

1 State of Arkansas As Engrossed: H3/12/19 H3/14/19 S4/2/19  
2 92nd General Assembly **A Bill**  
3 Regular Session, 2019

HOUSE BILL 1763

4  
5 By: Representatives A. Davis, *Shepherd*  
6 By: Senators Hester, *J. Hendren*  
7

8 **For An Act To Be Entitled**

9 AN ACT TO CREATE THE TRANSFORMATION AND EFFICIENCIES  
10 ACT OF 2019; TO ESTABLISH CABINET-LEVEL DEPARTMENTS;  
11 TO TRANSFER STATE ENTITIES; TO AMEND PORTIONS OF THE  
12 ARKANSAS CODE RESULTING FROM INITIATED ACT 1 OF 1914,  
13 INITIATED ACT 4 OF 1948, AND INITIATED ACT 1 OF 2000;  
14 TO DECLARE AN EMERGENCY; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.  
15

16  
17 **Subtitle**

18 TO CREATE THE TRANSFORMATION AND  
19 EFFICIENCIES ACT OF 2019; TO ESTABLISH  
20 CABINET-LEVEL DEPARTMENTS; TO TRANSFER  
21 STATE ENTITIES; AND TO DECLARE AN  
22 EMERGENCY.  
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24  
25 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:  
26

27 SECTION 1. DO NOT CODIFY. Transformation and Efficiencies Act of  
28 2019.

29 (a) This act shall be known and may be cited as the "Transformation  
30 and Efficiencies Act of 2019".

31 (b)(1) If a provision of this act requires a director, commissioner,  
32 or other executive head of a state entity to consult with the secretary of a  
33 cabinet-level department regarding a duty or function of the state entity,  
34 "consultation" means:

35 (A)(i) When working on behalf of a governing state entity,  
36 coordinating with and receiving input, review, and recommendations from the



1 secretary of the cabinet-level department.

2 (ii) "Consultation" under subdivision (b)(1)(A)(i)  
 3 of this section does not include approval or consent; and

4 (B) When working on behalf of a state entity other than a  
 5 governing state entity, coordinating with and receiving input, review,  
 6 recommendations, advice, and consent of the secretary of the cabinet-level  
 7 department.

8 (2) As used in this subsection, "governing state entity" means a  
 9 state entity, including without limitation a board, commission, or council,  
 10 whose membership consists of:

11 (A) Two (2) or more appointed members;

12 (B) Two (2) or more ex-officio members; or

13 (C) Both appointed and ex-officio members.

14 (c) As used in this act, "state entity" means any instrumentality of  
 15 state government, including without limitation a board, commission,  
 16 committee, advisory board, office, department, institution, bureau, council,  
 17 administrative program, agency, or division.

18  
 19 SECTION 2. Arkansas Code Title 25 is amended to add an additional  
 20 chapter to read as follows:

21 CHAPTER 43

22 CABINET-LEVEL DEPARTMENTS OF THE EXECUTIVE BRANCH

23  
 24 Subchapter 1 – General Provisions

25  
 26 25-43-101. Cabinet-level departments established.

27 This chapter establishes the cabinet-level departments of the executive  
 28 branch under the Transformation and Efficiencies Act of 2019.

29  
 30 25-43-102. Legislative findings and intent – Construction.

31 (a) The General Assembly finds that this chapter is necessary to:

32 (1) Reorganize the structure of state government;

33 (2) Improve the delivery of services to the people of this  
 34 state;

35 (3) Provide sufficient flexibility to meet changing conditions;

36 (4) Establish a clear and orderly organizational structure of

1 state government;

2 (5) Provide a reasonable opportunity to create budgetary and  
3 administrative efficiencies within an orderly organizational structure of  
4 state government;

5 (6) Effect the grouping of state entities primarily according to  
6 function into a limited number of cabinet-level departments; and

7 (7) Minimize overlapping of authority and duplication of effort.

8 (b) It is the intent of the General Assembly to provide for an orderly  
9 transfer of certain powers, duties, and functions of the various state  
10 entities as described herein to the cabinet-level departments with a minimum  
11 of disruption to governmental services and functions and with a minimum of  
12 expense.

13 (c) This chapter shall be liberally construed.

14  
15 25-43-103. Definitions.

16 As used in this chapter, unless otherwise provided by law:

17 (1)(A) "Administrative functions" means the day-to-day business  
18 operations of a state entity, including without limitation employment,  
19 payroll, property management, benefit management, human resource operations,  
20 and accounting operations of a state entity, and all other duties as assigned  
21 by the secretary of the cabinet-level department or his or her designee.

22 (B) "Administrative functions" does not include the  
23 promulgation of rules or issuance of orders on behalf of any state entity  
24 unless specifically designated by statute, rule, order, or directive;

25 (2) "Cabinet-level department" means one (1) of the fifteen (15)  
26 executive agencies designated to provide state services and provide direct  
27 reports to the Governor;

28 (3) "Cabinet-level department transfer" means a transfer of the  
29 administrative functions of a state entity to a cabinet-level department  
30 under this chapter;

31 (4) "Employee" means a person employed to carry out the  
32 functions of a state entity; and

33 (5) "State entity" means any instrumentality of state  
34 government, including without limitation a board, commission, committee,  
35 advisory board, office, department, institution, bureau, council,  
36 administrative program, agency, or division.

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25-43-104. Cabinet-level departments.

(a) The following cabinet-level departments are created:

- (1) The Department of Agriculture;
- (2) The Department of Commerce;
- (3) The Department of Corrections;
- (4) The Department of Education;
- (5) The Department of Energy and Environment;
- (6) The Department of Finance and Administration;
- (7) The Department of Health;
- (8) The Department of Human Services;
- (9) The Department of the Inspector General;
- (10) The Department of Labor and Licensing;
- (11) The Department of the Military;
- (12) The Department of Parks, Heritage, and Tourism;
- (13) The Department of Public Safety;
- (14) The Department of Transformation and Shared Services; and
- (15) The Department of Veterans Affairs.

(b) All cabinet-level departments are executive agencies and report to the Governor.

(c) The General Assembly may prescribe duties to the cabinet-level departments and the various state entities that are administered by the cabinet-level departments.

(d) Each cabinet-level department shall consist of the state entities transferred by a cabinet-level department transfer under this chapter and other state entities as provided by law.

25-43-105. Cabinet-level department transfers.

(a) The administrative functions of a state entity subject to a cabinet-level department transfer under this chapter shall be administered under the direction and supervision of the cabinet-level department into which the state entity is transferred.

(b) A state entity subject to a cabinet-level department transfer of the state entity's administrative functions under this chapter shall make available to the cabinet-level department all records of the administrative functions of the state entity, unless otherwise provided by law.

1       (c)(1) The employees of a state entity subject to a cabinet-level  
2 department transfer under this chapter shall be considered employees of the  
3 cabinet-level department.

4       (2) The job descriptions, duties, salaries, and benefits of the  
5 employee positions shall be determined by the secretary of the cabinet-level  
6 department as consistent with Arkansas law, unless otherwise provided by law.

7       (3) The employees of a state entity subject to a cabinet-level  
8 department transfer under this chapter shall be compensated in accordance  
9 with the Uniform Classification and Compensation Act, § 21-5-201 et seq.,  
10 except as otherwise provided by law.

11       (4) The programs and positions funded by special funds allocated  
12 by law to a state entity subject to a cabinet-level department transfer under  
13 this chapter shall continue to be used for the designated purposes of the  
14 programs and positions.

15       (5) This section does not reduce any right that an employee of a  
16 state entity transferred subject to a cabinet-level department transfer under  
17 this chapter has under any civil service or merit system.

18       (d) A cabinet-level department shall provide all administrative  
19 support, employment needs, and staff to carry out the orders, rules,  
20 regulations, directives, and standards promulgated or issued by the state  
21 entities subject to a cabinet-level department transfer under this chapter,  
22 unless otherwise provided by law.

23       (e) A state entity subject to a cabinet-level department transfer  
24 under this chapter shall be administered under the direction and supervision  
25 of the cabinet-level department but shall otherwise continue to exercise the  
26 stated statutory authority, powers, duties, and functions as exercised before  
27 the cabinet-level department transfer, unless otherwise provided by law,  
28 including without limitation:

29           (1) The promulgation of rules;

30           (2) The collection of fees;

31           (3) The licensing, certification, or registration authority over  
32 designated occupations; and

33           (4) The creation of programs unless otherwise provided by law.

34       (f)(1) Any revenue, including without limitation cash funds, special  
35 revenue, trust fund income, federal grants, aid, reimbursements, nonrevenue  
36 receipts, and other moneys, securities and investments held in accounts by a

1 state entity subject to a cabinet-level department transfer under this  
2 chapter, including without limitation unexpended balances that may be carried  
3 forward:

4 (A) Shall not be transferred to the cabinet-level  
5 department;

6 (B) Shall continue to be held in the accounts; and

7 (C) Shall be used solely for the purposes for which the  
8 revenue was collected as provided by law.

9 (2) Revenue under subdivision (f)(1) of this section includes  
10 revenue regardless of when collected, including without limitation revenue  
11 collected after the effective date of this chapter.

12 (g)(1) Except as provided in subdivision (g)(2) of this section, all  
13 records, employees, unexpended balances of state appropriations or state  
14 allocations, and functions of budgeting and purchasing of a state entity  
15 subject to a cabinet-level department transfer under this chapter are  
16 transferred to the cabinet-level department.

17 (2) All records pertaining to bonds issued by a state entity  
18 subject to a cabinet-level department transfer under this chapter shall  
19 remain with the state entity subject to a cabinet-level department transfer  
20 under this chapter.

21 (h)(1) All real property owned in fee simple by a state entity subject  
22 to a cabinet-level department transfer under this chapter shall remain in the  
23 name of the state entity subject to a cabinet-level department transfer under  
24 this chapter, to be administered by the cabinet-level department.

25 (2)(A) Except as otherwise provided in subdivision (h)(2)(B) or  
26 (h)(2)(C) of this section, all other property of the state entity subject to  
27 a cabinet-level department transfer under this chapter, including without  
28 limitation real property not subject to subdivision (h)(1) of this section,  
29 personal property, fixtures, contracts, and assignable leases, shall be  
30 transferred to the cabinet-level department.

31 (B) Any property constructed using special or cash revenue  
32 of a state entity subject to a cabinet-level department transfer under this  
33 chapter shall remain the property of the state entity subject to a cabinet-  
34 level department transfer under this chapter.

35 (C) Contracts, instruments, or securities pertaining to or  
36 made in connection with the issuance of bonds or financing of programs shall

1 not be transferred to the cabinet-level department by a state entity subject  
2 to a cabinet-level department transfer under this chapter.

3 (i) A state entity subject to a cabinet-level department transfer  
4 under this chapter may continue to use all remaining stationary, branded  
5 material, or other similar items until the stationary, branded material, or  
6 other similar items are expended.

7 (j)(1) A state entity subject to a cabinet-level department transfer  
8 under this chapter currently designated as a public body politic and  
9 corporate shall continue as a public body politic and corporate.

10 (2) Bonds or other obligations of a state entity subject to a  
11 cabinet-level department transfer under this chapter currently designated as  
12 a public body politic and corporate shall:

13 (A) Continue to state on their face that such bonds are  
14 obligations only of the state entity subject to a cabinet-level department  
15 transfer under this chapter; and

16 (B) In no event constitute:

17 (i) An indebtedness of the State of Arkansas;

18 (ii) An indebtedness for which the faith and credit  
19 of the State of Arkansas or any of its revenue are pledged; or

20 (iii) A secured lien on or a security interest in  
21 property of the state.

22  
23 25-43-106. Cabinet-level departments – Powers and duties.

24 (a) A cabinet-level department shall:

25 (1) Execute the powers and duties prescribed by law;

26 (2) Administer each state entity subject to a cabinet-level  
27 department transfer under this chapter;

28 (3) Make contracts, grants, and employ, to the extent funds are  
29 available, such employees as are necessary to carry out the purposes of the  
30 cabinet-level department and each state entity administered by the cabinet-  
31 level department; and

32 (4) Perform all administrative functions of a state entity  
33 subject to a cabinet-level department transfer under this chapter, unless  
34 otherwise provided by law.

35 (b) A cabinet-level department may:

36 (1) Assist other state entities and federal departments,

1 agencies, boards, commissions, and institutions, by performing services in  
2 conformity with the purposes of the cabinet-level department;

3 (2) Maintain and administer real property on behalf of a state  
4 entity subject to a cabinet-level department transfer under this chapter,  
5 unless otherwise provided by law;

6 (3) Maintain and administer all other property on behalf of a  
7 state entity subject to a cabinet-level department transfer under this  
8 chapter, unless otherwise provided by law;

9 (4) Provide administrative support, employment needs, and staff  
10 to carry out the orders, rules, regulations, directives, or standards  
11 promulgated or issued by each state entity over which the cabinet-level  
12 department has administrative control; and

13 (5) Share business and administrative services across each  
14 cabinet-level department as determined necessary by the secretary of the  
15 cabinet-level department.

16  
17 25-43-107. Effect on preexisting rules, regulations, etc.

18 (a) The Transformation and Efficiencies Act of 2019 does not affect  
19 the orders, rules, regulations, directives, or standards made or promulgated  
20 prior to the effective date of the Transformation and Efficiencies Act of  
21 2019 by a state entity subject to a cabinet-level department transfer under  
22 this chapter.

23 (b) The orders, rules, regulations, directives, or standards under  
24 subsection (a) of this section shall continue with full force and effect  
25 until amended or repealed pursuant to authority given by law.

26 (c) The following shall not be impaired in any way by the  
27 Transformation and Efficiencies Act of 2019 and shall continue with full  
28 force and effect:

29 (1) Bonds issued by the Arkansas Development Finance Authority;

30 (2) Contracts and obligations securing bonds issued by the  
31 Arkansas Development Finance Authority or pertaining to bonds issued by the  
32 Arkansas Development Finance Authority; and

33 (3) Programs financed by bonds issued by the Arkansas  
34 Development Finance Authority.

35  
36 25-43-108. Cabinet-level department secretary.

1 (a) A secretary of a cabinet-level department shall, unless otherwise  
2 provided by law:

3 (1) Be the executive head of each cabinet-level department;

4 (2) Be appointed by the Governor, subject to confirmation by the  
5 Senate;

6 (3) Serve at the pleasure of the Governor;

7 (4) Before entering upon his or her respective duties, take and  
8 subscribe to and file in the office of the Secretary of State, the oath under  
9 Arkansas Constitution, Article 19, § 20, that he or she will support the  
10 Unites States Constitution and the Arkansas Constitution and faithfully  
11 perform the duties upon which he or she is about to enter; and

12 (5)(A) Furnish bond to the state, with a corporate surety, in  
13 the sum of ten thousand dollars (\$10,000).

14 (B) The bond under subdivision (a)(5)(A) of this section  
15 shall be conditioned that he or she will faithfully perform his or her duties  
16 of employment and properly account for all funds received and disbursed by  
17 him or her.

18 (C) The bond shall be filed with the Secretary of State  
19 and an executed counterpart of the bond shall be filed with the Auditor of  
20 State.

21 (b)(1) Unless otherwise provided by law, each division of the cabinet-  
22 level department shall be under the direction, control, and supervision of  
23 the secretary of the cabinet-level department.

24 (2) The secretary of the cabinet-level department shall hire  
25 department employees, unless otherwise provided by law.

26 (c) The secretary may, unless otherwise provided by law:

27 (1) Delegate his or her functions, powers, and duties to various  
28 divisions or employees of the cabinet-level department as he or she shall  
29 deem desirable and necessary for the effective and efficient operation of the  
30 cabinet-level department;

31 (2) Perform or assign duties assigned to the cabinet-level  
32 department; and

33 (3) Serve as the director, or the administrative or executive  
34 head of any state entity under the administrative control of the cabinet-  
35 level department if the secretary also meets all statutory requirements for  
36 the position.

1 (d) There is hereby created one (1) new classification and position for  
2 the executive head for each cabinet-level department, designated as follows:

3 (1) Secretary of the Department of Agriculture;

4 (2) Secretary of the Department of Commerce;

5 (3) Secretary of the Department of Corrections;

6 (4) Secretary of the Department of Education;

7 (5) Secretary of the Department of Energy and Environment;

8 (6) Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration;

9 (7) Secretary of the Department of Health;

10 (8) Secretary of the Department of Human Services;

11 (9) Secretary of the Department of Inspector General;

12 (10) Secretary of the Department of Labor and Licensing;

13 (11) Secretary of the Department of the Military;

14 (12) Secretary of the Department of Parks, Heritage, and

15 Tourism;

16 (13) Secretary of the Department of Public Safety;

17 (14) Secretary of the Department of Transformation and Shared

18 Services; and

19 (15) Secretary of the Department of Veterans Affairs.

20 (e) The secretary may be compelled by mandamus to perform any duties  
21 or obligations under a bond, contract, or agreement issued, made, or to be  
22 performed by each state entity administered by the cabinet-level department.

23 (f)(1) If a provision of the Transformation and Efficiencies Act of  
24 2019 requires a director, commissioner, or other executive head of a state  
25 entity to consult with the secretary of a cabinet-level department regarding  
26 a duty or function of the state entity, "consultation" means:

27 (A)(i) When working on behalf of a governing state entity,  
28 coordinating with and receiving input, review, and recommendations from the  
29 secretary of the cabinet-level department.

30 (ii) "Consultation" under subdivision (b)(1)(A)(i)  
31 of this section does not include approval or consent; and

32 (B) When working on behalf of a state entity other than a  
33 governing state entity, coordinating with and receiving input, review,  
34 recommendations, advice, and consent of the secretary of the cabinet-level  
35 department.

36 (2) As used in this subsection, "governing state entity" means a

1 state entity, including without limitation a board, commission, or council,  
2 whose membership consists of:

3 (A) Two (2) or more appointed members;

4 (B) Two (2) or more ex-officio members; or

5 (C) Both appointed and ex-officio members.

6  
7 25-43-109. Correction of technical errors related to transformation of  
8 state government.

9 (a)(1) The General Assembly finds that:

10 (A) The transformation of the structure of state  
11 government under the Transformation and Efficiencies Act of 2019 involves  
12 changes to thousands of sections of the Arkansas Code concerning state  
13 entities;

14 (B) Many of the changes required are highly technical and  
15 require careful study of the purpose and context of each Arkansas Code  
16 section, with the need for some of the changes not becoming apparent until  
17 the implementation of the transformation of state government under this  
18 chapter;

19 (C) With a project as large and comprehensive as the  
20 transformation of state government under this chapter, it is inevitable that  
21 certain sections of the Arkansas Code requiring technical changes to follow  
22 the intent of this chapter will be either omitted or amended in a manner that  
23 is later found to be erroneous and unintentional; and

24 (D) If the correct statutory change to remedy an  
25 unintentional error is readily apparent and consistent with the intent of  
26 this chapter, the unintentional error should be corrected as part of the  
27 codification process due to the technical nature of the unintentional error.

28 (2) It is the intent of the General Assembly to empower the  
29 Arkansas Code Revision Commission to correct technical errors identified in  
30 the Arkansas Code during the transformation of the structure of state  
31 government under this chapter to allow this chapter to be fully implemented.

32 (b)(1)(A) Any person or state entity identifying one (1) or more  
33 sections of the Arkansas Code that require revision to implement the intent  
34 of this chapter may notify the Director of the Bureau of Legislative Research  
35 or his or her designee of the section or sections at issue.

36 (B) If the Bureau of Legislative Research, while assisting

1 the commission with the commission's powers and duties, becomes aware of one  
2 (1) or more sections of the Arkansas Code that require revision to implement  
3 the intent of this chapter for which it appears that the bureau and the  
4 commission do not have authority to make the necessary revision under § 1-2-  
5 303(d), the bureau may notify the commission of the section or sections at  
6 issue.

7 (2) If the commission determines that the revision necessary to  
8 one (1) or more sections of the Arkansas Code under subdivision (b)(1) of  
9 this section is technical in nature, germane to the intent of this chapter,  
10 and consistent with this chapter's policy and purposes, the commission may  
11 make the revision to the Arkansas Code.

12 (3) The commission shall notify the publisher of the Arkansas  
13 Code of a revision to the Arkansas Code under subdivision (b)(2) of this  
14 section as soon as possible so that the revision may be reflected in the  
15 official hard copy version of the Arkansas Code and official electronic  
16 version of the Arkansas Code.

17 (4)(A) Except as provided in subdivision (b)(4)(B) of this  
18 section, when the commission approves a revision to the Arkansas Code under  
19 subdivision (b)(2) of this section, the commission shall notify the following  
20 of the revision within thirty (30) days:

21 (i) The Speaker of the House of Representatives;

22 (ii) The President Pro Tempore of the Senate; and

23 (iii) The Legislative Council.

24 (B) The commission is not required to make a notification  
25 under subdivision (b)(4)(A) of this section if the revision is made under §  
26 1-2-303(d).

27 (c) The authority granted to the commission under this section is  
28 supplemental to the commission's authority under § 1-2-303.

29  
30 25-43-110. Funds and personnel transferred.

31 (a) A fund or fund account name that due to the implementation of the  
32 Transformation and Efficiencies Act of 2019 has not been revised in an  
33 appropriation or in the Arkansas Code to the same fund or fund account name  
34 enacted by the Ninety-Second General Assembly, shall be payable from the  
35 appropriation enacted with the fund or fund account name as originally  
36 enacted by the Ninety-Second General Assembly.

1 (b) Unless otherwise provided by law, when all or part of a state  
2 entity is subject to a cabinet-level department transfer, the state entity's  
3 authorized classifications, employees, property, unexpended balances of  
4 appropriations, allocations, and funds are transferred to the cabinet-level  
5 department as authorized under this chapter.

6 (c)(1) A state entity appropriation transferred from a paying account  
7 or fund not established in a cabinet-level department, due to the  
8 implementation of the Transformation and Efficiencies Act of 2019, is payable  
9 and appropriated from a cash fund established in the State Treasury in the  
10 same amount and for the same purpose as that transferred state entity.

11 (2) At no time may funding or cash fund appropriation be  
12 established under subsection (c) of this section that is not authorized to be  
13 transferred or in a greater amount than is transferred.

14 (d)(1) Any classification title for a state entity that is subject to  
15 a cabinet-level department transfer under this chapter may be revised as  
16 determined appropriate by the Office of Personnel Management to reference the  
17 appropriate state entity.

18 (2) The authority under subsection (d) of this section does not  
19 allow for revisions to:

20 (A) A pay grade;

21 (B) A line item;

22 (C) The number of authorized classifications; or

23 (D) A job duty.

24  
25 25-43-111. State entity subject to Arkansas Constitution, Amendment  
26 33.

27 (a) Notwithstanding any provision of the Transformation and  
28 Efficiencies Act of 2019, if a state entity subject to a cabinet-level  
29 department transfer under this chapter is subject to Arkansas Constitution,  
30 Amendment 33:

31 (1) The state entity subject to Arkansas Constitution, Amendment  
32 33, and the institutions under its authority shall be considered to be  
33 affiliated with the cabinet-level department at issue; and

34 (2) The state entity subject to Arkansas Constitution, Amendment  
35 33, shall perform all functions with respect to the management and control of  
36 the state entity and the institutions under its authority as contemplated by

1 Arkansas Constitution, Amendment 33.

2 (b) The Transformation and Efficiencies Act of 2019 shall not abridge,  
3 diminish, or curtail, in any respect, the authority or responsibilities  
4 vested in a state entity that is subject to Arkansas Constitution, Amendment  
5 33, and affiliated with a cabinet-level department under the Transformation  
6 and Efficiencies Act of 2019.

7  
8 SECTION 3. Arkansas Code Title 25, Chapter 43, is amended to add an  
9 additional subchapter to read as follows:

10 Subchapter 2 – Department of Agriculture

11  
12 25-43-201. Department of Agriculture.

13 There is created the Department of Agriculture as a cabinet-level  
14 department.

15  
16 25-43-202. State entities transferred to Department of Agriculture.

17 (a) As provided in §§ 25-38-206 and 25-38-211, the following state  
18 entities, or parts thereof, are transferred to the Department of Agriculture  
19 by a cabinet-level department transfer:

20 (1) The Abandoned Pesticide Advisory Board, created under § 8-7-  
21 1204;

22 (2) The Arkansas Agriculture Board, created under § 25-38-207;

23 (3) The Arkansas Agriculture Department, created under § 25-38-  
24 202, and now to be known as the Department of Agriculture;

25 (4) The Arkansas Bureau of Standards, created under Acts 1963,  
26 No. 482 and codified under § 4-18-201 (repealed);

27 (5) The Arkansas Boll Weevil Eradication Committee;

28 (6) The Arkansas Farm Mediation Office, created under § 2-7-201;

29 (7) The Arkansas Fire Ant Advisory Board, created under § 2-16-  
30 701;

31 (8) The Arkansas Forestry Commission, created under § 15-31-101;

32 (9) The Arkansas Livestock and Poultry Commission, created under  
33 § 2-33-101;

34 (10) The Arkansas Milk Stabilization Board, created under § 2-  
35 10-103;

36 (11) The Arkansas Natural Resources Commission, created under §

1 15-20-201;

2 (12) The Arkansas Seed Arbitration Committee, created under § 2-  
3 23-104;

4 (13) The Arkansas State Board of Registration for Foresters,  
5 created under § 17-31-201;

6 (14) The Arkansas State Board of Registration for Professional  
7 Soil Classifiers, created under § 17-47-201;

8 (15) The Arkansas Unpaved Roads Program, created under § 14-305-  
9 104;

10 (16) The Commission on Water Well Construction, created under §  
11 17-50-201;

12 (17) The Litter Utilization Committee, created under § 15-20-  
13 1110;

14 (18) The Private Wetland and Riparian Zone Creation,  
15 Restoration, and Conservation Committee, created under § 26-51-1503;

16 (19) The Ouachita River Commission, created under § 15-23-803;

17 (20) The Red River Compact Commission, created under § 15-23-  
18 501;

19 (21) The State Plant Board, created under § 2-16-206;

20 (22) The Veterinary Medical Examining Board, created under § 17-  
21 101-201; and

22 (23) The Wetlands Technical Advisory Committee, created under §  
23 15-22-1003.

24 (b) If there is a conflict between the cabinet-level transfers of the  
25 state entities listed in subdivisions (a)(1)-(23) of this section and either  
26 the transfer of these same state entities under § 25-38-211 or the transfer  
27 of their respective personnel, administrative functions, and human resource  
28 and accounting operations under § 25-38-206, then the transfer provisions  
29 under §§ 25-38-206 and 25-38-211 shall apply.

30 (c) Unless otherwise provided by law, a cabinet-level department  
31 transfer under subsection (a) of this section includes all state entities  
32 under a state entity transferred to the Department of Agriculture under  
33 subsection (a) of this section, including without limitation a division,  
34 office, program, or other unit of a state entity transferred to the  
35 Department of Agriculture under subsection (a) of this section.

36 (d) Unless otherwise provided by law, a state entity whose

1 administrative functions have been transferred to the Department of  
 2 Agriculture under subsection (a) of this section shall otherwise continue to  
 3 exercise the duties of the state entity under the administration of the  
 4 cabinet-level Department of Agriculture in the same manner as before the  
 5 creation of the cabinet-level department.

6  
 7 SECTION 4. Arkansas Code § 25-38-202 is amended to read as follows:  
 8 25-38-202. Creation – Appointment of secretary.

9 (a) There is created the ~~Arkansas Agriculture Department~~ Department of  
 10 Agriculture as a cabinet-level department under § 25-43-105.

11 (b)(1) The executive head of the department shall be the Secretary of  
 12 the ~~Arkansas Agriculture Department~~ Department of Agriculture.

13 (2) The secretary shall be selected by the Arkansas Agriculture  
 14 Board, and the name shall be submitted to the Governor and the Senate for  
 15 confirmation. The secretary shall serve at the pleasure of the Governor.

16 (3) The secretary may:

17 (A) Delegate to the employees of the Department of  
 18 Agriculture any of the powers or duties of the department required to  
 19 administer the:

20 (i) Statutory duties; and

21 (ii) Rules, orders, or directives promulgated or  
 22 issued by the:

23 (a) Abandoned Pesticide Advisory Board;

24 (b) Arkansas Agriculture Board;

25 (c) Arkansas Boll Weevil Eradication

26 Committee;

27 (d) Arkansas Bureau of Standards;

28 (e) Arkansas Farm Mediation Office;

29 (f) Arkansas Fire Ant Advisory Board;

30 (g) Arkansas Forestry Commission;

31 (h) Arkansas Livestock and Poultry Commission;

32 (i) Arkansas Milk Stabilization Board;

33 (j) Arkansas Natural Resources Commission;

34 (k) Arkansas Seed Arbitration Committee;

35 (l) Arkansas State Board of Registration for  
 36 Foresters;

1 (m) Arkansas State Board of Registration for  
 2 Professional Soil Classifiers;  
 3 (n) Arkansas Unpaved Roads Program;  
 4 (o) Commission on Water Well Construction;  
 5 (p) Litter Utilization Committee;  
 6 (q) Ouachita River Commission;  
 7 (r) Private Wetland and Riparian Zone  
 8 Creation, Restoration, and Conservation Committee;  
 9 (s) Red River Compact Commission;  
 10 (t) State Plant Board;  
 11 (u) Veterinary Medical Examining Board;  
 12 (v) Wetlands Technical Advisory Committee; or  
 13 (w) Other state entities under the Department  
 14 of Agriculture;

15 (B) Hire department personnel, unless otherwise provided  
 16 by law; and

17 (C) Perform or assign duties assigned to the Department of  
 18 Agriculture.

19 (4)(A) When exercising his or her duties with regards to the  
 20 State Plant Board, the secretary shall work in consultation with the Director  
 21 of the State Plant Board and the State Plant Board.

22 (B) As used in subdivision (b)(4)(A) of this section,  
 23 "consultation" means coordinating with, giving input, reviewing, and  
 24 recommending, but shall not require approval or consent.

25  
 26 SECTION 5. Arkansas Code § 25-38-203 is amended to read as follows:

27 25-38-203. ~~Arkansas Agriculture Department~~ Department of Agriculture -  
 28 Powers and duties.

29 The ~~Arkansas Agriculture Department~~ Department of Agriculture shall:

30 (1) Administer the departments, institutions, other agencies, or  
 31 parts of departments, institutions, or other agencies transferred to the  
 32 department under ~~§§ 25-38-204 and 25-38-205~~ 25-38-211;

33 (2) Coordinate all existing programs and create any new programs  
 34 that will enhance the marketing of the state's agricultural products to  
 35 intrastate, national, and international markets;

36 (3) Establish a clearinghouse for collecting, correlating,

1 analyzing, and interpreting marketing and educational information and data  
2 concerning the needs of and resources for agriculture, aquaculture,  
3 horticulture, forestry, and kindred industries;

4 (4) Develop a website devoted to marketing and education  
5 concerning agriculture, aquaculture, horticulture, forestry, and kindred  
6 industries, including a distinctive logo publicizing products as "Grown in  
7 Arkansas";

8 (5) Encourage the organization of neighborhood and county  
9 agricultural clubs and associations;

10 (6) Coordinate the various activities of the department with  
11 those of the federal government and other states on matters pertaining to  
12 agriculture, aquaculture, horticulture, forestry, and kindred industries and  
13 enter into agreements for that purpose;

14 (7) Coordinate with existing programs concerning agriculture,  
15 aquaculture, horticulture, forestry, and kindred industries with the  
16 ~~University of Arkansas~~ Division of Agriculture of the University of Arkansas;

17 (8) Make all contracts and grants and employ, to the extent  
18 funds are available, such personnel as may be necessary to carry out the  
19 purposes of this chapter; ~~and~~

20 (9) Assist other departments, agencies, and institutions of the  
21 state and federal governments, when so requested, by performing services in  
22 conformity with the purposes of this chapter;

23 (10) Establish a uniform allowance program for certain staff and  
24 field employees;

25 (11) Prepare and submit annually to the Governor a report of the  
26 department's expenditures and accomplishments, including information from all  
27 entities administered by the department; and

28 (12) Designate employees who shall have the powers of peace  
29 officers or institutional law enforcement officers in the enforcement of the  
30 criminal laws of this state.

31  
32 SECTION 6. Arkansas Code § 25-38-204 is repealed.

