

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 86th General Assembly
3 Regular Session, 2007
4

A Bill

HOUSE BILL 2496

5 By: Representative W. Lewellen
6
7

For An Act To Be Entitled

9 AN ACT TO PROVIDE ASSISTANCE FOR PERSONS
10 EXPERIENCING HOMELESSNESS; TO PROVIDE NEW
11 OPPORTUNITIES FOR ACCESS TO PERMANENT HOUSING
12 OPTIONS; TO CREATE FUNDS FOR A PROGRAM OF
13 EDUCATION FOR HOME OWNERSHIP; TO PROMOTE THE
14 DEVELOPMENT OF AFFORDABLE HOUSING THROUGH THE
15 ARKANSAS DEVELOPMENT FINANCE AUTHORITY; AND FOR
16 OTHER PURPOSES.

Subtitle

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19 AN ACT TO PROVIDE ASSISTANCE FOR PERSONS
20 EXPERIENCING HOMELESSNESS; TO PROVIDE
21 NEW OPPORTUNITIES FOR HOME OWNERSHIP;
22 AND TO CREATE FUNDS FOR A PROGRAM OF
23 EDUCATION FOR HOME OWNERSHIP.
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26 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:
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28 SECTION 1. Arkansas Code Title 20, Chapter 76, is amended add an
29 additional subchapter to read as follows:
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31 Subchapter 7. HOMELESSNESS ASSISTANCE.
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33 20-76-701. Purpose.

34 This subchapter is intended to:

35 (1) Provide a program for persons experiencing homelessness that
36 begins with rental assistance and progresses through education to home



1 ownership; and

2 (2) Provide an affordable housing program for persons earning
3 thirty percent (30%) or less of area median income in this state; and

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5 20-76-702. Statewide housing coordinator.

6 (a) The Arkansas Development Finance Authority shall hire a statewide
7 housing coordinator with significant experience:

8 (1) In helping persons experiencing homelessness become persons
9 with access to permanent housing and who shall organize and administer the
10 multi-service resource center program; and

11 (2) In developing grants for federal, state, and private funds.

12 (b) The housing coordinator shall be paid through the Housing Trust
13 Fund.

14 (c) The housing coordinator shall coordinate local, state, and federal
15 efforts to obtain grants and technical assistance for existing programs that
16 deal with:

17 (A) Self-sufficiency training;

18 (B) Transportation information and resources;

19 (C) Technology services and training;

20 (D) Workforce assistance and training;

21 (E) Drug abuse and treatment, mental health education, and
22 medical education;

23 (F) Temporary and permanent housing education;

24 (G) Support groups for persons experiencing homelessness;

25 and

26 (H) Other services required for persons experiencing
27 homelessness who have special needs.

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29 20-76-703. Fund set-asides.

30 (a) Funds appropriated for programs created under this subchapter
31 shall be allocated as follows:

32 (1) Fifty-five percent (55%) of the funds for individuals
33 experiencing homelessness whose income is at or below thirty percent (30%) of
34 the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development measure of area
35 median income, as it existed on January 1, 2007, to support:

36 (i) Real estate acquisition;

- (ii) Real Estate rehabilitation;
- (iii) Construction of new affordable housing units;
- (iv) Home ownership services;
- (v) Transitional housing;
- (vi) Pre-development affordable housing activities;
- (vii) Housing weatherization projects;
- (viii) Housing emergency repairs;
- (ix) Homeless services;
- (x) Homeowner education and counseling;
- (xi) Housing related services; and
- (xii) Rental assistance.

(2) Twenty-five percent (25%) for small cities and rural areas;

and

(3) Twenty percent (20%) for the immediate housing needs of individuals who are presently experiencing homelessness.

(b)(1) Any funds allocated under this section that are not used within two (2) fiscal years may rollover for homelessness assistance purposes.

(2) However, rollover of funds beyond two (2) fiscal years shall require the approval of the Arkansas Development Finance Authority.

20-76-704. Rules.

The Arkansas Development Finance Authority shall promulgate rules necessary to implement this subchapter.

SECTION 2. Arkansas Code Title 19, Chapter 5, Subchapter 11 is amended to add an additional section to read as follows:

19-5-1131. Housing Trust Fund.

(a) There is created on the books of the Treasurer of State, the Auditor of State, and the Chief Fiscal Officer of the State a trust fund to be known as the "Housing Trust Fund".

(b) The Housing Trust Fund shall be used only for the purposes set forth in §§ 20-76-701 et seq.

SECTION 3. Arkansas Code § 26-60-112 is amended to read as follows:
26-60-112. Disposition of funds collected.

(a) The revenues from the additional tax levied by § 26-60-105(b)

1 shall be deemed special revenues and shall be deposited and distributed
 2 according to § 15-12-103.

3 (b) The revenues derived from the tax levied by § 26-60-105(a) shall
 4 be deposited by the Director of the Department of Finance and Administration
 5 in the State Treasury, and the Treasurer of State shall, after deducting
 6 three percent (3%) of the revenues for distribution to the Constitutional
 7 Officers Fund and the State Central Services Fund to be used for the purposes
 8 as provided by law, distribute the net amount of the revenues as follows:

9 (1) Ten percent (10%) of the remainder shall be distributed as
 10 special revenues, as follows:

11 (A) The first sixty thousand dollars (\$60,000) of the
 12 remainder during each fiscal year shall be credited to the County and Circuit
 13 Clerks Continuing Education Fund, which is established in the State Treasury,
 14 to be used for defraying the expenses of training seminars and other
 15 educational projects benefiting county and circuit clerks in this state, as
 16 provided by appropriations enacted by the General Assembly; and

17 (B) The remainder of the ten percent (10%) of the
 18 remainder available for distribution during each fiscal year shall be
 19 credited as special revenues to the County Aid Fund, to be distributed in the
 20 manner provided by law to the circuit clerk in the county in which the
 21 property upon which the tax is paid is situated, to be paid over by the
 22 circuit clerk to the county general fund; and

23 (2) ~~Ninety percent (90%) of the remainder of the revenues~~ After
 24 making the distributions required under subdivision (b)(1) of this section,
 25 the remaining amount of revenues shall be distributed as follows:

26 (A) ~~The~~ From the entire amount of tax collected during
 27 each fiscal year until there has been collected an amount of ~~such~~ tax
 28 equaling the amount of tax collected under this chapter during fiscal year
 29 1982-1983, ten percent (10%) shall be credited to the Arkansas Housing Trust
 30 Fund under § 19-5-1131, and the remainder shall be credited as general
 31 revenues to be allocated to the various funds participating in the
 32 distribution of general revenues in the amount of ~~each~~ such fund as provided
 33 by and to be used for the respective purposes set forth in the Revenue
 34 Stabilization Law, § 19-5-101 et seq.; and

35 (B)(i) After making the distribution of the revenues as
 36 provided in subdivision (b)(2)(A) of this section, the remainder available

1 each fiscal year shall be credited as special revenues to the Administration
2 of Justice Fund to be used for supplementing moneys in the Administration of
3 Justice Fund for court reporter salaries and expenses in the event that the
4 moneys available in the Court Reporters Fund are inadequate during any fiscal
5 year to make the necessary payments for salary and related expenses of the
6 various court reporters of the state.

7 (ii) Any amount received over and above this amount
8 shall be credited as special revenues to the County Aid Fund.

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