1	State of Arkansas	As Engrossed: $S3/29/23$ A Bill	
2	94th General Assembly Regular Session, 2023		SENATE BILL 414
3 4	Regulai Sessioli, 2025		SENATE DILL 414
4 5	By: Senators J. Petty, J. Eng	lish, Gilmore, K. Hammer, G. Leding, D. Wallace	
6		ndon, Beaty Jr., Clowney, D. Garner, Hawk, L. Johns	son, Lundstrum,
7	Pilkington, Puryear, D. Whi	• • • • • • •	, ,
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9		For An Act To Be Entitled	
10	AN ACT TO	) AMEND THE REGIONAL AIRPORT ACT; TO CF	REATE A
11	PROCEDURE	E FOR ANNEXATION AND DETACHMENT; TO LEV	/Y A
12	TAX ON RE	TAIL SALES ON PROPERTY OF AN AUTHORITY	ζ <b>;</b> ΤΟ
13	CREATE A	REGIONAL AIRPORT INFRASTRUCTURE AND	
14	DEVELOPM	ENT COMMISSION; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.	
15			
16			
17		Subtitle	
18	TO .	AMEND THE REGIONAL AIRPORT ACT; TO	
19	CRE	ATE A PROCEDURE FOR ANNEXATION AND	
20	DET	ACHMENT; TO LEVY A TAX ON RETAIL SALES	
21	ON	PROPERTY OF AN AUTHORITY; AND CREATE A	
22	REG	IONAL AIRPORT INFRASTRUCTURE AND	
23	DEV	ELOPMENT COMMISSION.	
24			
25			
26	BE IT ENACTED BY THE	GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKAN	ISAS:
27			
28	SECTION 1. Art	cansas Code § 14-362-103(a)(2), concerr	ing the
29	establishment of an a	airport authority, is amended to read a	as follows:
30	(2) <u>(A)</u> 4	$\frac{1}{100}$ <u>A</u> county or municipality shall <u>not</u> p	participate in <del>such</del>
31	the creation and esta	a <u>blishment of an</u> authority <del>unless and</del> u	intil <u>:</u>
32		<u>(i)</u> <del>its</del> <u>The</u> governing body <del>so</del> <u>of t</u>	<u>che county or</u>
33	<u>municipality</u> provides	s <u>for the creation and establishment</u> by	/ ordinance <u>;</u> and
34		(ii) The county or municipality en	iters into an
35	agreement with the of	ther participating governmental units $\epsilon$	stablishing that
36	<u>establishes</u> the terms	s and conditions for the operation of t	:he authority <u>.</u>



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1 (B) The terms and conditions established under subdivision 2 (a)(2)(A)(ii) of this section shall be within the limitations provided in this chapter and such other laws of the State of Arkansas as may be 3 4 applicable. 5 6 SECTION 2. Arkansas Code § 14-362-104(b), concerning the creation of 7 an authority as a public corporation, is amended to read as follows: 8 The exercise of the powers and performance of duties provided for (b) 9 in this chapter by each authority and its officers, agents, and employees 10 are: 11 (1) declared to be public Public and governmental functions; 12 and 13 (2) exercised Exercised for a public purpose and matters of 14 public necessity, conferring upon each authority governmental immunity from 15 suit in tort. 16 17 SECTION 3. Arkansas Code § 14-362-104, concerning the creation of an 18 authority as a public corporation, is amended to add an additional subsection 19 to read as follows: 20 (c)(1) It is the public policy of the State of Arkansas that an 21 authority created under this chapter and the directors and employees of the 22 authority are immune from liability and from suit for damages except to the 23 extent that the damages may be covered by liability insurance. (2) An authority created under this chapter is immune from a 24 25 tort action resulting from an act or omission of its directors, employees, or 26 agents. 27 28 SECTION 4. Arkansas Code § 14-362-105 is amended to read as follows: 29 14-362-105. Appointment of board. (a) Subject to such limitations as may be contained in the agreement 30 31 provided for in § 14-362-103, the management and control of each 32 authority and its property, operations, business, and affairs shall be lodged 33 in a board of directors of not less than six (6) nor more than twenty-four 34 (24) persons who shall be appointed for terms of six (6) years each as 35 hereinafter provided in this section. 36 (b)(1) The number of members of the board that each of the

