

**ARKANSAS DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
PROPOSED RULES AND REGULATIONS
To Implement the Braille and Large Print Textbook Appropriation
(Proposed Effective Date: July 2018)**

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1.00 Regulatory Authority

- 1.01 These regulations shall be known as Arkansas Department of Education Regulations to Implement the Braille and Large Print Textbook Appropriation.
- 1.02 These regulations are enacted pursuant to the State Board of Education's authority under ~~Act 1005 of 1997~~ Act 174 of 2017.

2.00 Purpose

- 2.01 It is the purpose of these regulations to set forth the criteria for determining student eligibility for adaptive textbooks (i.e. braille and large print).
- 2.02 These regulations define the process for local school district access to such adaptive textbooks for students with visual impairments.

3.00 Definitions

- 3.01 For the purpose of these regulations, adaptive textbooks are defined to mean braille and large print.
- 3.02 IDEA refers to the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act.
- 3.03 IEP ~~means~~ is the individualized education program for a student with disabilities under the IDEA.
- 3.04 ~~Learning Media Assessment (LMA) authored by Koenig, A. & Holbrook, C., 1995, is a structured systematic procedure used to gather information and document decisions regarding the selection of reading and writing media for students who are visually impaired. Learning Media Assessment refers to a structured systematic assessment used to determine the appropriate literacy media and/or functional learning materials for students with visual impairments.~~
- 3.05 ~~Minnesota Braille Skills Inventory published by the Minnesota Department of Education, 1995, is a comprehensive assessment of braille skills including knowledge of braille contractions, nemeth code, foreign language codes, and computer braille. Braille Skills Inventory is a comprehensive assessment used to assess the braille reading and writing proficiency of students who receive braille instruction.~~
- 3.06 Informal Reading Inventories (IRIs) as used in these regulations refers to

commercially available IRIs which are adapted into braille and large print and used as a part of continuing assessment to determine student progress in reading as measured by reading comprehension and reading rate.

- 3.07 Reading rates are measured using informal reading inventories and content texts and are one component of the data needed to determine efficiency in a student's current literacy media.
- 3.08 Informal functional vision assessment as used in these regulations refers to teacher observations which provide evidence of a student's use of visual ability in near and distance tasks.

4.00 Administration

- 4.01 The braille and large print textbook program for students with visual impairments shall be administered by the Arkansas School for the Blind in conjunction with the Arkansas Department of Education's designee from internal administration.

5.00 Eligibility for Adaptive Textbooks

- 5.01 The following criteria should be considered when determining the appropriate reading medium for students with visual impairment.
 - 5.01.1 Observations made by, but not limited to, the classroom teacher, parent, ~~vision teacher~~ certified teacher of students with visual impairments (TVI), and an ESVI regional vision consultant.
 - 5.01.2 Assessment by an ESVI regional vision consultant, ~~vision teacher certified teacher of students with visual impairments (TVI)~~ or reading teacher to include the following, as appropriate.
 - 5.01.2.1 *Learning Media Assessment*
 - 5.01.2.2 ~~Minnesota Braille Skills Inventory~~ Braille Skills Inventory
 - 5.01.2.3 Informal functional vision assessment
 - 5.01.2.4 Reading rates
 - 5.01.3 Eye specialist medical report detailing acuity, pathology and prognosis.
 - 5.01.4 ~~Media/functional vision evaluation by a low vision specialist.~~
 - 5.01.54 Student's IEP team recommendation.

6.00 School District Access to Adaptive Textbooks

- 6.01 Local school districts must assess any student whose visual impairment adversely affects his/her educational performance as to the student's need for adaptive textbooks.
- 6.02 For the purpose of these regulations, the criteria stated in Section 5.00 shall be the minimum criteria for determining student eligibility.
- 6.03 Local school districts may seek assistance for assessing a student's need for adaptive textbooks by ~~calling~~ contacting the Educational Services for the Visually Impaired (ESVI) ~~located at the Arkansas School for the Blind.~~
- 6.04 Following a determination that a student is eligible for adaptive textbooks, the regional vision consultant serving the local school district will approve the purchase of textbooks for each student determined eligible.
- 6.05 The regional vision consultant will complete an ~~Educational Materials Center~~ ESVI textbook order form and transmit the form to the ~~Educational Materials Center~~ Instructional Resource Center at the Arkansas School for the Blind.

