

Stricken language would be deleted from and underlined language would be added to the law as it existed prior to this session of the General Assembly.

1 State of Arkansas  
2 83rd General Assembly  
3 Regular Session, 2001

As Engrossed: S4/3/01  
**A Bill**

SENATE BILL 922

4  
5 By: Senator K. Smith  
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8 **For An Act To Be Entitled**

9 AN ACT PROVIDING THAT SENATE INTERIM COMMITTEE ON  
10 AGRICULTURE, ECONOMIC, AND INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT  
11 AND HOUSE INTERIM COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE AND  
12 ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT STUDY THE IMPLEMENTATION OF  
13 COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANTS PROGRAMS IN  
14 OTHER STATES; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

15  
16 **Subtitle**

17 AN ACT PROVIDING FOR A STUDY OF THE  
18 COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANTS  
19 PROGRAMS.  
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21

22 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:  
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24 SECTION 1. Findings.

25 (a) The State of Arkansas administers the Community Development Block  
26 Grants program funded by the United States Department of Housing and Urban  
27 Development.

28 (b) The State of Arkansas is among the only states in the country  
29 without an open and competitive process regarding the expenditure of these  
30 funds for county and city governments.

31 (c) The Community Development Block Grants program is intended to  
32 benefit poor and rural areas of the United States, including the Delta region  
33 and other impoverished areas of Arkansas.

34 (d) Many poor, rural and impoverished areas in Arkansas and the Delta  
35 region have been unable to compete for the Community Development Block Grants  
36 program funds in a fair and equitable fashion.

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SECTION 2. Study and Report.

(a) Prior to the submission of the annual extension report and consolidated plan to the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development, the Senate Interim Committee on Agriculture, Economic, and Industrial Development and House Interim Committee on Agriculture and Economic Development shall study how other states implement Community Development Block Grants programs to ensure fair and equitable competition to poor and rural communities.

(b) The Senate Interim Committee on Agriculture, Economic, and Industrial Development and House Interim Committee on Agriculture and Economic Development shall report their study findings to the Arkansas Economic Development Commission, and make recommendations to the Eighty-Fourth General Assembly.

/s/ K. Smith