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1 participating governmental units is entitled to appoint to the board shall be 2 set forth provided in the agreement provided for in under § 14-362-103. 3 (2) However, each of the participating governmental units shall 4 be entitled to appoint at least one (1) member to the board and, if the state 5 is a participant in the authority, the state shall be entitled to appoint a 6 majority of the members of the board. 7 (3) Appointments A member of the board shall be made appointed 8 by the mayor of each participating municipality, the county judge of each 9 participating county, and the Governor. (c)(1) The members of the board of an authority shall have staggered 10 11 terms, as provided in the agreement establishing the authority, as follows: 12 (A) One-third  $(\frac{1}{3})$  of the members for six-year terms; 13 (B) one-third One-third (1/3) of the members for four-year 14 terms; and 15 (C) one-third One-third (1/3) of the members for two-year 16 terms. 17 (2) Thereafter, all appointments shall be for six-year terms. 18 (d)(1) All members of the board appointed by the participating 19 municipalities and counties shall be bona fide residents and qualified 20 electors of the county or municipality which the members represent. 21 (2) All members of the board appointed by the state shall be 22 bona fide residents of the state. 23 (e)(1) Except as provided under subdivision (e)(2) of this section, a 24 member of the board shall not: 25 (A) Participate in, vote on, influence, or attempt to influence an official decision of the board of directors if he or she has a 26 27 pecuniary interest in the matter under consideration by the board of 28 directors; or 29 (B) Be a part of any discussion or vote on any matter that 30 may exclusively benefit the member of the board. 31 (2) A member of the board may participate in, vote on, influence, or attempt to influence an official decision of the board of 32 33 directors if the only pecuniary interest that he or she accrues is: 34 (A) Incidental to his or her position as a member of the 35 board; or 36 (B) As a member of a profession, occupation, or large

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1	class to no greater extent than the pecuniary interest could reasonably be
2	foreseen to accrue to all other members of the profession, occupation, or
3	large class.
4	(3) The provisions in this subsection supersedes any conflicts
5	in any provisions contained in an existing regional airport agreement.
6	
7	SECTION 5. Arkansas Code § 14-362-109(12), concerning the powers of an
8	authority is, repealed.
9	(12)(A) To constitute the authority or a committee of the
10	authority as improvement district commissioners and to create and operate an
11	improvement district composed of the area encompassed within the
12	jurisdictions of the participating governing bodies upon the petition of
13	persons claiming to be two-thirds (%) in value of the owners of real property
14	in the area, as shown by the last county assessment.
15	(B) The improvement district shall be for the purpose of
16	financing the construction, reconstruction, or repair of the regional airport
17	and its facilities.
18	(C) The creation and operation of an improvement district
19	shall be, to the extent consistent with this chapter, in accordance with the
20	procedures established by the laws of this state for the creation and
21	operation of municipal improvement districts;
22	
23	SECTION 6. Arkansas Code § 14-362-109, concerning the powers of an
24	authority, is amended to add an additional subdivision to read as follows:
25	(25) To levy and collect a gross receipts tax and establish a
26	Regional Airport Infrastructure and Development Commission under the Regional
27	Airport Infrastructure and Development Commission Act § 14-362-401 et seq.;
28	
29	SECTION 7. Arkansas Code § 14-362-115(c), concerning the issuance of
30	revenue bonds and the obligation of an authority, is amended to read as
31	follows:
32	(c) The principal of and interest on the bonds may be secured,
33	to the extent set forth in the resolution or indenture securing the bonds, by
34	a pledge of and payable from all or any part of revenues derived from the use
35	of the facilities of the authority, including, without limitation:
36	(1) Revenues derived from rates and charges imposed and
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1 maintained for the use of the facilities of the authority; 2 (2) Revenues derived from taxes levied under § 14-362-109(14), and § 14-362-109(20), and § 14-362-109(25); 3 4 (3) Lease rentals under leases or payments under security 5 agreements or other instruments entered into under this chapter; and 6 (4) Revenues derived from tolls imposed upon vehicles utilizing 7 intermodal access roads providing service to the airport and revenues derived 8 from related auxiliary services and facilities. 9 10 SECTION 8. Arkansas Code § 14-362-132(b) and (c), concerning an 11 authority's exemption from annexation and municipal regulation, are amended 12 to read as follows: 13 (b)(1) The property and operations of an authority shall be exempt 14 from the enactment of any rules, regulations, ordinances, permit 15 requirements, and enforcement by a municipality. 16 (2) A municipality may enact and collect a sales tax, a liquor 17 tax, and a hotel, motel, and restaurant tax on the operations located on the 18 property of the authority that is located within the municipality, but other 19 taxes or fees enacted by a municipality pertaining to the property or 20 operations of the authority shall require the approval of a majority vote of 21 the board of directors of the authority. 22 (c) If a municipality in which the property of an authority is located 23 merges with or is annexed or consolidated by another municipality, an An 24 authority may de-annex detach from the a municipality upon a majority vote of 25 the board of directors of the authority compliance with the detachment 26 requirements under § 14-362-301 et seq. 27 SECTION 9. Arkansas Code Title 14, Chapter 362, is amended to add 28 29 additional subchapters to read as follows: 30 31 Subchapter 3 - Annexation and Detachment 32 33 14-362-301. Legislative findings. (a) The General Assembly finds that: 34 35 (1) The public and governmental functions of an authority