33 ~~25-38-204. Type 1 transfers of various agricultural agencies.~~  
34 ~~The following departments, institutions, other agencies, or parts~~  
35 ~~thereof, are transferred to the Arkansas Agriculture Department by a type 1~~  
36 ~~transfer, as provided for in § 25-2-104, under which the departments,~~

1 ~~institutions, other agencies, or parts thereof, shall be administered under~~  
 2 ~~the direction and supervision of that principal department, but shall retain~~  
 3 ~~the same prescribed statutory powers, authorities, duties, and functions as~~  
 4 ~~they had before the transfer.~~

5 ~~(1) Abandoned Pesticide Advisory Board, created under § 8-7-~~  
 6 ~~1204;~~

7 ~~(2) Arkansas Forestry Commission, created under § 15-31-101;~~

8 ~~(3) Arkansas Livestock and Poultry Commission, created under §~~  
 9 ~~2-33-101;~~

10 ~~(4) State Plant Board, created under § 2-16-206; and~~

11 ~~(5) Aquaculture business enterprise facilities and operations~~  
 12 ~~with the Arkansas Development Finance Authority.~~

13  
 14 SECTION 7. Arkansas Code § 25-38-206 is amended to read as follows:

15 25-38-206. Transfer of personnel, administrative functions, human  
 16 resources, and accounting offices.

17 (a) ~~The human resource and accounting operations~~ All administrative  
 18 functions, including without limitation the human resource and accounting  
 19 operations, of the following boards, ~~and~~ commissions, bureaus, committees,  
 20 programs, and offices shall be administered under the direction and  
 21 supervision of the ~~Arkansas Agriculture Department~~ Department of Agriculture:

22 (1) The State Plant Board;

23 (2) The Arkansas Livestock and Poultry Commission; ~~and~~

24 (3) The Arkansas Forestry Commission;

25 (4) The Arkansas Natural Resources Commission;

26 (5) The Arkansas State Board of Registration for Foresters;

27 (6) The Veterinary Medical Examining Board;

28 (7) The Abandoned Pesticide Advisory Board;

29 (8) The Commission on Water Well Construction;

30 (9) The Red River Compact Commission;

31 (10) The Arkansas Bureau of Standards;

32 (11) The Arkansas State Board of Registration for Professional  
 33 Soil Classifiers;

34 (12) The Arkansas Farm Mediation Office;

35 (13) The Arkansas Boll Weevil Eradication Committee;

36 (14) The Arkansas Fire Ant Advisory Board;

- 1           (15) The Arkansas Milk Stabilization Board;  
2           (16) The Arkansas Seed Arbitration Committee;  
3           (17) The Arkansas Unpaved Roads Program;  
4           (18) The Litter Utilization Committee;  
5           (19) The Ouachita River Commission;  
6           (20) The Arkansas Agriculture Board;  
7           (21) The Private Wetland and Riparian Zone Creation,  
8 Restoration, and Conservation Committee; and  
9           (22) The Wetlands Technical Advisory Committee.

10           (b) The boards, ~~and~~ commissions, committees, bureaus, programs, and  
11 offices subject to transfer of the ~~administration of human resource and~~  
12 ~~accounting operations~~ administrative functions under subsection (a) of this  
13 section shall make available to the department all records of whatever type  
14 concerning ~~their human resource and accounting operations~~ the administrative  
15 functions of the boards, commissions, committees, bureaus, programs, or  
16 offices.

17           (c)(1) All employees of the boards, commissions, committees, bureaus,  
18 programs, or offices transferred under § 25-38-211 and subsection (a) of this  
19 section shall be employees of the Department of Agriculture, unless otherwise  
20 provided by law.

21           (2) All job descriptions, duties, salaries, and benefits shall  
22 be determined by the Secretary of the Department of Agriculture as consistent  
23 with Arkansas law, unless otherwise provided by law.

24           (3) All programs and positions funded by special funds allocated  
25 by law to the boards, commissions, committees, bureaus, programs, or offices  
26 subject to the transfer under § 25-38-211 and subsection (a) of this section  
27 shall continue to be used for the designated purposes of the programs and  
28 positions.

29           (4) The department shall provide all administrative support,  
30 employment needs, and staff to carry out the rules, directives, and orders  
31 promulgated or issued by the state entities transferred under subsection (a)  
32 of this section and § 25-38-211, unless otherwise provided by law.

33           (d) "Administrative functions" does not include the promulgation of  
34 rules or issuance of orders on behalf of any of the entities transferred  
35 under subsection (a) of this section and § 25-38-211.

36

1 SECTION 8. Arkansas Code Title 25, Chapter 38, Subchapter 2, is  
2 amended to add an additional section to read as follows:

3 25-38-211. Transfers of certain agricultural boards, commissions,  
4 committees, bureaus, programs, and offices.

5 (a) As provided in this section and in § 25-38-206, the following  
6 boards, commissions, committees, bureaus, programs, or offices, or parts  
7 thereof, are transferred by a cabinet-level department transfer under § 25-  
8 43-103(3) to the Department of Agriculture:

9 (1) The Abandoned Pesticide Advisory Board, created under § 8-7-  
10 1204;

11 (2) The Arkansas Agriculture Board, created under § 25-38-207;

12 (3) The Arkansas Bureau of Standards, created under § 4-18-311;

13 (4) The Arkansas Boll Weevil Eradication Committee, created  
14 under § 2-16-612;

15 (5) The Arkansas Farm Mediation Office, created under § 2-7-201;

16 (6) The Arkansas Fire Ant Advisory Board, created under § 2-16-  
17 701;

18 (7) The Arkansas Forestry Commission, created under § 15-31-101;

19 (8) The Arkansas Livestock and Poultry Commission, created under  
20 § 2-33-101;

21 (9) The Arkansas Milk Stabilization Board, created under § 2-10-  
22 103;

23 (10) The Arkansas Natural Resources Commission, created under §  
24 15-20-201;

25 (11) The Arkansas Seed Arbitration Committee, created under § 2-  
26 23-104;

27 (12) The Arkansas State Board of Registration for Foresters,  
28 created under § 17-31-201;

29 (13) The Arkansas State Board of Registration for Professional  
30 Soil Classifiers, created under § 17-47-201;

31 (14) The Arkansas Unpaved Roads Program, created under § 14-305-  
32 104;

33 (15) The Commission on Water Well Construction, created under §  
34 17-50-201;

35 (16) The Litter Utilization Committee, created under § 15-20-  
36 1110;

1           (17) The Private Wetland and Riparian Zone Creation,  
2 Restoration, and Conservation Committee, created under § 26-51-1503;

3           (18) The Ouachita River Commission, created under § 15-23-803;

4           (19) The Red River Compact Commission, created under § 15-23-  
5 501;

6           (20) The State Plant Board, created under § 2-16-206;

7           (21) The Veterinary Medical Examining Board, created under § 17-  
8 101-201; and

9           (22) The Wetlands Technical Advisory Committee, created under §  
10 15-22-1003.

11           (b) The transfer under subdivision (a) of this section supersedes  
12 previous transfers, including without limitation the transfers under § 25-38-  
13 204.

14           (c) For purposes of this section, the Department of Agriculture shall  
15 be considered a principal department as established by Acts 1971, No. 38.

16           (d) The transferred entities shall be administered under the direction  
17 and supervision of the Department of Agriculture but shall continue to  
18 exercise their statutory authority, powers, duties, and functions as before  
19 the transfer, including without limitation the promulgation of rules, the  
20 collection of fees, and the creation of programs.

21           (e) All revenue and future revenue, including without limitation cash  
22 funds, special revenue, trust funds, trust fund income, federal grants, aid,  
23 reimbursements, nonrevenue receipts, and other moneys held in accounts by the  
24 transferred boards, commissions, bureaus, programs, committees, or offices,  
25 including without limitation unexpended balances that may be carried forward,  
26 shall continue to be held in the accounts and shall be used solely for the  
27 purposes for which the revenue was collected as provided by law.

28           (f) All records, personnel, and unexpended balances of state  
29 appropriations or allocations, including the functions of budgeting and  
30 purchasing, are transferred to the Department of Agriculture.

31           (g)(1) All real property owned in fee simple by a transferred state  
32 entity, except as set out in subdivision (g)(2) of this section, shall remain  
33 in the name of the state entity subject to a cabinet-level department  
34 transfer under § 25-38-211, to be administered by the Department of  
35 Agriculture.

36           (2) All real or personal property owned by the State Plant Board

1 shall remain in the name of the State Plant Board and shall be administered  
2 by the State Plant Board.

3  
4 SECTION 9. Arkansas Code § 2-1-102(c)(1), concerning the definition of  
5 "sustainable", is amended to read as follows:

6 (c)(1) The ~~Arkansas Agriculture Department~~ Department of Agriculture  
7 and the State Plant Board shall interpret any administrative rule promulgated  
8 by a state or federal agency that establishes standards for harvesting or  
9 producing agricultural crops in accordance with the definition and guidelines  
10 provided in this section.

11  
12 SECTION 10. Arkansas Code § 2-7-201 is amended to read as follows:  
13 2-7-201. Creation.

14 (a) There is hereby created within the ~~Arkansas Development Finance~~  
15 ~~Authority~~ Department of Agriculture the Arkansas Farm Mediation Office which  
16 shall administer the Arkansas Farm Mediation Program to provide mediation and  
17 debt management services to farmers and their creditors in the State of  
18 Arkansas.

19 (b)(1) The program shall be administered by the ~~President of the~~  
20 ~~Arkansas Development Finance Authority~~ Secretary of the Department of  
21 Agriculture who shall employ mediators and administrative staff in such  
22 numbers as are necessary and as the General Assembly may appropriate to carry  
23 out the provisions of this chapter.

24 (2) The ~~president~~ Secretary of the Department of Agriculture may  
25 apply to the United States Secretary of Agriculture or any other agency or  
26 department for any financial assistance for the administration and operation  
27 of the program.

28 (3) The ~~president~~ Secretary of the Department of Agriculture or  
29 his or her designee shall select mediators who are knowledgeable in the areas  
30 of finance, agriculture, and negotiation and shall train them in any other  
31 matters as are necessary to carry out their functions under this chapter.

32 (4) The ~~president~~ Secretary of the Department of Agriculture may  
33 promulgate rules to carry out the provisions of this chapter.

34  
35 SECTION 11. Arkansas Code § 2-10-103(i) is amended to read as follows:

36 (i) The Secretary of the ~~Arkansas Agriculture Department~~ Department of

1 ~~Agriculture and the Deputy Director of the Arkansas Livestock and Poultry~~  
2 ~~Commission~~ shall assist the board when necessary by providing resources and  
3 guidance.  
4

5 SECTION 12. Arkansas Code § 2-10-104(a)(5) is repealed.

6 ~~(5) By December 31, 2007, provide a copy of the proposed plan~~  
7 ~~determined in subdivision (a)(4) of this section to the Secretary of the~~  
8 ~~Arkansas Agriculture Department and any other person or entity requesting a~~  
9 ~~copy of the proposed plan;~~  
10

11 SECTION 13. Arkansas Code § 2-10-104(c)(1), concerning the powers and  
12 duties of the Arkansas Milk Stabilization Board, is amended to read as  
13 follows:

14 (c)(1) Once reviewed by the Legislative Council, the ~~Arkansas~~  
15 ~~Agriculture Department~~ Department of Agriculture shall implement the plan.  
16

17 SECTION 14. Arkansas Code § 2-10-203(b)(1)(A), concerning the creation  
18 of the Dairy Stabilization Grant, is amended to read as follows:

19 (b)(1)(A) If funds are available, the Secretary of the ~~Arkansas~~  
20 ~~Agriculture Department~~ Department of Agriculture shall calculate monthly the  
21 difference between the average monthly blend price of milk received by  
22 Arkansas milk producers as estimated by the secretary and seventy percent  
23 (70%) of the average monthly cost of producing milk in Missouri and Tennessee  
24 as estimated by the United States Department of Agriculture.  
25

26 SECTION 15. Arkansas Code § 2-10-204(a), concerning milk production  
27 and quality incentives, is amended to read as follows:

28 (a) If funds are available, as an incentive to continue milk  
29 production and to improve milk quality, the Secretary of the ~~Arkansas~~  
30 ~~Agriculture Department~~ Department of Agriculture may pay a milk producer the  
31 following incentive payments:

32 (1)(A) Fifty cents (50¢) per hundred weight of milk for each  
33 hundred weight of milk produced above the milk producer's average annual milk  
34 production.

35 (B) A milk producer's average annual milk production  
36 specified under subdivision (a)(1)(A) of this section shall be calculated

1 over the two (2) years preceding the year of disbursement; and  
2 (2) Fifty cents (50¢) per hundred weight of milk if the milk  
3 contains a somatic cell count of less than four hundred thousand (400,000).  
4

5 SECTION 16. Arkansas Code § 2-10-205 is amended to read as follows:  
6 2-10-205. Rules.

7 The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration  
8 and the Secretary of the ~~Arkansas Agriculture Department~~ Department of  
9 Agriculture shall adopt rules to implement this subchapter.  
10

11 SECTION 17. Arkansas Code § 2-15-406 is amended to read as follows:  
12 2-15-406. State Plant Board – Reports.

13 The State Plant Board may report to the ~~Governor and to the Arkansas~~  
14 ~~Agriculture Department~~ Department of Agriculture concerning industrial hemp  
15 policies and practices that may result in the proper legal growing,  
16 management, use, and marketing of the state's potential industrial hemp  
17 industry, including without limitation:

- 18 (1) Federal laws and regulatory constraints;
- 19 (2) The economic and financial feasibility of an industrial hemp  
20 market in Arkansas;
- 21 (3) Arkansas businesses that might use industrial hemp;
- 22 (4) Examination of research on industrial hemp production and  
23 use;
- 24 (5) The potential for globally marketing Arkansas industrial  
25 hemp;
- 26 (6) A feasibility study of private funding for the Arkansas  
27 industrial hemp research program;
- 28 (7) Enforcement concerns;
- 29 (8) Statutory and regulatory schemes for growing of industrial  
30 hemp by private producers; and
- 31 (9) Technical support and education about industrial hemp.  
32

33 SECTION 18. Arkansas Code § 2-16-207(c) and (d), concerning powers and  
34 duties of the State Plant Board, are amended to read as follows:

35 (c)(1) The board shall make rules for carrying out the provisions and  
36 requirements of this subchapter, including rules under which ~~its~~ the

1 inspectors and other employees of the Department of Agriculture shall:

2 (A) Inspect places, plants and plant products, and things  
3 and substances used or connected herewith;

4 (B) Investigate, control, eradicate, and prevent the  
5 dissemination of insect pests, diseases, and noxious weeds; and

6 (C) Supervise or cause the treatment, cutting, and  
7 destruction of infected or infested plants and plant products.

8 (2) For the purpose of preventing fraud and misrepresentation,  
9 the board shall make rules governing the transportation, distribution, or  
10 sale of sorghum seed, hybrid corn seed, and other seeds intended for  
11 planting.

12 (d) For the purpose of carrying out the provisions and requirements of  
13 this subchapter, of the rules made, and notices given pursuant thereto, the  
14 board and ~~its~~ the inspectors and employees of the Department of Agriculture  
15 shall have power to enter into or upon any place and to open any bundle,  
16 package, or other container of plants or plant products.

17  
18 *SECTION 19. Arkansas Code § 2-16-208 is amended to read as follows:*  
19 *2-16-208. Director of board.*

20 *(a)(1) For the purpose of carrying out the provisions of this*  
21 *subchapter, the State Plant Board shall employ, prescribe the duties of, and*  
22 *fix the compensation for a Director of the State Plant Board.*

23 *(2)(A) With the approval of the ~~board~~ State Plant Board, the*  
24 *director may employ such inspectors or other employees as may be required and*  
25 *may incur such expenses as may be necessary within the limits of the*  
26 *appropriation made by law.*

27 *(B) The State Plant Board shall be subject to all*  
28 *executive orders by the Governor instituting a hiring freeze or restriction*  
29 *applicable to all cabinet-level departments.*

30 *(b)(1) The director shall be appointed by the ~~board~~ State Plant Board*  
31 *with the approval of the Governor and shall serve at the pleasure of the*  
32 *Governor.*

33 *(2)(A) The director shall report to the Secretary of the*  
34 *Department of Agriculture.*

35 *(B) The secretary shall serve as the liaison between the*  
36 *State Plant Board and the Governor.*

1 (c)(1) The director shall furnish a bond of five thousand dollars  
2 (\$5,000) with sufficient sureties approved by the ~~board~~ State Plant Board for  
3 the faithful performance of his or her duties of this subchapter and the  
4 rules of the ~~board~~ State Plant Board.

5 (2) Any person suffering damage by reason of the acts or  
6 omissions of the chief inspector or his or her duly authorized deputies or  
7 employees may bring action on the bond for damages.

8 (3) The ~~board~~ State Plant Board may require to indemnify the  
9 director that similar bonds shall be furnished by deputies, inspectors, or  
10 employees.

11 (d) The ~~board~~ State Plant Board shall cooperate with other  
12 departments, boards, and officers of this state and of the United States as  
13 far as possible.

14 (e) The secretary shall not be appointed to the position of director.

15  
16 SECTION 20. Arkansas Code § 2-16-209(d), concerning the transportation  
17 of insect pests and duties of the State Plant Board, is amended to read as  
18 follows:

19 (d) Inspectors ~~of the board~~ carrying out the provisions of this  
20 subchapter on issuance of a written notice may cause to be held or to be sent  
21 out of the state or to be destroyed any plant, plant product, or other  
22 substance which has been brought into or is being transported within the  
23 state in violation of any state or federal law, rule, or regulation. They may  
24 stop and detain for inspection any person, car, or other carrier.

25  
26 SECTION 21. Arkansas Code § 2-16-306(b), concerning the enforcement  
27 authority of the State Plant Board, is amended to read as follows:

28 (b) For the purposes of carrying out the requirements of this  
29 subchapter, and the rules made and notices given pursuant thereto, the ~~board~~  
30 ~~and its~~ inspectors and employees of the Department of Agriculture shall have  
31 the right to enter into or upon any place and for purpose of inspection to  
32 open any bundle, package, or other container of plants, plant products,  
33 articles, or substances.

34  
35 SECTION 22. Arkansas Code § 2-16-306(c)(1), concerning the enforcement  
36 authority of the State Plant Board, is amended to read as follows:

1 (c)(1) In the enforcement of this subchapter and of the rules made  
2 pursuant thereto, the ~~board~~ State Plant Board may summon witnesses; require  
3 the production of any books, papers, or documents it deems material;  
4 administer oaths; and hear witnesses.

5  
6 SECTION 23. Arkansas Code § 2-16-405(b), concerning the administration  
7 of pesticide control by the State Plant Board, is amended to read as follows:

8 (b) The administrative functions vested in the board by this  
9 subchapter shall be considered to be delegated to the employees of the ~~board~~  
10 Department of Agriculture or ~~its~~ the department's authorized representatives  
11 on behalf of the State Plant Board.

12  
13 SECTION 24. Arkansas Code § 2-16-702(a), concerning members of the  
14 Arkansas Fire Ant Advisory Board, is amended to read as follows:

15 (a) The Arkansas Fire Ant Advisory Board shall be composed of the Vice  
16 President for Agriculture of the University of Arkansas System, the head of  
17 the Department of Entomology at the University of Arkansas at Fayetteville or  
18 his or her representative, the ~~Director of the State Plant Board~~ Secretary of  
19 the Department of Agriculture or his or her representative, and the following  
20 to be appointed from an ant-infested area by the ~~chair~~ Chair of the Arkansas  
21 Fire Ant Advisory Board:

22 (1) A representative of an Arkansas environmental interest  
23 group;

24 (2) A county extension agent or a member of the general public;

25 (3) A representative of the farm or ranch industry;

26 (4) A representative of the horticultural or nursery industry;

27 and

28 (5) A representative of the Arkansas Pest Control Association.

29  
30 SECTION 25. Arkansas Code § 2-32-501(c), concerning administrative  
31 penalties imposed by the Arkansas Livestock and Poultry Commission, is  
32 amended to read as follows:

33 (c) The commission ~~or the Deputy Director of the Arkansas Livestock~~  
34 ~~and Poultry Commission~~ or the commission's designee may issue subpoenas.

35  
36 SECTION 26. Arkansas Code § 2-33-104 is amended to read as follows:

1 2-33-104. ~~Deputy director~~ Director.

2 (a)(1) The Deputy Director of the Arkansas Livestock and Poultry  
3 Commission shall be appointed by the Secretary of the Arkansas Agriculture  
4 Department Governor and shall serve at the pleasure of the Governor.

5 (2) The director shall report to the Secretary of the Department  
6 of Agriculture.

7 (b)(1) The secretary may delegate to the director any of the powers or  
8 duties required to administer the:

9 (A) Statutory duties of the Arkansas Livestock and Poultry  
10 Commission; and

11 (B) Rules, orders, or directives promulgated or issued by  
12 the commission.

13 (2) The director may exercise the powers and duties delegated to  
14 him or her under subdivision (b)(1) of this section in the name of the  
15 Arkansas Livestock and Poultry Commission and of the Department of  
16 Agriculture.

17  
18 SECTION 27. Arkansas Code § 2-33-105 is amended to read as follows:

19 2-33-105. State Veterinarian.

20 ~~(a)(1) Subject to the approval of the Arkansas Livestock and Poultry~~  
21 ~~Commission, the Director of the Arkansas Livestock and Poultry Commission~~ The  
22 Secretary of the Department of Agriculture shall appoint employ a State  
23 Veterinarian.

24 ~~(2)(b)~~ (b) The State Veterinarian shall be a person who has been  
25 granted the degree of Doctor of Veterinary Medicine and holds a current  
26 license issued by the Veterinary Medical Examining Board of this state.

27 ~~(b)(1) The State Veterinarian shall perform such duties as shall from~~  
28 ~~time to time be prescribed by the commission and the Secretary of the~~  
29 ~~Arkansas Agriculture Department.~~

30 ~~(2) The commission may, by resolution duly adopted, delegate to~~  
31 ~~the State Veterinarian any of the powers or duties vested in or imposed upon~~  
32 ~~it by law, and these delegated powers or duties may be exercised by the State~~  
33 ~~Veterinarian in the name of the commission.~~

34  
35 SECTION 28. Arkansas Code § 2-33-111, concerning livestock and poultry  
36 diagnostic services, is amended to add an additional subsection to read as

1 follows:

2 (d)(1) The Arkansas Livestock and Poultry Commission Veterinary  
3 Diagnostic Laboratory shall be administered by the Department of Agriculture.

4 (2)(A) The Department of Agriculture may by rule assign  
5 additional laboratory duties and functions to the Arkansas Livestock and  
6 Poultry Commission Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory.

7 (B) Additional laboratory duties and functions assigned  
8 under subdivision (d)(2)(A) of this section shall be funded by the Department  
9 of Agriculture and not by the special revenues established in subsection (b)  
10 of this section.

11

12 SECTION 29. Arkansas Code § 2-33-115(a), concerning fees assessed by  
13 the Arkansas Livestock and Poultry Commission, is amended to read as follows:

14 (a) The following fees shall be assessed by the Arkansas Livestock and  
15 Poultry Commission:

16 (1) A fee of two dollars (\$2.00) per head collected on all  
17 horses sold in the state; and

18 (2) On each state, district, and county fair held in the State  
19 of Arkansas there shall be levied a four and five-tenths percent (4.5%)  
20 surcharge on each paid admission to the fairs, and such levy shall be  
21 remitted to the Treasurer of State, who shall deposit the revenues in the  
22 State Treasury to the credit of the Livestock and Poultry Special Revenue  
23 Fund or the Livestock and Poultry Commission Disease and Pest Control Fund as  
24 determined by the Secretary of the ~~Arkansas Agriculture Department~~ Department  
25 of Agriculture.

26

27 SECTION 30. Arkansas Code § 2-33-308 is amended to read as follows:

28 2-33-308. Overtime compensation.

29 ~~The Arkansas Livestock and Poultry Commission's Poultry and Egg Grading~~  
30 ~~Program~~ Department of Agriculture is hereby authorized to pay ordinary,  
31 customary, and necessary overtime compensation in accordance with rules  
32 promulgated by the Chief Fiscal Officer of the State to those employees,  
33 including egg and poultry grader supervisors, engaged in the inspection and  
34 grading of eggs and poultry products under the Arkansas Livestock and Poultry  
35 Commission's Poultry and Egg Grading Program.

36

1 SECTION 31. Arkansas Code § 2-34-205(b) and (c), concerning custody of  
2 county brand records, are amended to read as follows:

3 (b) The ~~commission~~ Department of Agriculture shall collect all county  
4 brand record books and place them in its office and preserve them as public  
5 records on behalf of the commission.

6 (c) The ~~commission~~ department shall furnish a record of any brand  
7 record in the county record books to any person for a reasonable fee  
8 determined by the ~~commission~~ department to offset the costs of furnishing the  
9 record.

10  
11 SECTION 32. Arkansas Code § 2-34-210(b), concerning the sale of the  
12 State Brand Book, is amended to read as follows:

13 (b) A supplement to the State Brand Book shall be sold to the public  
14 for a reasonable fee determined by the ~~Deputy Director of the Arkansas~~  
15 ~~Livestock and Poultry Commission~~ Department of Agriculture to offset the  
16 costs of producing the supplement.

17  
18 SECTION 33. The introductory language to Arkansas Code § 4-18-311,  
19 concerning the creation of the State Division of Weights and Measures, is  
20 amended to read as follows:

21 There is hereby created a State Division of Weights and Measures  
22 located for administrative purposes within the Arkansas Bureau of Standards  
23 of the State Plant Board administered by the Department of Agriculture. The  
24 division is charged with, but not limited to, performing the following  
25 functions on behalf of the citizens of the state:

26  
27 SECTION 34. Arkansas Code § 4-18-312(g), concerning the powers and  
28 duties of the State Plant Board, is amended to read as follows:

29 (g) Delegate to ~~appropriate personnel~~ the Department of  
30 Agriculture any of these responsibilities for the proper administration of  
31 the board.

32  
33 SECTION 35. Arkansas Code § 4-18-312(p), concerning the powers and  
34 duties of the State Plant Board, is amended to read as follows:

35 (p) Provide for the training of weights and measures personnel,  
36 and may also establish minimum training and performance requirements which

1 shall then be met by all weights and measures personnel, whether county,  
2 municipal, or state. The ~~Director of the~~ State Plant Board may adopt the  
3 training standards of the National Conference on Weights and Measures'  
4 National Training Program.

5  
6 SECTION 36. Arkansas Code § 4-18-313 is amended to read as follows:

7 4-18-313. Special police powers.

8 When necessary for the enforcement of this subchapter or regulations  
9 promulgated pursuant thereto, ~~the State Plant Board is~~ personnel designated  
10 by the Department of Agriculture on behalf of the Arkansas Bureau of  
11 Standards are:

12 (a) Authorized to enter any commercial premises during normal  
13 business hours, except that in the event such premises are not open to the  
14 public, he/she shall first present his/her credentials and obtain consent  
15 before making entry thereto, unless a search warrant has previously been  
16 obtained.

17 (b) Empowered to issue stop-use, hold, and removal orders with  
18 respect to any weights and measures commercially used, stop-sale, hold, and  
19 removal orders with respect to any packaged commodities or bulk commodities  
20 kept, offered, or exposed for sale.

21 (c) Empowered to seize, for use as evidence, without formal  
22 warrant, any incorrect or unapproved weight, measure, package, or commodity  
23 found to be used, retained, offered, or exposed for sale or sold in violation  
24 of the provisions of this subchapter or regulations promulgated pursuant  
25 thereto.

26 (d) Empowered to stop any commercial vehicle and, after  
27 presentation of his credentials, inspect the contents, require that the  
28 person in charge of that vehicle produce any documents in his possession  
29 concerning the contents, and require him to proceed with the vehicle to some  
30 specified place for inspection.

31 (e) With respect to the enforcement of this subchapter, the  
32 ~~board~~ department is hereby vested with special police powers, and is  
33 authorized to arrest, with warrant, any violator of this subchapter.

34  
35 SECTION 37. Arkansas Code § 4-18-325 is amended to read as follows:

36 4-18-325. Restraining order and injunction.

1           The ~~Director of the~~ State Plant Board or its designee is authorized to  
2 apply to any court of competent jurisdiction for a restraining order, or a  
3 temporary or permanent injunction, restraining any person from violating any  
4 provision of this subchapter.

5  
6           SECTION 38. Arkansas Code § 4-18-329(a), concerning the fees for tests  
7 and inspections by the Arkansas Bureau of Standards of the State Plant Board,  
8 is amended to read as follows:

9           (a) The Arkansas Bureau of Standards of the State Plant Board  
10 administered through the Department of Agriculture shall collect charges as  
11 provided in this section for the testing and certification of testing  
12 apparatus and for testing and inspection made ~~pursuant to~~ under this chapter.

13  
14           SECTION 39. Arkansas Code § 4-18-334(a), concerning the Director of  
15 the Arkansas Bureau of Standards, is amended to read as follows:

16           (a)(1) The Director of the Arkansas Bureau of Standards is appointed  
17 by the Governor and shall serve at the pleasure of the Governor.

18                       (2) The director shall report to the Secretary of the Department  
19 of Agriculture.

20  
21           SECTION 40. Arkansas Code § 4-18-334(c), concerning the Director of  
22 the Arkansas Bureau of Standards, is repealed.

23           ~~(c) The director may establish divisions or offices within the~~  
24 ~~Arkansas Bureau of Standards as he or she may deem necessary for the~~  
25 ~~administration of the duties of the bureau.~~

26  
27           SECTION 41. Arkansas Code § 4-18-334(d)(4), concerning the Director of  
28 the Arkansas Bureau of Standards, is amended to read as follows:

29           (4) Make a report to the ~~Governor~~ Secretary of the Department of  
30 Agriculture on the activities of his or her office at the end of each fiscal  
31 year.

32  
33           SECTION 42. Arkansas Code § 4-18-335 is repealed.

34           ~~4-18-335. Staff and equipment of the Arkansas Bureau of Standards.~~

35           ~~(a) The Arkansas Bureau of Standards shall be composed of a deputy~~  
36 ~~director, state investigators, and technical and clerical personnel of~~

1 ~~weights and measures sufficient to accomplish the intent of this subchapter.~~  
2 ~~(b) The powers and duties given to and imposed upon the Director of~~  
3 ~~the Arkansas Bureau of Standards by this subchapter are also given to and~~  
4 ~~imposed upon the deputy director and investigators when acting at the~~  
5 ~~direction of the director.~~

6  
7 SECTION 43. Arkansas Code § 8-7-1204(b), concerning the Abandoned  
8 Pesticide Advisory Board, is amended to read as follows:

9 (b) The Abandoned Pesticide Advisory Board shall be composed of up to  
10 six (6) members:

11 (1) One (1) member shall be a representative from the Arkansas  
12 Farm Bureau Federation;

13 (2) One (1) member shall be a representative from the Arkansas  
14 Natural Resources Commission;

15 (3) One (1) member shall be a representative from the University  
16 of Arkansas Cooperative Extension Service;

17 (4) One (1) member shall be a representative from the ~~Arkansas~~  
18 ~~Department~~ Division of Environmental Quality;

19 (5) One (1) member may be a representative from the United  
20 States Natural Resources Conservation Service; and

21 (6) One (1) member shall be a representative from the ~~State~~  
22 ~~Plant Board~~ Department of Agriculture, who shall serve as the Chair of the  
23 Abandoned Pesticide Advisory Board.

24  
25 SECTION 44. Arkansas Code § 14-305-105(a) and (b), concerning the  
26 application process and criteria for selection under the Arkansas Unpaved  
27 Roads Program Act, are amended to read as follows:

28 (a)(1) After completing training in best management practices, a  
29 county may submit an application to receive funding for an unpaved road  
30 project to the ~~Rural Services Division of the Arkansas Economic Development~~  
31 ~~Commission~~ Arkansas Natural Resources Commission.

32 (2) The ~~division~~ commission shall:

33 (A) Determine which of the proposed unpaved road projects  
34 to fund based on the criteria and requirements stated in this chapter; and

35 (B) Create an advisory committee to assist the ~~division~~  
36 commission in evaluating applications and determining which proposed unpaved

1 road projects to fund.

2 (b) A county applying for funding for an unpaved road project shall  
3 submit an application to the ~~division~~ commission that includes the following:

4 (1) A brief description of the maintenance needs to be addressed  
5 by the unpaved road project;

6 (2) A cost estimate for the unpaved road project;

7 (3) A proposed work schedule for the unpaved road project;

8 (4) The basis for successful completion of the unpaved road  
9 project with citation to the relevant feature contained in subsection (c) of  
10 this section;

11 (5) A plan for using best management practices;

12 (6) A description of the unpaved road project site, including  
13 without limitation a site map; and

14 (7) Any other information requested by the ~~division~~ commission.

15

16 SECTION 45. Arkansas Code § 14-305-105(e), concerning the application  
17 process and criteria for selection under the Arkansas Unpaved Roads Program  
18 Act, is amended to read as follows:

19 (e) The ~~division~~ commission shall evaluate and prioritize each  
20 proposed unpaved road project based on the characteristics of the road  
21 contributing to erosion.