7.00 Costs

- 7.01 There shall be no charge to local school districts for ~~the~~ large print or braille textbooks, unless ~~the~~ a book is lost or is severely damaged.
- 7.02 Should a textbook be lost or sustain such damage as to render the book unusable, the district will be billed for the costs associated with replacing the book.

1 State of Arkansas
2 91st General Assembly
3 Regular Session, 2017
4

A Bill

HOUSE BILL 1078

5 By: Joint Budget Committee
6

For An Act To Be Entitled

8 AN ACT TO MAKE AN APPROPRIATION FOR PERSONAL SERVICES
9 AND OPERATING EXPENSES FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF
10 EDUCATION - ARKANSAS SCHOOL FOR THE BLIND FOR THE
11 FISCAL YEAR ENDING JUNE 30, 2018; AND FOR OTHER
12 PURPOSES.
13

Subtitle

16 AN ACT FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION -
17 ARKANSAS SCHOOL FOR THE BLIND
18 APPROPRIATION FOR THE 2017-2018 FISCAL
19 YEAR.
20

21
22 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:
23

24 SECTION 1. REGULAR SALARIES. There is hereby established for the
25 Department of Education - Arkansas School for the Blind for the 2017-2018
26 fiscal year, the following maximum number of regular employees.
27

Item No.	Class Code	Title	Maximum No. of Employees	Maximum Annual Salary Rate Fiscal Year 2017-2018
32	(1) U030U	BLIND SCHOOL SUPERINTENDENT	1	\$99,039
33	(2) E004C	SCHOOL PRINCIPAL	2	GRADE C126
34	(3) A038C	FISCAL SUPPORT MANAGER	1	GRADE C123
35	(4) L040C	DIETARY SERVICES DIRECTOR	1	GRADE C120
36	(5) M088C	LICENSED MASTER SOCIAL WORKER	1	GRADE C120



1	(6)	L038C	REGISTERED NURSE	1	GRADE C120
2	(7)	E024C	TEACHER SUPERVISOR	2	GRADE C120
3	(8)	S008C	CAMPUS MAINTENANCE SUPERVISOR	1	GRADE C119
4	(9)	E035C	CERTIFIED MASTERS TEACHER	35	GRADE C119
5	(10)	D061C	INFO SYSTEMS COORDINATION SPECIALIST	1	GRADE C119
6	(11)	L042C	SCHOOL SPEECH PATHOLOGIST	1	GRADE C119
7	(12)	R024C	ASSISTANT PERSONNEL MANAGER	1	GRADE C118
8	(13)	C010C	EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT TO THE DIRECTOR	1	GRADE C118
9	(14)	M024C	RESIDENTIAL SERVICES MANAGER	1	GRADE C118
10	(15)	A082C	ACCOUNTANT II	1	GRADE C117
11	(16)	E044C	CERTIFIED BACHELORS TEACHER	1	GRADE C117
12	(17)	S025C	BUILDING AND GROUNDS COORDINATOR	1	GRADE C116
13	(18)	C037C	ADMINISTRATIVE ANALYST	2	GRADE C115
14	(19)	A090C	PAYROLL SERVICES SPECIALIST	1	GRADE C115
15	(20)	S031C	SKILLED TRADESMAN	2	GRADE C115
16	(21)	S038C	TRANSIT OPERATIONS SUPERVISOR	1	GRADE C115
17	(22)	S047C	LANDSCAPE SUPERVISOR	1	GRADE C113
18	(23)	L069C	LICENSED PRACTICAL NURSE	2	GRADE C113
19	(24)	S046C	MAINTENANCE TECHNICIAN	2	GRADE C113
20	(25)	C056C	ADMINISTRATIVE SPECIALIST III	1	GRADE C112
21	(26)	A098C	FISCAL SUPPORT SPECIALIST	1	GRADE C112
22	(27)	C058C	EDUCATION PARAPROFESSIONAL	6	GRADE C111
23	(28)	M074C	RESIDENTIAL ADVISOR	13	GRADE C111
24	(29)	C073C	ADMINISTRATIVE SPECIALIST II	3	GRADE C109
25	(30)	S062C	INSTITUTIONAL BUS DRIVER	1	GRADE C109
26	(31)	S068C	FOOD PREPARATION COORDINATOR	3	GRADE C108
27	(32)	V027C	INVENTORY CONTROL TECHNICIAN	1	GRADE C108
28	(33)	S065C	MAINTENANCE ASSISTANT	1	GRADE C108
29	(34)	S086C	COOK	7	GRADE C104
30	(35)	S087C	INSTITUTIONAL SERVICES ASSISTANT	<u>4</u>	GRADE C103
31			MAX. NO. OF EMPLOYEES	105	