36 <u>required under this chapter are best achieved by giving the authority the</u>

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1	discretion to determine whether it is in the best interest of the authority
2	to achieve its mission in conjunction with or separate from a municipality;
3	(2) The requirements of this subchapter are:
4	(A) Supplemental to constitutional or statutory provisions
5	now existing or later adopted which may provide for an authority's annexation
6	or detachment from a municipality; and
7	(B) Intended to:
8	(i) Provide for the orderly detachment of an
9	authority from one (1) or more municipalities in a manner that protects the
10	interests of the authority and the municipality; and
11	(ii) Ensure to the extent a municipality may have
12	issued bonds or other evidences of indebtedness secured by or payable from a
13	tax or other revenue relating to the operations of the authority, that the
14	bonds or other evidences of indebtedness are protected so that the contract
15	for repayment between a municipality and any third party is not impaired.
16	
17	14-362-302. Involuntary annexation prohibited.
18	Property owned by an authority that is not within the corporate limits
19	of a municipality at the time the authority acquires ownership of the
20	property shall not be annexed by a municipality without a two-thirds $(2/3)$
21	vote of approval by the members of the board of directors of the authority.
22	
23	14-362-303. Coordination with Arkansas Geographic Information Systems
24	Office to annex or detach.
25	Before an authority begins an annexation or detachment proceeding under
26	this subchapter, the authority shall coordinate with the Arkansas Geographic
27	Information Systems Office for preparation of legal descriptions and digital
28	mapping for the annexation or detachment areas.
29	
30	<u>14-362-304. Petition for Annexation - Definition.</u>
31	(a) As used in this section, "enclave" means an unincorporated
32	improved or developed area that is enclosed within and bounded on all sides
33	by a single city or incorporated town.
34	(b) Except as provided in subsection (c) of this section, an authority
35	may petition a municipality for voluntary annexation in the same manner
36	provided in § 14-40-609.

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1	(c)(l) The creation of an enclave owned by an authority is not
2	prohibited under this section.
3	(2) An authority petitioning a municipality to annex land
4	containing an enclave under subdivision (c)(l) of this section shall include
5	the following in the petition:
6	(i) The reason the authority's continued ownership
7	of the enclave is necessary; and
8	(ii) The authority's intended use of the enclave.
9	
10	14-362-305. Petition for detachment.
11	(a) An authority may petition for detachment under this section upon
12	the passing of a resolution by the board of directors of the authority:
13	(1) Recommending the detachment of property owned by the
14	authority from one (1) or more municipalities in which the authority's
15	property is located; and
16	(2) Approved by a vote of at least two-thirds (2/3) of the
17	members of the board.
18	(b)(1) An authority shall file a petition for detachment in the county
19	in which the property the authority is petitioning for detachment is located
20	with the:
21	(A) County court;
22	(B) County assessor; and
23	(C) County clerk.
24	(2) A petition filed under subdivision (b)(1) of this section
25	shall:
26	(A) Be in writing;
27	(B) Name the persons authorized to act on behalf of the
28	authority;
29	(C) Contain an attestation signed before a notary or
30	notaries by a person authorized to sign for the authority as the owner of the
31	property or an agent of the authority confirming the desire to be detached;
32	(D) Contain an accurate description of the relevant
33	property;
34	(E) Contain a letter or title opinion from a certified
35	abstractor or title company verifying that the authority is the owner of
36	record of the relevant property;

