

State of Arkansas  
94th General Assembly  
Regular Session, 2023

# A Bill

HOUSE BILL 1505

By: Representative McClure

## For An Act To Be Entitled

AN ACT TO MAKE AN APPROPRIATION FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF  
COMMERCE - ARKANSAS ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION -  
RURAL ARKANSAS ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT INITIATIVE FOR  
THE FISCAL YEAR ENDING JUNE 30, 2024; AND FOR OTHER  
PURPOSES.

## Subtitle

AN ACT FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE -  
ARKANSAS ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION  
- RURAL ARKANSAS ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT  
INITIATIVE APPROPRIATION FOR THE 2023-  
2024 FISCAL YEAR.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:

SECTION 1. APPROPRIATION - RURAL ARKANSAS ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT  
INITIATIVE. There is hereby appropriated, to the Department of Commerce, to  
be payable from the cash fund deposited in the State Treasury as determined  
by the Chief Fiscal Officer of the State, for grants and operational expenses  
of the Rural Arkansas Economic Development Initiative of the Department of  
Commerce - Arkansas Economic Development Commission for the fiscal year  
ending June 30, 2024, the following:

ITEM	FISCAL YEAR
NO.	2023-2024
(01) GRANTS AND OPERATIONAL EXPENSES	<u>\$8,800,000</u>



1           SECTION 2. COMPLIANCE WITH OTHER LAWS. Disbursement of funds  
2 authorized by this act shall be limited to the appropriation for such agency  
3 and funds made available by law for the support of such appropriations; and  
4 the restrictions of the State Procurement Law, the General Accounting and  
5 Budgetary Procedures Law, the Revenue Stabilization Law, the Regular Salary  
6 Procedures and Restrictions Act, or their successors, and other fiscal  
7 control laws of this State, where applicable, and regulations promulgated by  
8 the Department of Finance and Administration, as authorized by law, shall be  
9 strictly complied with in disbursement of said funds.

10  
11           SECTION 3. LEGISLATIVE INTENT. It is the intent of the General  
12 Assembly that any funds disbursed under the authority of the appropriations  
13 contained in this act shall be in compliance with the stated reasons for  
14 which this act was adopted, as evidenced by the Agency Requests, Executive  
15 Recommendations and Legislative Recommendations contained in the budget  
16 manuals prepared by the Department of Finance and Administration, letters, or  
17 summarized oral testimony in the official minutes of the Arkansas Legislative  
18 Council or Joint Budget Committee which relate to its passage and adoption.

19  
20           SECTION 4. EMERGENCY CLAUSE. It is found and determined by the General  
21 Assembly, that the Constitution of the State of Arkansas prohibits the  
22 appropriation of funds for more than a one (1) year period; that the  
23 effectiveness of this Act on July 1, 2023 is essential to the operation of  
24 the agency for which the appropriations in this Act are provided, and that in  
25 the event of an extension of the legislative session, the delay in the  
26 effective date of this Act beyond July 1, 2023 could work irreparable harm  
27 upon the proper administration and provision of essential governmental  
28 programs. Therefore, an emergency is hereby declared to exist and this Act  
29 being necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health  
30 and safety shall be in full force and effect from and after July 1, 2023.