

**ALC Review Subcommittee Report for
Emergency Action
January 12, 2026**

On January 12, 2026 Senator Ben Gilmore and Representative Les Eaves, Co-Chairs of the Arkansas Legislative Council, and Senator Blake Johnson and Representative Frances Cavanaugh, Co-Chairs of the Review Subcommittee, received written notification from Department of Commerce requesting emergency review of (2) agency discretionary grants.

Under Rule 16 of the Rules of the Arkansas Legislative Council, on January 12, 2026 the Co-Chairs of the Arkansas Legislative Council and Review Subcommittee unanimously determined that emergency review was necessary to enable agency to perform essential services. As such, the Co-Chairs of the Arkansas Legislative Council and the Co-Chairs of the Review Subcommittee may act on behalf of the Arkansas Legislative Council regarding the request, and state herein that the request shall be filed as reviewed and reported to the Arkansas Legislative Council at its next regularly scheduled meeting in accordance with Rule 16.

Below is a summary of the requests given emergency review.

A. Discretionary Grants

- 1. Department of Commerce - Arkansas Economic Development Commission - Grant Award Revisions
 - a. CASA of the 10th Judicial District in Ashley County - \$100,000.00
 - b. White County Children's Safety Center - \$605,000.00

Respectfully submitted,

Senator Ben Gilmore, Co-Chair
Arkansas Legislative Council

Representative Les Eaves, Co-Chair
Arkansas Legislative Council

Senator Blake Johnson, Co-Chair
Review Subcommittee

Representative Frances Cavanaugh, Co-Chair
Review Subcommittee



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

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY
1509 West Seventh Street, Suite 401
Post Office Box 3278
Little Rock, Arkansas 72203-3278
Phone: (501) 682-2242
Fax: (501) 682-1029
www.arkansas.gov/dfa

January 8, 2026

Sen. Ben Gilmore, Co-Chair
Rep. Les Eaves, 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 emergency approval.

These items are two grant awards for the Department of Commerce – Arkansas Economic Development Commission Community Assistance Grant Program. The review of the attached requests is required to award the grants.

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,

James L. Hudson,
Secretary
Department of Finance and Administration

CC: Senator Blake Johnson, Co-Chair
Representative Frances Cavanaugh, Co-Chair
Review Subcommittee



Sarah Huckabee Sanders
GOVERNOR

Hugh McDonald
SECRETARY OF COMMERCE

January 6, 2026

Jim Hudson
Secretary
Arkansas Department of Finance and Administration
1509 W. 7th Street, Suite 401
Little Rock, AR 72201

Dear Secretary Hudson:

As part of the adoption of the Review Subcommittee Report, Agenda Item F.12, by the Arkansas Legislative Council (ALC) at its meeting on December 19, 2025, the Committee reviewed FY26 Community Assistance Grant Program awards for the Arkansas Economic Development Commission (AEDC). The reviewed grant awards included \$80,000 to the Ashley County CASA of the 10th Judicial District and \$625,000 to the White County Children's Safety Center.

Although authorized by ALC on December 19, 2025, AEDC will not be awarding the grants to those two entities in the amounts referenced above. However, AEDC is requesting emergency action authorization from the Legislative Council to award grants from the Community Assistance Grant Program to the entities as follows:

- \$100,000.00 to be awarded to the CASA of the 10th Judicial District in Ashley County
- \$605,000.00 to be awarded to the White County Children's Safety Center

Your consideration of this request is appreciated.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Hugh McDonald'.

Hugh McDonald
Secretary

Arkansas Department of Commerce
1 Commerce Way, Suite 601 · Little Rock, AR 72202
ARKANSAS.GOV

ARKANSAS.GOV

Item G page 3