22

23 SECTION 46. Arkansas Code § 14-305-106(b) and (c), concerning the  
24 funding of unpaved road projects under the Arkansas Unpaved Roads Program  
25 Act, are amended to read as follows:

26 (b) The ~~Rural Services Division of the Arkansas Economic Development~~  
27 ~~Commission~~ Arkansas Natural Resources Commission may award a grant to a  
28 county using funds available in the Arkansas Unpaved Roads Program Fund for  
29 up to fifty percent (50%) of the estimated total costs of a proposed unpaved  
30 road project.

31 (c) At least four percent (4%) of the funding obtained from the  
32 ~~division~~ commission under this chapter shall be used to evaluate and assess  
33 the unpaved road project.

34

35 SECTION 47. Arkansas Code § 14-305-107(b) and (c), concerning the  
36 completion of an unpaved road projects under the Arkansas Unpaved Roads

1 Program Act, are amended to read as follows:

2 (b)(1) If an unpaved road project that has been approved for a grant  
3 is not completed within one (1) year of the award of the grant, the county  
4 shall refund the full grant amount to the ~~Rural Services Division of the~~  
5 ~~Arkansas Economic Development Commission~~ Arkansas Natural Resources  
6 Commission.

7 (2) However, for good cause shown, the Director of the ~~Arkansas~~  
8 ~~Economic Development Commission~~ Arkansas Natural Resources Commission may  
9 allow one (1) extension for a county that is unable to complete its unpaved  
10 road project within the period stated in subdivision (b)(1) of this section.

11 (c) A county shall:

12 (1) Comply with the standards set by the ~~division~~ commission for  
13 the completion of an unpaved road project to ensure that the unpaved road  
14 project is conducted in a manner that is not harmful to the state or the  
15 environment; and

16 (2) Report on the progress of the unpaved road project in the  
17 manner and at the times determined by the ~~division~~ commission.

18

19 SECTION 48. Arkansas Code § 14-305-108(3), concerning the funding of  
20 unpaved road projects under the Arkansas Unpaved Roads Program Act, is  
21 amended to read as follows:

22 (3) Allow inspection by the ~~Rural Services Division of the~~  
23 ~~Arkansas Economic Development Commission~~ Arkansas Natural Resources  
24 Commission of the records described in subdivisions (1) and (2) of this  
25 section.

26

27 SECTION 49. Arkansas Code § 14-305-110 is amended to read as follows:  
28 14-305-110. Rules.

29 The ~~Rural Services Division of the Arkansas Economic Development~~  
30 ~~Commission~~ Arkansas Natural Resources Commission shall promulgate rules to  
31 implement and administer this chapter, including without limitation rules  
32 regarding:

33 (1) The application process;

34 (2) The creation and administration of an advisory committee to  
35 assist the ~~division~~ commission in evaluating applications and making funding  
36 determinations;

- 1 (3) The disbursement of grant funds;  
2 (4) The reporting required by counties that receive grant funds  
3 under this chapter;  
4 (5) The evaluation and assessment of unpaved road projects  
5 approved for grants;  
6 (6) The expenses that are eligible for grant funds; and  
7 (7) The standards a county is required to meet in completing an  
8 unpaved road project.

9

10 SECTION 50. Arkansas Code § 15-4-3806 is amended to read as follows:  
11 15-4-3806. Promotion.

12 (a) The ~~Arkansas Agriculture Department~~ Department of Agriculture may  
13 use its internet resources to:

14 (1) Promote, create, and expand local farm and food economies in  
15 this state;

16 (2) Maintain a list of local farm or food products and the  
17 providers of local farm or food products; and

18 (3) Facilitate compliance with this subchapter.

19 (b)(1) The ~~Arkansas Agriculture Department~~ Department of Agriculture  
20 shall establish a program coordinator position, which shall be responsible  
21 for developing partnerships among vendors, agencies, and providers of local  
22 farm or food products to support the goals of this subchapter.

23 (2) The program coordinator shall:

24 (A) Provide support and assistance to providers of local  
25 farm or food products that wish to compete for a contract with an agency by:

26 (i) Assisting the provider of local farm or food  
27 products in developing a business plan;

28 (ii) Working with distribution representatives; and

29 (iii) Using available resources, including without  
30 limitation agencies and other public and private entities;

31 (B) Be a resource for agencies to use to assist in  
32 tracking and reporting their progress in satisfying the procurement goals  
33 stated in this subchapter;

34 (C) Be a liaison between agencies and providers of local  
35 farm or food products to facilitate access to local farm or food products;

36 (D) Encourage and facilitate involvement and participation

1 in the Farm to School Program administered by the United States Department of  
2 Agriculture by working with providers of local farm or food products,  
3 vendors, and distributors to assess the need for and availability of local  
4 farm and food products; and

5 (E) Cooperate with the ~~Arkansas Agriculture Department~~  
6 Department of Agriculture and providers of local farm or food products to  
7 promote, encourage, and increase participation in the Arkansas Grown program  
8 administered by the ~~Arkansas Agriculture Department~~ Department of  
9 Agriculture.

10  
11 SECTION 51. Arkansas Code § 15-13-301(a), concerning the Arkansas  
12 Alternative Fuels Development Program, is amended to read as follows:

13 (a) The Arkansas Alternative Fuels Development Program is established  
14 and shall be developed and administered by the ~~Arkansas Agriculture~~  
15 ~~Department~~ Department of Agriculture.

16  
17 SECTION 52. Arkansas Code § 15-13-302(c), concerning the production  
18 incentives for alternative fuels producers under the Arkansas Alternative  
19 Fuels Development Program, is amended to read as follows:

20 (c) The ~~Arkansas Agriculture Department~~ Department of Agriculture  
21 shall create a grant application process for alternative fuels producers for  
22 capital improvements that includes:

23 (1) An application for a grant under this subsection that shall  
24 include at a minimum:

25 (A) The expected gallonage production of alternative fuels  
26 at the facility;

27 (B) A narrative description of the intended use of the  
28 grant moneys; and

29 (C) Evidence sufficient to satisfy the department that the  
30 applicant has the capacity to complete the proposed project;

31 (2) Instructions about the grant process;

32 (3) Scoring procedures to determine the award of the grants; and

33 (4) Other factors that the Secretary of the ~~Arkansas Agriculture~~  
34 ~~Department~~ Department of Agriculture deems necessary.

35  
36 SECTION 53. Arkansas Code § 15-13-303(b), concerning the production

1 incentives for feedstock processors under the Arkansas Alternative Fuels  
2 Development Program, is amended to read as follows:

3 (b) The ~~Arkansas Agriculture Department~~ Department of Agriculture  
4 shall create a grant application process for feedstock processors that shall  
5 include:

6 (1) An application for a grant under this subchapter that shall  
7 include at a minimum:

8 (A) A narrative description of the intended use of the  
9 grant moneys; and

10 (B) Evidence sufficient to satisfy the department that the  
11 applicant has the capacity to complete the proposed project;

12 (2) Instructions about the grant process;

13 (3) Scoring procedures to determine the award of the grants; and

14 (4) Other factors that the Secretary of the ~~Arkansas Agriculture~~  
15 ~~Department~~ Department of Agriculture deems necessary.

16

17 SECTION 54. Arkansas Code § 15-13-304(b), concerning the distribution  
18 incentives for alternative fuels distributors under the Arkansas Alternative  
19 Fuels Development Program, is amended to read as follows:

20 (b) The ~~Arkansas Agriculture Department~~ Department of Agriculture  
21 shall create a grant application process for alternative fuels distributors  
22 that shall include:

23 (1) An application for a grant under this subchapter that shall  
24 include at a minimum:

25 (A) A narrative description of the intended use of the  
26 grant moneys; and

27 (B) Evidence sufficient to satisfy the department that the  
28 provision of a grant to the alternative fuels distributor will improve the  
29 statewide supply and distribution of alternative fuels and alternative fuels  
30 mixtures that are produced in Arkansas;

31 (2) Instructions about the grant process;

32 (3) Scoring procedures to determine the award of the grants; and

33 (4) Other factors that the Secretary of the ~~Arkansas Agriculture~~  
34 ~~Department~~ Department of Agriculture deems necessary.

35

36 SECTION 55. Arkansas Code § 15-13-305 is amended to read as follows:

1 15-13-305. Rules.

2 After consulting the Arkansas Energy Office of the Division of  
3 Environmental Quality, the ~~Arkansas Agriculture Department~~ Department of  
4 Agriculture shall promulgate rules to implement and administer this  
5 subchapter.

6  
7 SECTION 56. Arkansas Code § 15-13-306(c), concerning rebate incentives  
8 for modification of motor vehicles under the Arkansas Alternative Fuels  
9 Development Program, is amended to read as follows:

10 (c) The ~~Arkansas Agriculture Department~~ Department of Agriculture  
11 shall create a rebate application process for a public entity, a company, an  
12 organization, or an affiliate of a public entity, a company, or an  
13 organization to obtain a rebate that shall include:

14 (1) An application for a rebate under this subchapter that shall  
15 include:

16 (A) An affidavit or proof that the motor vehicle is  
17 registered in Arkansas or will be registered in Arkansas upon acquisition of  
18 the motor vehicle; and

19 (B) Evidence of the following:

20 (i) The purchase of a dedicated compressed natural  
21 gas motor vehicle or a dedicated propane gas motor vehicle and the  
22 differential costs; or

23 (ii) The differential costs, incremental costs, or  
24 the costs associated with the conversion of a diesel-powered motor vehicle or  
25 gasoline-powered motor vehicle into a dedicated compressed natural gas motor  
26 vehicle, bi-fuel compressed natural gas motor vehicle, dedicated propane gas  
27 motor vehicle, or bi-fuel propane gas motor vehicle;

28 (2) Instructions about the rebate process;

29 (3) Scoring procedures to determine the award of the rebates;

30 and

31 (4) Other factors that the Secretary of the ~~Arkansas Agriculture~~  
32 ~~Department~~ Department of Agriculture deems necessary.

33

34 SECTION 57. Arkansas Code § 15-20-204 is amended to read as follows:  
35 15-20-204. Organization.

36 The Arkansas Natural Resources Commission shall from time to time

1 select from its membership a chair and a vice chair. ~~The Executive Director~~  
2 ~~of the Arkansas Natural Resources Commission, hereinafter provided for, shall~~  
3 ~~be ex officio secretary of the commission but shall have no vote on matters~~  
4 ~~coming before it.~~

5  
6 SECTION 58. Arkansas Code § 15-20-205 is amended to read as follows:

7 15-20-205. ~~Executive director~~ Director.

8 (a)(1) The ~~Executive~~ Director of the Arkansas Natural Resources  
9 Commission shall be appointed by and serve at the pleasure of the Governor.

10 (2) The director shall report to the Secretary of the Department  
11 of Agriculture.

12 (b) The ~~executive director~~ Department of Agriculture shall be charged  
13 with the duty of administering the provisions of this subchapter and the  
14 rules, ~~regulations,~~ and orders established thereunder by the Arkansas Natural  
15 Resources Commission.

16 (c) The Arkansas Natural Resources Commission, by resolution duly  
17 adopted, may delegate to the ~~executive director~~ Department of Agriculture any  
18 of the powers or duties vested in or imposed upon ~~it~~ the commission by this  
19 subchapter. These delegated powers and duties may be exercised by the  
20 ~~executive director~~ Department of Agriculture or the department's designee in  
21 the name of the commission.

22 (d) The ~~executive director~~ Secretary of the Department of Agriculture  
23 shall be custodian of all property held in the name of the commission and  
24 shall be ex officio the disbursing agent of all funds available for ~~its~~ use  
25 by the commission.

26 (e)(1) ~~The executive director shall furnish bond to the state, with~~  
27 ~~corporate surety thereon, in the penal sum of ten thousand dollars (\$10,000),~~  
28 ~~conditioned that he or she will faithfully perform his or her duties of~~  
29 ~~employment and properly account for all funds received and disbursed by him~~  
30 ~~or her.~~

31 (2) ~~An additional disbursing agent's bond shall not be required~~  
32 ~~of the executive director.~~

33 (3) ~~The bond so furnished shall be filed with the Secretary of~~  
34 ~~State and an executed counterpart thereof shall be filed with the Auditor of~~  
35 ~~State.~~

36

1 SECTION 59. Arkansas Code § 15-20-207(1)(B), concerning the powers and  
2 duties of the Arkansas Natural Resources Commission, is amended to read as  
3 follows:

4 (B) In order that ~~it~~ the commission may perform its  
5 functions more effectively, the ~~commission~~ Department of Agriculture shall  
6 employ a Water Resources Engineer, and the person so employed, at the time of  
7 his or her employment and during the continuance thereof, shall hold a  
8 certificate of registration granted by the State Board of Licensure for  
9 Professional Engineers and Professional Surveyors;

10  
11 SECTION 60. Arkansas Code § 15-20-207(6), concerning the powers and  
12 duties of the Arkansas Natural Resources Commission, is amended to read as  
13 follows:

14 (6)(A) Receive and expend any moneys arising from federal means,  
15 grants, contributions, gratuities, reimbursements, or loans payable or  
16 distributable to the State of Arkansas by the United States or any of its  
17 agencies or instrumentalities ~~pursuant to~~ under any congressional act or rule  
18 or regulation of such an agency or instrumentality now or hereafter enacted  
19 or promulgated for or on account of any functions performable by the  
20 commission.

21 (B)(i)(a) ~~It~~ The commission shall likewise receive any  
22 contributions, grants, or gratuities donated by private persons,  
23 associations, or corporations for or on account of any of the functions  
24 aforesaid.

25 (b) All moneys so received shall be deposited  
26 into the State Treasury unless provisions shall have otherwise been made by  
27 the respective federal agencies, private persons, associations, or  
28 corporations furnishing the funds.

29 (ii) However, ~~in the event the General Assembly~~  
30 ~~shall fail~~ if the General Assembly fails to appropriate any such moneys for  
31 the use of the Department of Agriculture to support the commission or in the  
32 event the specified use of any such moneys ~~preclude its~~ precludes their  
33 deposit into the State Treasury, the commission ~~is authorized and empowered~~  
34 ~~to~~ may convert any such moneys to the Arkansas Water Development Fund, to be  
35 used for the purposes for which granted, donated, or received or as otherwise  
36 provided by this subchapter;

1  
2 SECTION 61. Arkansas Code § 15-20-903(3), concerning the definition of  
3 "executive director" under the Arkansas Poultry Feeding Operations  
4 Registration Act, is repealed.

5 ~~(3) "Executive director" means the Executive Director of the~~  
6 ~~Arkansas Natural Resources Commission;~~

7  
8 SECTION 62. Arkansas Code § 15-20-904(a), concerning registration  
9 under the Arkansas Poultry Feeding Operations Registration Act, is amended to  
10 read as follows:

11 (a) The Arkansas Natural Resources Commission shall operate an annual  
12 registration program, to be administered by the Department of Agriculture,  
13 for the purpose of assembling and maintaining information on the number,  
14 composition, and practices of poultry feeding operations in the state.

15  
16 SECTION 63. Arkansas Code § 15-20-904(g), concerning registration  
17 under the Arkansas Poultry Feeding Operations Registration Act, is amended to  
18 read as follows:

19 (g) The commission may delegate portions of the annual registration  
20 program for implementation to the ~~Executive Director of the Arkansas Natural~~  
21 ~~Resources Commission~~ Department of Agriculture or conservation districts, or  
22 both.

23  
24 SECTION 64. Arkansas Code § 15-20-905(a), concerning the authority of  
25 the Arkansas Natural Resources Commission for enforcement, is amended to read  
26 as follows:

27 (a)(1) Agents of the ~~Arkansas Natural Resources Commission~~ Department  
28 of Agriculture ~~shall have the power to~~ may enter on private property to  
29 determine compliance with this subchapter.

30 (2)(A) Entry shall not occur without prior notification of the  
31 owner, operator, or agent in charge of the property.

32 (B) Notice shall be given to the owner, operator, or agent  
33 in charge of the property at least seventy-two (72) hours before entry.

34 (3) Documentation of biosecurity measures taken and biosecurity  
35 certification received by an inspection agent of the ~~Arkansas Natural~~  
36 ~~Resources Commission~~ Department of Agriculture or by a conservation district

1 officer, including a biosecurity log book, shall be available to the owner  
2 upon request.

3 (4) Upon notice of disease outbreak by the ~~Arkansas Livestock~~  
4 ~~and Poultry Commission~~ Department of Agriculture, inspection under this  
5 subchapter shall be automatically suspended until notification by the  
6 ~~Arkansas Livestock and Poultry Commission~~ Department of Agriculture that it  
7 is safe to resume inspections.

8

9 SECTION 65. Arkansas Code § 15-20-1003(3), concerning the definition  
10 of "executive director" under the Arkansas Soil Nutrient Management Planner  
11 and Applicator Certification Act, is repealed.

12 ~~(3) "Executive director" means the Executive Director of the~~  
13 ~~Arkansas Natural Resources Commission;~~

14

15 SECTION 66. Arkansas Code § 15-20-1004(c)(4), concerning the nutrient  
16 planner program, is amended to read as follows:

17 (4) Provide for the performance of other duties and the exercise  
18 of other powers by the ~~Executive Director of the Arkansas Natural Resources~~  
19 ~~Commission~~ Department of Agriculture as may be necessary to provide for the  
20 training and certification of a person preparing nutrient management plans;  
21 and

22

23 SECTION 67. Arkansas Code § 15-20-1005(c)(4), concerning the nutrient  
24 applicator program, is amended to read as follows:

25 (4) Provide for the performance of other duties and the exercise  
26 of other powers by the ~~Executive Director of the Arkansas Natural Resources~~  
27 ~~Commission~~ Department of Agriculture as may be necessary to provide for the  
28 training and certification of a person making nutrient application.

29

30 SECTION 68. Arkansas Code § 15-20-1008(b), concerning administrative  
31 penalties under the Arkansas Soil Nutrient Management Planner and Applicator  
32 Certification Act, is amended to read as follows:

33 (b) The commission or ~~the Executive Director of the Arkansas Natural~~  
34 ~~Resources Commission~~ the commission's designee may issue subpoenas under §  
35 15-22-208.

36

1 SECTION 69. Arkansas Code § 15-20-1103(5), concerning the definition  
2 of "executive director" under the Arkansas Soil Nutrient Application and  
3 Poultry Litter Utilization Act, is repealed.

4 ~~(5) "Executive director" means the Executive Director of the~~  
5 ~~Arkansas Natural Resources Commission;~~

6  
7 SECTION 70. Arkansas Code § 15-20-1107(a)(2), concerning the nutrient  
8 management plan, is amended to read as follows:

9 (2) The person requesting a nutrient management plan may appeal  
10 the nutrient management plan's disapproval or any of the nutrient management  
11 plan's provisions to the ~~Executive Director of the~~ Arkansas Natural Resources  
12 Commission.

13  
14 SECTION 71. Arkansas Code § 15-20-1108(a)(2), concerning the poultry  
15 litter management plan, is amended to read as follows:

16 (2) The person requesting a poultry litter management plan may  
17 appeal the poultry litter management plan's disapproval or any of the poultry  
18 litter management plan's provisions to the ~~Executive Director of the~~ Arkansas  
19 Natural Resources Commission.

20  
21 SECTION 72. Arkansas Code § 15-20-1110(b), concerning the litter  
22 utilization committee, is amended to read as follows:

23 (b) The ~~Executive Director of the~~ Arkansas Natural Resources  
24 Commission shall appoint a committee composed of poultry feeding operators,  
25 ~~commission~~ Department of Agriculture staff, and other persons knowledgeable  
26 in litter management.

27  
28 SECTION 73. Arkansas Code § 15-20-1111(b), concerning implementation  
29 of the Arkansas Soil Nutrient Application and Poultry Litter Utilization Act,  
30 is amended to read as follows:

31 (b) The commission may delegate portions of the program for  
32 implementation to the ~~Executive Director of the Arkansas Natural Resources~~  
33 ~~Commission~~ Department of Agriculture or conservation districts, or both.

34  
35 SECTION 74. Arkansas Code § 15-20-1112(a), concerning enforcement of  
36 the Arkansas Soil Nutrient Application and Poultry Litter Utilization Act, is

1 amended to read as follows:

2 (a)(1) Agents of the ~~Arkansas Natural Resources Commission~~ Department  
3 of Agriculture or a conservation district may enter on private property to  
4 determine compliance with this subchapter.

5 (2)(A) Entry shall not occur without prior notification of the  
6 owner.

7 (B) Notice shall be given to the owner, operator, or agent  
8 in charge of the property at least seventy-two (72) hours before entry.

9 (3) Documentation of biosecurity measures taken and biosecurity  
10 certification received by an inspection agent of the ~~Arkansas Natural~~  
11 ~~Resources Commission~~ Department of Agriculture or by a conservation district  
12 officer, including a biosecurity log book, shall be available to the owner  
13 upon request.

14 (4) Upon notice of disease outbreak by the ~~Arkansas Livestock~~  
15 ~~and Poultry Commission~~ Department of Agriculture, inspection under this  
16 subchapter shall be automatically suspended until notification by the  
17 ~~Arkansas Livestock and Poultry Commission~~ Department of Agriculture that it  
18 is safe to resume inspections.

19

20 SECTION 75. Arkansas Code § 15-20-1314, concerning the powers and  
21 duties of the Arkansas Natural Resources Commission, is amended to add an  
22 additional subsection to read as follows:

23 (b) The Arkansas Natural Resources Commission may accomplish the  
24 purposes of this subchapter through the delegation of any administrative  
25 functions to the Department of Agriculture.

26

27 SECTION 76. Arkansas Code § 15-22-207 is amended to read as follows:  
28 15-22-207. Administration of oath to witnesses.

29 Any member of the Arkansas Natural Resources Commission, ~~or the~~  
30 ~~Executive Director of the Arkansas Natural Resources Commission or attorney~~  
31 the commission's designee, shall have power to ~~may~~ administer an oath to any  
32 witness in any hearing, investigation, or proceeding under the provisions of  
33 this subchapter.

34

35 SECTION 77. Arkansas Code § 15-22-1003(4), concerning the definition  
36 of "executive director" under the Arkansas Wetlands Mitigation Bank Act, is

1 repealed.

2 ~~(4) “Executive director” means the Executive Director of the~~  
3 ~~Arkansas Natural Resources Commission;~~

4

5 SECTION 78. Arkansas Code § 15-22-1003(7), concerning the definition  
6 of "Wetlands Technical Advisory Committee" under the Arkansas Wetlands  
7 Mitigation Bank Act, is amended to read as follows:

8 (7) “Wetlands Technical Advisory Committee” ~~is~~ means a committee  
9 made up of the directors or their designees of:

10 (A) ~~The Arkansas Forestry Commission;~~

11 ~~(B)~~ The Arkansas State Game and Fish Commission;

12 ~~(C)~~(B) The Arkansas Department of Transportation;

13 ~~(D)~~(C) The ~~Department~~ Division of Arkansas Heritage;

14 ~~(E)~~(D) The ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of Environmental  
15 Quality; and

16 ~~(F)~~(E) Two (2) public members with expertise in aquatic  
17 resources ecology appointed by the Arkansas Natural Resources Commission.

18

19 SECTION 79. Arkansas Code § 15-22-1004 is amended to read as follows:

20 15-22-1004. Mitigation banks – Acquisition and protection —~~Powers of~~  
21 ~~the executive director.~~

22 ~~In consultation with the Arkansas Natural Resources Commission and the~~  
23 ~~Wetlands Technical Advisory Committee, the Executive Director of the Arkansas~~  
24 ~~Natural Resources Commission~~ The Arkansas Natural Resources Commission or  
25 the commission’s designee, in consultation with the Wetlands Technical  
26 Advisory Committee, may:

27 (1) Set a sales price for credits in the mitigation bank on  
28 behalf of the commission;

29 (2) Acquire or accept title, including easements, from willing  
30 sellers or donors to approved lands, in the name of the commission, suitable  
31 for use in mitigation banks;

32 (3) Pay costs incurred for alterations needed to create or  
33 restore aquatic resources areas for purposes of carrying out the provisions  
34 of this subchapter;

35 (4) Authorize payment of administrative, research, or scientific  
36 monitoring expenses of the commission in carrying out the provisions of this

1 subchapter;

2 (5) Receive funds from whatever source for the voluntary  
3 acquisition of a mitigation bank and interests therein;

4 (6) Enter into contracts with state and federal agencies,  
5 nonprofit corporations, or other persons for the management of mitigation  
6 bank properties; and

7 (7)(A) Upon satisfactory establishment of a functioning aquatic  
8 resources site, convey mitigation bank properties to other appropriate state  
9 agencies for management.

10 (B) The commission shall reserve such interest in the  
11 mitigation bank property as necessary to protect the aquatic resources  
12 function and values.

13

14 SECTION 80. Arkansas Code § 15-22-1005(a), concerning program criteria  
15 for mitigation banks, is amended to read as follows:

16 (a) In accordance with the provisions of this subchapter, upon the  
17 approval of the Arkansas Natural Resources Commission, the ~~Executive Director~~  
18 ~~of the Arkansas Natural Resources Commission~~ Department of Agriculture shall  
19 initiate and implement a program for mitigation banks.

20

21 SECTION 81. Arkansas Code § 15-22-1007 is amended to read as follows:  
22 15-22-1007. Monitoring activities in mitigation banks – Reports.

23 (a) The ~~Executive Director of the~~ Arkansas Natural Resources  
24 Commission shall maintain a record of actions for each mitigation bank and  
25 conduct monitoring of mitigation banks with moneys set aside for that purpose  
26 in the Arkansas Water Development Fund.

27 (b) The ~~executive director~~ commission shall provide annual reports to  
28 the ~~Arkansas Natural Resources Commission and the~~ Wetlands Technical Advisory  
29 Committee of moneys spent and received for each mitigation bank.

30

31 SECTION 82. Arkansas Code § 15-22-1009 is amended to read as follows:  
32 15-22-1009. ~~Executive director to consult and cooperate~~ Consultation

33 and cooperation with other agencies and interested parties – State agencies  
34 to use mitigation bank.

35 (a) The provisions of this subchapter shall be carried out by the  
36 ~~Executive Director of the~~ Arkansas Natural Resources Commission in

1 consultation with the Wetlands Technical Advisory Committee.

2 (b) All public agencies requiring permit action mitigation, when  
3 practicable, shall use mitigation banks created under this subchapter.

4  
5 SECTION 83. Arkansas Code § 15-22-1012 is amended to read as follows:  
6 15-22-1012. Use of funds.

7 The ~~Executive Director of the~~ Arkansas Natural Resources Commission may  
8 use the moneys in the Arkansas Water Development Fund for the following  
9 purposes:

10 (1) For the voluntary acquisition of land suitable for use in  
11 mitigation banks;

12 (2) To pay for costs incurred for alterations needed to create,  
13 restore, or enhance aquatic resources areas for purposes of carrying out the  
14 provisions of this subchapter;

15 (3) For payment of administrative, research, or scientific  
16 monitoring expenses of the Arkansas Natural Resources Commission in carrying  
17 out the provisions of this subchapter;

18 (4) To repay financial assistance received from state financial  
19 assistance programs, including interest and applicable fees, used for the  
20 purposes of carrying out the intent of this subchapter; and

21 (5) Any other purpose related to wetland, stream, deep water  
22 aquatic habitat, or aquatic resources creation or restoration.

23  
24 SECTION 84. Arkansas Code § 15-22-1304(a), concerning gubernatorial  
25 approval required by the Internal Revenue Code, is amended to read as  
26 follows:

27 (a) When gubernatorial approval is required by the provisions of the  
28 Internal Revenue Code, 26 U.S.C. § 1 et seq., as amended, or any other  
29 federal or state law, the Governor may approve the issuance of bonds by the  
30 Arkansas Natural Resources Commission upon receipt of written request for  
31 approval from the ~~Executive Director of the~~ Arkansas Natural Resources  
32 Commission.

33  
34 SECTION 85. Arkansas Code § 15-22-1307(a), concerning the execution of  
35 bonds by the Arkansas Natural Resources Commission, is amended to read as  
36 follows:

1 (a) The bonds shall be executed by manual or facsimile signature of  
 2 the Chair of the Arkansas Natural Resources Commission and the manual or  
 3 facsimile signature of ~~the Executive Director of the Arkansas Natural~~  
 4 ~~Resources Commission~~ or any other director or officer authorized to do so by  
 5 resolution of the ~~commission~~ Arkansas Natural Resources Commission.

6  
 7 SECTION 86. Arkansas Code § 15-23-503(1), concerning the commissioners  
 8 of the Red River Compact Commission, is amended to read as follows:

9 (1) ~~The Director of the Arkansas Natural Resources Commission~~  
 10 Secretary of the Department of Agriculture or such other state agency as may  
 11 hereafter succeed to the powers and responsibilities of the Arkansas Natural  
 12 Resources Commission; and

13  
 14 SECTION 87. Arkansas Code § 15-23-804(f), concerning the members of  
 15 the Ouachita River Commission, is amended to read as follows:

16 (f) Members of the Ouachita River Commission shall receive no pay for  
 17 their services, but whenever the General Assembly shall have appropriated  
 18 funds to the Ouachita River Waterways Project Trust Fund administered by the  
 19 Arkansas Natural Resources Commission through the Department of Agriculture,  
 20 they may, upon proper application to the Arkansas Natural Resources  
 21 Commission, be reimbursed for expenses in accordance with § 25-16-902.

22  
 23 SECTION 88. Arkansas Code § 15-31-104 is amended to read as follows:  
 24 15-31-104. State Forester.

25 ~~The State Forester shall:~~

26 ~~(1)(a)~~ The State Forester shall be ~~Be employed~~ appointed by the  
 27 Arkansas Forestry Commission, with the approval of the Governor, and shall  
 28 serve at the pleasure of the Governor~~;~~.

29 (b) The State Forester shall report to the Secretary of the Department  
 30 of Agriculture.

31 (c)(1) The secretary may delegate to the State Forester any of the  
 32 powers or duties required to administer the:

33 (A) Statutory duties of the Arkansas Forestry Commission;  
 34 and

35 (B) Rules, orders, or directives promulgated or issued by  
 36 the commission.

1           (2) The State Forester may exercise the powers and duties  
2 delegated to him or her under subdivision (c)(1) of this section in the name  
3 of the Arkansas Forestry Commission and the Department of Agriculture.

4           ~~(2)(A) Administer the provisions of this chapter and the rules,~~  
5 ~~regulations, and orders established under this chapter.~~

6           ~~(B)(i) The commission, by adopted resolution, may delegate~~  
7 ~~to the State Forester any of the powers or duties vested in or imposed upon~~  
8 ~~it by this chapter.~~

9           ~~(ii) Such delegated powers and duties may be~~  
10 ~~exercised by the State Forester in the name of the commission;~~

11           (3) The commission may delegate to the Department of Agriculture  
12 any of the powers or duties vested in or imposed upon the commission by law,  
13 and these delegated powers or duties may be exercised by the secretary or his  
14 or her designee.

15           ~~(d) Be a person who~~ The State Forester shall:

16           ~~(A)(1)~~ Have earned at a minimum a bachelor's degree in forestry  
17 from an accredited, four-year program at an institution of higher education;  
18 and

19           ~~(B)(2)~~ Have not less than three (3) years' practical  
20 administrative and field experience in forestry.

21           ~~(4) Be custodian of all property held in the name of the~~  
22 ~~commission and shall be, ex officio, the disbursing agent of all funds~~  
23 ~~available for its use; and~~

24           ~~(5)(A) Furnish bond to the state, with a corporate surety~~  
25 ~~thereon, in the penal sum of twenty five thousand dollars (\$25,000),~~  
26 ~~conditioned that he or she will faithfully perform his or her duties of~~  
27 ~~employment and properly account for all funds received and disbursed by him~~  
28 ~~or her.~~

29           ~~(B) An additional disbursing agent's bond shall not be~~  
30 ~~required of the State Forester.~~

31           ~~(C) The bond shall be filed with the Secretary of State~~  
32 ~~and an executed counterpart thereof shall be filed with the Auditor of State.~~

33  
34           SECTION 89. Arkansas Code § 15-31-105 is repealed.

35           ~~15-31-105. Personnel.~~

36           ~~(a) Subject to the approval of the Arkansas Forestry Commission, the~~

1 ~~State Forester shall employ such assistants and other personnel as are, in~~  
2 ~~his or her opinion, necessary to properly administer the provisions of this~~  
3 ~~chapter.~~

4 ~~(b)(1) Notwithstanding his or her primary responsibility, the State~~  
5 ~~Forester may designate one (1) of his or her assistants to receive and~~  
6 ~~disburse funds of the commission.~~

7 ~~(2)(A) The assistant so designated shall be required to furnish~~  
8 ~~bond with a corporate surety thereon in an amount as determined by the State~~  
9 ~~Forester.~~

10 ~~(B) This bond, together with bonds the State Forester~~  
11 ~~requires of other employees, shall be filed in the offices of the commission.~~

12 ~~(C) The premiums on all bonds shall be paid by the~~  
13 ~~commission.~~

14  
15 SECTION 90. Arkansas Code § 15-31-106(a)(1), concerning the functions,  
16 powers, and duties of the Arkansas Forestry Commission, is repealed.