32

33 SECTION 2. EXTRA HELP. There is hereby authorized, for the Department
 34 of Education - Arkansas School for the Blind for the 2017-2018 fiscal year,
 35 the following maximum number of part-time or temporary employees, to be known
 36 as "Extra Help", payable from funds appropriated herein for such purposes:

1 seventeen (17) temporary or part-time employees, when needed, at rates of pay
 2 not to exceed those provided in the Uniform Classification and Compensation
 3 Act, or its successor, or this act for the appropriate classification.
 4

5 SECTION 3. APPROPRIATION - STATE OPERATIONS. There is hereby
 6 appropriated, to the Department of Education - Arkansas School for the Blind,
 7 to be payable from the School for the Blind Fund Account, for personal
 8 services and operating expenses of the Department of Education - Arkansas
 9 School for the Blind - State Operations for the fiscal year ending June 30,
 10 2018, the following:

11		
12	ITEM	FISCAL YEAR
13	<u>NO.</u>	<u>2017-2018</u>
14	(01) REGULAR SALARIES	\$3,881,639
15	(02) EXTRA HELP	5,000
16	(03) PERSONAL SERVICES MATCHING	1,367,796
17	(04) OVERTIME	10,000
18	(05) MAINT. & GEN. OPERATION	
19	(A) OPER. EXPENSE	1,173,656
20	(B) CONF. & TRAVEL	17,015
21	(C) PROF. FEES	99,000
22	(D) CAP. OUTLAY	0
23	(E) DATA PROC.	0
24	(06) SPECIAL MAINTENANCE	200,000
25	(07) VOCATIONAL WORKSTUDY	10,000
26	(08) SUMMER PROJECTS	<u>100,000</u>
27	TOTAL AMOUNT APPROPRIATED	<u>\$6,864,106</u>

28

29 SECTION 4. APPROPRIATION - FEDERAL OPERATIONS. There is hereby
 30 appropriated, to the Department of Education - Arkansas School for the Blind,
 31 to be payable from the federal funds as designated by the Chief Fiscal
 32 Officer of the State, for personal services and operating expenses of the
 33 Department of Education - Arkansas School for the Blind - Federal Operations
 34 for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2018, the following:

35		
36	ITEM	FISCAL YEAR

1	NO.	2017-2018
2	(01) REGULAR SALARIES	\$36,192
3	(02) EXTRA HELP	15,000
4	(03) PERSONAL SERVICES MATCHING	15,773
5	(04) MAINT. & GEN. OPERATION	
6	(A) OPER. EXPENSE	277,712
7	(B) CONF. & TRAVEL	61,382
8	(C) PROF. FEES	220,275
9	(D) CAP. OUTLAY	85,000
10	(E) DATA PROC.	0
11	TOTAL AMOUNT APPROPRIATED	<u>\$711,334</u>

12

13 SECTION 5. APPROPRIATION - CASH OPERATIONS. There is hereby
 14 appropriated, to the Department of Education - Arkansas School for the Blind,
 15 to be payable from cash funds as defined by Arkansas Code 19-4-801 of the
 16 Department of Education - Arkansas School for the Blind, for operating
 17 expenses of the Department of Education - Arkansas School for the Blind -
 18 Cash Operations for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2018, the following:

19

20	ITEM	FISCAL YEAR
21	NO.	2017-2018
22	(01) MAINT. & GEN. OPERATION	
23	(A) OPER. EXPENSE	\$186,508
24	(B) CONF. & TRAVEL	13,000
25	(C) PROF. FEES	100,000
26	(D) CAP. OUTLAY	50,000
27	(E) DATA PROC.	0
28	(02) SPECIAL MAINTENANCE	<u>125,000</u>
29	TOTAL AMOUNT APPROPRIATED	<u>\$474,508</u>