1	(F) Contain a letter or verification from a certified
2	surveyor or engineer verifying that an enclave that is not owned by the
3	authority will not be created;
4	(G) Include a schedule of services that are currently
5	provided by the municipality to the property being detached; and
6	(H) Identify any special considerations or factors that
7	the authority and municipality should agree to before the detachment is
8	finalized, including without limitation:
9	(i) The negotiation of outstanding debt obligations;
10	and
11	(ii) A determination of all financial matters
12	pertaining to the schedule of services provided by the municipality under
13	subdivision (b)(2)(G) of this section.
14	(c)(l) Within fifteen (15) days from the date the petition is filed
15	under subdivision (b)(l) of this section, the county assessor and the county
16	<u>clerk shall:</u>
17	(A) Determine whether the petition meets the requirements
18	of subdivision (b)(2) of this section; and
19	(B) Report the determination required under subdivision
20	(b)(2) of this section to the county court.
21	(2)(A) If it is determined that the petition does not meet the
22	requirements of subdivision (b)(2) of this section, the county court shall
23	enter a court order identifying the deficiencies in the petition within five
24	(5) business days from the date the determination was reported to the county
25	court under subdivision (c)(l)(B) of this section.
26	(B)(i) An authority may file an amended petition at any
27	time after the county court enters the court order required under subdivision
28	(c)(2)(A) of this section.
29	(ii) The amended petition is required to meet the
30	
2.1	requirements of subdivision (b)(2) of this section.
31	requirements of subdivision (b)(2) of this section. (3) If a county assessor and a county clerk report that the
31 32	
	(3) If a county assessor and a county clerk report that the
32	(3) If a county assessor and a county clerk report that the petition meets the requirements of subdivision (b)(2) of this section, the
32 33	(3) If a county assessor and a county clerk report that the petition meets the requirements of subdivision (b)(2) of this section, the county court has fifteen (15) business days from the date the determination