17 ~~(1) Cooperate with the Secretary of Agriculture or the~~  
18 ~~secretary's authorized agent, with the Dale Bumpers College of Agricultural,~~  
19 ~~Food and Life Sciences and School of Forest Resources of the University of~~  
20 ~~Arkansas, with the Arkansas Economic Development Council, with other state~~  
21 ~~agencies, and with farmers, forest owners, and other residents and~~  
22 ~~organizations of the state to achieve the mission of the Arkansas Forestry~~  
23 ~~Commission;~~

24  
25 SECTION 91. Arkansas Code § 15-31-106(a)(2), concerning the functions,  
26 powers, and duties of the Arkansas Forestry Commission, is amended to read as  
27 follows:

28 (2) Formulate and put into effect policies, plans, and  
29 reasonable rules ~~and regulations~~ as may be necessary to ~~the accomplishment of~~  
30 ~~the purpose stated in subdivision (a)(1) of this section~~ achieve the mission  
31 of the Arkansas Forestry Commission;

32  
33 SECTION 92. Arkansas Code § 15-31-106(a)(3), concerning the functions,  
34 powers, and duties of the Arkansas Forestry Commission, is repealed.

35 ~~(3) Submit annually to the Governor a report of its~~  
36 ~~expenditures, accomplishments, and plans for further work;~~

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SECTION 93. Arkansas Code § 15-31-107 is repealed.

~~15-31-107. Employment of relatives.~~

~~(a) No employee of the Arkansas Forestry Commission shall be prohibited from supervising, working under the supervision of, or working with any person to whom he or she is related by affinity or consanguinity.~~

~~(b) No employee of the commission who begins employment on or after July 1, 1989, shall supervise or work under the supervision of any person to whom he or she is related within the third degree of affinity or consanguinity.~~

SECTION 94. Arkansas Code § 15-31-110 is repealed.

~~15-31-110. Uniform allowance.~~

~~(a) The Arkansas Forestry Commission is authorized to establish a Uniform Allowance Program for certain staff and field employees.~~

~~(b)(1) An initial maximum allowance of four hundred dollars (\$400) may be paid to those designated new employees during their first year of employment and after satisfactory completion of an initial probationary period of six (6) months.~~

~~(2)(A) A maximum allowance of three hundred dollars (\$300) may be paid to those other designated employees for replacement or maintenance of uniforms.~~

~~(B) Uniform allowance will be dependent upon available funds, not to exceed established maximums.~~

~~(c)(1) The commission shall determine what is to constitute the commission uniform.~~

~~(2) However, the uniform shall include a badge and identification card bearing the words "Arkansas Forestry Commission", a full-face picture of the person to whom the badge and identification card is issued, and such other information as the commission shall require.~~

~~(3) All persons issued such a badge and identification card shall wear, carry, or display it at such times and places as shall be designated, as required by the commission.~~

SECTION 95. Arkansas Code § 15-31-112 is repealed.

~~15-31-112. Enforcement of Poison Spring State Forest Regulations.~~

1           ~~(a)(1) It shall be the duty of the Arkansas Forestry Commission's law~~  
2 ~~enforcement personnel to enforce the Poison Springs State Forest regulations~~  
3 ~~promulgated by the commission pursuant to the Arkansas Administrative~~  
4 ~~Procedure Act, § 25-15-201 et seq.~~

5           ~~(2) The commission's law enforcement personnel shall have the~~  
6 ~~right to take the offenders before any court having jurisdiction in the~~  
7 ~~county where the offense is committed.~~

8           ~~(b) Violations of Poison Springs State Forest regulations shall be~~  
9 ~~considered unclassified misdemeanors, the penalty for which shall be in~~  
10 ~~accordance with the regulation defining the conduct, but in no case shall the~~  
11 ~~penalty for violating any Poison Springs State Forest regulation exceed the~~  
12 ~~penalty established by law for a Class A misdemeanor.~~

13  
14           SECTION 96. Arkansas Code § 15-31-116(b)(2), concerning donation of  
15 fire control or fire rescue equipment, is amended to read as follows:

16           (2) The commission, the State Forester, the Department of  
17 Agriculture, the Secretary of the Department of Agriculture, and other  
18 officers and employees of the department are not liable in civil damages for  
19 personal injury, property damage, or death resulting from a defect in  
20 equipment sold, loaned, or otherwise made available in good faith by the  
21 State Forester under this section unless the act or omission of the  
22 commission, ~~or~~ the State Forester, the department, the secretary, or the  
23 officer or employee of the department ~~officer, or employee~~ proximately  
24 causing the claim, damage, or loss constitutes malice, gross negligence,  
25 recklessness, or intentional misconduct.

26  
27           SECTION 97. Arkansas Code § 17-31-201(b)(2)(B)(ii), concerning the  
28 creation and selection of members of the Arkansas State Board of Registration  
29 for Foresters, is amended to read as follows:

30           (ii) One (1) member shall be nominated by the ~~State~~  
31 ~~Forester~~ Arkansas Forestry Commission to represent the Arkansas Forestry  
32 Commission.

33  
34           SECTION 98. Arkansas Code § 17-31-204(c), concerning the powers of the  
35 Arkansas State Board of Registration for Foresters, is amended to read as  
36 follows:

1 (c) Each member of the board shall have power to administer oaths. The  
2 board shall have power to subpoena witnesses and compel the production of  
3 books and papers pertinent to any investigation or hearing authorized by this  
4 chapter. Any employee of ~~the board~~ the Department of Agriculture engaged in  
5 making any investigation on behalf of the board shall have the power to  
6 administer oaths to and take depositions of persons pertaining to any  
7 investigation. The board may require any law enforcement officer of any state  
8 agency, the sheriffs of the various counties, or other law enforcement  
9 officers of any county or municipality to serve subpoenas and other process  
10 of the board. When county, municipal, or other local officers are required to  
11 serve subpoenas or other process of the board, they shall be paid the same  
12 fees by the board as are provided by laws for similar services under process  
13 issued by circuit courts.

14  
15 SECTION 99. Arkansas Code § 17-31-205 is repealed.

16 ~~17-31-205. Staff and employees.~~

17 ~~The Arkansas State Board of Registration for Foresters may appoint or~~  
18 ~~employ an assistant secretary, executive secretary, treasurer, or other~~  
19 ~~officers or employees who are not members of the board or of their immediate~~  
20 ~~families, to whom clerical and administrative duties may be assigned and~~  
21 ~~whose compensation shall be fixed by the board.~~

22  
23 SECTION 100. Arkansas Code § 17-31-207(e), concerning the records and  
24 reports of the Arkansas State Board of Registration for Foresters, is  
25 repealed.

26 ~~(e) The board shall submit to the Governor an annual report of its~~  
27 ~~transactions of the preceding year by April 1 and shall also transmit to the~~  
28 ~~Governor a duly certified audit and financial statement prepared by a~~  
29 ~~certified public accountant showing receipts and expenditures of the board.~~

30  
31 SECTION 101. Arkansas Code § 17-47-202(4), concerning the powers of  
32 the Arkansas State Board of Registration for Professional Soil Classifiers,  
33 is repealed.

34 ~~(4) Employ clerks, technical experts, and attorneys as it may~~  
35 ~~deem necessary or desirable to carry out the provisions of this chapter;~~

36

1 SECTION 102. Arkansas Code § 17-47-202(6), concerning the powers of  
2 the Arkansas State Board of Registration for Professional Soil Classifiers,  
3 is amended to read as follows:

4 (6) Enter into agreements with the ~~Arkansas Soil and Water~~  
5 ~~Conservation Commission~~ Department of Agriculture to share office, clerical,  
6 and secretarial services and to reimburse the ~~commission~~ department for the  
7 cost of the services.

8  
9 SECTION 103. Arkansas Code § 17-47-203(2), concerning the records,  
10 reports, and disposition of funds of the Arkansas State Board of Registration  
11 for Professional Soil Classifiers, is amended to read as follows:

12 (2) Annually submit to the ~~Governor~~ Secretary of the Department  
13 of Agriculture a report of its transactions of the preceding year and  
14 transmit to him or her a complete statement of the receipts and expenditures  
15 of the board attested by affidavits of its chair and its secretary; and  
16

17 SECTION 104. Arkansas Code § 17-47-308(b)(1), concerning the  
18 expiration and renewal of certificates of registration issued by the Arkansas  
19 State Board of Registration for Professional Soil Classifiers, is amended to  
20 read as follows:

21 (b)(1) It shall be the duty of the ~~secretary of the~~ Arkansas State  
22 Board of Registration for Professional Soil Classifiers to notify every  
23 person registered under this chapter of the date of the expiration of the  
24 certificate of registration and the amount of the fee required for its  
25 renewal.  
26

27 SECTION 105. Arkansas Code § 17-47-312(b), concerning the disciplinary  
28 action procedures of the Arkansas State Board of Registration for  
29 Professional Soil Classifiers, is amended to read as follows:

30 (b) Charges shall be in writing, shall be sworn to by the person or  
31 persons making them, and shall be filed with the ~~secretary of the~~ Arkansas  
32 State Board of Registration for Professional Soil Classifiers.  
33

34 SECTION 106. Arkansas Code § 17-50-201(b)(1) and (2), concerning the  
35 creation of the Commission on Water Well Construction, are amended to read as  
36 follows:

1 (1) The ~~Executive Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Health  
2 or his or her designated representative;

3 (2) The ~~Director of the Arkansas Natural Resources Commission~~  
4 Secretary of the Department of Agriculture or his or her designated  
5 representative;

6  
7 SECTION 107. Arkansas Code § 17-50-202 is amended to read as follows:  
8 17-50-202. Employees.

9 The Commission on Water Well Construction ~~shall~~ may:

10 (1) ~~Employ~~ Allocate funds to the Department of Agriculture to  
11 employ an executive secretary who, ~~with the approval of the agency housing~~  
12 ~~the commission's office, may~~ shall be an employee of the agency department;  
13 and

14 (2) ~~Hire such other employees and contract~~ Contract for such  
15 legal and engineering services ~~as may be~~ necessary to perform its powers and  
16 duties under the provisions of this chapter and fix their salaries within  
17 such limitations as may be provided by law; and

18 (3) Allocate funds to the Department of Agriculture to provide  
19 legal and engineering services necessary to perform the powers and duties of  
20 the commission under the provisions of this chapter.

21  
22 SECTION 108. Arkansas Code § 17-50-203 is amended to read as follows:  
23 17-50-203. Office.

24 The ~~office of one (1) of the agencies represented on the Commission on~~  
25 ~~Water Well Construction may be designated by the commission to~~ Department of  
26 Agriculture or the department's designee shall house the office of the  
27 Commission on Water Well Construction.

28  
29 SECTION 109. Arkansas Code § 17-50-204(a)(6)-(9), concerning the  
30 powers and duties of the Commission on Water Well Construction, are amended  
31 to read as follows:

32 (6) Authorize the Department of Agriculture to:

33 (A) Hold examinations of applicants for certificates of  
34 registration at least one (1) time a year;

35 ~~(7)(B)~~ Grade all tests and examinations for certificates  
36 of registration; and

1                   ~~(8)~~(C) Issue licenses, permits, or certificates for the  
2 type or class of well construction or repair or pump installation; and  
3                   ~~(9)~~(7) Perform such other duties as are consistent with the  
4 purposes of this chapter.

5  
6           SECTION 110. Arkansas Code § 17-50-205(a) and (b), concerning  
7 inspections of water wells or abandoned water wells, are amended to read as  
8 follows:

9           (a) ~~The Commission on Water Well Construction~~ Department of  
10 Agriculture is authorized to inspect any water well or abandoned water well.  
11 ~~Authorized representatives of the commission~~ Department employees may at  
12 reasonable times enter upon, and shall be given access to, any premises for  
13 the purpose of inspection.

14           (b) Upon the basis of such inspections, if the ~~commission~~ Commission  
15 on Water Well Construction finds that applicable laws, rules, or regulations  
16 have not been complied with or that a health hazard exists, the commission  
17 shall disapprove the well. If disapproved, no well shall thereafter be used  
18 until brought into compliance and any health hazard is eliminated.

19  
20           SECTION 111. Arkansas Code § 17-50-209 is amended to read as follows:  
21 17-50-209. Investigations.

22           When engaged in any investigation, any employee of the ~~Commission on~~  
23 ~~Water Well Construction~~ Department of Agriculture shall have the power to  
24 administer oaths and to take depositions of persons relevant to any  
25 investigations for violations of this chapter.

26  
27           SECTION 112. Arkansas Code § 17-101-202 is repealed.

28           ~~17-101-202. Secretary treasurer.~~

29           ~~(a) The Secretary treasurer of the Veterinary Medical Examining Board~~  
30 ~~shall be the custodian of all fees paid by the Veterinary Medical Examining~~  
31 ~~Board under the provisions of this chapter and shall deposit all fees~~  
32 ~~received with the Treasurer of State for the exclusive use of the board.~~

33           ~~(b) The secretary treasurer shall be paid a salary in such sums as may~~  
34 ~~be determined by the board.~~

35           ~~(c) The secretary treasurer shall execute a bond to the board, in such~~  
36 ~~sums as shall be prescribed from time to time by the board, to faithfully~~

1 ~~discharge his or her duties as treasurer.~~

2  
3 SECTION 113. Arkansas Code § 17-101-203(5), concerning the powers and  
4 duties of the Veterinary Medical Examining Board, is repealed.

5 ~~(5) Employ personnel necessary to carry out its duties;~~

6  
7 SECTION 114. Arkansas Code Title 17, Chapter 101, Subchapter 2, is  
8 amended to add an additional section to read as follows:

9 17-101-204. Director.

10 The Secretary of the Department of Agriculture may employ a Director of  
11 the Veterinary Medical Examining Board.

12  
13 SECTION 115. Arkansas Code § 19-5-1255(c), concerning the Arkansas  
14 Unpaved Roads Program Fund, is amended to read as follows:

15 (c) The fund shall be used by the ~~Rural Services Division of the~~  
16 ~~Arkansas Economic Development Commission~~ Department of Agriculture to award  
17 grants to counties under the Arkansas Unpaved Roads Program Act, § 14-305-101  
18 et seq.

19  
20 SECTION 116. Arkansas Code § 19-6-480 is amended to read as follows:

21 19-6-480. Livestock and Poultry Special Revenue Fund.

22 The Livestock and Poultry Special Revenue Fund shall consist of those  
23 special revenues as specified in § 19-6-301(33) and (34) which are not  
24 required for support of the Arkansas Livestock and Poultry Commission Poultry  
25 and Egg Grading Program, there to be used for those purposes as set out by  
26 law. The ~~Executive~~ Director of the Arkansas Livestock and Poultry Commission,  
27 with the approval of the Chief Fiscal Officer of the State, shall have the  
28 authority to transfer funds from the Livestock and Poultry Special Revenue  
29 Fund to the Livestock and Poultry Fund Account.

30  
31 SECTION 117. Arkansas Code § 19-6-809(c), concerning the Arkansas  
32 Alternative Fuels Development Fund, is amended to read as follows:

33 (c) The fund shall be used by the ~~Arkansas Agriculture Department~~  
34 Department of Agriculture to provide grants to support alternative fuels  
35 producers, feedstock processors, and alternative fuels distributors in  
36 Arkansas as provided under the Arkansas Alternative Fuels Development Act, §

1 15-13-101 et seq., or as otherwise provided by law.

2  
3 SECTION 118. Arkansas Code § 20-20-205 is amended to read as follows:

4 20-20-205. Administration of subchapter by State Plant Board.

5 (a) This subchapter shall be administered by the State Plant Board.

6 (b) The functions vested in the board by this subchapter shall be  
7 considered to be delegated to the employees of the ~~board~~ Department of  
8 Agriculture or its authorized representatives.

9  
10 SECTION 119. Arkansas Code § 22-5-510 is amended to read as follows:

11 22-5-510. Records and reports.

12 The Arkansas Forestry Commission shall cause a record of all its  
13 proceedings relating to state forests, including the date of acquisition,  
14 description, source of title, purchase price, amounts expended in the  
15 development of each tract, and the forest to which allotted, to be kept in  
16 the office of the ~~commission,~~ Department of Agriculture ~~and shall make a~~  
17 ~~biannual written report thereof to the Governor.~~

18  
19 SECTION 120. Arkansas Code § 22-5-804(a)(1), concerning the Natural  
20 Resources Committee of the Arkansas State Game and Fish Commission, is  
21 amended to read as follows:

22 (a)(1) The Natural Resources Committee is created and shall be  
23 composed of the following members:

24 (A) The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance  
25 and Administration;

26 (B) The Director of Production and Conservation of the Oil  
27 and Gas Commission;

28 (C) The State Geologist;

29 (D) The ~~State Forester~~ Secretary of the Department of  
30 Agriculture;

31 (E) ~~The Executive Director of the Arkansas Natural~~  
32 ~~Resources Commission~~;

33 ~~(F)~~ The Commissioner of State Lands;

34 ~~(G)~~(F) The Executive Secretary of the Arkansas State Game  
35 and Fish Commission;

36 ~~(H)~~(G) The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Parks,

1 Heritage, and Tourism;

2 ~~(I)~~(H) The Director of the ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of  
3 Environmental Quality; and

4 ~~(J)~~(I) The Chair of the Arkansas Natural Heritage  
5 Commission.

6

7 SECTION 121. Arkansas Code § 24-4-804(c)(2), concerning cessation of  
8 participation in the Arkansas Public Employees' Retirement System Deferred  
9 Retirement Option Plan, is amended to read as follows:

10 (2)(A)(i) This section does not apply to a member who was an  
11 employee of the Arkansas Forestry Commission, the Arkansas Livestock and  
12 Poultry Commission, or the State Plant Board, and who is a participant in the  
13 Arkansas Public Employees' Retirement System Deferred Retirement Option Plan  
14 who may be eligible for reemployment after satisfying the separation  
15 requirements of § 24-4-520(b) as an essential seasonal staff member with the  
16 Arkansas Forestry Commission, the Arkansas Livestock and Poultry Commission,  
17 or the State Plant Board.

18 (ii) This section does not apply to a member who was  
19 an employee of the Department of Agriculture on or after July 1, 2019, and  
20 who is a participant in the Arkansas Public Employees' Retirement System  
21 Deferred Retirement Option Plan who may be eligible for reemployment after  
22 satisfying the separation requirements of § 24-4-520(b) as an essential  
23 seasonal staff member with the Department of Agriculture.

24 (B) As used in subdivision (c)(2)(A) of this section,  
25 "essential seasonal staff member" means an employee of the Department of  
26 Agriculture, the Arkansas Forestry Commission, the Arkansas Livestock and  
27 Poultry Commission, or the State Plant Board who:

28 (i) Has specialized knowledge, skill, or training  
29 pertaining to necessary duties or tasks to be completed by the Department of  
30 Agriculture, the Arkansas Forestry Commission, the Arkansas Livestock and  
31 Poultry Commission, or the State Plant Board in times of emergency, disaster  
32 cleanup, extreme weather, or other circumstances deemed pressing by the  
33 Department of Agriculture, the Arkansas Forestry Commission, the Arkansas  
34 Livestock and Poultry Commission, or the State Plant Board; and

35 (ii) Is employed by the Department of Agriculture,  
36 the Arkansas Forestry Commission, the Arkansas Livestock and Poultry

1 Commission, or the State Plant Board on a part-time basis:

2 (a) During times of emergency, disaster  
3 cleanup, extreme weather, or other circumstances deemed pressing by the  
4 Department of Agriculture, the Arkansas Forestry Commission, the Arkansas  
5 Livestock and Poultry Commission, or the State Plant Board; or

6 (b) As an instructor to train other staff for  
7 times of emergency, disaster cleanup, extreme weather, or other circumstances  
8 deemed pressing by the Department of Agriculture, the Arkansas Forestry  
9 Commission, the Arkansas Livestock and Poultry Commission, or the State Plant  
10 Board.

11  
12 SECTION 122. Arkansas Code § 25-38-207(b), concerning the organization  
13 and duties of the Arkansas Agriculture Board, is amended to read as follows:

14 (b) The Arkansas Agriculture Board shall advise the Secretary of the  
15 ~~Arkansas Agriculture Department~~ Department of Agriculture on all matters  
16 concerning agriculture, aquaculture, horticulture, and kindred industries.

17  
18 SECTION 123. Arkansas Code § 25-38-208 is amended to read as follows:  
19 25-38-208. Agencies not affected.

20 The establishment of the ~~Arkansas Agriculture Department~~ Department of  
21 Agriculture shall in no way affect the duties, powers, or operations of the  
22 following boards and councils:

- 23 (1) Arkansas Beef Council;  
24 (2) Arkansas Catfish Promotion Board;  
25 (3) Arkansas Corn and Grain Sorghum Promotion Board;  
26 (4) Arkansas Rice Research and Promotion Board;  
27 (5) Arkansas Soybean Promotion Board; or  
28 (6) Arkansas Wheat Promotion Board.

29  
30 SECTION 124. Arkansas Code § 25-38-210 is amended to read as follows:  
31 25-38-210. Agricultural exchanges.

32 The ~~Arkansas Agriculture Department~~ Department of Agriculture shall:

33 (1) Evaluate the potential economic benefits to Arkansas and  
34 Arkansas farmers of entering into agricultural exchanges with Israel and  
35 other countries that will foster the development of trade, mutual assistance,  
36 and business relations between Arkansas and the other country; and

1 (2) Annually report the department's findings under subdivision  
2 (1) of this section to the House Committee on Agriculture, Forestry, and  
3 Economic Development and the Senate Committee on Agriculture, Forestry, and  
4 Economic Development.

5  
6 SECTION 125. Arkansas Code § 27-21-105 is amended to read as follows:  
7 27-21-105. Enforcement.

8 The officers and employees of the ~~Arkansas Forestry Commission~~  
9 Department of Agriculture shall have no authority to enforce the provisions  
10 of this chapter.

11  
12 SECTION 126. Arkansas Code Title 25, Chapter 43, is amended to add an  
13 additional subchapter to read as follows:

14 Subchapter 3 – Department of Commerce

15  
16 25-43-301. Department of Commerce.

17 There is created a Department of Commerce as a cabinet-level  
18 department.

19  
20 25-43-302. State entities transferred to Department of Commerce.

21 (a) The administrative functions of the following state entities are  
22 transferred to the Department of Commerce by a cabinet-level department  
23 transfer:

24 (1) The Adult Education Section of the Department of Career  
25 Education, and now to be known as the Adult Education Section, created under  
26 § 25-43-305;

27 (2) The Arkansas Deaf and Hearing Impaired Telecommunications  
28 Service Corporation, created under § 25-29-101;

29 (3) The Arkansas Department of Aeronautics, created under § 27-  
30 115-101, and now to be known as the Division of Aeronautics;

31 (4) The Arkansas Development Finance Authority, created under §  
32 15-5-201;

33 (5) The Arkansas Economic Development Commission, created under  
34 § 25-11-101;

35 (6) The Arkansas Economic Development Council, created under §  
36 15-4-201 and § 25-11-102;

- 1           (7) The Arkansas Housing Trust Fund Advisory Committee, created  
2 under § 15-5-1706;
- 3           (8) Arkansas Rehabilitation Services, created under § 6-52-101;  
4           (9) The Arkansas Rural Development Commission, created under §  
5 15-6-104;
- 6           (10) The Arkansas Waterways Commission, created under § 15-23-  
7 201;
- 8           (11) The Arkansas Wine Producers Council, created under § 3-5-  
9 701;
- 10          (12) The Arkansas Workforce Development Board, created under §  
11 15-4-3704;
- 12          (13) The Board of Review, created under § 11-10-523;
- 13          (14) The Board of the Division of State Services for the Blind,  
14 created under § 25-10-205;
- 15          (15) The Career Education and Workforce Development Board,  
16 created under § 25-30-101;
- 17          (16) The Department of Workforce Services, created under § 11-  
18 10-301, and now to be known as the Division of Workforce Services;
- 19          (17) The Division of Minority and Women-Owned Business  
20 Enterprise of the Arkansas Economic Development Commission, created under §  
21 15-4-304;
- 22          (18) The Division of Science and Technology of the Arkansas  
23 Economic Development Commission, created under § 15-3-103;
- 24          (19) The Division of State Services for the Blind, created under  
25 § 25-10-201;
- 26          (20) The Governor's Commission on People with Disabilities,  
27 created under § 20-14-202;
- 28          (21) The Office of Skills Development, created under § 25-30-  
29 109;
- 30          (22) The State Bank Department, created under § 23-46-201;
- 31          (23) The State Banking Board, created under § 23-46-301;
- 32          (24) The State Board of Embalmers, Funeral Directors,  
33 Cemeteries, and Burial Services, created under § 23-61-1102;
- 34          (25) The State Insurance Department, created under § 23-61-101;  
35 and
- 36          (26) The State Securities Department, created under the Arkansas

1 Securities Act § 23-42-101 et seq.

2 (b) Unless otherwise provided by law, a cabinet-level department  
3 transfer under subsection (a) of this section includes all state entities  
4 under a state entity transferred to the Department of Commerce under  
5 subsection (a) of this section, including without limitation a division,  
6 office, program, or other unit of a state entity transferred to the  
7 Department of Commerce under subsection (a) of this section.

8 (c) Unless otherwise provided by law, a state entity whose  
9 administrative functions have been transferred to the Department of Commerce  
10 under subsection (a) of this section shall otherwise continue to exercise the  
11 duties of the state entity under the administration of the cabinet-level  
12 Department of Commerce in the same manner as before the creation of the  
13 cabinet-level department.

14  
15 25-43-303. Secretary of the Department of Commerce.

16 (a) The executive head of the Department of Commerce shall be the  
17 Secretary of the Department of Commerce.

18 (b) The secretary shall be appointed by the Governor, subject to  
19 confirmation by the Senate, and shall serve at the pleasure of the Governor.

20 (c) Each division of the department shall be under the direction,  
21 control, and supervision of the secretary, unless otherwise provided by law.

22 (d) The secretary may delegate his or her functions, powers, and  
23 duties to various divisions or employees of the department as he or she shall  
24 deem desirable and necessary for the effective and efficient operation of the  
25 department.

26 (e) The secretary may, unless otherwise provided by law:

27 (1) Hire department personnel;

28 (2) Perform or assign duties assigned to the department; and

29 (3) Be appointed as the director or the administrative or  
30 executive head of any state entity under the administrative control of the  
31 department if the secretary also meets all statutory requirements for the  
32 position.

33 (f)(1) If the secretary meets all statutory requirements for the  
34 respective position, the secretary may serve as the interim or acting:

35 (A) Insurance Commissioner;

36 (B) Bank Commissioner; or

1 (C) Securities Commissioner.

2 (2) The secretary cannot be permanently appointed to any of the  
3 positions listed in subdivision (f)(1) of this section.

4 (g)(1) The secretary shall delegate the authority to hire employees  
5 and to make employment contracts for work performed to the following officers  
6 for their respective departments:

7 (A) The Insurance Commissioner;

8 (B) The Bank Commissioner; and

9 (C) The Securities Commissioner.

10 (2) The State Insurance Department, State Bank Department, and  
11 State Securities Department shall be subject to all executive orders by the  
12 Governor instituting a hiring freeze or restriction applicable to all  
13 cabinet-level departments.

14 (3) When exercising his or her duties, the secretary shall work  
15 in consultation with the following officers with regard to their respective  
16 departments:

17 (A) The Insurance Commissioner;

18 (B) The Bank Commissioner; and

19 (C) The Securities Commissioner.

20 (4) As used in subdivision (g)(2) of this section, "consultation"  
21 means coordinating with, giving input, reviewing, and recommending, but shall  
22 not require approval or consent.

23

24 25-43-304. Compliance with federal law.

25 (a) All employees of the Department of Commerce shall be assigned and  
26 perform assigned duties in compliance with all applicable federal laws,  
27 regulations, and rules, including without limitation all rules related to the  
28 State Securities Department, State Bank Department, and the State Insurance  
29 Department.

30 (b) To ensure compliance with federal law, only Department of Commerce  
31 employees who are dedicated employees of the State Bank Department shall:

32 (1) Conduct examinations of financial institutions;

33 (2) Handle and process reports of examinations of financial  
34 institutions; and

35 (3) Handle confidential financial institution information.

36

1           25-43-305. Adult Education Section of the Division of Workforce  
2 Services.

3           (a) There is created within the Division of Workforce Services an  
4 Adult Education Section.

5           (b) The Secretary of the Department of Commerce may delegate any  
6 duties and responsibilities to the Adult Education Section.

7           (c) The secretary may employ the personnel necessary to administer the  
8 Adult Education Section.

9  
10           SECTION 127. Arkansas Code § 3-5-703(d), concerning the powers and  
11 duties of the Arkansas Wine Producers Council, is amended to read as follows:

12           (d) Upon approval by a majority vote of the council of a proposal for  
13 research by a university research institution or for promotion or tourism by  
14 the commission, the council shall direct the Chief Fiscal Officer of the  
15 State to transfer on the Department of Finance and Administration books, and  
16 shall cause to be transferred on the books of the Treasurer of State and the  
17 Auditor of State, such amounts as determined by the council from the Arkansas  
18 Wine Producers Council Fund to the Department of ~~Parks and Tourism~~ Commerce  
19 Fund Account and to the operating fund or fund accounts of approved research  
20 institutions. Use of these funds may be applied as prescribed in this section  
21 in the various states of the United States and foreign countries.

22  
23           SECTION 128. Arkansas Code § 4-30-207(a), concerning banks declared to  
24 be investment companies, is amended to read as follows:

25           (a) Every cooperative bank organized under this chapter prior to March  
26 22, 1937, which is not situated in a city, town, or community in which there  
27 is also situated a state or national bank or a teller's window branch thereof  
28 is declared to be an investment company and shall be placed under the  
29 regulation and supervision of the State Securities Department, in the same  
30 manner as now provided by law for other investment companies. The Securities  
31 Commissioner, in consultation with the Secretary of the Department of  
32 Commerce, is authorized, empowered, and directed to make and promulgate all  
33 such rules and regulations not inconsistent herewith as shall be necessary or  
34 convenient for the administration and carrying out of this subchapter and for  
35 the supervision and control of all such organizations.

36

1 SECTION 129. Arkansas Code § 4-113-104(a)(2), concerning the creation  
2 of the Arkansas Broadband Council, is amended to read as follows:

3 (2) Receive input from all Arkansas broadband stakeholders and  
4 advise the ~~Governor~~ Secretary of the Department of Commerce and the General  
5 Assembly on policies related to broadband in Arkansas;

6  
7 SECTION 130. Arkansas Code § 4-113-104(b)(5), concerning the creation  
8 of the Arkansas Broadband Council, is amended to read as follows:

9 (5) The ~~Executive~~ Director of the Arkansas Economic Development  
10 Commission or his or her designee who shall serve as an ex officio member of  
11 the council.

12  
13 SECTION 131. Arkansas Code § 5-4-303(e)(1)(B)(ii)(c), concerning the  
14 conditions of suspension or probation for a defendant, is amended to read as  
15 follows:

16 (c) Earn a high school diploma by passing the  
17 ~~Department of Career Education~~ Adult Education Section approved assessment;  
18 or

19  
20 SECTION 132. Arkansas Code § 5-4-323(a)(1), concerning a high school  
21 diploma or high school equivalency diploma and employment training, is  
22 amended to read as follows:

23 (a)(1) As an additional requirement for suspension of sentence or  
24 probation, a court may require any person who is sentenced for a felony or a  
25 Class A misdemeanor to make a good faith effort toward completion of a high  
26 school diploma or a high school equivalency diploma approved by the  
27 ~~Department of Career Education~~ Adult Education Section unless the person has  
28 already achieved a high school diploma or a high school equivalency diploma.

29  
30 SECTION 133. Arkansas Code § 5-4-323(a)(5)(B), concerning a high  
31 school diploma or high school equivalency diploma and employment training, is  
32 amended to read as follows:

33 (B) The office shall then report to the ~~Department of~~  
34 ~~Career Education~~ Adult Education Section.

35  
36 SECTION 134. Arkansas Code § 5-4-908(b)(2)-(4), concerning the

1 operation of the pre-adjudication probation program, are amended to read as  
2 follows:

3 (2) The ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and  
4 Secondary Education;

5 (3) The ~~Department of Career Education~~ Adult Education Section;

6 (4) The ~~Department~~ Division of Community Correction;

7

8 SECTION 135. Arkansas Code § 6-5-1102(g), concerning the  
9 establishment, membership, and meetings of the Council on Postsecondary  
10 Education and Career Readiness, is amended to read as follows:

11 (g) The ~~Department of Education, Department of Higher Education, and~~  
12 ~~Department of Career Education, alternating each year,~~ shall provide meeting  
13 space and staff for the council.

