citizens of Arkansas during the COVID-19 Public Health Emergency.

A request for a Cash Fund Appropriation Increase for The Department of Health. This request is necessary to allow for appropriation for the Department to implement a COVID-19 media campaign to help inform homebound citizens of the state.

I ask that you please institute emergency action procedures for consideration of these matters and sign them out of Committee per Rule 16 of the Rules of the Arkansas Legislative Council.

Sincerely,

Larry W. Walther,
Secretary

LWW:es
March 30, 2020

Larry Walther, Secretary
Department of Finance and Administration
1509 W. 7th ST, Room 401
Little Rock, AR 72201

Dear Secretary Walther,

The Arkansas Department of Health is respectfully requesting your approval to establish a cash appropriation of $1,500,000 for a COVID-19 Public Health Emergency Response communication campaign. Emphasis will be made on social media, television and other forms of communication to reach residents of the state that may be homebound due to the emergency.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Jo Thompson, Chief Financial Officer
Arkansas Department of Health

CC: Nathaniel Smith, MD, MPH, Secretary of Health
Stephanie Williams, ADH Chief of Staff
Renee Mallory, ADH Deputy Director
Meg Mirivel, ADH Director of Health Communications
March 30, 2020

Secretary Larry W. Walther  
Department of Finance and Administration  
1509 West Seventh Street, Suite 401  
Little Rock, AR 72201

Dear Mr. Walther,

I respectfully request your approval to establish a cash appropriation of $44,500,000 for COVID-19 Public Health Emergency response. In accordance with the State's Emergency Support Function (ESF#7) plan, the Department of Finance and Administration - Disbursing Officer is the emergency buyer for the State. This appropriation is necessary to allow the Department of Finance and Administration to continue the bulk purchasing of personal protective equipment, ventilators, and other critical supplies needed by Arkansans during this emergency.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Melanie Hazelslip  
Administrator

MMH:es