1	(B) Determine that the detachment does not create an
2	enclave that is not owned by the authority;
3	(C) Confirm the petition contains the schedule of services
4	required by subdivision (b)(2)(G) of this section;
5	(D) At the discretion of the county judge, determine
6	whether the county will be responsible for the maintenance of dedicated
7	public roads and rights-of-way abutting or traversing the property that is
8	being detached; and
9	(E) Issue an order stating the findings required under
10	this subdivision (c)(3) and provide the:
11	(i) Order to the authority; and
12	(ii) Petition and order to the municipality to which
13	the authority is petitioning for detachment.
14	(d)(l) An order issued under subdivision (c)(3)(E) of this section
15	shall require the municipality being petitioned for detachment to file a
16	response with the county court:
17	(A) Within fifteen (15) business days from the date the
18	court order was received; and
19	(B) That states whether the municipality agrees or does
19 20	(B) That states whether the municipality agrees or does not agree with the special considerations or factors to be addressed before
20	not agree with the special considerations or factors to be addressed before
20 21	not agree with the special considerations or factors to be addressed before the detachment is finalized under subdivision (b)(2)(H) of this section.
20 21 22	not agree with the special considerations or factors to be addressed before the detachment is finalized under subdivision (b)(2)(H) of this section. (2) A municipality that does not agree with the special
20 21 22 23	not agree with the special considerations or factors to be addressed before the detachment is finalized under subdivision (b)(2)(H) of this section. (2) A municipality that does not agree with the special considerations or factors stated in the petition under subdivision (b)(2)(H)
20 21 22 23 24	not agree with the special considerations or factors to be addressed before the detachment is finalized under subdivision (b)(2)(H) of this section. (2) A municipality that does not agree with the special considerations or factors stated in the petition under subdivision (b)(2)(H) of this section shall file a response with the county court that:
20 21 22 23 24 25	not agree with the special considerations or factors to be addressed before the detachment is finalized under subdivision (b)(2)(H) of this section. (2) A municipality that does not agree with the special considerations or factors stated in the petition under subdivision (b)(2)(H) of this section shall file a response with the county court that: (A) States the reason the municipality disagrees with the
20 21 22 23 24 25 26	<pre>not agree with the special considerations or factors to be addressed before the detachment is finalized under subdivision (b)(2)(H) of this section.         (2) A municipality that does not agree with the special considerations or factors stated in the petition under subdivision (b)(2)(H) of this section shall file a response with the county court that:         (A) States the reason the municipality disagrees with the special consideration or factors stated in the petition under subdivision</pre>
20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27	<pre>not agree with the special considerations or factors to be addressed before the detachment is finalized under subdivision (b)(2)(H) of this section.         (2) A municipality that does not agree with the special considerations or factors stated in the petition under subdivision (b)(2)(H) of this section shall file a response with the county court that:         (A) States the reason the municipality disagrees with the special consideration or factors stated in the petition under subdivision         (b)(2)(H) of this section; and</pre>
20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28	not agree with the special considerations or factors to be addressed before the detachment is finalized under subdivision (b)(2)(H) of this section. (2) A municipality that does not agree with the special considerations or factors stated in the petition under subdivision (b)(2)(H) of this section shall file a response with the county court that: (A) States the reason the municipality disagrees with the special consideration or factors stated in the petition under subdivision (b)(2)(H) of this section; and (B) Includes any additional special considerations or
20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29	<pre>not agree with the special considerations or factors to be addressed before the detachment is finalized under subdivision (b)(2)(H) of this section.         (2) A municipality that does not agree with the special considerations or factors stated in the petition under subdivision (b)(2)(H) of this section shall file a response with the county court that:         (A) States the reason the municipality disagrees with the special consideration or factors stated in the petition under subdivision         (b)(2)(H) of this section; and         (B) Includes any additional special considerations or factors the municipality may have.</pre>
20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30	not agree with the special considerations or factors to be addressed before the detachment is finalized under subdivision (b)(2)(H) of this section. (2) A municipality that does not agree with the special considerations or factors stated in the petition under subdivision (b)(2)(H) of this section shall file a response with the county court that: (A) States the reason the municipality disagrees with the special consideration or factors stated in the petition under subdivision (b)(2)(H) of this section; and (B) Includes any additional special considerations or factors the municipality may have. (e)(1) An authority has five (5) business days from the date the
20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31	<pre>not agree with the special considerations or factors to be addressed before the detachment is finalized under subdivision (b)(2)(H) of this section.         (2) A municipality that does not agree with the special considerations or factors stated in the petition under subdivision (b)(2)(H) of this section shall file a response with the county court that:         (A) States the reason the municipality disagrees with the special consideration or factors stated in the petition under subdivision         (b)(2)(H) of this section; and         (B) Includes any additional special considerations or factors the municipality may have.         (e)(1) An authority has five (5) business days from the date the municipality files the response required under subdivision (d)(2) of this</pre>
20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31 32	<pre>not agree with the special considerations or factors to be addressed before the detachment is finalized under subdivision (b)(2)(H) of this section.</pre>
20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31 32 33	<pre>not agree with the special considerations or factors to be addressed before the detachment is finalized under subdivision (b)(2)(H) of this section.         (2) A municipality that does not agree with the special considerations or factors stated in the petition under subdivision (b)(2)(H) of this section shall file a response with the county court that:         (A) States the reason the municipality disagrees with the special consideration or factors stated in the petition under subdivision         (b)(2)(H) of this section; and         (B) Includes any additional special considerations or factors the municipality may have.         (e)(1) An authority has five (5) business days from the date the municipality files the response required under subdivision (d)(2) of this section to respond to the municipality's additional special considerations or factors under subdivision (d)(2)(B) of this section. </pre>

