

**REPORT OF THE SUBCOMMITTEE ON
PERFORMANCE EVALUATION AND EXPENDITURE REVIEW (PEER)
OF THE ARKANSAS LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL**

September 18, 2020

Dear Co-Chairs:

Your Subcommittee on Performance Evaluation and Expenditure Review (PEER) met on Tuesday, September 15, 2020, and after having reviewed the following items, reports that the Subcommittee's review and/or approval is complete unless otherwise noted. Subcommittee rules were suspended to take up item on the supplemental agenda. Items from the supplemental agenda will be noted with an asterisk (*).

A. Cash Fund Appropriation Increase Requests – FY21

1. University of Central Arkansas - \$52,830,000

B. Items for Approval

1. Shared Services Appropriation Transfer Requests – FY21
 - a. Department of Corrections - \$100,000 Overtime appropriation from Community Correction
2. Rainy Day Fund Transfer Requests
 - a. Department of Corrections – Division of Correction - \$378,100 for chillers at Ouachita River Correctional Unit Inmate
3. *Various Temporary Appropriation Requests – FY21
 - a. Department of Commerce – Division of Workforce Services - \$2,800,000 to utilize CARES Act funding for call center services
4. *CARES Appropriation Requests – FY21
 - a. Department of Human Services – Secretary’s Office/DHS Administration - \$425,000 to support Child Advocacy Centers

C. Budget Classification Transfer Requests – FY21

1. Department of Commerce – Division of Aeronautics - \$32,000 from Operating Expenses to Capital Outlay
2. Department of Commerce – State Bank Department - \$130,000 from Operating Expenses to Capital Outlay

D. Miscellaneous Federal Grant Appropriation Requests – FY21

1. Office of Attorney General - \$152,575
2. Department of Education – Arkansas School for the Blind - \$250,000
3. Department of Education – Arkansas School for the Deaf - \$250,000
4. Department of Human Services – Division of Aging, Adult and Behavioral Health - \$68,186
5. Department of Education – Division of Higher Education - \$30,000
6. Department of Commerce – Office of Skills Development - \$262,500 – 1 Position

7. *Department of Commerce – Division of Workforce Services – Unemployment Insurance Administration - \$5,915,799
8. *Department of Commerce – Division of Workforce Services – CARES Act Funding - \$1,447,535
9. *Department of Commerce – Division of Workforce Services – Pandemic Emergency Unemployment Compensation Program - \$285,600 – 3 Positions
10. *Department of Commerce – Division of Workforce Services - Pandemic Unemployment Assistance – \$1,499,400 – 14 Positions

E. Performance Fund/Pay Plan Holding Account Transfer Requests – FY21

1. Arkansas Court of Appeals - \$462,160
 - a. Motion to recommend to Court of Appeals and the Department of Finance and Administration to submit an additional request for appropriation to Legislative Council to consider compensation for law clerks for the months in fiscal year 2021 in which salary was not equal to salary of Supreme Court Law Clerks as required in ACA § 16-12-108(f)(1).

F. Overtime Appropriation Transfer Requests – FY21

1. *Department of Corrections – Division of Correction - \$2,500,000

G. Report of the Agency Carry Forward of Unexpended Balances of Funding – FY20

H. Monthly Reports

1. Rainy Day Fund Income and Distribution as of August 31, 2020
2. Budget Stabilization Trust Fund as of August 31, 2020
3. Tobacco Settlement Report as of August 31, 2020
4. State Central Services Fund as of August 31, 2020
5. CARES Act Report

I. Other Business

1. Department of Transformation and Shared Services – Employee Benefits Division discussion on change in healthcare plan benefits

Respectfully submitted by Subcommittee Co-Chairs, Senator Bruce Maloch and Representative DeAnn Vaught

**REQUEST FOR SALARY and/or
PERSONAL SERVICES MATCHING APPROPRIATION
Fiscal Year 2021**

Agency : 0018 - ARKANSAS COURT OF APPEALS

Fund	Funds Center	Commitment Item	Additional Appropriation
HSC1800	111	5010000	\$155,969.20
HSC1800	111	5010003	\$49,909.35

Additional Regular Salaries and Personal Services Matching is requested due to pay plan adjustments for 24 Court of Appeals law clerks.

	Total	\$205,878.55
Business Area		0018



Rita W. Gruber
Judge

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September 15, 2020

Honorable Cecile Bledsoe, Co-Chair
Honorable Jeff Wardlaw, Co-Chair
Arkansas Legislative Council
Arkansas State Capitol
500 Woodlane Street
Little Rock, Arkansas 72201

Dear Senator Bledsoe and Representative Wardlaw:

The Arkansas Court of Appeals respectfully requests that the proposed salary adjustments requested in our September letter to the PEER subcommittee be effective on the first pay period in Fiscal Year 2021.

This request, as well as our initial request before the PEER subcommittee, is pursuant to Arkansas Code Annotated Section 16-12-108(f)(1), which reads: "Law Clerks for the Court of Appeals shall receive the same salaries as Supreme Court law clerks." To fund this request, our court would need an additional increase of \$155,969.20 to our Regular Salaries appropriation and an increase of \$49,909.35 to our Personal Services Matching appropriation.

We appreciate the Committee's consideration of this matter.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Rita W. Gruber", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Rita W. Gruber, Chief Judge
Arkansas Court of Appeals

Fund Center: 111 Fund: HSC1800
JN 09/16/2020