14

15 SECTION 136. Arkansas Code § 6-11-202 is amended to read as follows:  
16 6-11-202. Records of proceedings.

17 The Career Education and Workforce Development Board shall keep in the  
18 office of the Director of the ~~Department of Career Education~~ Office of Skills  
19 Development a complete record of the minutes of its meetings and other  
20 proceedings.

21

22 SECTION 137. Arkansas Code § 6-11-204(a), concerning copies of  
23 documents as evidence authenticated by the official seal of the Career  
24 Education and Workforce Development Board, is amended to read as follows:

25 (a) The Career Education and Workforce Development Board shall adopt a  
26 seal, and the seal shall be used by the Director of the ~~Department of Career~~  
27 ~~Education~~ Office of Skills Development to authenticate documents or copies of  
28 documents as the board or director considers advisable.

29

30 SECTION 138. Arkansas Code § 6-16-118(b), concerning high school  
31 equivalency testing for adults and fees, is amended to read as follows:

32 (b) A high school equivalency test for adults shall be administered by  
33 the educational agencies and institutions approved by the ~~Department of~~  
34 ~~Career Education~~ Adult Education Section.

35

36 SECTION 139. Arkansas Code § 6-18-201(a)(1)(B)(ii), concerning

1 compulsory school attendance and exceptions, is amended to read as follows:

2 (ii) The kindergarten waiver form shall be  
3 prescribed by rule of the ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and  
4 Secondary Education.

5  
6 SECTION 140. Arkansas Code § 6-18-201(b)(2)(A), concerning compulsory  
7 school attendance and exceptions, is amended to read as follows:

8 (2)(A) After formal application and before any further action on  
9 the application, the student shall be administered either a basic skills test  
10 or a high school equivalency practice test under standardized testing  
11 conditions by a public school official designated by the school and shall  
12 score an appropriate score as determined by the Adult Education ~~Division of~~  
13 ~~the Department of Career Education~~ Section on the basic skills test or a  
14 passing score on all areas of the official high school equivalency practice  
15 test.

16  
17 SECTION 141. Arkansas Code § 6-18-201(b)(9), concerning compulsory  
18 school attendance and exceptions, is amended to read as follows:

19 (9) In the event that a more appropriate assessment test or  
20 testing and assessment mechanism shall be developed to determine a reasonable  
21 level of competency for success at the adult education level, that test or  
22 mechanism shall be substituted, with the approval of the Adult Education  
23 ~~Division of the Department of Career Education~~ Section, for the tests  
24 required in subdivision (b)(2) of this section;

25  
26 SECTION 142. Arkansas Code § 6-18-201(e)(2), concerning compulsory  
27 school attendance and exceptions, is amended to read as follows:

28 (2) Any contract for services by an adult education program for  
29 sixteen-year-olds and seventeen-year-olds shall be submitted to the  
30 ~~Department of Career Education~~ Adult Education Section for final approval.

31  
32 SECTION 143. Arkansas Code § 6-50-702(6), concerning the definition of  
33 "governing council" under the Arkansas Existing Workforce Training Act of  
34 1995, is amended to read as follows:

35 (6) "Governing council" means the ~~directors~~ Director of the  
36 Arkansas Economic Development Commission, the ~~Department~~ Director of the

1 Division of Higher Education, and the ~~Department~~ Director of the Office of  
2 ~~Career Education Skills Development~~ or their designees;

3  
4 SECTION 144. Arkansas Code § 6-52-101(a), concerning the Arkansas  
5 Rehabilitation Services, is amended to read as follows:

6 (a) ~~Effective July 1, 1993, the Division of Rehabilitation Services of~~  
7 ~~the Department of Human Services is transferred to the Department of Career~~  
8 ~~Education and shall be known as the~~ There is created Arkansas Rehabilitation  
9 Services as an entity within the Division of Workforce Services of the  
10 Department of Commerce. ~~The State Board of Career Education shall have the~~  
11 ~~same authority and responsibility with respect to the administration and~~  
12 ~~operation of the Arkansas Rehabilitation Services as it has with respect to~~  
13 ~~the Department of Career Education.~~

14  
15 SECTION 145. Arkansas Code § 6-52-102 is amended to read as follows:  
16 6-52-102. Transfer of authority, property, etc.

17 (a) All authorities and responsibilities defined in the Rehabilitation  
18 Act of Arkansas, § 20-79-201 et seq., shall be administered by ~~the~~ Arkansas  
19 Rehabilitation Services under the direction of the ~~State Board of Career~~  
20 ~~Education~~ Division of Workforce Services, except those transferred to the  
21 Division of State Services for the Blind by § 25-10-201 et seq.

22 (b) Any and all statutory authority, powers, duties, functions,  
23 records, authorized positions, property, unexpended balances of  
24 appropriations, allocations, or other funds transferred from the Division of  
25 Rehabilitation Services to the Department of Human Services by § 25-10-102 et  
26 seq. are hereby transferred to ~~the~~ Arkansas Rehabilitation Services.

27  
28 SECTION 146. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 6-52-103,  
29 concerning the power and duties of the State Board of Career Education, is  
30 amended to read as follows:

31 ~~The State Board of Career Education~~ Arkansas Workforce Development  
32 Board, through ~~the~~ Arkansas Rehabilitation Services, shall provide the  
33 rehabilitation services authorized by this subchapter to eligible physically  
34 or mentally disabled individuals and those who can benefit from independent  
35 living services, determined by the agency to be eligible therefor, and, in  
36 carrying out the purposes of this subchapter, ~~the~~ Arkansas Rehabilitation

1 Services is authorized, among other things:

2

3 SECTION 147. Arkansas Code § 6-52-203 is amended to read as follows:

4 6-52-203. Rules.

5 The ~~Department of Career Education~~ Office of Skills Development and the  
6 State Apprenticeship Coordination Steering Committee shall promulgate rules  
7 necessary to implement the provisions of this subchapter.

8

9 SECTION 148. Arkansas Code § 6-52-204(b)(1) and (2), concerning the  
10 State Apprenticeship Coordination Steering Committee, are amended to read as  
11 follows:

12 (1) One (1) person designated by and representing the ~~Department~~  
13 ~~of Career Education~~ Office of Skills Development;

14 (2) One (1) person designated by and representing the ~~Department~~  
15 Division of Labor;

16

17 SECTION 149. Arkansas Code § 6-52-204(c)(1), concerning the State  
18 Apprenticeship Coordination Steering Committee, is amended to read as  
19 follows:

20 (c)(1) The member representing the general public shall be appointed  
21 by the ~~Department of Career Education~~ Office of Skills Development for a term  
22 of four (4) years.

23

24 SECTION 150. Arkansas Code § 6-52-205(b)(1), concerning the duties of  
25 the State Apprenticeship Coordination Steering Committee, is amended to read  
26 as follows:

27 (b)(1) The ~~Department of Career Education~~ Office of Skills Development  
28 shall furnish the coordination committee with the current data necessary to  
29 develop the plan.

30

31 SECTION 151. Arkansas Code § 6-52-206(a), concerning recommendations  
32 of the State Apprenticeship Coordination Steering Committee, is amended to  
33 read as follows:

34 (a) Recommendations of the State Apprenticeship Coordination Steering  
35 Committee submitted to the ~~Department of Career Education~~ Office of Skills  
36 Development must be acted on and either accepted or rejected.

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SECTION 152. Arkansas Code § 6-52-207(a), concerning apprenticeship training programs, is amended to read as follows:

(a) Pursuant to the provisions of this subchapter, the Director of the ~~Department of Career Education~~ Office of Skills Development shall allocate state funds for the support of apprenticeship training programs that meet the criteria set forth in this subchapter.

SECTION 153. Arkansas Code § 6-52-207(h), concerning apprenticeship training programs, is amended to read as follows:

(h) A program must be registered with the United States Office of Apprenticeship and the ~~Department of Career Education~~ Office of Skills Development.

SECTION 154. Arkansas Code § 6-53-203(b), concerning the duties and powers of Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board, is amended to read as follows:

(b) The board shall develop and maintain short-range and long-range plans for providing current and appropriate occupational and technical training for adults and may solicit information for its planning activities from the State Board of Education, the ~~Department~~ Division of Workforce Services, any industry training program of the state, any apprenticeship training program of the state, and other state agencies, institutions, and departments.

SECTION 155. Arkansas Code § 6-55-104(b), concerning the creation, purpose, and administration of the Arkansas Construction Industry Craft Training Program, is amended to read as follows:

(b) The program will be administered by the ~~Department of Career Education~~ Office of Skills Development in collaboration with the State Apprenticeship Coordination Steering Committee created by § 6-52-204.

SECTION 156. Arkansas Code § 6-55-107(c), concerning apprenticeship program requirements and the Arkansas Construction Industry Craft Training Trust Fund, is amended to read as follows:

(c) Upon the recommendation of the State Apprenticeship Coordination

1 Steering Committee, the ~~Department of Career Education~~ Office of Skills  
2 Development shall expend the moneys in the trust fund from time to time to  
3 support the training program prescribed in this chapter.

4  
5 SECTION 157. Arkansas Code § 6-55-108 is amended to read as follows:  
6 6-55-108. Rules.

7 The ~~Department of Career Education~~ Office of Skills Development and the  
8 State Apprenticeship Coordination Steering Committee shall promulgate rules  
9 necessary to implement the provisions of this chapter.

10  
11 SECTION 158. Arkansas Code § 6-56-101(1), concerning the definition of  
12 "adult education program" under the laws regarding vocational and technical  
13 education, is amended to read as follows:

14 (1) "Adult education program" means any classes designed to  
15 assist students in preparing for a high school equivalency test and any class  
16 designed to improve performance in general basic skills, parenting, English  
17 proficiency, or other areas funded by the Adult Education Section ~~of the~~  
18 ~~Department of Career Education~~; and

19  
20 SECTION 159. Arkansas Code § 6-58-101(1), concerning the definition of  
21 "adult education program" under the laws governing the National Park College,  
22 is amended to read as follows:

23 (1) "Adult education program" means any classes designed to  
24 assist students in preparing for a high school equivalency test, any class  
25 designed to improve performance in general basic skills, parenting, English  
26 proficiency, or other areas funded by the Adult Education Section ~~of the~~  
27 ~~Department of Career Education~~; and

28  
29 SECTION 160. Arkansas Code § 6-60-105(a)(1), concerning a report of  
30 employment and earnings outcomes, is amended to read as follows:

31 (a)(1) Annually, ~~beginning June 30, 2016,~~ the ~~Department~~ Division of  
32 Workforce Services shall prepare or contract with an entity to prepare an  
33 economic security report of employment and earning outcomes for degrees and  
34 certificates earned at state-supported institutions of higher education.

35  
36 SECTION 161. Arkansas Code § 6-60-105(a)(3)(B), concerning employment

1 and earning outcomes and reporting by the Department of Workforce Services,  
2 is amended to read as follows:

3 (B) Use data available to the ~~Department~~ Division of  
4 Higher Education relating to the employment and earnings of graduates of  
5 degree or certificate programs from a state-supported institution of higher  
6 education;

7  
8 SECTION 162. Arkansas Code § 6-60-105(b), concerning a report of  
9 employment and earnings outcomes, is amended to read as follows:

10 (b) Annually, beginning July 1, 2016, a four-year state-supported  
11 institution of higher education and a two-year state-supported institution of  
12 higher education shall provide an enrolled student with electronic access to  
13 the economic security report of employment and earnings outcomes prepared by  
14 the ~~Department~~ Division of Workforce Services before the student registers  
15 for classes.

16  
17 SECTION 163. Arkansas Code § 6-60-105(d), concerning a report of  
18 employment and earnings outcomes, is amended to read as follows:

19 (d) Annually, beginning August 1, 2016, a public school student in  
20 grade seven through grade twelve (7-12) or the student's parent or guardian  
21 shall receive a two-page summary of and electronic access to the ~~Department~~  
22 Division of Workforce Service's economic security report of employment and  
23 earnings outcomes prepared under this section.

24  
25 SECTION 164. Arkansas Code § 6-60-107 is amended to read as follows:  
26 6-60-107. Workforce initiative funding.

27 (a)(1) The ~~Department~~ Division of Higher Education shall act as the  
28 disbursing entity for all funds for the Workforce Initiative Act of 2015.

29 (2) The ~~Department~~ Division of Higher Education shall establish  
30 procedures for the request for proposals under subdivision (b)(2) of this  
31 section that shall:

32 (A) Be approved by the Governor;

33 (B) Include input from the ~~Department of Education~~  
34 Division of Elementary and Secondary Education, the ~~Department~~ Division of  
35 Workforce Services, the Arkansas Economic Development Commission, and the  
36 ~~Department~~ Division of Career and Technical Education; and

1 (C) Be reported to the Legislative Council.

2 (3) The ~~Department~~ Division of Higher Education shall establish  
3 a grant application review and award process under this section that shall:

4 (A) Be approved by the Governor; and

5 (B) Include recommendations from the ~~Department of~~  
6 ~~Education~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary Education, the ~~Department~~  
7 Division of Workforce Services, the Arkansas Economic Development Commission,  
8 and the ~~Department~~ Division of Career and Technical Education.

9 (b)(1) The ~~Department~~ Division of Higher Education shall set funding  
10 priorities in three (3) phases.

11 (2)(A)(i) Phase one shall seek requests for proposals from  
12 alliances consisting of technical institutes, community colleges,  
13 universities, the kindergarten through grade twelve (K-12) education system,  
14 educational cooperatives, or employers, with input from local workforce  
15 investment boards, to receive planning grants of up to one hundred thousand  
16 dollars (\$100,000).

17 (ii)(a) The local workforce investment boards shall  
18 identify the industry sectors for each of their ten (10) areas.

19 (b) The identification process shall include a  
20 comprehensive data analysis of employer skill requirements in each sector in  
21 each region.

22 (c) The identified industry sectors and  
23 employment skills shall serve as the basis for an application to a request  
24 for proposal from the ~~Department~~ Division of Higher Education.

25 (B) A request for proposal shall include an education and  
26 employer alignment plan that includes state-approved, employer-driven career  
27 pathways that are supported by a secondary center that awards concurrent  
28 credit courses that can be applied to a certificate of proficiency, technical  
29 certificate, Associate of Applied Science degree, or Bachelor of Applied  
30 Science degree or a similarly designed bachelor's degree.

31 (C) Recognizing the limited state resources, the priority  
32 for planning grants shall be given to the applicants that best enhance  
33 regional efforts, including collaboration between community colleges,  
34 universities, public schools, education service cooperatives, the local  
35 workforce investment boards, career and technical education programs,  
36 multidistrict vocational centers, and private partnerships with clearly

1 defined and measurable performance and effectiveness objectives.

2 (3)(A) Phase two shall provide implementation grants in an  
3 amount necessary to provide the resources to implement approved projects  
4 concluded and approved by the ~~Department~~ Division of Higher Education from  
5 phase one.

6 (B) Implementation grants shall include clearly defined  
7 outcome measures and last for up to two (2) years.

8 (4)(A) Phase three shall provide continuation grants for phase  
9 two recipients that meet or exceed the outcome measures.

10 (B) Continuation grants shall be used to align the  
11 performance and relevance of programs to ever changing workforce training  
12 needs.

13  
14 SECTION 165. Arkansas Code § 6-61-1502(b)(6), concerning the  
15 Electrical Energy Advancement Program Fund Board, is amended to read as  
16 follows:

17 (6) The ~~Executive~~ Director of the Arkansas Economic Development  
18 Commission or his or her designee; and

19  
20 SECTION 166. Arkansas Code § 6-82-1804(a)(3)(B)(i), concerning  
21 recipients of the Arkansas Future Grant, is amended to read as follows:

22 (i) The Department of Higher Education, in  
23 consultation with the ~~Department~~ Division of Workforce Services, determines  
24 that there was no employment position available that would reasonably enable  
25 the student to meet this requirement; or

26  
27 SECTION 167. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 6-85-304(a),  
28 concerning the eligibility of a student to receive an Arkansas Workforce  
29 Challenge Scholarship, is amended to read as follows:

30 (a) A student is eligible to receive an Arkansas Workforce Challenge  
31 Scholarship for an academic year if the student applies to the ~~Department~~  
32 Division of Higher Education by a date determined by the ~~Department~~ Division  
33 of Higher Education preceding the academic year and:

34  
35 SECTION 168. Arkansas Code § 6-85-304(a)(2)(B), concerning funding for  
36 Arkansas Workforce Challenge Scholarships, is amended to read as follows:

1 (B) Received a high school equivalency diploma approved by  
2 the ~~Department of Career Education~~ Adult Education Section or another state;

3  
4 SECTION 169. Arkansas Code § 6-85-304(a)(5)(A) and (B), concerning  
5 funding for Arkansas Workforce Challenge Scholarships, are amended to read as  
6 follows:

7 (5)(A) Whose program of study or certificate program will result  
8 in the student's being qualified to work in an occupation identified by the  
9 ~~Department~~ Division of Workforce Services under subdivision (a)(5)(B)(i) of  
10 this section.

11 (B)(i) The ~~Department~~ Division of Workforce Services shall  
12 provide annually to the ~~Department~~ Division of Higher Education by March 1 a  
13 list that identifies the five (5) most in-demand occupations in this state in  
14 each high-demand field under subdivision (a)(4) of this section that require  
15 the completion of a program of study that leads to an associate degree or a  
16 certificate program.

17 (ii) The ~~Department~~ Division of Workforce Services  
18 shall publish on its website the list under subdivision (a)(5)(B)(i) of this  
19 section and data supporting the list.

20  
21 SECTION 170. Arkansas Code § 11-9-102(17)(A), concerning the  
22 definition of "state average weekly wage" under the Workers' Compensation  
23 Law, is amended to read as follows:

24 (17)(A) "State average weekly wage" means the state average  
25 weekly wage determined annually by the ~~Department~~ Division of Workforce  
26 Services in the preceding calendar year pursuant to § 11-10-502.

27  
28 SECTION 171. Arkansas Code § 11-9-506(a), resulting from Initiated Act  
29 4 of 1948 and concerning the recipients of unemployment benefits and  
30 limitations on compensation, is amended to read as follows:

31 (a) Any other provisions of this chapter to the contrary  
32 notwithstanding, no compensation in any amount for temporary total, temporary  
33 partial, or permanent total disability shall be payable to an injured  
34 employee with respect to any week for which the injured employee receives  
35 unemployment insurance benefits under the ~~Department~~ Division of Workforce  
36 Services Law, § 11-10-101 et seq., or the unemployment insurance law of any

1 other state.

2

3 SECTION 172. Arkansas Code § 11-10-101 is amended to read as follows:

4 11-10-101. Title.

5 This chapter shall be known and may be cited as the "~~Department~~  
6 Division of Workforce Services Law".

7

8 SECTION 173. Arkansas Code § 11-10-106(d), concerning the disclosure  
9 of information and penalties under the Department of Workforce Services Law,  
10 is amended to read as follows:

11 (d) Disclosure of Information. If any employee or member of the Board  
12 of Review, the Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of Workforce Services, or  
13 any employee of the director, in violation of the provisions of § 11-10-314,  
14 makes any disclosure of information obtained from any employing unit or  
15 individual in the administration of this chapter; if any person who has  
16 obtained any list of applicants for work, or of claimants or recipients of  
17 benefits, under this chapter shall use or permit the use of the list for any  
18 political purpose; or if any person who has lawfully obtained information  
19 from the ~~Department~~ Division of Workforce Services which was obtained from  
20 any employing unit or individual pursuant to the administration of this  
21 chapter makes an unlawful use or disclosure of the information or uses or  
22 discloses the information in a manner inconsistent with the purposes for  
23 which it was lawfully obtained, then that person shall be fined not less than  
24 twenty dollars (\$20.00) nor more than two hundred dollars (\$200) or  
25 imprisoned for not longer than ninety (90) days, or both.

26

27 SECTION 174. Arkansas Code § 11-10-108(a), concerning the protection  
28 of rights and benefits and the limitation of fees under the Department of  
29 Workforce Services Law, is amended to read as follows:

30 (a) No individual claiming benefits shall be charged fees or costs of  
31 any kind in any proceeding under this chapter by the Board of Review, the  
32 Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of Workforce Services, or his or her or  
33 its representatives, or by any court or any officer thereof, except that, if  
34 the court determines that the proceedings for judicial review have been  
35 instituted or continued without reasonable grounds, it may assess costs  
36 against the claimant or employer instituting or continuing the proceedings.

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SECTION 175. Arkansas Code § 11-10-109(e), concerning the protection of rights and benefits, and the prohibition of the assignment, pledge or encumbrance of benefits, is amended to read as follows:

(e) Benefits shall be subject to tax levies issued by the Internal Revenue Service in accordance with 26 U.S.C. § 6331(h) provided that an agreement is entered into between the Internal Revenue Service and the ~~Department~~ Division of Workforce Services and approved by the United States Department of Labor that provides for the payment of all administrative costs associated with processing the tax levies.

SECTION 176. Arkansas Code § 11-10-110(a), concerning the protection of rights and benefits and exceptions for withholding child support under the Department of Workforce Services Law, is amended to read as follows:

(a) At the time of filing the claim, an individual filing a new claim for unemployment compensation shall disclose whether or not the individual owes child support obligations as defined under subsection (g)(1) of this section. If any individual discloses that he or she owes child support obligations and is determined to be eligible for unemployment compensation, the Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of Workforce Services shall notify the state or local child support enforcement agency enforcing the obligation that the individual has been determined to be eligible for unemployment compensation.

SECTION 177. Arkansas Code § 11-10-111(a)(2), concerning the protection of rights and benefits and exceptions for withholding food stamp overages under the Department of Workforce Services Law, is amended to read as follows:

(2) The Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of Workforce Services shall notify the state food stamp agency enforcing the obligation of any individual who discloses that he or she owes a food stamp overage obligation and who is determined to be eligible for unemployment compensation.

SECTION 178. Arkansas Code § 11-10-201(b)(2), concerning the base period for a benefit year, is amended to read as follows:

1           (2) "Extended base period" means the four (4) quarters prior to  
2 the claimant's base period. These four (4) quarters may be substituted for  
3 base period quarters on a quarter-by-quarter basis to establish a valid claim  
4 regardless of whether the wages have been used to establish a prior claim,  
5 except that any wages earned that would render the ~~Department~~ Division of  
6 Workforce Services out of compliance with applicable federal law will be  
7 excluded if used in a prior claim.

8  
9           SECTION 179. Arkansas Code § 11-10-206 is amended to read as follows:  
10         11-10-206. Director.

11           As used in this chapter, unless the context clearly requires otherwise,  
12 "director" means the Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of Workforce  
13 Services.

14  
15           SECTION 180. Arkansas Code § 11-10-207 is amended to read as follows:  
16         11-10-207. Regulations.

17           All regulations previously promulgated under this chapter shall be  
18 enforceable by the Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of Workforce Services  
19 and shall remain in full force and effect unless or until such time as  
20 amended by the director.

21  
22           SECTION 181. Arkansas Code § 11-10-208(c), concerning an employing  
23 unit, is amended to read as follows:

24           (c)(1) Any employer may on or before December 1 prior to the year the  
25 application is to become effective make application in writing to the  
26 ~~Department~~ Division of Workforce Services to participate in a joint account  
27 with one (1) or more other employers.

28           (2) The ~~department~~ division shall approve those applications  
29 that meet the requirements of this section.

30           (3) Any application to participate in a joint account may be  
31 filed on or before December 1 prior to the year the membership is to become  
32 effective, provided, however, all contributions, interest, and penalties due  
33 from the applicant-employer must be paid prior to the effective date of the  
34 employer's membership in the joint account.

35           (4) All such applications shall be accepted only on the  
36 condition that the applicant waive all rights he or she has in his or her

1 individual employer account under the law when the ~~department~~ division  
2 approves his or her application and merges his or her individual account into  
3 a joint account for experience-rating purposes.

4 (5) Each applicant-employer shall agree to assume joint and  
5 several liability for any contributions, interest, and penalties accruing on  
6 the part of any one (1) of the employers participating in the joint account  
7 during the duration of the account in consideration for the ~~department's~~  
8 division's granting the applicant-employer the right to participate in it.

9 (6) Each employer participating in a joint account agrees to  
10 maintain a sufficient record of the employee's own employment in order that  
11 the employer can furnish the ~~department~~ division with information necessary  
12 to enable the ~~department~~ division to make proper certification to the  
13 Internal Revenue Service under the Federal Unemployment Tax Act and to enable  
14 the ~~department~~ division to determine any benefit charges against the  
15 employee's separate account.

16 (7) No reduced rate of contributions shall be established for  
17 any joint account until each participating employer is individually eligible  
18 for the calculation of a contribution rate.

19 (8) All joint accounts will be maintained only on a calendar-  
20 year basis, and joint accounts must be maintained for a minimum period of two  
21 (2) calendar years unless terminated sooner by action of the ~~department~~  
22 division.

23 (9) All contribution credits for all employers in a joint  
24 account will be calculated together. All benefit payments chargeable against  
25 all employers in a joint account will be calculated together. The average  
26 annual payroll of the joint account will be the average of the annual  
27 payrolls of all employers participating in the account.

28 (10) If any individual, type of organization, or employing unit  
29 succeeds to the business of an employer participating in a joint account  
30 under conditions which would require the transfer of any separate account of  
31 that employer to the successor, the successor shall be ipso facto a member of  
32 the joint account.

33 (11)(A) Withdrawal from a joint account by any participating  
34 employer may be approved if the request for withdrawal is made in writing to  
35 the ~~department~~ division on or before September 30 of the year prior to the  
36 year for which the withdrawal is to be effective.

1 (B) The withdrawing employer shall as of the effective  
2 date of withdrawal be treated in all respects as a newly liable employer  
3 regardless of all prior contributions or benefit payment experience.

4 (C) The remaining employer or employers shall continue to  
5 constitute the joint account. The withdrawal or termination of all except one  
6 (1) member shall not dissolve such joint account unless and until such last  
7 member shall withdraw or terminate.

8 (12) Participation in a joint account shall not affect the right  
9 of any employer to terminate the employer's liability, but after termination,  
10 the employer shall in all respects be treated as a withdrawing employer under  
11 this section.

12  
13 SECTION 182. Arkansas Code § 11-10-209(10), concerning the definition  
14 of "employer" under the Department of Workforce Services Law, is amended to  
15 read as follows:

16 (10) For the purposes of subdivisions (1) and (3) of this  
17 section, employment shall include service that would constitute employment  
18 but for the fact that the service is deemed to be performed entirely within  
19 another state pursuant to an election under an arrangement entered into, in  
20 accordance with § 11-10-544(a), by the Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of  
21 Workforce Services and any agency charged with the administration of any  
22 other state or federal unemployment compensation law.

23  
24 SECTION 183. Arkansas Code § 11-10-210(d), concerning the definition  
25 of "employment" under the Department of Workforce Services Law, is amended to  
26 read as follows:

27 (d) Service covered by an election pursuant to § 11-10-403 and service  
28 covered by an election duly approved by the Director of the ~~Department~~  
29 Division of Workforce Services in accordance with an arrangement pursuant to  
30 § 11-10-544 shall be deemed to be employment during the effective period of  
31 the election.

32  
33 SECTION 184. Arkansas Code § 11-10-214(b), concerning the definition  
34 of "unemployment" under the Department of Workforce Services Law, is amended  
35 to read as follows:

36 (b) An individual's week of unemployment shall be deemed to commence

1 the day on which he or she registers at a local employment office, except as  
2 the Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of Workforce Services may, by  
3 regulation, otherwise prescribe.

4  
5 SECTION 185. Arkansas Code § 11-10-215(a)(1), concerning the  
6 definition of "wages" under the Department of Workforce Services Law, is  
7 amended to read as follows:

8 (a)(1) As used in this chapter, "wages" means all remuneration paid  
9 for personal services, including without limitation, commissions, bonuses,  
10 cash value of all remuneration paid in any medium other than cash, the value  
11 of which shall be estimated and determined in accordance with regulations  
12 prescribed by the Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of Workforce Services,  
13 and tips received while performing services which constitute employment and  
14 which are included in a written statement furnished to the employer pursuant  
15 to 26 U.S.C. § 6053(a).

16  
17 SECTION 186. Arkansas Code § 11-10-227(f)(2)(A), concerning the  
18 treatment of Indian tribes under the Department of Workforce Services Law, is  
19 amended to read as follows:

20 (2)(A) Failure of the Indian tribe or any tribal unit thereof to  
21 make required payments, including assessments of interest and penalty, after  
22 all collection activities deemed necessary by the Director of the ~~Department~~  
23 Division of Workforce Services have been exhausted shall cause services  
24 performed for the tribe to not be treated as "employment" for purposes of  
25 subsection (b) of this section.

26  
27 SECTION 187. Arkansas Code § 11-10-301(a), concerning the creation of  
28 the Department of Workforce Services and the appointment of the Director of  
29 the Department of Workforce Services, is amended to read as follows:

30 (a)(1) There is created a ~~Department~~ division to be known as the  
31 ~~Department~~ "Division of Workforce Services".

32 (2) ~~that~~ The division shall be administered by a full-time  
33 salaried director.

34 (3) ~~who shall be~~ The Director of the Division of Workforce  
35 Services shall be appointed by and serve at the pleasure of the Governor.

36 (4) The director shall report to the Secretary of the Department

1 of Commerce.

2 ~~(2)(5)~~ The ~~Director of the Department of Workforce Services~~  
3 director shall have resided in the state for at least five (5) years and  
4 shall be a qualified elector.

5

6 SECTION 188. Arkansas Code § 11-10-301(d), concerning the duties of  
7 the Director of the Department of Workforce Services, is amended to read as  
8 follows:

9 (d) The director shall be the agent for service of process for all  
10 legal actions arising under this chapter or to which the ~~department~~ division  
11 shall be named a party.

12

13 SECTION 189. Arkansas Code § 11-10-303 is amended to read as follows:

14 11-10-303. ~~Department~~ Division of Workforce Services – Employee  
15 insurance plans.

16 (a) The Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of Workforce Services is  
17 authorized to formulate, adopt, and administer plans to provide the regular  
18 employees of the ~~Department~~ Division of Workforce Services, as an incident of  
19 their employment, with group life insurance or insurance against the payment  
20 of medical and hospital expenses or any similar type of insurance.

21 (b) Any plan adopted shall be paid pursuant to the contract entered  
22 into with one (1) or more insurance companies authorized to do business in  
23 this state, and it may require the payment of all or any part of the premium  
24 by the ~~Department of Workforce Services~~ division or by the employees.

25 (c) If any plan adopted requires contributions by the employees, the  
26 director may provide for the withholding of the amount of the employees'  
27 contribution from their salaries. However, the contributing share of funds  
28 paid by the ~~Department of Workforce Services~~ division as the employer shall  
29 come from funds granted to the agency by the United States Department of  
30 Labor for such purposes.

31 (d) The plan may provide for the continuation of any insurance  
32 provided on the same or on a different basis upon termination of employment  
33 or after the retirement of any employee who retires after March 3, 1971,  
34 pursuant to the Arkansas Public Employees' Retirement System.

35 (e) Any plan adopted shall provide benefits similar to those made  
36 available by the ~~federal~~ United States government to its employees generally,

1 and the cost thereof per employee shall not exceed the cost per employee that  
2 the ~~federal~~ United States government pays for similar insurance benefits.

3 (f) Participation by any employee of the ~~Department of Workforce~~  
4 ~~Services~~ division in any plan adopted shall be on a voluntary basis at the  
5 option of the employee.

6  
7 SECTION 190. Arkansas Code § 11-10-304(a)-(c), concerning the creation  
8 of the Arkansas State Employment Service, are amended to read as follows:

9 (a) The Arkansas State Employment Service is established ~~in~~ within the  
10 ~~Department~~ Division of Workforce Services.

11 (b) The Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of Workforce Services, in  
12 the conduct of the service, shall establish and maintain free public  
13 employment offices in such numbers and in such places as may be necessary for  
14 the proper administration of this chapter and for the purpose of performing  
15 such functions as are within the purview of the Act of the United States  
16 Congress of June 6, 1933, hereinafter referred to as the "Wagner-Peyser Act".

17 (c) The provisions of that act of the United States Congress are  
18 accepted by this state, and the ~~department~~ division is designated and  
19 constituted the agency of this state for the purposes of that act.

20  
21 SECTION 191. Arkansas Code § 11-10-304(f), concerning the creation of  
22 the Arkansas State Employment Service, is amended to read as follows:

23 (f) In addition to the services and activities otherwise authorized by  
24 this chapter, the ~~department~~ division may perform, or contract for the  
25 performance of, such other services and activities as shall be specified in  
26 contracts for payment or reimbursement of the costs thereof made with the  
27 United States Secretary of Labor, with any federal, state, or local public  
28 agency, or administrative entity, or with any employer or private for-profit  
29 or nonprofit organization under, in accordance with, and in furtherance of  
30 the purposes of the Job Training Partnership Act, Pub. L. No. 97-300  
31 [repealed].