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1	before detachment.
2	(B) The hearing under subdivision (e)(2)(A) of this
3	section shall be set on a date of earliest convenience for both parties but
4	no later than sixty (60) calendar days after the filing of the authority's
5	response under subdivision (e)(1) of this section.
6	(3)(A) If a municipality agrees with the special considerations
7	or factors in the petition required under subdivision (b)(2)(H) of this
8	section, then the county court shall enter an order providing a timeline for
9	the authority and the municipality to negotiate in good faith and to reach an
10	agreement with respect to the special considerations or factors required
11	before detachment is finalized.
12	(B) Unless a different period of time is mutually agreed
13	to by the municipality and the authority, the county court shall require the
14	municipality and the authority to report their agreement to the county court
15	not later than ninety (90) calendar days from the date the order was filed.
16	(C)(i) If an authority and a municipality cannot reach an
17	agreement by the deadline provided under this subdivision (e)(3), the county
18	court shall order the municipality and authority to participate in mediation.
19	(ii) The mediation shall take place not later than
20	sixty (60) calendar days from the date of the order requiring mediation.
21	(iii)(a) The mediator shall file a mediation report
22	with the county court no later than thirty (30) calendar days after the date
23	of the mediation required under subdivision (e)(3)(C)(i) of this section.
24	(b) The mediator's report shall:
25	(1) Contain the agreed upon terms
26	relating to the special considerations and factors, but only if the mediation
27	is successful; or
28	(2) If the mediation is unsuccessful,
29	state that the parties were unable to come to an agreement relating to the
30	special considerations and factors.
31	(iv)(a) The county court shall enter an order
32	confirming the detachment, and no later than thirty (30) calendar days from
33	the date the mediation report is filed, the county clerk shall forward a copy
34	of the order to the county assessor and to the Secretary of State.
35	(b) The order shall contain:
36	(1) The final terms relating to the

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1	special considerations and factors, but only if the mediation is successful;
2	or
3	(2) If the mediation is unsuccessful,
4	the order shall only address the matters required under § 14-36-306.
5	(f) The property shall be detached from the municipality on the date
6	the county court enters the order confirming the detachment and the county
7	clerk forwards a copy of the order as required under subdivision
8	(e)(3)(C)(iv) of this section.
9	(g)(l) This section shall not prevent the municipality and the
10	authority from presenting a joint agreement confirming their mutually agreed
11	resolution of special considerations or factors that should be addressed
12	before detachment at any time after the petition for detachment is filed by
13	the authority.
14	(2) Absent a determination by the county court that the mutually
15	agreed resolution under subdivision (g)(l) of this section violates Arkansas
16	law, the county court shall accept the mutually agreed resolution and include
17	it in the order approving detachment.
18	
19	14-362-306. Special considerations relating to existing municipal debt
20	obligations.
21	(a) If an authority detaches from a municipality that has previously
22	issued and currently has outstanding bonds or other evidences of indebtedness
23	that are secured by or payable from taxes or other revenues relating to the
24	operations of the authority, then the detachment shall not be effective until
25	the authority and the municipality mutually have attempted to agree in
26	writing to a lump sum payment or recurring or periodic payments in an amount
27	sufficient to avoid impairing the municipality's contractual obligations to
28	
	the persons or entities to which payment is due.
29	
29 30	the persons or entities to which payment is due.
	the persons or entities to which payment is due. (b) In reaching the agreement required under subsection (a) of this
30	the persons or entities to which payment is due. (b) In reaching the agreement required under subsection (a) of this section, an authority and the municipality may engage with and rely on the
30 31	the persons or entities to which payment is due. (b) In reaching the agreement required under subsection (a) of this section, an authority and the municipality may engage with and rely on the opinions and reports of legal and financial professionals to ensure that the
30 31 32	the persons or entities to which payment is due. (b) In reaching the agreement required under subsection (a) of this section, an authority and the municipality may engage with and rely on the opinions and reports of legal and financial professionals to ensure that the agreement reached by the authority and the municipality does not diminish the
30 31 32 33	the persons or entities to which payment is due. (b) In reaching the agreement required under subsection (a) of this section, an authority and the municipality may engage with and rely on the opinions and reports of legal and financial professionals to ensure that the agreement reached by the authority and the municipality does not diminish the prospects of, or adversely interfere with, expected payments to be received

