

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

January 28, 2022

Dear Co-Chairs:

Your Subcommittee on Performance Evaluation and Expenditure Review (PEER) met on Tuesday, January 25, 2022, 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 items on the supplemental agenda. Items from the supplemental agenda will be noted with an asterisk (*).

Items for Approval

- A. Various Temporary Appropriation Increase Requests
 - 1. Department of Finance and Administration – Revenue Services Division – \$1,500,000
 - 2. Department of Finance and Administration – Tobacco Control – \$75,000
 - 3. Department of Public Safety – Division of Arkansas State Police – CAD System – \$748,761
 - 4. Department of Public Safety – Division of Arkansas State Police – Mapping System – \$1,403,552
- B. American Rescue Plan Appropriation Increase Requests
 - Direct Federal Awards:
 - 1. University of Arkansas at Little Rock – \$1,075,000
 - 2. University of Central Arkansas – \$6,450,200
 - 3. Black River Technical College – \$1,088,877
 - 4. Arkansas Tech University – \$0 – Reallocation
 - 5. Department of Veterans Affairs – Fayetteville – \$827,472
 - 6. Department of Veterans Affairs – North Little Rock – \$1,182,103
 - 7. Arkansas Development Finance Authority – \$1,877,351
 - Arkansas ARP Steering Committee Awards:
 - 8. *Department of Health – \$4,747,500
 - 9. *University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences – \$4,747,500
 - 10. *Department of Commerce – Arkansas Economic Development Commission – \$0 – Reallocation
- C. Restricted Reserve Fund Transfer Request
 - 1. *University of Arkansas - Division of Agriculture – \$6,000,000

Items for Review

- D. Appropriation and/or Fund Transfer Request
 - 1. Department of Education – Division of Higher Education – \$3,300,000 in appropriation transferred among various financial aid programs

- E. Cash Appropriation Increase Requests
 - 1. Department of Finance and Administration – Racing Commission – \$505,000
 - 2. Department of Finance and Administration – Disbursing Officer – \$500,000
- F. Budget Classification Transfer
 - 1. Arkansas Beef Council – \$5,000 from Conference and Travel to Operating Expenses
- G. Miscellaneous Federal Grant Appropriation Requests
 - 1. Department of Human Services – Division of County Operations – Emergency Rental Assistance – \$0 – 1 position
 - 2. Department of Human Services – Division of County Operations – SNAP Education – \$694,597
 - 3. Department of Human Services – Division of County Operations – Pandemic EBT – \$2,739,287
 - 4. Department of Human Services – Division of County Operations – Community Services Block Grant – \$2,498,019
 - 5. Department of Human Services – Division of Aging, Adult, and Behavioral Health – Senior Medicare Patrol I – \$18,000
 - 6. Department of Human Services – Division of Aging, Adult, and Behavioral Health – Senior Medicare Patrol II – \$36,963
 - 7. Department of Health – \$2,928,174 – 10 positions
 - 8. Administrative Office of the Courts – \$1,000,000
- H. Performance Fund/Pay Plan Holding Account Transfer Requests
 - 1. Department of Health – Dietetics Licensing Board – \$2,500
 - 2. Claims Commission – \$23,553
 - 3. Department of Finance and Administration – Revenue Services Division – \$300,000
- I. Overtime Appropriation Increase Request
 - 1. Department of Finance and Administration – Revenue Services Division – \$215,000

Reports

- J. Item Approved on an Emergency Basis
 - 1. Department of Health (See attachment)
- K. Biannual Report
 - 1. University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences NCI Fund Report
- L. Quarterly Reports
 - 1. Office of Attorney General Cash Settlement Fund Report
 - 2. Arkansas State Police Asset Forfeiture Expenditures Report
 - 3. Division of Environmental Quality Hazardous Waste Removal in Bella Vista Report
- M. Monthly Reports
 - 1. Arkansas Tourism Economic Development Administration Grant Report
 - 2. Surplus Income and Distribution Report
 - 3. Budget Stabilization Trust Fund Report
 - 4. Tobacco Settlement Report

ALC/PEER Report
January 28, 2022

5. State Central Services Fund Report
6. American Rescue Plan Report

Respectfully submitted by Subcommittee Co-Chairs, Senator Jonathan Dismang and
Representative Michelle Gray

**ALC-Performance Evaluation and Expenditure Review (PEER)
ALC Subcommittee Report for
Emergency Action
January 11, 2022**

On January 11, 2022, Senator Terry Rice and Representative Jeff Wardlaw, Co-Chairs of the Legislative Council, and Senator Jonathan Dismang and Representative Michelle Gray, Co-Chairs of the PEER Subcommittee, received written notification from Larry Walther, the Chief Fiscal Officer of the State, requesting emergency approval of a request for American Rescue Plan appropriation.

