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STATE OF ARKANSAS Department of Finance and Administration

OFFICE OF BUDGET 1509 West Seventh Street, Suite 402 Post Office Box 3278 Little Rock, Arkansas 72203-3278 Phone: (501) 682-1941 Fax: (501) 682-1086 www.arkansas.gov/dfa

April 4, 2024

Senator Justin Boyd, Co-Chair Representative Roger D. Lynch, Co-Chair Joint Budget Committee Performance Evaluation & Expenditure Review Sub-Committee State Capitol Building Little Rock, AR 72201

RE: FY 24 Restricted Reserve Fund Transfer Recommendation

Dear Co-Chairs:

Pursuant to Act 561 of 2023 (3), as Chief Fiscal Officer of the State, I am recommending the transfer of the following Restricted Reserve Funds:

- Department of Commerce Economic Development Commission Economic Stimulus Programs Set-Aside \$10,000,000
- Department of Education Education Facilities Set-Aside \$65,800,000

Sincerely,

James L. Hudson Cabinet Secretary

Attachment(s)



February 13, 2024

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

RE: FY24 Restricted Reserve Fund Transfer Request

Dear Secretary Hudson,

Pursuant to Act 561 of 2023, the Arkansas Economic Development Commission requests a funds transfer totaling \$10,000,000 from the Economic Stimulus Programs Set-Aside authorized in Section 3(a)(23) of Act 561 of 2023. This funding will provide for grants in support of the Arkansas Site Development Grant Program aimed to enhance the state's economic competitiveness by upgrading the existing inventory of high-quality industrial development sites to increase attractiveness to prospective companies.

Business Area: 0790 Functional Area: COMM Funds Center: New Fund: New Commitment Item: 510:00:04 Grants & Aid

Sincerely, Cowh

Hugh McDonald Secretary, Department of Commerce

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Division of Elementary and Secondary Education

Transforming Arkansas to lead the nation in student-focused education

Jacob Oliva Secretary

Stacy Smith Deputy

Commissioner

March 8, 2024

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Jim Hudson, Secretary Department of Finance and Administration 1509 West 7th St Little Rock, AR 72201

Dr. Sarah Moore Stuttgart Chair

State Board of

Education

Kathy Rollins Springdale Vice-Chair

Steve Sutton Marion

Adrienne Woods Rogers

Randy Henderson *Blytheville*

Lisa Hunter White Hall

Jeff Wood Little Rock

Ken Bragg Sheridan

Leigh Keener Little Rock Dear Secretary Hudson,

Arkansas public school districts support the education of over 473,000 students each year. It is the state's responsibility to provide students with education facilities suitable for teaching. Studies have found significant correlation between poor structural conditions and low student achievement.

The Arkansas Department of Education requests \$65,800,000 from the Education Facilities Set Aside of the Restricted Reserve fund pursuant to Act 561 of 2023, Section 3 for the Division of Elementary and Secondary Education Facilities Partnership Program.

The program is a financial partnership between the state and public school districts to share the cost of school facilities construction and major renovations. Every two years, school districts have the opportunity to apply for state financial participation for projects that support their facilities master plan. This funding will allow the division to partner with multiple districts across the state and provide for new schools, additions to existing schools, conversions of existing space, and renovations such as replacements of roofs, HVAC, electrical, plumbing or structural system.

Pending your approval of this request, I ask that you schedule this item for consideration at the next meeting of the Joint Budget Committee for appropriate action as required by law.

Sincerely, Greg Bagers CFO, Arkansas Department of Education