32  
33 SECTION 192. Arkansas Code § 11-10-306(a), concerning the Director of  
34 the Department of Workforce Services, is amended to read as follows:

35 (a) It shall be the duty of the Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of  
36 Workforce Services to administer this chapter.

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SECTION 193. Arkansas Code § 11-10-306(g)(1), concerning the Director of the Department of Workforce Services, is amended to read as follows:

(g)(1) The director, in addition to other provisions of this chapter, is authorized to set up and maintain ~~in~~ within the ~~Department~~ Division of Workforce Services a unit known as the ~~enforcement unit~~ "Enforcement Unit".

SECTION 194. Arkansas Code § 11-10-307(a)(1), concerning the rule-making authority of the Director of the Department of Workforce Services, is amended to read as follows:

(a)(1) General and special rules may be adopted, amended, or rescinded by the Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of Workforce Services only after public hearing or opportunity to be heard thereon, on which proper notice has been given.

SECTION 195. Arkansas Code § 11-10-308(a), concerning the Director of the Department of Workforce Services and the administrative determinations of coverage, is amended to read as follows:

(a) The Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of Workforce Services may, upon his or her own motion or upon application of an employing unit, after notice and opportunity for hearing, make findings of fact and, on the basis thereof, determinations with respect to whether an employing unit constitutes an employer and whether services performed for or in connection with the business of an employing unit constitute employment for that employing unit.

SECTION 196. Arkansas Code § 11-10-309 is amended to read as follows:

11-10-309. Director – Publication of rules, reports, etc.

The Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of Workforce Services shall make available for distribution to the public the text of this chapter, his or her regulations and general and special rules, his or her annual report to the Governor, and any other material he or she deems relevant and suitable and shall furnish the materials to any person upon application therefor.

SECTION 197. Arkansas Code § 11-10-310(a), concerning personnel and the Director of the Department of Workforce Services, is amended to read as follows:

1 (a) Subject to other provisions of this chapter, the Director of the  
2 ~~Department~~ Division of Workforce Services is authorized to appoint, fix the  
3 compensation, and prescribe the duties and powers of such officers,  
4 accountants, attorneys, experts, and other persons as may be necessary in the  
5 performance of his or her duties under this chapter.

6  
7 SECTION 198. Arkansas Code § 11-10-311 is amended to read as follows:  
8 11-10-311. Employment stabilization.

9 The Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of Workforce Services shall  
10 take all appropriate steps to reduce and prevent unemployment, to encourage  
11 and assist in the adoption of practical methods of vocational training,  
12 retraining, and vocational guidance, to investigate, recommend, advise, and  
13 assist in the establishment and operation by municipalities, counties,  
14 planning districts, school districts, and the state of programs for public  
15 works to be used in times and places of economic downturn and high  
16 unemployment for the purpose of promoting the employment of unemployed and  
17 underemployed workers throughout the state, and to these ends, to carry on  
18 research and such investigations as he or she shall deem necessary and to  
19 publish the results thereof.

20  
21 SECTION 199. Arkansas Code § 11-10-312(a), concerning the cooperation  
22 between the Director of the Department of Workforce Services and the United  
23 States Department of Labor, is amended to read as follows:

24 (a) In the administration of this chapter, the Director of the  
25 ~~Department~~ Division of Workforce Services shall cooperate with the United  
26 States Department of Labor to the fullest extent consistent with the  
27 provisions of this chapter and shall take such action, through the adoption  
28 of such appropriate rules, regulations, administrative methods, and standards  
29 as may be necessary to secure to this state and its citizens all advantages  
30 available under the provisions of the Social Security Act that relate to  
31 unemployment compensation, the Federal Unemployment Tax Act, the Wagner-  
32 Peyser Act, the Job Training Partnership Act [repealed], and the Federal-  
33 State Extended Unemployment Compensation Act of 1970.

34  
35 SECTION 200. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 11-10-  
36 313(a), concerning compensation based on multiple-state earnings, is amended

1 to read as follows:

2 (a) The Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of Workforce Services  
3 shall participate in any arrangements for the payment of compensation on the  
4 basis of combining an individual's wages and employment covered under this  
5 chapter with his or her wages and employment covered under the unemployment  
6 compensation laws of other states which are approved by the United States  
7 Secretary of Labor in consultation with the state unemployment compensation  
8 agencies as reasonably calculated to assure the prompt and full payment of  
9 compensation in those situations and which include provisions for:

10

11 SECTION 201. Arkansas Code § 11-10-314(a), concerning the disclosure  
12 of information under the Department of Workforce Services Law, is amended to  
13 read as follows:

14 (a)(1) Except as otherwise provided in this section, information  
15 obtained by the Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of Workforce Services  
16 from any employing unit or individual pursuant to the administration of this  
17 chapter and any determination as to the rights or status of any employer or  
18 individual made by the director pursuant to the administration of this  
19 chapter shall be held confidential and shall be protected by government  
20 privilege.

21 (2)(A) The information shall not be used in any action or  
22 proceeding before any court, administrative tribunal, or body except those  
23 created by this chapter unless the ~~Department~~ Division of Workforce Services  
24 is a party, a real party in interest, or a complainant therein or unless the  
25 litigation involves criminal actions brought under provisions of this  
26 chapter.

27 (B) This information shall not be otherwise disclosed or  
28 be open to public inspection in any manner revealing the individual's or  
29 employing unit's identity.

30

31 SECTION 202. Arkansas Code § 11-10-314(b)(1), concerning the  
32 inspection and copying of records, and disclosure of information under the  
33 Department of Workforce Services Law, is amended to read as follows:

34 (b)(1) Information from the records of the ~~Department~~ Division of  
35 Workforce Services that concerns a claim for benefits shall be available for  
36 inspection and copying by any interested party or his or her legal

1 representative to the extent necessary for the proper representation of his  
2 or her position in any proceeding under this chapter.

3  
4 SECTION 203. Arkansas Code § 11-10-314(b)(2)(B), concerning the  
5 provision of information to the parties, and disclosure of information under  
6 the Department of Workforce Services Law, is amended to read as follows:

7 (B) Any individual or employer may be provided any  
8 information from the records of the ~~Department~~ Division of Workforce Services  
9 to the extent that the information was provided by him or her; and

10  
11 SECTION 204. Arkansas Code § 11-10-314(e)(1), concerning the  
12 furnishing of information to other entities, and the disclosure of  
13 information under the Department of Workforce Services Law, is amended to  
14 read as follows:

15 (e)(1)(A) Upon request of a public agency administering or supervising  
16 the administration of a state plan of ~~Aid to Families with Dependent Children~~  
17 Temporary Assistance for Needy Families approved under Part A of Title IV of  
18 the Social Security Act, or the administration of a state plan of medical  
19 assistance approved under Title XIX of the Social Security Act, the  
20 administration of a state plan of food stamps approved under the Food Stamp  
21 Act of 1977, Pub. L. No. 95-113, request of a public agency charged with any  
22 duty or responsibility authorized or required under the Child Support and  
23 Establishment of Paternity Program provisions of Part D of Title IV of the  
24 Social Security Act, or request of officers or employees of the United States  
25 Department of Agriculture, the director shall furnish to the public agency  
26 information contained in the files of the ~~Department~~ Division of Workforce  
27 Services with respect to any individual specified in the request as to  
28 whether the individual is receiving, has received, or has made application  
29 for unemployment compensation, the date the individual was determined  
30 eligible or ineligible, the date the individual's claim was exhausted, the  
31 weekly benefit amount actually paid and the date paid, the individual's  
32 weekly benefit amount, whether the individual is receiving or has received  
33 wages, the name and address of the employer from whom the wages have been  
34 received and the amount of any wages received by the individual, the current  
35 or most recent home address of the individual, whether the individual has  
36 refused an offer of employment, and, if so, a description of the employment

1 so offered, including, but not limited to, the terms, conditions, and rate of  
2 pay therefor.

3 (B) The requesting agency shall reimburse the ~~Department~~  
4 Division of Workforce Services for costs incurred in providing the requested  
5 information.

6  
7 SECTION 205. Arkansas Code § 11-10-314(e)(3) and (4), concerning the  
8 release of wage information to other state agencies, and the disclosure of  
9 information under the Department of Workforce Services Law, are amended to  
10 read as follows:

11 (3) Information requested by the Department of Human Services  
12 and the Department of Finance and Administration under this subsection shall  
13 be released to the appropriate divisions of the respective departments on a  
14 basis in accordance with a plan to be developed between the appropriate  
15 division of each department and the ~~Department~~ Division of Workforce  
16 Services.

17 (4)(A) In addition to the above, wage information contained in  
18 the records of the ~~Department~~ Division of Workforce Services shall be made  
19 available to the extent necessary for purposes of determining an individual's  
20 eligibility for aid or services or the amount of the aid or services to which  
21 an individual may be entitled under a state plan for aid and services to  
22 needy families with children approved under Part A of Title IV of the Social  
23 Security Act to a state or political subdivision thereof charged with the  
24 responsibility of making the determinations when the information is  
25 specifically requested on an individual by name and Social Security number by  
26 the state or political subdivision for those purposes.

27 (B) The governmental agency or entity requesting any  
28 information under this subsection shall reimburse the ~~Department~~ Division of  
29 Workforce Services for any and all costs incurred by the agency in making the  
30 requested information available.

31  
32 SECTION 206. Arkansas Code § 11-10-314(e)(5)(B), concerning the  
33 disclosure of information to federal entities under the Department of  
34 Workforce Services Law, is amended to read as follows:

35 (B) The requesting agency shall reimburse the ~~Department~~  
36 Division of Workforce Services for the costs incurred in providing the

1 requested information.

2

3 SECTION 207. Arkansas Code § 11-10-314(f)(1)(A), concerning the  
4 examination of records by the parties and the disclosure of information under  
5 the Department of Workforce Services Law, is amended to read as follows:

6 (f)(1)(A)(i) All records, files, and documents of the ~~Department~~  
7 Division of Workforce Services pertaining to claims, benefit payments,  
8 assessments, contributions, disqualifications for benefits, removals of  
9 disqualifications for benefits, charges and credits to accounts, and  
10 classification of employers, wherever located, which relate in any way to an  
11 employer or an employee of the employer shall be made available at all times  
12 for examination by an affected employer, a claimant, or the duly authorized  
13 representative of an employer or a claimant.

14 (ii) But no record, file, or document shall be  
15 removed from the custody of the ~~Department~~ Division of Workforce Services.

16

17 SECTION 208. Arkansas Code § 11-10-314(f)(2), concerning the  
18 application of res judicata to findings of the Department of Workforce  
19 Services and the disclosure of information under the Department of Workforce  
20 Services Law, is amended to read as follows:

21 (2) No finding of fact or conclusion of law contained in a  
22 decision of the ~~Department~~ Division of Workforce Services, an appeals hearing  
23 officer, the Board of Review, or a court obtained under this chapter shall  
24 have a preclusive effect in any other action or proceeding except proceedings  
25 under this chapter.

26

27 SECTION 209. Arkansas Code § 11-10-314(h), concerning the disclosure  
28 of information pursuant to federal law and under the Department of Workforce  
29 Services Law, is amended to read as follows:

30 (h)(1) Notwithstanding any other provisions of this chapter,  
31 information obtained in the administration of this chapter and in the  
32 administration of and concerning programs under the Workforce Innovation and  
33 Opportunity Act, Pub. L. No. 113-128, programs by the ~~Department~~ Division of  
34 Workforce Services shall be made available to persons and agencies for  
35 purposes appropriate to the ~~Department~~ Division of Workforce Services'  
36 operation and administration of programs under the Workforce Innovation and

1 Opportunity Act, Pub. L. No. 113-128.

2 (2) Under an agreement between the ~~Department~~ Division of  
3 Workforce Services and the appropriate agencies, the director shall establish  
4 safeguards as are necessary to protect the confidential information made  
5 available pursuant to this section.

6

7 SECTION 210. Arkansas Code § 11-10-314(i)(1)(B), concerning documents  
8 received into evidence and the disclosure of information under the Department  
9 of Workforce Services Law, is amended to read as follows:

10 (B) Photocopies of ~~Department~~ Division of Workforce  
11 Services records containing the information shall be received in evidence in  
12 any court or administrative proceeding had under the law provided that the  
13 copies have been sealed with the official seal of the director.

14

15 SECTION 211. Arkansas Code § 11-10-314(j)(5)(B), concerning the  
16 disclosure of information to the Arkansas Department of Transportation under  
17 the Department of Workforce Services Law, is amended to read as follows:

18 (B) Other information that is necessary for the effective  
19 operation of their respective programs in order to allow cooperation between  
20 the Arkansas Department of Transportation and the ~~Department~~ Division of  
21 Workforce Services; and

22

23 SECTION 212. Arkansas Code § 11-10-314(j)(6), concerning disclosure of  
24 information obtained by the Director of the Department of Workforce Services,  
25 is amended to read as follows:

26 (6) The ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of Environmental Quality  
27 may be provided the employer's name, mailing address, business location in  
28 Arkansas, the current number of employees, and the code for each employer  
29 classified by the agency in the Standard Industrial Classification Code or an  
30 equivalent classification code under the North American Industry  
31 Classification System.

32

33 SECTION 213. Arkansas Code § 11-10-314(k)(3) and (4), concerning  
34 restrictions on the re-disclosure of information under the Department of  
35 Workforce Services Law, are amended to read as follows:

36 (3) The governmental agency or entity requesting any information

1 under subsection (j) of this section shall reimburse the ~~Department~~ Division  
2 of Workforce Services for any and all costs incurred by the agency in making  
3 the requested information available.

4 (4) Information requested by the state entities specified in  
5 subsection (j) of this section shall be released to the appropriate entities  
6 in accordance with agreements between these entities and the ~~Department~~  
7 Division of Workforce Services.

8  
9 SECTION 214. Arkansas Code § 11-10-314(1), concerning the use of wage  
10 statements in calculating child support obligations and the disclosure of  
11 information under the Department of Workforce Services Law, is amended to  
12 read as follows:

13 (1)(1) Upon receipt of an order from a court of record of this state  
14 by the director for information pertaining to an individual's current wage  
15 file and unemployment benefit payment record as contained in the records of  
16 the ~~Department~~ Division of Workforce Services, the information shall be made  
17 available to the court for the purpose of determining an amount of support to  
18 be set during a proceeding for the establishment or collection of child  
19 support obligations, or both.

20 (2) A photocopy of the records containing the information or a  
21 statement that no information for the requested individual is contained in  
22 the file of the ~~Department~~ Division of Workforce Services under the official  
23 seal of the director shall be received into evidence in the court of record.

24 (3) The court order shall be satisfied by mailing the document  
25 under seal directly to the court of record within ten (10) working days of  
26 receipt of the court order unless a motion challenging the information is  
27 filed or a subpoena is issued requiring the appearance of an employee of the  
28 ~~Department~~ Division of Workforce Services with the court within thirty (30)  
29 days prior to the trial.

30 (4) The director shall comply with the court order for  
31 information if the following conditions are met:

32 (A) The order is delivered at least ten (10) workdays  
33 prior to the date that the information is required;

34 (B) The court order includes the name and Social Security  
35 number of the individual for whom information is requested; and

36 (C) The court order is accompanied by the payment of ten

1 dollars (\$10.00) by the moving party seeking the information to the  
2 ~~Department~~ Division of Workforce Services for costs associated with producing  
3 the information.

4 (5) Provided, however, the ~~Department~~ Division of Workforce  
5 Services may not release information under this subsection if the United  
6 States Secretary of Labor rules that release of the information would be  
7 grounds to find that the state is in substantial noncompliance with 42 U.S.C.  
8 § 503 or 26 U.S.C. § 3304.

9

10 SECTION 215. Arkansas Code § 11-10-314(m)(2), concerning restrictions  
11 on re-disclosure of information under the Department of Workforce Services  
12 Law, is amended to read as follows:

13 (2) The State Insurance Department shall be strictly prohibited  
14 from making any disclosure or ~~redisclosure~~ re-disclosure of any record  
15 containing confidential information provided by the ~~Department~~ Division of  
16 Workforce Services under this subsection.

17

18 SECTION 216. Arkansas Code § 11-10-314(n)(1), concerning the  
19 disclosure of information to the Workers' Compensation Commission under the  
20 Department of Workforce Services Law, is amended to read as follows:

21 (n)(1) ~~Beginning on and after January 1, 1995, the~~ The Workers' Health  
22 and Safety Division of the Workers' Compensation Commission may be furnished,  
23 for production of the extra-hazardous employer identification formula, the  
24 following data to the extent that such data is maintained in the ~~department's~~  
25 Division of Workforce Services' computer database:

26

(A) Employer name;

27

(B) Federal employer identification number;

28

(C) Employer address and plant locations in Arkansas;

29

(D) Employer telephone number;

30

(E) Employer standard industrial classification code;

31

(F) Maximum number of employees by calendar year;

32

(G) Unemployment insurance account number; and

33

(H) Reporting unit number.

34

(2)(A) The Workers' Health and Safety Division shall be strictly  
35 prohibited from making any disclosure or ~~redisclosure~~ re-disclosure of the  
36 confidential information which may be made available to it under this

1 subsection.

2 (B) Additionally, the Workers' Health and Safety Division  
3 shall reimburse the ~~Department~~ Division of Workforce Services for any and all  
4 costs incurred by the ~~Department~~ Division of Workforce Services in making the  
5 information available.

6

7 SECTION 217. Arkansas Code § 11-10-314(o)(3), concerning compliance  
8 with federal law and the disclosure of information under the Department of  
9 Workforce Services Law, is amended to read as follows:

10 (3) Information requested pursuant to Pub. L. No. 104-193 shall  
11 only be released in accordance with an agreement between the ~~Department~~  
12 Division of Workforce Services and the appropriate state or federal agency.  
13 Safeguards protecting the confidentiality of such data and reimbursement of  
14 costs for providing such information will be made part of the agreement.

15

16 SECTION 218. Arkansas Code § 11-10-314(q), concerning the disclosure  
17 of information to the State Insurance Department under the Department of  
18 Workforce Services Law, is amended to read as follows:

19 (q) The Workers' Compensation Fraud Investigation Unit of the State  
20 Insurance Department may be furnished pursuant to a subpoena any individual's  
21 wage file and unemployment benefit payment record as contained in the records  
22 of the ~~Department~~ Division of Workforce Services. These records are being  
23 provided for the sole purpose of investigating potential workers'  
24 compensation fraud. The unit is strictly prohibited from making any  
25 disclosure or ~~redisclosure~~ re-disclosure of the confidential information  
26 which may be made available to it under the provisions of this subsection.  
27 However, records provided to the unit pursuant to this subsection may be made  
28 part of a unit's referral for criminal charges to a local prosecutor under §  
29 11-9-106(d)(3) and used in any resulting criminal trial or prosecution,  
30 including cases tried by employees of the unit under the provisions of § 11-  
31 9-106(e)(2). Reasonable costs may be required for producing the subpoenaed  
32 information.

33

34 SECTION 219. Arkansas Code § 11-10-314(r)(1)-(3), concerning the  
35 disclosure of information for law enforcement purposes under the Department  
36 of Workforce Services Law, are amended to read as follows:

1 (r)(1) The director, pursuant to a valid subpoena issued by a state  
2 prosecuting attorney, the Attorney General, a United States Attorney, a  
3 United States Magistrate Judge, or the Federal Bureau of Investigation, may  
4 release information in the possession of the ~~Department~~ Division of Workforce  
5 Services to law enforcement officials who seek unemployment information for  
6 the investigation or prosecution of a crime or to enforce an order of a court  
7 in a criminal matter.

8 (2) Nothing in this section shall be deemed to prohibit the  
9 ~~Department~~ Division of Workforce Services from providing information  
10 subpoenaed by the Attorney General in any case.

11 (3)(A) The director may release information in the possession of  
12 the ~~Department~~ Division of Workforce Services to federal public officials in  
13 the performance of their official duties acting through the United States  
14 Attorney's office.

15 (B) The information will be disclosed under an information  
16 exchange agreement with the United States Attorney's office, which will  
17 ensure the protection of the confidentiality of the information and the cost  
18 of providing the information.

19  
20 SECTION 220. Arkansas Code § 11-10-314(r)(4)(B), concerning the  
21 obligation to comply with subpoenas and the disclosure of information under  
22 the Department of Workforce Services Law, is amended to read as follows:

23 (B) Honor the subpoena and subpoenas dealing with similar  
24 subject matter, but only if a court of competent jurisdiction finds that the  
25 need to examine the subpoenaed information outweighs the express policy of  
26 maintaining confidentiality in matters involving individuals and employers  
27 dealing with the ~~Department~~ Division of Workforce Services.

28  
29 SECTION 221. Arkansas Code § 11-10-315 is amended to read as follows:

30 11-10-315. Authority to administer oaths, issue subpoenas, etc.

31 In the discharge of the duties imposed by this chapter, the Director of  
32 the ~~Department~~ Division of Workforce Services, the chair of an appeal  
33 tribunal, the members of the Board of Review, and any duly authorized  
34 representative of any of them shall have power to administer oaths and  
35 affirmations, take depositions, certify to official acts, and issue subpoenas  
36 to compel the attendance of witnesses and the production of books, papers,

1 correspondence, memoranda, and other records deemed necessary as evidence in  
2 connection with disputed claims or the administration of this chapter.

3  
4 SECTION 222. Arkansas Code § 11-10-316(a), concerning the refusal to  
5 obey a subpoena, is amended to read as follows:

6 (a) In case of contumacy by or refusal to obey a subpoena issued to  
7 any person, any court of this state within the jurisdiction of which the  
8 inquiry is carried on or within the jurisdiction of which the person guilty  
9 of contumacy or refusal to obey is found or resides or transacts business,  
10 upon application by the Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of Workforce  
11 Services, the Board of Review, the chair of an appeal tribunal, or any duly  
12 authorized representative of any of them shall have jurisdiction to issue to  
13 the person an order requiring the person to appear before the director, the  
14 board, the chair of an appeal tribunal, or any duly authorized representative  
15 of any of them, there to produce evidence if so ordered or there to give  
16 testimony touching the matter under investigation or in question, and any  
17 failure to obey the order of the court may be punished by the court as a  
18 contempt thereof.

19  
20 SECTION 223. Arkansas Code § 11-10-317(a), concerning the protection  
21 against self-incrimination, is amended to read as follows:

22 (a) No person shall be excused from attending and testifying or from  
23 producing books, papers, correspondence, memoranda, and other records before  
24 the Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of Workforce Services, the Board of  
25 Review, the chair of an appeal tribunal, or any duly authorized  
26 representative of any of them or in obedience to the subpoena of any of them  
27 in any cause or proceeding before the director, the board, or an appeal  
28 tribunal on the ground that the testimony or evidence, documentary or  
29 otherwise, required of him or her may tend to incriminate him or her or  
30 subject him or her to a penalty or forfeiture.

31  
32 SECTION 224. Arkansas Code § 11-10-318(a)(1), concerning the  
33 responsibilities of the employing unit, is amended to read as follows:

34 (a)(1) Each employing unit shall keep true and accurate work records,  
35 for such periods of time and containing such information as the Director of  
36 the ~~Department~~ Division of Workforce Services may prescribe.

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SECTION 225. Arkansas Code § 11-10-319(a), concerning representation in court of the Department of Workforce Services, is amended to read as follows:

(a) Civil Actions. In any civil action to enforce the provisions of this chapter, the Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of Workforce Services, the Board of Review, and the state may be represented by any qualified attorney who is employed by the director and is designated by him or her for this purpose or at the director's request by the Attorney General.

SECTION 226. Arkansas Code § 11-10-320(b), concerning the creation of the Employment Security Administration Fund, is amended to read as follows:

(b) All money deposited or paid into this fund shall be continuously available to the Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of Workforce Services for expenditure in accordance with the provisions of this chapter and shall not lapse at any time or be transferred to any other fund.

SECTION 227. Arkansas Code § 11-10-321(b), concerning disbursement from the Employment Security Administration Fund, is amended to read as follows:

(b) Disbursements shall be paid out of the fund on requisitions drawn by the Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of Workforce Services under regulations of the director.

SECTION 228. Arkansas Code § 11-10-322(b), concerning reimbursement of the Employment Security Administration Fund, is amended to read as follows:

(b) Upon receipt of such a finding by the United States Secretary of Labor, the Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of Workforce Services shall promptly report the amount required for the replacement to the Governor, and the Governor shall, at the earliest opportunity, submit to the General Assembly a request for the appropriation of that amount.

SECTION 229. Arkansas Code § 11-10-402 is amended to read as follows:  
11-10-402. Termination.

Except as otherwise provided in § 11-10-403, an employing unit may cease to be an employer subject to this chapter in accordance with the

1 regulations of the Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of Workforce Services.

2  
3 SECTION 230. Arkansas Code § 11-10-403(a)(1), concerning a written  
4 election from an employing unit, is amended to read as follows:

5 (a)(1) An employing unit, not otherwise subject to this chapter, which  
6 filed with the Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of Workforce Services its  
7 written election to become an employer subject hereto for not less than two  
8 (2) calendar years shall, with the written approval of the election by the  
9 director, become an employer subject hereto to the same extent as all other  
10 employers, as of the date stated in the approval.

11  
12 SECTION 231. Arkansas Code § 11-10-404(a)(1)(B), concerning nonprofit  
13 employers, is amended to read as follows:

14 (B) Election is to be made by filing with the Director of  
15 the ~~Department~~ Division of Workforce Services a notice of the election at  
16 least thirty (30) days prior to the effective date of the election.

17  
18 SECTION 232. Arkansas Code § 11-10-501(b), concerning payments from  
19 the Unemployment Compensation Fund, is amended to read as follows:

20 (b) All benefits shall be paid through ~~Department~~ Division of  
21 Workforce Services offices, in accordance with such regulations as the  
22 Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of Workforce Services may prescribe.

23  
24 SECTION 233. Arkansas Code § 11-10-502(e), concerning the weekly  
25 benefit amount for unemployment payments, is amended to read as follows:

26 (e) On June 1 of each year, the Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of  
27 Workforce Services shall determine the average weekly wage for insured  
28 employment for the preceding calendar year in the following manner:

29 (1) The sum of the total monthly employment reported for the  
30 calendar year shall be divided by twelve (12) to determine the average  
31 monthly employment;

32 (2) The sum of the total wages reported for the previous  
33 calendar year shall be divided by the average monthly employment to determine  
34 the average annual wage; and

35 (3) The average annual wage shall be divided by fifty-two (52)  
36 to determine the average weekly wage for insured employment.

1  
2 SECTION 234. Arkansas Code § 11-10-505(a)(2)(B), concerning the  
3 failure of a base-period employer to respond, is amended to read as follows:

4 (B) The Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of Workforce  
5 Services may accept the statement given by the claimant as his or her reason  
6 for separation from the base-period employer and may base his or her  
7 determination on the statement given by the claimant.

8  
9 SECTION 235. Arkansas Code § 11-10-505(c), concerning the failure of a  
10 base-period employer to respond, is amended to read as follows:

11 (c) ~~On or before January 1, 2012, the~~ The director shall make  
12 available on the website of the ~~Department~~ Division of Workforce Services a  
13 program that will allow employers the option to receive and respond to notice  
14 under this section.

15  
16 SECTION 236. Arkansas Code § 11-10-506(a)(2)(A), concerning seasonal  
17 employment and benefit rights, is amended to read as follows:

18 (2)~~(A)~~ After a study of previous employment records, and after  
19 investigation and hearing, the Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of  
20 Workforce Services shall determine the normal seasonal period or periods  
21 during which workers are ordinarily employed for the purpose of carrying on  
22 seasonal operations in each seasonal industry. Until the determination by the  
23 director, no industry shall be deemed to be seasonal. The director may  
24 initiate a study of an industry upon his or her own motion or upon a request  
25 filed with the director by any employing unit or person that would be  
26 affected by any determination made as a result of such a study. If a study is  
27 made, it shall be mandatory for the director to make his or her determination  
28 and report thereon within ninety (90) days after written application for the  
29 determination has been filed. If the director initiates the study of an  
30 industry upon his or her own motion and finds that the industry meets the  
31 seasonal requirements set forth in this section, he or she shall make his or  
32 her determination and report within ninety (90) days after the study is  
33 initiated. In either event, the industry shall be classified as a seasonal  
34 industry effective on the January 1 immediately following the date of the  
35 director's determination. Provided that, any employer who is classified as a  
36 seasonal employer under these provisions may make a written request to the

1 director asking not to be treated as a seasonal employer. If the request is  
2 approved, treatment as a seasonal employer will cease effective January 1 of  
3 the following calendar year.

4  
5 SECTION 237. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 11-10-507,  
6 concerning the registration and reporting required for eligibility for  
7 benefits, is amended to read as follows:

8 An insured worker shall be eligible to receive benefits with respect to  
9 any week only if the Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of Workforce  
10 Services finds that:

11  
12 SECTION 238. Arkansas Code § 11-10-507(2), concerning the registration  
13 and reporting required for eligibility for benefits, is amended to read as  
14 follows:

15 (2) Registration and Reporting. He or she has registered for  
16 work at and thereafter continued to report to a ~~Department~~ Division of  
17 Workforce Services office in accordance with such regulations as the director  
18 may prescribe. The director, by regulation, may waive or alter either or both  
19 of the requirements of this subdivision (2) as to individuals attached to  
20 regular jobs and as to such other types of cases or situations with respect  
21 to which he or she finds that compliance with these requirements would be  
22 oppressive or would be inconsistent with the purpose of this chapter.  
23 However, no such regulations shall conflict with § 11-10-501;

24  
25 SECTION 239. Arkansas Code § 11-10-507(3)(E), concerning registration  
26 by employees who will be recalled by the employer, and the registration and  
27 reporting required for eligibility for benefits, is amended to read as  
28 follows:

29 (E) An individual on short-term layoff who expects to be  
30 recalled by his or her employer to a full-time job and whose employer intends  
31 to recall the individual to a full-time job within ten (10) weeks after the  
32 initial date of his or her layoff shall not be required during the layoff to  
33 register for work at a ~~department~~ division office or to seek other work.

34  
35 SECTION 240. Arkansas Code § 11-10-508(a), concerning the eligibility  
36 for benefits in a labor dispute, is amended to read as follows:

1 (a) If so found by the Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of  
2 Workforce Services, no individual may serve a waiting period or be paid  
3 benefits for the duration of any period of unemployment if he or she lost his  
4 or her employment or has left his or her employment by reason of a labor  
5 dispute other than a lockout at the factory, establishment, or other premises  
6 at which he or she was employed, regardless of whether or not the labor  
7 dispute causes any reduction or cessation of operations at the factory,  
8 establishment, or other premises of the employer, as long as the labor  
9 dispute continues, and thereafter for such reasonable period of time, if any,  
10 as may be necessary for that factory, establishment, or other premises to  
11 resume normal operation.

12  
13 SECTION 241. Arkansas Code § 11-10-513(a)(1), concerning  
14 disqualification for voluntarily leaving work, is amended to read as follows:

15 (a)(1) If so found by the Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of  
16 Workforce Services, an individual shall be disqualified for benefits if he or  
17 she voluntarily and without good cause connected with the work left his or  
18 her last work.

19  
20 SECTION 242. Arkansas Code § 11-10-514(a)(1), concerning  
21 disqualification and discharge for misconduct, is amended to read as follows:

22 (a)(1) If so found by the Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of  
23 Workforce Services, an individual shall be disqualified for benefits if he or  
24 she is discharged from his or her last work for misconduct in connection with  
25 the work.

26  
27 SECTION 243. Arkansas Code § 11-10-515(a)(1)(A), concerning  
28 disqualification for failure or refusal to apply for or accept suitable work,  
29 is amended to read as follows:

30 (a)(1)(A) If so found by the Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of  
31 Workforce Services, an individual shall be disqualified for benefits if he or  
32 she has failed without good cause:

33 (i) To apply for available suitable work when so  
34 directed by a ~~Department~~ Division of Workforce Services office; or

35 (ii) To accept suitable work when offered.

36

1 SECTION 244. Arkansas Code § 11-10-516(a), concerning the  
2 disqualification for refusal to report after a layoff, is amended to read as  
3 follows:

4 (a)(1) If so found by the Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of  
5 Workforce Services, an individual shall be disqualified for benefits if while  
6 on a layoff of ten (10) weeks or less, he or she refuses to report for work  
7 within one (1) week after notice of recall to the same job or to a suitable  
8 job similar to the one from which he or she was laid off, or if while  
9 unemployed, he or she voluntarily removes his or her name from a recall list  
10 set forth in a written contract of a base-period employer, provided that the  
11 employer files a written notice of the refusal of recall or removal from a  
12 recall list with the ~~Department~~ Division of Workforce Services within seven  
13 (7) days of the occurrence.