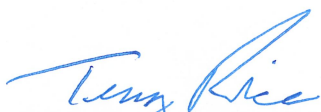
Under Rule 16 of the Rules of the Arkansas Legislative Council, on January 11, 2022, the Co-Chairs of the Legislative Council and PEER Subcommittee unanimously determined that emergency approval was necessary to enable the agency to perform essential services. As such, the Co-Chairs of the Legislative Council and the Co-Chairs of the PEER subcommittee may act on behalf of the Legislative Council in regard to the request, and state herein that the requests shall be filed as approved and reported to the Legislative Council at its next regularly scheduled meeting in accordance with Rule 16.

Below is a summary of the request given emergency approval:

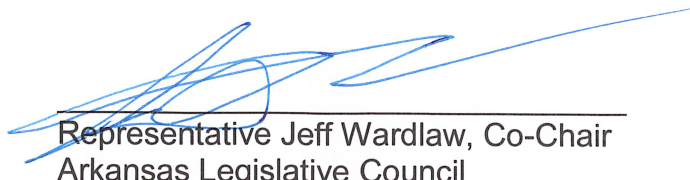
American Rescue Plan Appropriation Request

Department of Health - St. Bernards - \$2,565,000
Department of Health - Mercy Hospital NW - \$4,052,160
Department of Health - Mercy Fort Smith - \$3,600,000
Department of Health - Conway Regional - \$7,650,000
Department of Health - CHI St. Vincent Little Rock - \$6,750,000
Department of Health - CHI St. Vincent Hot Springs - \$6,750,000
Department of Health - Washington Regional - \$1,440,000
Department of Health - Unity Health White County - \$7,875,000
Department of Health - Baptist Health Conway - \$3,528,000
Department of Health - Baptist Health Van Buren - \$4,410,000
Department of Health - Arkansas Children's Hospital - \$1,500,000

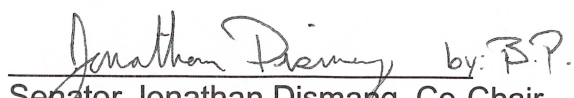
Respectfully Submitted,



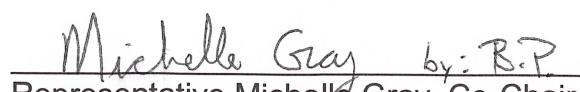
Senator Terry Rice, Co-Chair
Arkansas Legislative Council



Representative Jeff Wardlaw, Co-Chair
Arkansas Legislative Council



Senator Jonathan Dismang, Co-Chair
ALC PEER Subcommittee



Representative Michelle Gray, Co-Chair
ALC PEER Subcommittee



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

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January 10, 2022

Sen. Terry Rice, Co-Chair
Rep. Jeff Wardlaw, Co-Chair
Arkansas Legislative Council
State Capitol Building
Little Rock, AR 72201

Dear Co-Chairs:

This is to inform you that there are items for Legislative Council approval that require your immediate attention. Because of the time-sensitive nature of these items, the Department of Finance and Administration respectfully requests an emergency approval of these items, which have received my approval as Chief Fiscal Officer of the State.

These items are American Rescue Plan Act requests. The requests are required to allow the Arkansas Department of Health to partner with multiple hospitals in the state to increase the hospital bed capacity statewide.

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,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Larry W. Walther'.

Larry W. Walther,
Secretary
Department of Finance and Administration

CC: Senator Jonathan Dismang, Co-Chair
Representative Michelle Gray, Co-Chair
Performance Evaluation and Expenditure Review (PEER) Subcommittee



Arkansas Department of Health

4815 West Markham Street • Little Rock, Arkansas 72205 3867 • Telephone (501) 661-7000

Governor Asa Hutchinson

José R. Romero, MD, Secretary of Health

January 11, 2022

Sen. Terry Rice, Co-Chair
Rep. Jeff Wardlaw, Co-Chair
Arkansas Legislative Council
State Capitol Building
Little Rock, AR 72201

Dear Senator Rice and Representative Wardlaw:

This is a request for emergency Legislative Council review of appropriation requests from the Arkansas Department of Health (ADH) for American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funding to increase COVID-19 hospital bed capacity. In response to the strain that the COVID-19 Omicron variant has imposed on hospitals statewide, ADH partnered with nine (9) hospital systems across the state to request a total of \$50,120,160 from the ARPA Steering Committee to secure an additional 265 ICU and medical hospital beds. The funding requests were approved and your consideration to allocate appropriation would be greatly appreciated.

As ADH has done with previous ARPA funding awards, if able to proceed with expending the funding, we will submit proof of ARPA expenses to the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) for reimbursement. All reimbursed funds would be returned to the State's budget by transfer to the Department of Finance and Administration.

Because of the time-sensitive nature of these items, ADH respectfully asks that you please institute emergency action procedures and consider the appropriation requests outside of Committee per Rule 16 of the Rules of the Arkansas Legislative Council. I welcome any comments or questions regarding this request.

Sincerely,

José R. Romero, MD, FAAP, FAAAS, FIDSA, FPIDS
Arkansas Secretary of Health
Director, Arkansas Department of Health

CC: Senator Jonathan Dismang, Co-Chair
Representative Michelle Gray, Co-Chair
Performance Evaluation and Expenditure Review (PEER) Subcommittee
Renee Mallory, ADH Chief of Staff