1	(c)(l) If an authority and a municipality cannot reach an agreement,
2	any taxes or other revenues relating to the operations of the authority shall
3	be collected in the same manner and amounts as if the land had not been
4	detached.
5	(2) However, after a petition for detachment has been filed by
6	the authority, the municipality:
7	(A) Shall not take any action to:
8	(i) Increase the taxes assessed or levied;
9	(ii) Lengthen the maturity date of the debt
10	obligations;
11	(iii) Decrease amounts paid by other persons or
12	entities that are contributing to amounts used by the municipality to pay the
13	debt obligations; or
14	(iv) Reallocate available revenues to the detriment
15	of the authority beyond those in existence as of the date of the filing of
16	the petition with the county court; and
17	(B) Shall use or escrow all pledged taxes and revenues to
18	pay off or prepay the debt obligations as soon as is permitted by the
19	documents relating to the debt obligations and shall not use the pledged
20	taxes and revenues for any other purpose.
21	(d)(l) An authority and a municipality shall enter into a payment in
22	lieu of taxes agreement, interlocal cooperative agreement, or similar
23	agreement documenting the agreement reached by the authority and the
24	municipality with respect to any taxes collected or payments made by the
25	authority while debt obligations are outstanding.
26	(2) The agreement required under subdivision (d)(1) of this
27	section shall contain terms and conditions permitting the renegotiation or
28	revision of payments in the event of unforeseen force majeure events,
29	including without limitation a global pandemic or population or retail
30	growth, that significantly modify the facts known or assumptions made in
31	calculating the payments agreed upon.
32	(3) The municipality shall provide the certificates and
33	directions to the Department of Finance and Administration that are necessary
34	to effect the agreement between the authority and the municipality.
35	(e) A municipality may refinance existing debt obligations after an
36	authority has filed a petition for detachment to achieve debt service savings

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1	so long as the refinancing does not increase annual debt service payments,
2	extend the maturity date, or increase the aggregate amount of principal due
3	with respect to the debt obligation.
4	(f) Upon the payment in full at maturity or optional redemption, other
5	than in connection with a refunding permitted under subsection (e) of this
6	section, the authority's property and operations shall be released and exempt
7	from future tax collections or payments, as applicable.
8	(g) A municipality shall not initiate litigation alleging impairment
9	of contract if the authority and the municipality have entered into a written
10	agreement under subsection (d) of this section or if the county court has
11	entered an order for detachment under § 14-362-305(e) that is consistent with
12	subsection (c) of this section.
13	
14	Subchapter 4 - Regional Airport Infrastructure and Development Commission Act
15	
16	<u>14-362-401. Title.</u>
17	This subchapter shall be known and may be cited as the "Regional
18	Airport Infrastructure and Development Commission Act".
19	
20	14-362-402. Regional airport infrastructure and development commission.
21	An authority levying a tax under this subchapter shall create by
22	resolution a regional airport infrastructure and development commission, to
23	be composed of seven (7) members selected by the authority's board of
24	directors and shall serve at the will of the authority.
25	
26	14-362-403. Gross receipts taxes authorized.
27	An authority by resolution of the authority's board may levy a tax not
28	to exceed three percent (3%) upon the gross receipts or gross proceeds from
29	the retail sales or other operations made within or upon any property owned
30	or operated by the authority that are subject to taxation under the Arkansas
31	Gross Receipts Act of 1941, § 26-52-101 et seq.
32	
33	14-362-404. Payment.
34	(a) From the effective date of the levying resolution, the tax levied
35	shall be paid by the persons, firms, and corporations liable for the tax and
36	shall be collected by the regional airport infrastructure and development

13

1	commission established by the levying authority or by a designated agent of
2	the commission in the same manner and at the same time as the tax levied by
3	the Arkansas Gross Receipts Act of 1941, § 26-52-101 et seq.
4	(b)(l) A person or entity paying the tax levied under this subchapter
5	shall report and remit the tax upon forms provided by the commission and as
6	directed by the commission.
7	(2) The rules, forms of notice, assessment procedures, and
8	enforcement and collection of the tax under the Arkansas Tax Procedure Act, §
9	26-18-101 et seq., and the Arkansas Gross Receipts Act of 1941, § 26-52-101
10	et seq., so far as practicable, shall be applicable with respect to the
11	enforcement and collection of the tax levied under this subchapter.
12	(3)(A) However, the administration and enforcement and all
13	actions shall be by and in the name of the commission through the proper
14	commission officials or agents.
15	(B) The commission may sue and be sued in its name.
16	(4) The Department of Finance and Administration shall have no
17	authority to enforce or collect the tax levied under this subchapter.
18	(c)(l) A levying authority is authorized to adopt a resolution and
19	regulations consistent with and in similar form to the Arkansas Tax Procedure
20	Act, § 26-18-101 et seq., to enable the commission or its agent to enforce
21	the tax through examination of records, notices of proposed and final
22	assessment, and administrative hearings on proposed assessments.
23	(2) The levying authority may adopt resolutions that enable the
24	commission to:
25	(A)(i) Assess penalties and interest against taxpayers who
26	fail to timely report or pay the tax levied under this subchapter.
27	<u>(ii)(a) The penalty under subdivision (c)(2)(A)(i)</u>
28	of this section is equal to five percent (5%) of the unpaid tax amount per
29	month, not to exceed a total assessment of thirty-five percent (35%) of the
30	unpaid tax.
31	<u>(b) Simple interest on unpaid taxes shall be</u>
32	assessed at the rate of ten percent (10%) per annum;
33	(B) Assess unpaid or unreported tax within three (3) years
34	of the date the tax is due;
35	(C) Provide for judicial relief from proposed assessments
36	in a manner consistent with and similar to the procedures provided in § 26-