30

31 SECTION 6. APPROPRIATION - BRAILLE AND LARGE PRINT TEXTBOOKS. There is
 32 hereby appropriated, to the Department of Education - Arkansas School for the
 33 Blind, to be payable from the School for the Blind Fund Account, for
 34 purchasing, copying, and shipping Braille and large print textbooks for the
 35 blind and visually impaired students attending the public schools in Arkansas
 36 by the Department of Education - Arkansas School for the Blind - Braille and

1 Large Print Textbooks for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2018, the
 2 following:

ITEM NO.	FISCAL YEAR 2017-2018
(01) BRAILLE AND LARGE PRINT TEXTBOOKS	<u>\$223,024</u>

8 SECTION 7. APPROPRIATION - BUILDING DEMOLITION AND ENVIRONMENTAL CLEAN-
 9 UP. There is hereby appropriated, to the Department of Education - Arkansas
 10 School for the Blind, to be payable from cash funds as defined by Arkansas
 11 Code 19-4-801 of the Department of Education - Arkansas School for the Blind,
 12 for maintenance and general operating expenses related to the demolition and
 13 environmental clean-up of the building located on the Blind School Grounds
 14 that was formerly occupied by Easter Seals Arkansas for the fiscal year
 15 ending June 30, 2018, the following:

ITEM NO.	FISCAL YEAR 2017-2018
(01) MAINTENANCE AND GEN OPER EXPENSES	<u>\$200,000</u>

21 SECTION 8. SPECIAL LANGUAGE. NOT TO BE INCORPORATED INTO THE ARKANSAS
 22 CODE NOR PUBLISHED SEPARATELY AS SPECIAL, LOCAL AND TEMPORARY LAW. TRANSFER
 23 PROVISION. Upon approval from the Chief Fiscal Officer of the State, the
 24 Arkansas School for the Blind shall transfer appropriation from the Summer
 25 Projects line item, in the State Operations Appropriation of this Act, to the
 26 Regular Salaries, Extra Help, Personal Services Matching, Overtime and
 27 Maintenance & General Operations line items in the State Operations
 28 Appropriation of this Act, to compensate staff who work during the summer
 29 months on summer projects, and to cover other expenses of summer project
 30 activities. The Summer Projects line item may also be used for the annual
 31 cost related to the compensation of eligible staff for shift differential pay
 32 as well as compensation of employees for performance of duties assigned as
 33 referenced in the Special Allowance Special Language Section of this Act.
 34 Such additional compensation shall not be construed as exceeding the maximum
 35 salary authorized for said employees.

36 The provisions of this section shall be in effect only from July 1, 2016

1 2017 through June 30, ~~2017~~ 2018.

2

3 SECTION 9. SPECIAL LANGUAGE. NOT TO BE INCORPORATED INTO THE ARKANSAS
4 CODE NOR PUBLISHED SEPARATELY AS SPECIAL, LOCAL AND TEMPORARY LAW. SPECIAL
5 ALLOWANCE. The Arkansas Schools for the Deaf and Blind may make special
6 allowances available to any employee who performs one of the following duties
7 in addition to their normal duties:

8 1) Teaching adult education classes, parent training, student tutorial
9 services on weekends or evenings

10 2) Coaching one or more sports

11 3) Sponsoring a club or organization that involves additional hours
12 outside of the normal working day

13 4) Interpretive Services

14 Compensation for additional duties may not exceed \$3,500 per school term for
15 any one employee during each fiscal year. Such pay shall not be construed as
16 exceeding the maximum salary authorized for said position.

17 The provisions of this section shall be in effect only from July 1, ~~2016~~
18 2017 through June 30, ~~2017~~ 2018.

19

20 SECTION 10. SPECIAL LANGUAGE. NOT TO BE INCORPORATED INTO THE ARKANSAS
21 CODE NOR PUBLISHED SEPARATELY AS SPECIAL, LOCAL AND TEMPORARY LAW.

22 ADDITIONAL SALARY/COMPENSATION PROVISION. No employee drawing a salary or
23 other form of compensation from the Arkansas Schools for the Deaf or Blind
24 shall be paid an additional salary or receive additional compensation, other
25 than reimbursement for actual expenses, from that agency, nor from any other
26 agency or institution of higher education, except from the Superintendent's
27 written certification to and approval by the Chief Fiscal Officer of the
28 State that the work performed by the employee for the other position does not
29 interfere with the proper and required performance of the employee's primary
30 duties, and that the combined salary payments from both positions will not
31 exceed the maximum annual salary for whichever of the two positions has the
32 higher authorized maximum annual salary.

