



Michael Preston
SECRETARY OF COMMERCE

Charisse Childers, Ph.D.
DIRECTOR,
DIVISION OF WORKFORCE SERVICES

Joseph Baxter Commissioner Arkansas Rehabilitation Services

VIA EMAIL

October 21, 2021

Jessica Whittaker Arkansas Bureau of Legislative Research Administrative Rules Review Section One Capitol Mall, 5th Floor Little Rock, Arkansas 72201

Re: Act 595 Report

Ms. Whittaker:

Below is a monthly update for Arkansas Rehabilitation Services (ARS) under Act 595 of 2021. There are two newly enacted statutes that required the promulgation of rules.

## 1. Act 263 of 2021

This Act made technical changes to the Telecommunications Access Program. ARS is receiving public comment on rules amended in light of Act 263. The comment period will end on October 25, 2021.

## 2. Act 282 of 2021

This Act amended the Forgiveness of Student Loan Program, a recruitment and retention program. ARS is receiving public comment on rules amended in light of Act 282. The comment period will end on October 25, 2021.

Thank you. If further information is needed, please let me know.

Sincerely,

/s/ Charles Lyford

cc via email:

Joseph Baxter ARS Commissioner Charisse Childers, Ph.D. Director, Arkansas Division of Workforce Services

Steven Porch Chief Legal Counsel, Department of Commerce