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**Office of the Secretary**  
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**ASA HUTCHINSON**  
Governor

**NATHANIEL (NATE) TODD**  
Secretary

January 7, 2021

Mr. Jake Bleed, Administrator  
Department of Finance and Administration  
Office of Budget  
1509 West 7<sup>th</sup> Street, Suite 401  
Little Rock, Arkansas 72203-3278

RE: FY21 Cash Letter – Arkansas Department of Veterans Affairs

Business Area – 0385  
Funds Center – 2QD  
Fund –NVA0000 & NVA0900  
Functional Area – HHS  
Commitment Item –

501:00:06 Overtime	\$40,000.00
502:00:02 Maintenance and Operations	<u>\$1,200,000.00</u>
Total	\$1,240,000.00

Dear Mr. Bleed:

We respectfully request \$1,240,000.00 in FY21 cash appropriation for the Arkansas State Veterans Homes to cover operational costs related to staffing and Residents’ needs.

The Agency uses all available staffing methods which include full time staff, part time staff, extra help staff, overtime and contract labor to ensure staffing guidelines set by the Office of Long-Term Care and Veterans’ Administration are met. The variety of acuity levels of Residents has increased the utilization in the areas of medical supplies, medications, and foods. This request will also fulfill appropriation exhausted and expected from elevated expenses due to COVID-19.

Fees are collected from the Resident, Medicaid, Medicare, Veterans’ Administration, 3<sup>rd</sup> party companies, and CARES Act funding to cover the cost of these needs.

Your favorable review is appreciated.

Respectfully,

Austin Booth  
CFO/Chief of Staff