33 Any employee knowingly violating the provisions of this section shall be
34 subject to immediate termination and shall be barred from employment by any
35 agency or institution of the State of Arkansas for a period of not less than
36 three (3) years or until such employee shall repay to the State of Arkansas

1 any sums received by such employee in violation of this section, together
 2 with interest at a rate of ten percent (10%) per annum.

3 The provisions of this section shall be in effect only from July 1, ~~2016~~
 4 2017 through June 30, ~~2017~~ 2018.

5
 6 SECTION 11. SPECIAL LANGUAGE, NOT TO BE INCORPORATED INTO THE ARKANSAS
 7 CODE NOR PUBLISHED SEPARATELY AS SPECIAL, LOCAL AND TEMPORARY LAW. BRAILLE
 8 AND LARGE PRINT TEXTBOOKS. The State Board of Education shall make reasonable
 9 rules and regulations to implement the Braille and Large Print Textbooks
 10 appropriation and is hereby authorized to negotiate directly with publishers
 11 of Braille and Large Print Textbooks for the purchase of such textbooks. The
 12 Arkansas School for the Blind (ASB) is authorized to use funds from this
 13 account for costs associated with providing Braille Textbooks and Large Print
 14 Textbooks to public schools. If funding allows and the need is present, the
 15 Arkansas School for the Blind is authorized to use funds from this account to
 16 purchase electronic textbooks and adaptive technology.

17 The provisions of this section shall be in effect only from July 1, ~~2016~~
 18 2017 through June 30, ~~2017~~ 2018.

19
 20 SECTION 12. SPECIAL LANGUAGE. NOT TO BE INCORPORATED INTO THE ARKANSAS
 21 CODE NOR PUBLISHED SEPARATELY AS SPECIAL, LOCAL AND TEMPORARY LAW. SUMMER
 22 SCHOOL EMPLOYEES. Employees who, in addition to working during the regular
 23 school term, also work during summer months shall be authorized as additional
 24 compensation an amount not to exceed 1/12 of their annual salary for each
 25 month or part thereof worked. Such additional compensation shall not be
 26 construed as exceeding the maximum salary authorized for said employees.
 27 Payment of additional compensation shall be limited to employees in the
 28 following classifications:

29	SUMMER SCHOOL POSITIONS	GRADE
30	Certified Bachelor's Teacher	C117
31	Licensed Social Worker	C118
32	Licensed Professional Counselor	C119
33	Certified Masters Teacher	C119
34	Licensed Master Social Worker	C120
35	Teacher Supervisor	C120
36	Educational Specialist	C120

1 Assistant Principal

C123

2 The provisions of this section shall be in effect only from July 1, ~~2016~~
3 2017 through June 30, ~~2017~~ 2018.

4
5 SECTION 13. SPECIAL LANGUAGE. NOT TO BE INCORPORATED INTO THE ARKANSAS
6 CODE NOR PUBLISHED SEPARATELY AS SPECIAL, LOCAL AND TEMPORARY LAW. CERTIFIED
7 MASTERS OR BACHELOR TEACHERS ENTERING STATE SERVICE. Upon the
8 superintendent's certification to the State Personnel Administrator of prior
9 service at an educational institution and with the approval of the Chief
10 Fiscal Officer of the State, the salary of teachers entering state service as
11 teachers for the sensory impaired may be adjusted to a rate of pay closest to
12 but not less than the annual salary they would have received from their
13 previous employer, effective upon employment at ASB.

14 The provisions of this section shall be in effect only from July 1, ~~2016~~
15 2017 through June 30, ~~2017~~ 2018.

16
17 SECTION 14. SPECIAL LANGUAGE. NOT TO BE INCORPORATED INTO THE ARKANSAS
18 CODE NOR PUBLISHED SEPARATELY AS SPECIAL, LOCAL AND TEMPORARY LAW. TEACHER
19 SALARY INCREASE. In the event that an act is enacted in which the public
20 schools receive funds from the General Assembly to raise the salaries of
21 teachers employed in the public school districts, ~~the Arkansas School for the~~
22 ~~Deaf and~~ the Arkansas School for the Blind shall be included.