14 (2) The disqualification shall begin on the date of receipt of  
15 the written notice of refusal of recall or removal from the recall list by  
16 the ~~department~~ division and shall continue until, subsequent to filing his or  
17 her claim, he or she has had at least thirty (30) days of employment covered  
18 by an unemployment compensation law of this state, or another state, or of  
19 the United States.

20  
21 SECTION 245. The introductory language to Arkansas Code § 11-10-517,  
22 concerning the disqualification for the receipt of other remunerations, is  
23 amended to read as follows:

24 If so found by the Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of Workforce  
25 Services, an individual shall be disqualified for benefits for any week with  
26 respect to which he or she receives or has received remuneration in the form  
27 of:

28  
29 SECTION 246. Arkansas Code § 11-10-517(1)(B)(ii)(b), concerning the  
30 allocation of benefits and the disqualification for the receipt of other  
31 remunerations, is amended to read as follows:

32 (b) If the employer does not specify the  
33 number of weeks under subdivision (1)(B)(ii)(a) of this section, the  
34 ~~Department~~ Division of Workforce Services shall allocate the separation pay  
35 using the claimant's average weekly wage;

36

1 SECTION 247. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 11-10-  
2 519(a), concerning the penalty of disqualification for a false statement or  
3 misrepresentation, is amended to read as follows:

4 (a) If so found by the Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of  
5 Workforce Services, an individual shall be disqualified for benefits:

6  
7 SECTION 248. Arkansas Code § 11-10-519(b), concerning the penalty of  
8 disqualification for a false statement or misrepresentation, is amended to  
9 read as follows:

10 (b) Upon request of the Legislative Council, the ~~Department~~ Division  
11 of Workforce Services shall provide reports regarding unemployment insurance  
12 claim fraud and its efforts to prevent the fraud.

13  
14 SECTION 249. Arkansas Code § 11-10-520(a), concerning claims and the  
15 posting of information by an employer, is amended to read as follows:

16 (a) Each employer shall post and maintain, in places readily  
17 accessible to individuals in the employer's employ, printed statements  
18 concerning benefit rights, claims for benefits, and such other matters  
19 relating to the administration of this chapter as the Director of the  
20 ~~Department~~ Division of Workforce Services may by regulation prescribe.

21  
22 SECTION 250. Arkansas Code § 11-10-521(a), concerning claims, filings,  
23 and the notice to the last employer, is amended to read as follows:

24 (a) Claims for benefits shall be made in accordance with regulations  
25 the Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of Workforce Services prescribes.

26  
27 SECTION 251. Arkansas Code § 11-10-521(c), concerning claims, filings,  
28 and the notice to the last employer, is amended to read as follows:

29 (c) On or before January 1, 2012, the director shall make available on  
30 the website of the ~~Department~~ Division of Workforce Services a program that  
31 will allow employers the option to receive and respond to notice under this  
32 section.

33  
34 SECTION 252. Arkansas Code § 11-10-522(a)(1)(A), concerning the  
35 determination of a claim, is amended to read as follows:

36 (1)(A) A monetary determination upon a claim filed pursuant to §

1 11-10-521(a) shall be made promptly by the Director of the ~~Department~~  
2 Division of Workforce Services and shall include total wage credits as  
3 reported paid by each employer during the claimant's base period and the  
4 identity of each base-period employer.

5  
6 SECTION 253. Arkansas Code § 11-10-523(f), concerning the payment of  
7 expenses for the Board of Review, is amended to read as follows:

8 (f) The chair, the members, and the examiner and reporter, as provided  
9 for above, shall all receive their actual and necessary expenses incurred, in  
10 accordance with the regulations of the ~~Department~~ Division of Workforce  
11 Services.

12  
13 SECTION 254. Arkansas Code § 11-10-523(g)(2)(C), concerning facilities  
14 for the Board of Review, is amended to read as follows:

15 (C) The Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of Workforce  
16 Services shall provide the board and appeal tribunals with proper facilities  
17 and assistance for the execution of their functions.

18  
19 SECTION 255. Arkansas Code § 11-10-524(a), concerning appeals from the  
20 decisions of the Board of Review, is amended to read as follows:

21 (a)(1) The claimant, the Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of  
22 Workforce Services, or any other party entitled to notice may appeal a  
23 determination made by the agency by filing a written notice of appeal with  
24 the appeal tribunal or at any office of the ~~Department~~ Division of Workforce  
25 Services within twenty (20) calendar days after the date of mailing the  
26 notice to his or her last known address, or if the notice is not mailed,  
27 within twenty (20) calendar days after the date of delivery of the notice. If  
28 mailed, an appeal shall be considered to have been filed as of the date of  
29 the postmark on the envelope.

30 (2) However, if it is determined by the appeal tribunal or the  
31 Board of Review ~~of the department~~ that the appeal is not perfected within the  
32 twenty-calendar-day period as a result of circumstances beyond the  
33 appellant's control, the appeal may be considered as having been filed  
34 timely.

35  
36 SECTION 256. Arkansas Code § 11-10-526(a)(2), concerning the

1 procedures adopted by the Board of Review, is amended to read as follows:

2 (2) In like manner as provided at § 11-10-307(a) for the  
3 adopting, amending, or rescinding of general rules by the Director of the  
4 ~~Department~~ Division of Workforce Services, the board may adopt reasonable  
5 regulations governing the manner of filing appeals, the conduct of hearings,  
6 and other appellate procedures, consistent with this chapter.

7  
8 SECTION 257. Arkansas Code § 11-10-527(a), concerning the claims and  
9 conclusiveness of determinations and decisions by the Board of Review, is  
10 amended to read as follows:

11 (a) Except insofar as reconsideration of any determination is had  
12 under the provisions of § 11-10-522, any right, fact, or matter in issue,  
13 directly passed upon or necessarily involved in a determination or  
14 redetermination that has become final, or in a decision on appeal under §§  
15 11-10-523 – 11-10-530 that has become final, shall be conclusive for all the  
16 purposes of this chapter as between the Director of the ~~Department~~ Division  
17 of Workforce Services, the claimant, and all employing units who had notice  
18 of the determination, redetermination, or decision.

19  
20 SECTION 258. Arkansas Code § 11-10-528(a), concerning the finality of  
21 decisions of the Board of Review, is amended to read as follows:

22 (a) The final decisions of the Board of Review or of an appeal  
23 tribunal, and the principles of law declared by it in arriving at the  
24 decisions, unless expressly or impliedly overruled by a later decision of the  
25 board or by a court of competent jurisdiction, shall be binding upon the  
26 Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of Workforce Services and any examiner or  
27 appeal tribunal in subsequent proceedings which involve similar questions of  
28 law.

29  
30 SECTION 259. Arkansas Code § 11-10-529(a)(2)(B), concerning petitions  
31 for review, claims, and judicial review of decisions of the Board of Review,  
32 is amended to read as follows:

33 (B) The Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of Workforce  
34 Services is made a party to the proceedings.

35  
36 SECTION 260. Arkansas Code § 11-10-530(a), concerning claims,

1 representation, and administrative appeals regarding a claim for benefits,  
2 is amended to read as follows:

3 (a) The Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of Workforce Services  
4 shall be a party entitled to notice in any proceeding involving a claim for  
5 benefits before a special examiner, an appeal tribunal, or the Board of  
6 Review.

7  
8 SECTION 261. Arkansas Code § 11-10-532(a)(1), concerning claims,  
9 recovery, and repayment to the Unemployment Compensation Fund, is amended to  
10 read as follows:

11 (a)(1) If the Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of Workforce  
12 Services finds that a person knowingly has made a false statement or  
13 misrepresentation of a material fact or knowingly has failed to disclose a  
14 material fact and as a result of either action has received benefits under  
15 this chapter to which he or she was not entitled, then he or she is liable to  
16 repay the amount to the Unemployment Compensation Fund, or the director may  
17 recover the amount of the overpayment by deductions from any future benefits  
18 payable to the person under this chapter.

19  
20 SECTION 262. Arkansas Code § 11-10-532(d)(4), concerning claims,  
21 recovery, and repayment to the Unemployment Compensation Fund, is amended to  
22 read as follows:

23 (4) An interest payment recovered from an overpayment to a  
24 claimant shall be deposited into the ~~Department~~ Division of Workforce  
25 Services Special Fund.

26  
27 SECTION 263. Arkansas Code § 11-10-532(f), concerning decisions by the  
28 Department of Workforce Services, claims, recovery, and repayment to the  
29 Unemployment Compensation Fund, is amended to read as follows:

30 (f) The ~~Department~~ Division of Workforce Services may issue an  
31 overpayment determination contemporaneously with any other determination.

32  
33 SECTION 264. Arkansas Code § 11-10-533(a), concerning the  
34 investigation of claims filed by state employees, is amended to read as  
35 follows:

36 (a) The ~~Department~~ Division of Workforce Services shall investigate

1 all claims for benefits filed by state employees whether or not the employing  
2 state agency lodges a protest to the payment of the benefits.

3  
4 SECTION 265. Arkansas Code § 11-10-534(8)(A), concerning the  
5 definition of "rate of insured unemployment" under the laws governing  
6 unemployment benefits, is amended to read as follows:

7 (A) The average weekly number of individuals filing claims  
8 for regular benefits in this state for weeks of unemployment with respect to  
9 the most recent thirteen (13) consecutive week period, as determined by the  
10 Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of Workforce Services on the basis of his  
11 or her reports to the United States Secretary of Labor; by

12  
13 SECTION 266. Arkansas Code § 11-10-535 is amended to read as follows:  
14 11-10-535. Extended benefits – Effect of provisions relating to  
15 regular benefits.

16 Except when the result would be inconsistent with the other provisions  
17 of this section, as provided in the regulations of the Director of the  
18 ~~Department~~ Division of Workforce Services, the provisions of this chapter  
19 which apply to claims for, or the payment of, regular benefits shall apply to  
20 claims for, and the payment of, extended benefits.

21  
22 SECTION 267. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 11-10-536,  
23 concerning edibility for extended benefits, is amended to read as follows:

24 An individual shall be eligible to receive extended benefits with  
25 respect to any week of unemployment in his or her eligibility period only if  
26 the Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of Workforce Services finds that with  
27 respect to that week:

28  
29 SECTION 268. Arkansas Code § 11-10-539(a), concerning extended  
30 benefits, periods, and computations, is amended to read as follows:

31 (a) Whenever an extended benefit period is to become effective in this  
32 state as a result of a state "on" indicator or an extended benefit period is  
33 to be terminated in this state as a result of a state "off" indicator, the  
34 Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of Workforce Services shall have  
35 published an appropriate notice in newspapers of general circulation in the  
36 state.

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SECTION 269. Arkansas Code § 11-10-541 is amended to read as follows:  
11-10-541. Extended benefits – Overpayments.

The Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of Workforce Services shall establish and recover extended benefit overpayments in the manner prescribed in § 11-10-532.

SECTION 270. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 11-10-543(a), concerning the failure to accept or seek suitable work and extended benefits, is amended to read as follows:

(a) Notwithstanding the provisions of § 11-10-535, an individual shall be ineligible for payment of extended benefits for any week of unemployment in his or her eligibility period if the Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of Workforce Services finds that during that period:

SECTION 271. Arkansas Code § 11-10-543(i) and (j), concerning the failure to accept or seek suitable work and extended benefits, are amended to read as follows:

(i) The ~~Department~~ Division of Workforce Services shall enforce this section.

(j) The director shall make quarterly reports to the Legislative Council on the ~~department's~~ division's efforts to enforce this section, including without limitation:

(1) The number of cases of benefit recipients accused of not accepting valid job offers;

(2) The disposition of cases reported under subdivision (j)(1) of this section; and

(3) The policies and steps the ~~department~~ division is taking to eliminate and reduce refusals to accept valid job offers.

SECTION 272. Arkansas Code § 11-10-543(k), concerning electronic reporting and the failure to accept or seek suitable work and extended benefits, is amended to read as follows:

(k)(1) The ~~department~~ division shall facilitate electronic reporting of a benefit recipient who refuses to take an offered job either through outright refusal, failing a drug test, or other means.

1           (2) The ~~department~~ division may facilitate electronic reporting  
2 under subdivision (k)(1) of this section by an easy-to-understand and -use  
3 website created for the purpose or created for another purpose that  
4 facilitates easy reporting by potential employers and others.

5  
6           SECTION 273. Arkansas Code § 11-10-543(1), concerning the failure to  
7 accept or seek suitable work and extended benefits, is amended to read as  
8 follows:

9           (1)(1) The ~~department~~ division shall notify periodically an employer  
10 regarding the method for reporting a benefit recipient who fails to take a  
11 job either through outright refusal, failing a drug test, or other means.

12           (2) The ~~department~~ division may notify an employer at least two  
13 times (2) per year regarding the method for reporting under subdivision  
14 (1)(1) of this section by electronic means that are economically feasible and  
15 may be a part of another communication to the employer.

16  
17           SECTION 274. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 11-10-  
18 544(a), concerning reciprocal arrangements with state and federal agencies,  
19 is amended to read as follows:

20           (a) The Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of Workforce Services is  
21 authorized to enter into reciprocal arrangements with appropriate and duly  
22 authorized agencies of other states or of the federal government, or both,  
23 whereby:

24  
25           SECTION 275. Arkansas Code § 11-10-601(2), concerning the definition  
26 of "approved plan" under the law regarding shared work plans, is amended to  
27 read as follows:

28           (2) "Approved plan" means an employer's voluntary written plan  
29 for reducing unemployment under which a specified group of employees shares  
30 the work remaining after their normal weekly hours of work are reduced, which  
31 plan meets the requirements of § 11-10-604, and which plan has been approved  
32 in writing by the Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of Workforce Services;

33  
34           SECTION 276. Arkansas Code § 11-10-604(a), concerning the criteria for  
35 approval to participate in a shared work plan, is amended to read as follows:

36           (a) An employer wishing to participate in a shared work program shall

1 submit a signed written shared work compensation plan to the Director of the  
2 ~~Department~~ Division of Workforce Services for approval.

3  
4 SECTION 277. Arkansas Code § 11-10-605(a), concerning the approval or  
5 rejection of a shared work plan, is amended to read as follows:

6 (a) The Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of Workforce Services  
7 shall approve or reject a plan in writing within thirty (30) days of its  
8 receipt.

9  
10 SECTION 278. Arkansas Code § 11-10-606(a), concerning the effective  
11 date and duration of a shared work plan, is amended to read as follows:

12 (a) A plan shall be effective on the date specified in the plan or on  
13 a date mutually agreed upon by the employer and the Director of the  
14 ~~Department~~ Division of Workforce Services but no earlier than the date of  
15 approval of the plan by the director.

16  
17 SECTION 279. Arkansas Code § 11-10-607(a)(1), concerning the  
18 revocation of approval for a shared work plan, is amended to read as follows:

19 (a)(1) The Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of Workforce Services  
20 may revoke approval of a plan for good cause.

21  
22 SECTION 280. Arkansas Code § 11-10-608(a), concerning the modification  
23 of an approved shared work plan, is amended to read as follows:

24 (a) An operational, approved, shared work plan may be modified by the  
25 employer with the acquiescence of employee representatives if the  
26 modification is not substantial and is in conformity with the plan approved  
27 by the Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of Workforce Services, but the  
28 modifications must be reported promptly to the director.

29  
30 SECTION 281. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 11-10-  
31 609(a), concerning the eligibility for compensation under a shared work plan,  
32 is amended to read as follows:

33 (a) An individual is eligible to receive shared work unemployment  
34 compensation benefits with respect to any week only if, in addition to  
35 monetary entitlement, the Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of Workforce  
36 Services finds that:

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SECTION 282. Arkansas Code § 11-10-610(d), concerning filing of claims for shared work unemployment compensation, is amended to read as follows:

(d) Claims for shared work unemployment compensation benefits shall be filed in the same manner as claims for unemployment compensation or as prescribed in regulations by the Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of Workforce Services.

SECTION 283. Arkansas Code § 11-10-701(a)(2), concerning the accrual and payment by an employer of contributions, is amended to read as follows:

(2) The contributions shall become due and be paid by each employer to the Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of Workforce Services for the Unemployment Compensation Fund in accordance with such regulations as the director may prescribe and shall not be deducted, in whole or in part, from the wages of individuals in employment for the employer.

SECTION 284. Arkansas Code § 11-10-703(a)(1)(A), concerning the maintenance of separate accounts, is amended to read as follows:

(a)(1)(A) The Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of Workforce Services shall maintain a separate account for each employer and shall credit the employer's account with all the contributions paid on the employer's own behalf except as otherwise provided in §§ 11-10-701 – 11-10-715.

SECTION 285. Arkansas Code § 11-10-703(a)(6)(A), concerning the repayment of an overpayment to a claimant, is amended to read as follows:

(A) An overpayment of benefits is the result of a failure by an employer or the employer's agent to respond timely or adequately to a request for information from the ~~Department~~ Division of Workforce Services; and

SECTION 286. Arkansas Code § 11-10-704(a), concerning the fixing of contribution rates, future rates, and experience rates, is amended to read as follows:

(a) The Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of Workforce Services shall, for each calendar year, classify employers in accordance with their actual experience in the payment of contributions on their own behalf and

1 with respect to regular benefits charged against their accounts, with a view  
2 to fixing the contribution rates as will reflect their experience.

3  
4 SECTION 287. Arkansas Code § 11-10-705(c)(1)(B), concerning the annual  
5 notices provided to employers, is amended to read as follows:

6 (B) The Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of Workforce  
7 Services shall provide to each eligible employer an annual notice of  
8 voluntary payment amounts that may be submitted to reduce the employer's  
9 contribution rate.

10  
11 SECTION 288. Arkansas Code § 11-10-706(f), concerning future rates and  
12 the stabilization tax, is amended to read as follows:

13 (f)(1)(A) However, the proceeds of the stabilization tax in the amount  
14 of two and one-half hundredths of one percent (0.025%) of taxable wages  
15 collected during the period July 1, 2007, through June 30, 2019, shall be  
16 deposited and credited to the ~~Department~~ Division of Workforce Services  
17 Training Trust Fund, there to be used for worker training.

18 (B) The total amount deposited into the ~~Department~~  
19 Division of Workforce Services Training Trust Fund in any one (1) fiscal year  
20 shall not exceed two million five hundred thousand dollars (\$2,500,000).

21 (2)(A) However, the proceeds of the stabilization tax in the  
22 amount of two and one-half hundredths of one percent (0.025%) of taxable  
23 wages collected during the period July 1, 2007, through June 30, 2019, shall  
24 be deposited and credited to the ~~Department~~ Division of Workforce Services  
25 Unemployment Insurance Administration Fund, there to be used for personal  
26 services and operating expenses of the unemployment insurance program  
27 necessary for the proper administration of the ~~Department~~ Division of  
28 Workforce Services Law, § 11-10-101 et seq., as determined by the Director of  
29 the ~~Department~~ Division of Workforce Services.

30 (B)(i) The total amount deposited into the ~~Department~~  
31 Division of Workforce Services Unemployment Insurance Administration Fund in  
32 any one (1) fiscal year shall not exceed two million five hundred thousand  
33 dollars (\$2,500,000).

34 (ii) If the amount deposited into the ~~Department~~  
35 Division of Workforce Services Unemployment Insurance Administration Fund  
36 under subdivision (f)(2)(B)(i) of this section is not sufficient to meet the

1 administrative needs under the ~~Department~~ Division of Workforce Services Law,  
2 § 11-10-101 et seq., the ~~Department~~ Division of Workforce Services may  
3 deposit up to an additional three million five hundred thousand dollars  
4 (\$3,500,000) in any one (1) fiscal year to the ~~Department~~ Division of  
5 Workforce Services Unemployment Insurance Administration Fund upon approval  
6 by the Chief Fiscal Officer of the State.

7 (3) The director shall report to the Legislative Council on a  
8 quarterly basis as to any and all uses of the ~~Department~~ Division of  
9 Workforce Services Training Trust Fund and the ~~Department~~ Division of  
10 Workforce Services Unemployment Insurance Administration Fund.

11  
12 SECTION 289. Arkansas Code § 11-10-707(a)(2)(B), concerning the timing  
13 and manner of voluntary elections made by an employer, is amended to read as  
14 follows:

15 (B) A voluntary election by an employer shall be made at  
16 the time and in the manner prescribed by regulations of the Director of the  
17 ~~Department~~ Division of Workforce Services.

18  
19 SECTION 290. Arkansas Code § 11-10-708(b)(4), concerning advance  
20 interest tax and future rates, is amended to read as follows:

21 (4) All withdrawals shall be upon voucher warrants issued, or  
22 caused to be issued, by the Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of Workforce  
23 Services as authorized by legislative appropriation and, except as otherwise  
24 provided herein, shall be used only for the purpose of:

25 (A) Paying interest incurred by the state on advances  
26 obtained from the federal Unemployment Trust Fund under Title XII of the  
27 Social Security Act;

28 (B) Making refunds of the aforementioned advance interest  
29 tax and interest and penalty payments attributed to the advance interest tax  
30 which were erroneously paid; and

31 (C) Returning moneys to the Unemployment Compensation Fund  
32 Clearing Account that may have been incorrectly identified and erroneously  
33 transferred to the Employment Security Advance Interest Trust Fund in the  
34 State Treasury.

35  
36 SECTION 291. Arkansas Code § 11-10-708(c)(2), concerning advance

1 interest tax and future rates, is repealed.

2 ~~(2) Notwithstanding any other provision of this section, all~~  
3 ~~income from investment of the Employment Security Advance Interest Trust Fund~~  
4 ~~earned during calendar years 1995 and 1996 shall be deposited and credited to~~  
5 ~~the Department of Workforce Services Special Fund, § 19-5-984, as set out in~~  
6 ~~§ 11-10-716.~~

7  
8 SECTION 292. Arkansas Code § 11-10-710(a)(2), concerning the transfer  
9 of experience, is amended to read as follows:

10 (2) The separate account of the predecessor employer shall be  
11 transferred by the Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of Workforce Services  
12 to the successor employing unit and, as of the date of the acquisition, shall  
13 become the separate account or part of the separate account, as the case may  
14 be, of the successor employing unit, and the regular benefits thereafter  
15 chargeable to the predecessor employer on account of employment prior to the  
16 date of the acquisition shall be charged to the separate account of the  
17 successor employing unit.

18  
19 SECTION 293. Arkansas Code § 11-10-711(a), concerning the temporary  
20 closing of a business because of an absence in the armed forces, is amended  
21 to read as follows:

22 (a) Notwithstanding any inconsistent provisions of this chapter, if  
23 the Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of Workforce Services finds that an  
24 employer's business was closed solely because of the entrance of one (1) or  
25 more of the owners, officers, partners, or the majority stockholder into the  
26 armed forces of the United States or any of its allies, or of the United  
27 Nations after December 31, 1949, the employer's account shall, for experience  
28 rating purposes, not be considered as terminated. If the business is resumed  
29 by the employer within one (1) year after the discharge or release of the  
30 person from active duty in the armed forces, the employer's experience shall  
31 be deemed to have been continuous through the closed period.

32  
33 SECTION 294. Arkansas Code § 11-10-712(a), concerning an employer  
34 ceasing to pay wages, is amended to read as follows:

35 (a) Whenever an employer has paid no wages for a period of twelve (12)  
36 consecutive calendar quarters following the latest calendar quarter that the

1 employer paid wages in employment, the Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of  
2 Workforce Services shall terminate the employer's experience rating account  
3 and shall destroy the records of the account.  
4

5 SECTION 295. Arkansas Code § 11-10-713(c)(1), concerning the employees  
6 of nonprofit organizations and governmental entities, is amended to read as  
7 follows:

8 (c)(1) Any nonprofit organization or government employing unit which,  
9 pursuant to § 11-10-210(a)(2) or (a)(3), is subject to this chapter shall pay  
10 contributions under § 11-10-701 unless it elects, in accordance with this  
11 subsection, to pay to the Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of Workforce  
12 Services for the Unemployment Compensation Fund an amount equal to the amount  
13 of regular benefits and, to the extent that the fund is not reimbursed for  
14 the extended benefits in accordance with Section 204 of the Federal-State  
15 Extended Unemployment Compensation Act of 1970, the extended benefits paid,  
16 based on wages paid by the employer to individuals for weeks of unemployment  
17 that begin during the effective period of the election.  
18

19 SECTION 296. Arkansas Code § 11-10-713(d)(6)(A), concerning  
20 overpayments to employees of nonprofit organizations and governmental  
21 entities, is amended to read as follows:

22 (A) An overpayment of benefits is the result of a failure  
23 by an employer or the employer's agent to respond timely or adequately to a  
24 request for information from the ~~Department~~ Division of Workforce Services;  
25 and  
26

27 SECTION 297. Arkansas Code § 11-10-713(e)(1)(C), concerning payments  
28 in lieu of contributions, is amended to read as follows:

29 (C) The ~~Department~~ Division of Workforce Services shall  
30 bill and the Chief Fiscal Officer of the State shall promptly reimburse the  
31 ~~department~~ division for such benefit payments in accordance with subsection  
32 (d) of this section; and  
33

34 SECTION 298. Arkansas Code § 11-10-716(a)(1), concerning the  
35 collection of interest on past due contributions, is amended to read as  
36 follows:

1 (a)(1) If contributions are not paid on the date on which they are due  
2 and payable as prescribed by the Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of  
3 Workforce Services, the whole or part thereafter remaining unpaid shall bear  
4 interest at the rate of one and one-half percent (1.5%) per month from and  
5 after the due date until payment is received by the director.

6  
7 SECTION 299. Arkansas Code § 11-10-716(b)(1)(A), concerning the  
8 transfer of interest and penalty payments on past due contributions, is  
9 amended to read as follows:

10 (b)(1)(A) At the end of each month, deposits in the Unemployment  
11 Compensation Fund Clearing Account which have been established as interest  
12 and penalty payments collected pursuant to §§ 11-10-716 – 11-10-723 shall be  
13 paid over to the Treasurer of State and credited by him or her to the  
14 ~~Department~~ Division of Workforce Services Special Fund, § 19-5-984, created  
15 and established in the State Treasury.

16  
17 SECTION 300. Arkansas Code § 11-10-716(b)(1)(B)(iii), concerning the  
18 allowable purposes for withdrawals, and the collection of interest on past  
19 due contributions, is amended to read as follows:

20 (iii) Such other and additional purposes necessary  
21 to the proper administration of this chapter as specifically provided in the  
22 appropriation for the ~~Department~~ Division of Workforce Services.

23  
24 SECTION 301. Arkansas Code § 11-10-717(a)(1)(A), concerning the  
25 collection, failure to pay or report, and penalties, is amended to read as  
26 follows:

27 (a)(1)(A) If, after due notice, any employer defaults in any payment  
28 of contributions or interest thereon, the amount due may be collected by  
29 civil action in the name of the Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of  
30 Workforce Services.

31  
32 SECTION 302. Arkansas Code § 11-10-717(c)(1)(B), concerning the  
33 authority of the Department of Workfore Services to collect moneys owed, and  
34 the failure to pay or report, and penalties, is amended to read as follows:

35 (B) The director is empowered to effect collection of  
36 unemployment contributions, penalties, interest, benefit overpayments, court

1 costs, and reasonable attorney's fees due the ~~Department~~ Division of  
2 Workforce Services in any jurisdiction that extends such comity.

3  
4 SECTION 303. Arkansas Code § 11-10-718(b)(1)(B), concerning collection  
5 and priorities under legal dissolutions or distributions, is amended to read  
6 as follows:

7 (B)(i) The proceedings for enforcing the lien herein  
8 provided for shall be brought in the name of the Director of the ~~Department~~  
9 Division of Workforce Services.

10 (ii) All liens issued under this chapter by the  
11 Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of Labor shall remain in full force and  
12 effect and shall be fully enforceable by the Director of the ~~Department~~  
13 Division of Workforce Services.

14  
15 SECTION 304. Arkansas Code § 11-10-718(b)(3), concerning the validity  
16 of liens, collection, and priorities under legal dissolutions or  
17 distributions, is amended to read as follows:

18 (3) The lien shall not be valid against any mortgagee, pledgee,  
19 purchaser, or judgment creditor until the certificate of assessment provided  
20 for in § 11-10-720 has been filed with the clerk of the circuit court of the  
21 county wherein the employer domiciles or has a place of business, or suit has  
22 been filed by the Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of Workforce Services  
23 in a court of competent jurisdiction under § 11-10-717.

24  
25 SECTION 305. Arkansas Code § 11-10-718(c), concerning the release of  
26 liens, collection, and priorities under legal dissolutions or distributions,  
27 is amended to read as follows:

28 (c)(1) Upon written application by any person, the Director of the  
29 ~~Department~~ Division of Workforce Services or his or her designee may release  
30 from a lien any property or part of the property subject to the lien  
31 described in subdivision (b)(1) of this section, provided that:

32 (A) The Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of Workforce  
33 Services or his or her designee determines at any time that the interest of  
34 the ~~Department~~ Division of Workforce Services has no value; or

35 (B) The Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of Workforce  
36 Services or his or her designee determines that the lien is clouding the

1 title of the property because of an error in the description of properties or  
2 similarity in names.

3 (2) In determining the value of the interest of the ~~department~~  
4 division in the property to be released, the Director of the ~~Department~~  
5 Division of Workforce Services or his or her designee shall give  
6 consideration to the value of the property and to the liens thereon having  
7 priority over the lien of the ~~department~~ division.

8

9 SECTION 306. Arkansas Code § 11-10-719(a) and (b), concerning  
10 collection and refunds, are amended to read as follows:

11 (a)(1) If not later than three (3) years after the date of payment of  
12 any amount as a contribution, interest, or penalty pursuant to this chapter,  
13 any employer who has made such a payment makes application for an adjustment  
14 thereof in connection with a subsequent contribution, interest, or penalty  
15 payment, or for a refund because the adjustment cannot be made, and the  
16 Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of Workforce Services determines that  
17 payment of the contribution, interest, or penalty, or any portion thereof,  
18 was erroneous, the director may allow the employer to make an adjustment of  
19 the amount erroneously paid, without interest, in connection with subsequent  
20 contribution, interest, or penalty payments by the employer.

21 (2) If the adjustment cannot be made, the director may refund,  
22 without interest, from the Unemployment Compensation Fund or from the  
23 ~~Department~~ Division of Workforce Services Special Fund, as applicable, the  
24 amount erroneously paid.

25 (b) However, the director shall not allow any adjustment in connection  
26 with subsequent contributions for amounts of interest or penalty payments  
27 collected on or after July 1, 1965, nor shall he or she refund any payment  
28 from the Unemployment Compensation Fund or any account of the Unemployment  
29 Compensation Fund, except that he or she may refund any payment from the  
30 interest and penalties collected after that date which are in the clearing  
31 account pending transfer to the ~~Department~~ Division of Workforce Services  
32 Special Fund.

33

34 SECTION 307. Arkansas Code § 11-10-720(a)(1), concerning collection  
35 and a certificate of assessment, is amended to read as follows:

36 (a)(1) If any person, firm, or corporation shall become delinquent in

1 the payment of any contribution, interest, or penalties required to be paid  
2 by this chapter, it shall be the duty of the Director of the ~~Department~~  
3 Division of Workforce Services, when the amount of the contribution,  
4 interest, and penalties is determined, either by the report of the employer  
5 or by such investigations as the director may have made, to assess the  
6 contributions, interest, and penalties so determined against the delinquent  
7 employer and to certify the amount of the contributions, interest, and  
8 penalties and mail or otherwise deliver a copy of the assessment to the  
9 delinquent employer.

10  
11 SECTION 308. Arkansas Code § 11-10-720(a)(3), concerning the execution  
12 of a certificate of assessment, is amended to read as follows:

13 (3) Execution shall be issuable, at the request of the director,  
14 his or her agent or attorney, or any other employee of the ~~Department~~  
15 Division of Workforce Services, forthwith by the clerk of the circuit court,  
16 directed to the sheriff, who shall make a levy on any property, assets, or  
17 effects of the employer against whom the contribution is assessed.

18  
19 SECTION 309. Arkansas Code § 11-10-721(b), concerning the collection  
20 and limitation of assessment, is amended to read as follows:

21 (b) In the case of a false or fraudulent return with intent to evade  
22 tax or a failure to file reports required by this chapter or by the Director  
23 of the ~~Department~~ Division of Workforce Services pursuant to the provisions  
24 of this chapter, the tax may be assessed or a proceeding in court for the  
25 collection of the tax may be begun at any time.

