



STATE OF ARKANSAS  
**Department of Finance  
and Administration**

**OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY**  
1509 West Seventh Street, Suite 401  
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June 4, 2021

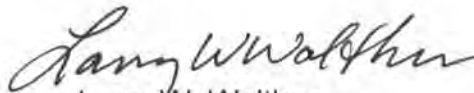
Senator Jonathan Dismang, Co-Chair  
Representative Michelle Gray, Co-Chair  
Performance Evaluation & Expenditure Review Committee  
Arkansas Legislative Council  
State Capitol Building  
Little Rock, AR 72201

RE: FY22 Tobacco Settlement

Dear Co-Chairs:

I am forwarding for appropriate action as required by law, the attached Tobacco Settlement Account Funding request for carry forward of funds into the next biennium from the Department of Human Services and the Arkansas Minority Health Commission. I have determined that sufficient justification exists for this funding to be carried over to the next biennium and the Arkansas Tobacco Settlement Commission has certified that the criteria has been met as established by Arkansas Code §19-12-108 and referenced in the attached letter from Arkansas Tobacco Settlement Commission. I am seeking your review prior to my approval as Chief Fiscal Officer of the State.

Sincerely,

  
Larry W. Walther  
Cabinet Secretary

LWW

Attachment(s)



Office of the Secretary  
P.O. Box 1437, Slot S201  
Little Rock, AR 72203-1437  
P: 501.682.8650  
F: 501.682.6836  
TDD: 501.682.8820  
HUMANSERVICES.ARKANSAS.GOV

May 14, 2021

Mr. Larry Walther, Secretary  
Department of Finance and Administration  
Post Office Box 3278  
Little Rock, AR 72203-3278

Dear Mr. Walther:

Pursuant to A.C.A. §19-12-108, I respectfully request that the fund balance in the Medicaid Expansion Program Account (TSG0100) on June 30, 2021, be carried over into the next biennium. This account consists of unspent tobacco settlement funds which are used to fund the Medicaid Expansion Program.

As you are aware, the budget approved by the Legislature and put into law by the Governor for the 2021-2023 Biennium included the carry-over of unspent tobacco settlement funds into the next biennium in order to fully fund the Medicaid budget. The adequacy of our Medicaid budget for the next biennium is dependent on our ability to use these funds.

The Act requires that the Arkansas Tobacco Settlement Commission (ATSC) certify that we are in compliance with §19-12-108 as a condition of your approving this request. We have requested a certification from ATSC and requested that they forward their certification directly to you.

Your consideration of this request is greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Cindy Gillespie".

Cindy Gillespie  
Secretary



## Arkansas Department of Health

Arkansas Minority Health Commission  
1501 S. Main St., Suite A • Little Rock, Arkansas 72202 • (501) 682-2720 • Fax: (501) 686-2722  
Governor Asa Hutchinson  
José Romero, MD, Secretary of Health  
ShaRhonda J. Love, MPH, Director

May 10, 2021

Larry W. Walther, Secretary  
Department of Finance & Administration  
1509 West 7<sup>th</sup> St., Room 401  
Little Rock, AR 72201

Dear Secretary Walther:

Under §19-12-108 of Arkansas Code, the Arkansas Minority Health Commission (AMHC) respectfully requests that the fund balance in the Targeted State Needs Program Account (TSE0100) on June 30<sup>th</sup>, 2021, be carried over into the next biennium. This account consists of unspent tobacco settlements funds, which are necessary to facilitate the mission and vision of the AMHC.

Arkansas Minority Health Commission was unable to actualize all its objectives due to various factors including the COVID -19 pandemic, meeting/gathering restrictions, limited PPE, staff reduction and turnover, and restructuring staff roles and programs impacted by the pandemic. Sec. Walther, I am requesting an opportunity to utilize those funds to aggressively and systematically tackle the major health issues that plague Arkansans. It is my hope that I am afforded the chance to make right by those funds for the good of the people.

The Act requires that the AMHC certify that we are in compliance with §19-12-118 as a condition of your approving this request.

Thank you for your time and feel free to contact our office if you have any questions regarding this matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads 'José R. Romero, MD'.

José Romero, MD  
Secretary of Health

Cc: ShaRhonda Love, AMHC Director  
Jo Thompson, ADH CFO



# Arkansas Department of Health

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## Arkansas Tobacco Settlement Commission

101 E. Capitol Avenue, Suite 108 • Little Rock, Arkansas 72201-3811 • (501) 683-0074

Governor Asa Hutchinson

José Romero, MD, Secretary of Health

Andrea Allen, Commission Chair

May 11, 2021

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

Dear Secretary Walther:

Please accept this letter as certification of compliance for the Arkansas Minority Health Commission.

Under §19-12-108 of the Arkansas Code, you have the authority to authorize the carry-over of funds from one biennium to the next for any of the seven funded Tobacco Settlement Programs, after an official request from the agency program director. Arkansas Minority Health Commission has informed the Commission of its request to you for the transfer of funds over the biennium for the Arkansas Minority Health Commission.

The Arkansas Tobacco Settlement Commission certifies that the Arkansas Minority Health Commission is in compliance with all provisions listed in Arkansas Code §19-12-118.

Thank you for your time, and feel free to contact our office if you have any questions regarding this matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "José R. Romero, MD". The signature is written in a cursive style.

José Romero, MD  
Arkansas Secretary of Health  
Director Arkansas Department of Health

Cc: Jo Thompson, Chief Financial Officer, Arkansas Department of Health  
ShaRhonda Love, Executive Director, Arkansas Minority Health Commission





# Arkansas Department of Health

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4815 West Markham Street • Little Rock, Arkansas 72205-3867 • Telephone (501) 661-2000  
Governor Asa Hutchinson  
José R. Romero, MD, Secretary of Health

May 14, 2021

Larry Walther, Director  
Department of Finance & Administration  
1509 West 7<sup>th</sup> Street, Room 401  
Little Rock, Arkansas 72201

Dear Director Walther:

Please accept this letter as certification of compliance for the Tobacco Settlement-Medicaid Expansion Program.

Under §19-12-108 of the Arkansas Code, you have the authority to authorize the carry-over of funds from one biennium to the next for any of the seven funded Tobacco Settlement Programs after an official request from the agency program director. Tobacco Settlement-Medicaid Expansion Program has informed the Commission of its request to you for the transfer of funds over the biennium for the Tobacco Settlement-Medicaid Expansion Program.

The Arkansas Tobacco Settlement Commission certifies that the Tobacco Settlement-Medicaid Expansion Program is in compliance with all provisions listed in Arkansas Code §19-12-118.

Thank you for your time and feel free to contact our office if you have any questions regarding this matter.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jo Thompson". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Jo Thompson  
Chief Financial Officer, Arkansas Department of Health

Cc: Jack Hopkins, Office of the Governor  
Cindy Gillespie, Director, Department of Human Services  
Mary Franklin, DHS, Director, Division of County Operations  
Andrea Allen, Commission Chair, Arkansas Tobacco Settlement Commission  
Dr. José Romero, Secretary of Health, Arkansas Department of Health