23 The provisions of this section shall be in effect only from July 1, ~~2016~~
24 2017 through June 30, ~~2017~~ 2018.

25
26 SECTION 15. SPECIAL LANGUAGE. NOT TO BE INCORPORATED INTO THE ARKANSAS
27 CODE NOR PUBLISHED SEPARATELY AS SPECIAL, LOCAL AND TEMPORARY LAW. SPECIAL
28 RATES OF PAY. Due to the need to meet the minimum compensation schedule as
29 established by Act 74 of the 2nd Extraordinary Session of the 84th General
30 Assembly, or its successor, for public school teachers, counselors, and
31 librarians and other education professionals as listed in subsection (a)
32 below, the Arkansas School for the Blind is authorized to adjust current or
33 new employees to at least the minimum level of compensation for public school
34 employees.

35 For current or new employees in the positions listed in subsection (a)
36 below, the Arkansas School for the Blind may implement salary adjustments to

1 maintain equity between their teacher salaries and those of Central Arkansas
 2 Public School Systems only after a plan for determining and implementing
 3 those adjustments has been reviewed by the Office of Personnel Management and
 4 by the Personnel Committee of the Arkansas Legislative Council and approved
 5 by the Chief Fiscal Officer of the State.

6 For purposes of implementing the plan, the Arkansas School for the Blind
 7 is authorized special rates of pay up to the maximum of the assigned grade
 8 for classifications listed in subsection (a) below.

9 (a) TITLE	GRADE
10 Certified Bachelor's Teacher	C117
11 Certified Masters Teacher	C119
12 Certified Masters Degree Librarian	C119
13 Education Counselor	C119
14 School Speech Pathologist	C119
15 Teacher Supervisor	C120
16 Educational Specialist	C120
17 Assistant Principal	C123
18 School Principal	C126

19 Funding for the minimum compensation provided for in this section that
 20 is supported in whole or in part from general revenues, shall, if required,
 21 be provided by a transfer from the Merit Adjustment Fund to the proper fund
 22 or fund account and in such amounts as determined by the Chief Fiscal Officer
 23 of the State. The Arkansas School for the Blind shall, in addition to the
 24 funds provided in this Act for Annual Career Service Recognition Payments
 25 from the Merit Adjustment Fund, make available any funding generated from
 26 agency salary savings for such purposes from the funds or fund accounts as
 27 provided by law.

28 The provisions of this section shall be in effect only from July 1, ~~2016~~
 29 2017 through June 30, ~~2017~~ 2018.

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31 SECTION 16. COMPLIANCE WITH OTHER LAWS. Disbursement of funds
 32 authorized by this act shall be limited to the appropriation for such agency
 33 and funds made available by law for the support of such appropriations; and
 34 the restrictions of the State Procurement Law, the General Accounting and
 35 Budgetary Procedures Law, the Revenue Stabilization Law, the Regular Salary
 36 Procedures and Restrictions Act, or their successors, and other fiscal

1 control laws of this State, where applicable, and regulations promulgated by
2 the Department of Finance and Administration, as authorized by law, shall be
3 strictly complied with in disbursement of said funds.
4

5 SECTION 17. LEGISLATIVE INTENT. It is the intent of the General
6 Assembly that any funds disbursed under the authority of the appropriations
7 contained in this act shall be in compliance with the stated reasons for
8 which this act was adopted, as evidenced by the Agency Requests, Executive
9 Recommendations and Legislative Recommendations contained in the budget
10 manuals prepared by the Department of Finance and Administration, letters, or
11 summarized oral testimony in the official minutes of the Arkansas Legislative
12 Council or Joint Budget Committee which relate to its passage and adoption.
13

14 SECTION 18. EMERGENCY CLAUSE. It is found and determined by the
15 General Assembly, that the Constitution of the State of Arkansas prohibits
16 the appropriation of funds for more than a one (1) year period; that the
17 effectiveness of this Act on July 1, 2017 is essential to the operation of
18 the agency for which the appropriations in this Act are provided, and that in
19 the event of an extension of the legislative session, the delay in the
20 effective date of this Act beyond July 1, 2017 could work irreparable harm
21 upon the proper administration and provision of essential governmental
22 programs. Therefore, an emergency is hereby declared to exist and this Act
23 being necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health
24 and safety shall be in full force and effect from and after July 1, 2017.
25
26

27 **APPROVED: 02/15/2017**
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