



**State of Arkansas  
Department of Finance and Administration  
Fiscal Impact Statement**

**Bill: HB1898**

**Bill Subtitle: TO CREATE THE REGULATORY DIVISION AND THE REGULATORY ENFORCEMENT DIVISION IN THE DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION; AND TO ALLOW PERSONNEL OF THE REGULATORY ENFORCEMENT DIVISION TO BE DESIGNATED AS AGENTS.**

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**Sponsors:**

**Rep. Painter and Sen. Crowell**

**Basic Change:**

HB1898 creates a Regulatory Division and a Regulatory Enforcement Division within the Department of Finance and Administration (DFA).

The Regulatory Division will encompass the Alcoholic Beverage Control Division (ABC), Arkansas Tobacco Control (ATC), the Arkansas Racing Commission, and the Regulatory Enforcement Division. The Administrator of the Regulatory Division will be appointed by the Secretary of DFA, serve at the Secretary's pleasure, and maintain oversight of the divisions.

The Regulatory Enforcement Division is created as a law enforcement agency within the Regulatory Division. The Director of the Regulatory Enforcement Division is empowered to designate employees of the Regulatory Enforcement Division as agents who are to be considered law enforcement officers. These officers have statewide jurisdiction to investigate violations of laws governing alcohol, tobacco, medical marijuana, gambling, and the promotion of gambling. The officers will present findings to the relevant boards. The Director of the Regulatory Division will be appointed by the Secretary of DFA and report to the Regulatory Division Administrator.

**Fiscal Impact:**

None.

**Taxpayer Impact:**

None.

**Resources Required:**

None.

**Time Required:**

None.

**Procedural Changes:**

ABC and ATC agents who currently have authority to investigate any violations of any regulation or law pertaining to alcohol, tobacco, medical marijuana, and illegal gambling will have the uniform name of Regulatory Agent for the Regulatory Division.



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**Other Comments:**

None.

**Legal Analysis:**

None.