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1	<u>75-603(d)</u> and (e); and
2	(D) Issue certificates of indebtedness in accordance with
3	subdivision (c)(3) of this section.
4	
5	14-362-405. Fund deposits and disbursement.
6	(a) All taxes, interest, penalties, and costs collected pursuant to a
7	tax levied by an authority under this subchapter shall be credited to the
8	infrastructure and development fund that shall be created by the resolution
9	levying the tax by the authority.
10	(b) When an authority levies a gross receipts tax under this
11	subchapter and has pledged some or all of the proceeds of the tax to the
12	repayment of bonds as set forth in § 14-362-115(c)(2), the proceeds so
13	pledged shall be deposited into the infrastructure and development fund and
14	distributed by a regional airport infrastructure and development commission
15	in accordance with the pledge and enactment of the authority.
16	(c) For purposes of subdivision (b) of this section, the individual
17	members of the board of an authority shall be deemed to be the electors of
18	the authority for purposes of approving the pledge of the proceeds of a gross
19	receipts tax to the repayment of bonds.
20	
21	14-362-406. Use of funds collected.
22	(a)(l)(A) In the manner as shall be determined by a regional airport
23	infrastructure and development commission, all funds credited to the
24	infrastructure and development fund under this subchapter shall be used for
25	the:
26	(i) Economic development, community development,
27	advertising, and promoting of the authority's airport and its environs;
28	(ii) Construction, reconstruction, extension,
29	equipment, improvement, maintenance, repair, and operation of an airport,
30	economic development projects, community projects, ancillary facilities that
31	support or enhance airport operations, economic development projects,
32	community projects, or infrastructure supportive of any of these; and
33	(iii) Payment of the principal of, interest on, and
34	fees and expenses in connection with bonds issued under § 14-362-111.
35	(B) The commission may engage such personnel and agencies
36	and incur such administrative costs as it deems necessary to conduct its

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1	business.
2	(2) The commission shall determine the use of the infrastructure
3	and development fund.
4	(3)(A) The commission may purchase, own, operate, sell, lease,
5	contract, or otherwise deal in or dispose of real property, buildings,
6	improvements, or facilities of any nature in accordance with this subchapter.
7	(B) If the commission is dissolved, the authority shall
8	assume the powers granted under subdivision (a)(3)(A) of this section.
9	(b)(l)(A) Any authority that levies a tax under this subchapter may
10	use or pledge all or any part of the revenues derived from the tax for the
11	purposes prescribed in this subchapter, including the operation of an
12	airport, or for the retirement of bonds issued under this chapter.
13	(B) The revenues derived from a tax levied under
14	this subchapter shall be used or pledged for the purposes authorized in this
15	subsection only upon approval of the commission.
16	(2) In addition to the other purposes prescribed in this
17	subchapter, moneys credited to the infrastructure and development fund under
18	this subchapter may be used, spent, or pledged by the commission for the:
19	(A) Construction, reconstruction, repair, maintenance,
20	improvement, equipping, and operation of airport facilities of an authority;
21	and
22	(B) Payment of the principal of, interest on, and fees and
23	expenses in connection with bonds as provided in this subchapter in the
24	manner as shall be determined by the commission for the purpose of the
25	payment.
26	
27	/s/J. Petty
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