



**STATE OF ARKANSAS**  
**ASA HUTCHINSON**  
**GOVERNOR**

April 13, 2016

Senator Larry Teague, Co-Chair  
Representative Lane Jean, Co-Chair  
Joint Budget Committee  
Arkansas General Assembly  
State Capitol Building  
Little Rock, AR 72201

Dear Co-Chairs:

I respectfully request an amendment to HB1019, the 2016-2017 Operations Appropriation Bill for the Department of Finance and Administration – Division of Racing.

Please amend SECTION 4. APPROPRIATION – as follows:

Section 4. APPROPRIATION: - CASH OPERATIONS. There is hereby appropriated, to the Department of Finance and Administration – Division of Racing, to be payable from the cash fund deposited in the State Treasury as determined by the Chief Fiscal Officer of the State, for operating expenses ~~associated with license applications for employees at Oaklawn and Southland Parks~~ of the Department of Finance and Administration – Division of Racing for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2017, the following:

ITEM NO.	FISCAL YEAR 2016-2017	
(01) MAINT. & GEN. OPERATION		
(A) OPER. EXPENSE	\$125,000	\$231,000
TOTAL AMOUNT APPROPRIATED	<u>\$135,000</u>	<u>\$241,000</u>

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The Division of Racing's request to change the language and increase appropriation is to allow the agency's cash fund balance and ongoing revenue generated by licensing fees to be used instead of requesting additional general revenues for daily operations. These operations include paying for additional per race drug testing at Oaklawn and Southland Parks.

I appreciate your consideration of this matter.

Sincerely,  
  
Asa Hutchinson

AH:db:wkt