26  
27 SECTION 310. Arkansas Code § 11-10-722(a) and (b), concerning the  
28 collection and impoundment of deposits of an employer owing delinquent  
29 contributions, are amended to read as follows:

30 (a) The Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of Workforce Services or  
31 his or her designated representative may give notice of impoundment of any  
32 deposits in any bank or savings and loan institution payable to the order of  
33 any employer owing any delinquent contributions, interest, and penalties to  
34 which a lien has attached under this chapter. Notice of impoundment shall be  
35 served by the director or his or her designated representative by certified  
36 mail to the bank or savings and loan institution or by written notice served

1 personally upon its president, vice president, cashier, or assistant cashier.

2 (b) Any bank or savings and loan institution served with notice of  
3 impoundment shall be required to recognize the ~~Department~~ Division of  
4 Workforce Services' lien on any deposit subject thereto by withholding  
5 payment of any deposit in an amount not to exceed the amount of the  
6 delinquent contributions, interest, and penalty to the depositor or to his or  
7 her order for a period not to exceed sixty (60) days.

8  
9 SECTION 311. Arkansas Code § 11-10-723(a)(2), concerning special rules  
10 regarding transfers of experience and assignment of rates, is amended to read  
11 as follows:

12 (2) If following a transfer of experience under subdivision  
13 (a)(1) of this section or transfer of experience as otherwise provided in  
14 this chapter involving only a portion of a trade or business, the Director of  
15 the ~~Department~~ Division of Workforce Services determines that a substantial  
16 purpose of the transfer was to obtain a reduced liability for contributions,  
17 then the experience rating accounts of the employers involved shall be  
18 combined into a single account and a single rate assigned to such an account  
19 effective the first day of the calendar quarter following the date of  
20 transfer.

21  
22 SECTION 312. Arkansas Code § 11-10-723(c)(1), concerning penalties for  
23 violations, and special rules regarding transfers of experience and  
24 assignment of rates, is amended to read as follows:

25 (c)(1) Knowing violations or attempted violations of subsection (a) or  
26 (b) of this section or any other provision of this subchapter related to  
27 determining the assignment of a contribution rate shall result in an  
28 additional two-percent rate increase for the rate year during which the  
29 violation or attempted violation occurred and a two-percent additional rate  
30 increase in each of the following three (3) rate years. In addition to the  
31 rate increases, a penalty of ten percent (10%) of total taxes due shall also  
32 be assessed in each of these rate years. All penalty amounts shall be  
33 deposited and credited to the ~~Department~~ Division of Workforce Services  
34 Special Fund as set out in § 11-10-716. The additional tax and penalty  
35 required by this subsection shall not be credited to the separate account of  
36 any employer, nor shall any employer whose contribution rate has been

1 affected by this subsection be eligible to make a voluntary payment pursuant  
2 to § 11-10-705(c).

3  
4 SECTION 313. Arkansas Code § 11-10-801(a), concerning the  
5 establishment and control of the Unemployment Compensation Fund, is amended  
6 to read as follows:

7 (a) There is established as a special fund, separate and apart from  
8 all public moneys or funds of this state, the Unemployment Compensation Fund,  
9 which shall be administered by the Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of  
10 Workforce Services exclusively for the purposes of this chapter.

11  
12 SECTION 314. Arkansas Code § 11-10-802(a), concerning the accounts and  
13 deposits for the Unemployment Compensation Fund, is amended to read as  
14 follows:

15 (a)(1) The Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of Workforce Services  
16 shall be ex officio treasurer and custodian of the Unemployment Compensation  
17 Fund and disbursing officer of the ~~Department~~ Division of Workforce Services.

18 (2) The director shall administer the Unemployment Compensation  
19 Fund and shall maintain within the Unemployment Compensation Fund three (3)  
20 separate accounts:

21 (A) A clearing account;

22 (B) An Unemployment Compensation Trust Fund Account; and

23 (C) A benefit account.

24  
25 SECTION 315. Arkansas Code § 11-10-803(a)(1), concerning withdrawals  
26 from the federal Unemployment Trust Fund, is amended to read as follows:

27 (a)(1) Money requisitioned from this state's account in the federal  
28 Unemployment Trust Fund shall be used exclusively for the payment of benefits  
29 and for refunds from the Unemployment Trust Fund authorized by this chapter,  
30 except that money credited to this state's account pursuant to § 903 of the  
31 Social Security Act shall be used exclusively as provided in this section.  
32 The Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of Workforce Services shall, from  
33 time to time, requisition from the federal Unemployment Trust Fund such  
34 amounts not exceeding the amounts standing to this state's account therein as  
35 he or she deems necessary for the payment of benefits and refunds for a  
36 reasonable future period. Upon receipt thereof, the money shall be deposited

1 in the benefit account.

2

3 SECTION 316. Arkansas Code § 11-10-804(b)(1), concerning the  
4 termination of the federal Unemployment Trust Fund, is amended to read as  
5 follows:

6 (b)(1) If and when the federal Unemployment Trust Fund ceases to  
7 exist, or such separate book account is no longer maintained, all moneys,  
8 properties, and securities belonging to the Unemployment Compensation Fund of  
9 this state shall be administered by the Director of the ~~Department~~ Division  
10 of Workforce Services as a trust fund for the purpose of paying benefits  
11 under this chapter.

12

13 SECTION 317. Arkansas Code § 11-10-901(a)(1), concerning the creation,  
14 administration, and authority of the Director of the Department of Workforce  
15 Services, is amended to read as follows:

16 (a)(1) The Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of Workforce Services  
17 is assigned responsibility for the administration of the State New Hire  
18 Registry.

19

20 SECTION 318. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 11-10-  
21 902(b)(2), concerning reporting requirements, obligations, confidentiality,  
22 and enforcement of child support obligations, is amended to read as follows:

23 (2) An employer shall report electronically or in any manner  
24 authorized by the ~~Department~~ Division of Workforce Services for inclusion in  
25 the State New Hire Registry whenever an employee:

26

27 SECTION 319. Arkansas Code § 11-10-902(c)(1), concerning reporting  
28 requirements, obligations, confidentiality, and enforcement of child support  
29 obligations and the New Hire Registry database, is amended to read as  
30 follows:

31 (c)(1) Information reported pursuant to this section shall be entered  
32 into the State New Hire Registry database maintained by the ~~Department~~  
33 Division of Workforce Services or its designated contractor within five (5)  
34 business days of receipt from an employer. As used herein, "business day"  
35 means a day on which state offices are open for regular business.

36

1 SECTION 320. Arkansas Code § 11-10-902(c)(3), concerning reporting  
2 requirements, obligations, confidentiality, and enforcement of child support  
3 obligations and timely reporting to the National Directory of New Hires, is  
4 amended to read as follows:

5 (3) Within three (3) business days after the date information  
6 regarding a newly hired employee is entered into the State New Hire Registry,  
7 the ~~Department~~ Division of Workforce Services or its designated contractor  
8 shall furnish the information to the National Directory of New Hires.

9  
10 SECTION 321. Arkansas Code § 11-10-902(c)(5)(B), concerning reporting  
11 requirements, obligations, confidentiality, and enforcement of child support  
12 obligations, and the sharing of information with other state agencies, is  
13 amended to read as follows:

14 (B) The ~~Department~~ Division of Workforce Services shall  
15 have access to information reported by employers pursuant to this section for  
16 purposes of administering the ~~Department~~ Division of Workforce Services'  
17 programs.

18  
19 SECTION 322. Arkansas Code § 11-10-902(d)(1), concerning reporting  
20 requirements, obligations, confidentiality, and enforcement of child support  
21 obligations, and the sharing of information for enforcement, is amended to  
22 read as follows:

23 (d)(1) The ~~Department~~ Division of Workforce Services shall directly or  
24 by contract conduct automated comparisons of the Social Security numbers  
25 reported by employers and the Social Security numbers appearing within  
26 records of the Office of Child Support Enforcement of the Revenue Division of  
27 the Department of Finance and Administration for cases being enforced under  
28 the Title IV-D State Plan.

29  
30 SECTION 323. Arkansas Code § 11-10-1017(b)(2), concerning transfers of  
31 assessment payments and an unemployment obligation assessment, is amended to  
32 read as follows:

33 (2) At least once each month, deposits of the unemployment  
34 obligation assessment payment and any interest and penalty payments  
35 applicable to the unemployment obligation assessment shall be deposited into  
36 the ~~Department~~ Division of Workforce ~~Services~~ Services' Bond Financing Trust

1 Fund.

2

3 SECTION 324. Arkansas Code § 11-10-1017(e), concerning an unemployment  
4 obligation assessment, and the authority of the Director of the Department of  
5 Workforce Services, is amended to read as follows:

6 (e) The Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of Workforce Services  
7 shall promulgate rules to carry out the provisions of this section.

8

9 SECTION 325. Arkansas Code § 11-10-1018(a)(1), concerning the  
10 Department of Workforce Services' Bond Financing Trust Fund, is amended to  
11 read as follows:

12 (a)(1) There is established on the books of the ~~Department~~ Division of  
13 Workforce Services a special restricted fund to be known as the "Bond  
14 Financing Trust Fund", to be maintained and administered by the ~~department~~  
15 division under this subchapter for the purposes stated in this subchapter.

16

17 SECTION 326. Arkansas Code § 11-10-1018(c), concerning the Department  
18 of Workforce Services' Bond Financing Trust Fund, is amended to read as  
19 follows:

20 (c) The ~~department~~ division shall maintain the Bond Financing Trust  
21 Fund at the Arkansas Development Finance Authority or at one (1) or more  
22 financial institutions within or outside the state.

23

24 SECTION 327. Arkansas Code § 11-10-1018(e), concerning the Department  
25 of Workforce Services Bond Financing Trust Fund, is amended to read as  
26 follows:

27 (e)(1) All moneys received for, deposited into, or paid to the  
28 ~~department~~ division for deposit into the Bond Financing Trust Fund:

29 (A) Are specifically declared to be cash funds restricted  
30 in their use;

31 (B) Shall not be deposited into the State Treasury for the  
32 purposes of:

33

(i) Arkansas Constitution, Article 5, § 29;

34

(ii) Arkansas Constitution, Article 16, § 12;

35

(iii) Arkansas Constitution, Amendment 20; or

36

(iv) Any other constitutional provision or statutory

1 law; and

2 (C) Shall be held and applied by the ~~department~~ division  
3 and the Arkansas Development Finance Authority as agent for the ~~department~~  
4 division solely for the uses set forth in this subchapter.

5 (2) Interest and other moneys received from the investment of  
6 moneys in the Bond Financing Trust Fund are cash funds restricted in their  
7 use and shall not be deposited into the State Treasury but shall be held and  
8 applied by the ~~department~~ division and the Arkansas Development Finance  
9 Authority as agent for the ~~department~~ division solely for the uses set forth  
10 in this subchapter.

11

12 SECTION 328. Arkansas Code § 11-15-104 is amended to read as follows:

13 11-15-104. Registry – Participating employers.

14 The ~~Department~~ Division of Workforce Services shall maintain a registry  
15 of private employers and local government employers in Arkansas that have a  
16 voluntary veterans' preference employment policy.

17

18 SECTION 329. Arkansas Code § 14-164-704(a)(2)(A)(iii), concerning the  
19 sale of property by the Arkansas Development Finance Authority or by a  
20 municipality or county, is amended to read as follows:

21 (iii) Depreciation guidelines for personal property  
22 published by the Assessment Coordination ~~Department~~ Division.

23

24 SECTION 330. Arkansas Code § 15-3-104(a), concerning the members of  
25 the Board of Directors of the Division of Science and Technology of the  
26 Arkansas Economic Development Commission, is amended to read as follows:

27 (a) The ~~Executive Director of the Arkansas Economic Development~~  
28 ~~Commission~~ Secretary of the Department of Commerce shall be advised by  
29 fourteen (14) directors, who together shall serve as the Board of Directors  
30 of the Division of Science and Technology of the Arkansas Economic  
31 Development Commission.

32

33 SECTION 331. Arkansas Code § 15-3-104(c), concerning the members of  
34 the Board of Directors of the Division of Science and Technology of the  
35 Arkansas Economic Development Commission, is amended to read as follows:

36 (c) The board shall consist of the Director of the ~~Department~~ Division

1 of Higher Education or the Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of Higher  
2 Education's designee and thirteen (13) directors who shall be appointed by  
3 the Governor, subject to confirmation by the Senate, as follows:

4 (1) Three (3) directors shall be engineers or scientists  
5 recognized for their scientific or technological research efforts;

6 (2) Two (2) directors shall be appointed as representatives of  
7 academic institutions who have an extended extensive involvement in science  
8 and technology research;

9 (3) Five (5) directors shall be representatives of the private  
10 sector of the state, who shall be persons with knowledge or experience in the  
11 fields of agriculture, forestry, finance, economic development, or science  
12 and technology; and

13 (4) Three (3) directors shall be appointed as representatives of  
14 the private sector of the state, who shall be persons with knowledge or  
15 experience in the field of manufacturing.

16  
17 SECTION 332. Arkansas Code § 15-3-105 is amended to read as follows:

18 15-3-105. Organization.

19 ~~(a)~~ Directors of the Board of Directors of the Division of Science and  
20 Technology of the Arkansas Economic Development Commission shall annually  
21 elect from their membership one (1) member as chair, one (1) member as vice  
22 chair, and one (1) member as secretary.

23 ~~(b)(1) The Executive Director of the Arkansas Economic Development~~  
24 ~~Commission may also employ such other officers and employees as he or she may~~  
25 ~~deem necessary.~~

26 ~~(2) Any such officer shall be eligible for selection to succeed~~  
27 ~~himself or herself.~~

28  
29 SECTION 333. Arkansas Code § 15-3-108(a)-(c), concerning the nature,  
30 powers, and duties of the Division of Science and Technology of the Arkansas  
31 Economic Development Commission, are amended to read as follows:

32 (a) The Division of Science and Technology of the Arkansas Economic  
33 Development Commission shall be a body corporate and politic, having the  
34 powers and jurisdiction hereinafter enumerated and additional powers as  
35 conferred upon it by the General Assembly, the ~~Executive~~ Director of the  
36 Arkansas Economic Development Commission, or the people of this state.

1 (b) The ~~executive~~ director, with the advice of the Board of Directors  
2 of the Division of Science and Technology of the Arkansas Economic  
3 Development Commission, is authorized and designated to engage in  
4 undertakings, programs, enterprises, and activities involving agriculture,  
5 manufacturing, medical and healthcare, transportation, public utility  
6 services, research and development, and other programs involving the  
7 establishment and encouragement of science and technological research.

8 (c) The ~~executive~~ director, the division, and its board, employees,  
9 and agents shall be immune from civil liability for performing the duties  
10 under this subchapter.

11  
12 SECTION 334. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 15-3-108(d),  
13 concerning the nature, powers, and duties of the Division of Science and  
14 Technology of the Arkansas Economic Development Commission, is amended to  
15 read as follows:

16 (d) In the furtherance of the division's purposes, the ~~executive~~  
17 director shall have all the powers necessary to carry out the division's  
18 purposes, which shall include, but not be limited to:

19  
20 SECTION 335. Arkansas Code § 15-3-108(d)(11), concerning the nature,  
21 powers, and duties of the Division of Science and Technology of the Arkansas  
22 Economic Development Commission, is repealed.

23 ~~(11) Appoint officers, employees, consultants, agents, and~~  
24 ~~advisors and prescribe their duties;~~

25  
26 SECTION 336. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 15-3-109(a),  
27 concerning the powers of the Executive Director of the Arkansas Economic  
28 Development Commission, is amended to read as follows:

29 (a) In relation to the authorization under this subchapter to engage  
30 in undertakings, programs, enterprises, and activities involving research and  
31 development and other programs involving the establishment and encouragement  
32 of scientific and technological research, the ~~Executive~~ Director of the  
33 Arkansas Economic Development Commission shall have all the powers necessary  
34 to carry out programs which include, but are not limited to:

35  
36 SECTION 337. Arkansas Code § 15-3-109(b), concerning the powers of the

1 Executive Director of the Arkansas Economic Development Commission, is  
2 amended to read as follows:

3 (b) In establishing and maintaining the programs authorized by this  
4 section, the ~~executive~~ director may utilize moneys as are lawfully available  
5 to the ~~executive~~ director for supporting the purposes of the Division of  
6 Science and Technology of the Arkansas Economic Development Commission.

7

8 SECTION 338. Arkansas Code § 15-3-110(a) and (b), concerning the power  
9 to promote basic and applied research at Arkansas colleges and universities,  
10 are amended to read as follows:

11 (a) The ~~Executive~~ Director of the Arkansas Economic Development  
12 Commission may make such rules and regulations as he or she may deem  
13 appropriate to enable him or her to create and fund programs designed to  
14 promote basic research and applied research at Arkansas colleges and  
15 universities and to develop technology emerging from sources of innovation in  
16 this state, including, but not limited to, colleges and universities, federal  
17 laboratories, small businesses, and inventors.

18 (b)(1) In carrying out his or her functions under this section, the  
19 ~~executive director~~ Director of the Arkansas Economic Development Commission  
20 may create such advisory committees as may be useful in evaluating research  
21 and development proposals.

22 (2) The memberships of these advisory committees may include  
23 both directors and staff members of the Division of Science and Technology of  
24 the Arkansas Economic Development Commission and other persons drawn from  
25 sources other than the division, all of whom shall serve at the pleasure of  
26 the ~~executive director~~ Director of the Arkansas Economic Development  
27 Commission.

28 (3) Members of such advisory committees shall serve without  
29 compensation for their membership on such committees but may receive expense  
30 reimbursement in accordance with § 25-16-901 et seq.

31

32 SECTION 339. Arkansas Code § 15-3-110(d)(1)(B), concerning the power  
33 to promote basic and applied research at Arkansas colleges and universities,  
34 is amended to read as follows:

35 (B) However, the contribution of the ~~executive director~~  
36 Director of the Arkansas Economic Development Commission may defray up to

1 sixty-six and two-thirds percent (66 2/3%) of the total cost of a proposed  
2 applied research project if the ~~executive director~~ Director of the Arkansas  
3 Economic Development Commission, with the advice of the Board of Directors of  
4 the Division of Science and Technology of the Arkansas Economic Development  
5 Commission, finds that the participating private industry is principally  
6 located in Arkansas and employs fifty (50) or fewer persons.

7  
8 SECTION 340. Arkansas Code § 15-3-110(d)(3), concerning the power to  
9 promote basic and applied research at Arkansas colleges and universities, is  
10 amended to read as follows:

11 (3) The ~~executive director~~ Director of the Arkansas Economic  
12 Development Commission shall approve for funding only those proposed applied  
13 research projects for which the ~~executive director~~ Director of the Arkansas  
14 Economic Development Commission finds that enhanced employment opportunity  
15 within Arkansas will be a likely result.

16  
17 SECTION 341. Arkansas Code § 15-3-110(e)(2)-(4), concerning the power  
18 to promote basic and applied research at Arkansas colleges and universities,  
19 are amended to read as follows:

20 (2) The ~~executive director~~ Director of the Arkansas Economic  
21 Development Commission shall impose a reasonable, nonrefundable fee for the  
22 evaluation of the technological and economic potential of emerging  
23 technologies contained in proposals from nonpublic sources of innovation.

24 (3) The ~~executive director~~ Director of the Arkansas Economic  
25 Development Commission is authorized to incorporate a royalty provision not  
26 to exceed five percent (5%) of net sales revenue per year for a period of not  
27 more than ten (10) years as a condition of award.

28 (4) The ~~executive director~~ Director of the Arkansas Economic  
29 Development Commission shall approve for funding only those proposed  
30 technology development projects for which the ~~executive director~~ Director of  
31 the Arkansas Economic Development Commission finds that enhanced economic  
32 opportunity within Arkansas will be a likely result.

33  
34 SECTION 342. Arkansas Code § 15-3-111 is amended to read as follows:  
35 15-3-111. Additional powers.

36 The ~~Executive~~ Director of the Arkansas Economic Development Commission

1 shall have such additional powers and duties as may be hereafter delegated to  
2 or imposed upon him or her from time to time by the General Assembly.

3  
4 SECTION 343. Arkansas Code § 15-3-112 is amended to read as follows:

5 15-3-112. Prohibition on personal interest in contracts.

6 (a) No director, officer, or employee of the Division of Science and  
7 Technology of the Arkansas Economic Development Commission or of the Board of  
8 Directors of the Division of Science and Technology of the Arkansas Economic  
9 Development Commission, for purpose of personal gain, shall have or attempt  
10 to have, directly or indirectly, any interest in any contract or agreement of  
11 the division in connection with the qualified investments or other programs  
12 of the division.

13 (b) The ~~Executive~~ Director of the Arkansas Economic Development  
14 Commission shall not invest, pursuant to § 15-3-122, in any qualified  
15 security of:

16 (1) Any enterprise that is owned, wholly or partially, directly  
17 or indirectly, by any director or officer of the division; or

18 (2) Any enterprise that employs a director of the division.

19 (c) It shall not be a violation of this section for the ~~executive~~  
20 ~~director~~ Director of the Arkansas Economic Development Commission to permit  
21 any college, university, or other nonprofit institution with which a director  
22 is affiliated to participate in any program of the division, provided that  
23 the director shall promptly disclose the nature of the affiliation to the  
24 board.

25 (d)(1) It shall not be a violation of this section for the ~~executive~~  
26 ~~director~~ Director of the Arkansas Economic Development Commission to permit a  
27 manufacturer or other for-profit entity with which a director is affiliated  
28 to pay to the division fees for services and receive, in return for those  
29 fees, services:

30 (A) That are generally available to all manufacturers or  
31 other for-profit entities; and

32 (B) That are not available to the manufacturer or other  
33 for-profit entity solely due to its affiliation with a director.

34 (2)(A) A director affiliated with a manufacturer or other for-  
35 profit entity that enters into a contract or an agreement pursuant to  
36 subdivision (d)(1) of this section shall disclose the contract or agreement

1 in writing to the ~~executive director~~ Director of the Arkansas Economic  
2 Development Commission.

3 (B) The ~~executive director~~ Director of the Arkansas  
4 Economic Development Commission shall inform the board of the contract or  
5 agreement at its next regularly scheduled meeting and attach a copy of the  
6 written disclosure to the minutes of that meeting.

7  
8 SECTION 344. Arkansas Code § 15-3-113(b) and (c), concerning the  
9 Division of Science and Technology of the Arkansas Economic Development  
10 Commission's cooperation with other agencies for studies, planning, and  
11 recommendations for industrial development, are amended to read as follows:

12 (b) The ~~Executive~~ Director of the Arkansas Economic Development  
13 Commission shall recommend to the General Assembly proposed laws and  
14 regulations to support the growth and development of programs and research in  
15 the sciences and specialized areas of high technology.

16 (c) The ~~executive~~ director may provide leadership and assistance in  
17 cooperation with the Arkansas Public Service Commission, or any other  
18 federal, state, county, or municipal authority and to private industries in  
19 this state for the adoption and execution of any improvements, changes in  
20 methods of operation, rates of transportation, utilities, and zoning and  
21 building requirements and covenants which, in the opinion of the ~~executive~~  
22 director, may be designed to improve or better operate the existing programs  
23 and research in the sciences and specific areas of high technology and  
24 related industrial development.

25  
26 SECTION 345. Arkansas Code § 15-3-116(a), concerning the deposit of  
27 money and audits of the Division of Science and Technology of the Arkansas  
28 Economic Development Commission, is amended to read as follows:

29 (a) All moneys coming into the hands of the Division of Science and  
30 Technology of the Arkansas Economic Development Commission shall be deposited  
31 into one (1) or more financial institutions selected by the ~~Executive~~  
32 Director of the Arkansas Economic Development Commission with the advice of  
33 the Board of Directors of the Division of Science and Technology of the  
34 Arkansas Economic Development Commission and authorized to do business in  
35 this state.

36

1 SECTION 346. Arkansas Code § 15-3-116(c), concerning the deposit of  
2 money and audits of the Division of Science and Technology of the Arkansas  
3 Economic Development Commission, is amended to read as follows:

4 (c) The ~~executive~~ director shall provide for an audit to be performed  
5 and accepted by a certified public accountant or firm within sixty (60) days  
6 following the conclusion of each fiscal year of the division and shall file  
7 copies thereof with the Legislative Joint Auditing Committee.

8  
9 SECTION 347. Arkansas Code § 15-3-132(a)(2), concerning the criteria  
10 and designation of centers for applied technology, is amended to read as  
11 follows:

12 (2) Establish, in consultation with the ~~Department~~ Division of  
13 Higher Education, criteria that must be satisfied for designation as a  
14 center, including, but not limited to:

15 (A) An established record of research, development, and  
16 instruction in the area of technology;

17 (B) The capacity to conduct research and development  
18 activities in collaboration with private enterprises;

19 (C) The capacity to secure substantial private and other  
20 government funding for the proposed center;

21 (D) The ability and willingness to cooperate with other  
22 colleges and universities in conducting research and development activities  
23 and in disseminating research results and to work with institutions of higher  
24 learning to enhance the quality of technological education in the area or  
25 areas of technology involved; and

26 (E) The ability and willingness to cooperate with the  
27 division, the Arkansas Economic Development Council, and other economic  
28 development agencies in promoting the growth and development in Arkansas of  
29 enterprises based upon or benefiting from the areas of technology involved;  
30 and

31  
32 SECTION 348. Arkansas Code § 15-3-133(b), concerning the advisory  
33 committees of centers for applied technology, is amended to read as follows:

34 (b) The memberships of these advisory committees may include both  
35 directors and staff members of the division and other persons drawn from  
36 sources other than the division, all of whom shall serve at the pleasure of

1 the ~~Executive~~ Director of the Arkansas Economic Development Commission.

2  
3 SECTION 349. Arkansas Code § 15-3-203(b)(1), concerning the  
4 administration of the Arkansas Research Matching Fund, is amended to read as  
5 follows:

6 (b)(1) Upon receipt of an application for matching funds to match  
7 federal funds from one (1) of the funding agencies identified in § 15-3-205,  
8 the commission, with the advice of the Board of Directors of the Division of  
9 Science and Technology of the Arkansas Economic Development Commission, shall  
10 determine the eligibility for matching funds based on a finding that the  
11 proposed research is in fields having long-term economic or commercial value  
12 to the state and which have been identified in the research and development  
13 plan approved by the ~~Executive~~ Director of the Arkansas Economic Development  
14 Commission.

15  
16 SECTION 350. Arkansas Code § 15-3-204(b), concerning the disbursement  
17 of funds from Arkansas Research Matching Fund is amended to read as follows:

18 (b) The ~~Executive~~ Director of the Arkansas Economic Development  
19 Commission, with the advice of the Board of Directors of the Division of  
20 Science and Technology of the Arkansas Economic Development Commission, may  
21 approve multi-year research grants, but disbursements of the matching funds  
22 authorized by this subchapter shall be for no more than a twelve-month  
23 period.

24  
25 SECTION 351. Arkansas Code § 15-3-605(c)(4), concerning the  
26 application requirements for a business and technology accelerator grant, is  
27 amended to read as follows:

28 (4) Provide advice to the ~~Executive~~ Director of the Arkansas  
29 Economic Development Commission concerning the applications for business and  
30 technology accelerator grants reviewed by the division.

31  
32 SECTION 352. Arkansas Code § 15-3-606(a)(1)(A), concerning business  
33 and technology accelerator grant awards, is amended to read as follows:

34 (A) Be awarded under this subchapter unless offered in  
35 writing by the ~~Executive~~ Director of the Arkansas Economic Development  
36 Commission; and

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SECTION 353. Arkansas Code § 15-3-606(a)(2), concerning business and technology accelerator grant awards, is amended to read as follows:

(2) Subject to funding and the discretion of the ~~executive~~ director, may be offered to an eligible applicant that successfully completes the application process.

SECTION 354. Arkansas Code § 15-3-706(c)(4), concerning the application requirements for matching grants, is amended to read as follows:

(4) Provide advice to the ~~Executive~~ Director of the Arkansas Economic Development Commission concerning the applications for matching grants reviewed by the division.

SECTION 355. Arkansas Code § 15-3-707(a)(1)(A), concerning the matching of grants awarded by the Executive Director of the Arkansas Economic Development Commission, is amended to read as follows:

(A) Be awarded under this subchapter unless offered in writing by the ~~Executive~~ Director of the Arkansas Economic Development Commission; and

SECTION 356. Arkansas Code § 15-4-104(a), concerning the bond guaranty programs for employee stock purchases, is amended to read as follows:

(a) When an Arkansas-based employee stock ownership plan buys at least twenty percent (20%) of the stock of an Arkansas-based business entity formed under Arkansas law and the ~~Executive~~ Director of the Arkansas Economic Development Commission determines that had it not been for the purchase by the employee stock ownership plan that Arkansas jobs would have been lost, the Arkansas-based business entity shall be qualified for any bond guaranty programs administered by the Arkansas Economic Development Commission or the Arkansas Development Finance Authority.

SECTION 357. Arkansas Code § 15-4-203(a)(2), concerning the organization and meetings of the Arkansas Economic Development Council, is amended to read as follows:

(2) The ~~Executive~~ Director of the Arkansas Economic Development Commission shall be ex officio Secretary of the Arkansas Economic Development

1 Council but shall have no vote on matters coming before it.

2

3 SECTION 358. Arkansas Code § 15-4-204(a), concerning the functions,  
4 powers, and duties of the Arkansas Economic Development Council, is amended  
5 to read as follows:

6 (a) The Arkansas Economic Development Council may serve in an advisory  
7 capacity to the ~~Executive~~ Director of the Arkansas Economic Development  
8 Commission, the Governor, and the General Assembly.

9

10 SECTION 359. Arkansas Code § 15-4-206 is amended to read as follows:

11 15-4-206. Arkansas Economic Development Commission – ~~Executive~~  
12 Director.

13 (a)(1) The ~~Executive~~ Director of the Arkansas Economic Development  
14 Commission shall be appointed by the Governor subject to confirmation by the  
15 Senate.

16 (2) The ~~executive~~ director shall serve at the pleasure of the  
17 Governor.

18 (3) The director shall report to the Secretary of the Department  
19 of Commerce.

20 (b) The ~~executive~~ director shall:

21 (1) Have the experience necessary to lead the Arkansas Economic  
22 Development Commission as determined by the ~~Governor~~ Secretary of the  
23 Department of Commerce;

24 (2) Be custodian of all property held in the name of the  
25 commission; and

26 (3) Be the ex officio disbursing agent of all funds available  
27 for the commission's use.

28

29 SECTION 360. Arkansas Code § 15-4-219(2), concerning the annual report  
30 of the Arkansas Economic Development Commission, is amended to read as  
31 follows:

32 (2) The ~~Executive~~ Director of the Arkansas Economic Development  
33 Commission's assessment of the commission's performance, including without  
34 limitation a comparison to:

35 (A) The commission's performance over the past two (2)  
36 years;

- 1 (B) The commission's own projections; and  
2 (C) Economic development in neighboring states.

3  
4 SECTION 361. Arkansas Code § 15-4-305 is amended to read as follows:  
5 15-4-305. Administrator.

6 (a) The head of the Division of Minority and Women-owned Business  
7 Enterprise of the Arkansas Economic Development Commission is the  
8 Administrator of the Division of Minority and Women-owned Business Enterprise  
9 of the Arkansas Economic Development Commission.

10 (b) The administrator and shall be appointed by the Governor and shall  
11 serve at the pleasure of the Governor.

12 (c) The administrator shall report to the Secretary of the Department  
13 of Commerce.

14  
15 SECTION 362. Arkansas Code § 15-4-307(c)(4), concerning the Minority  
16 and Women-owned Business Advisory Council, is amended to read as follows:

17 (4) The ~~Executive~~ Director of the Arkansas Economic Development  
18 Commission shall appoint two (2) members of the council.

19  
20 SECTION 363. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 15-4-  
21 307(h)(3), concerning the Minority and Women-owned Business Advisory Council,  
22 is amended to read as follows:

23 (3) Make annual reports to the ~~Governor~~ Secretary of the  
24 Department of Commerce, including without limitation:

25  
26 SECTION 364. Arkansas Code § 15-4-706(a), concerning the execution and  
27 delivery on bonds by the Chair of the Arkansas Economic Development Council  
28 and the Executive Director of the Arkansas Economic Development Commission,  
29 is amended to read as follows:

30 (a) The bonds shall be executed by the facsimile signature of the  
31 Chair of the Arkansas Economic Development Council and by the manual  
32 signature of the ~~Executive~~ Director of the Arkansas Economic Development  
33 Commission.

34  
35 SECTION 365. Arkansas Code § 15-4-1602(1), concerning the definition  
36 of "annual payroll" under the Arkansas Economic Development Incentive Act of

1 1993, is amended to read as follows:

2 (1) "Annual payroll" means the wages of the net new full-time  
3 permanent employees based on the payroll for the previous twelve (12) months  
4 reported to the ~~Department~~ Division of Workforce Services and is computed by  
5 using the total of the net new full-time permanent employees' reported  
6 taxable earnings, including overtime pay;

7  
8 SECTION 366. Arkansas Code § 15-4-1602(5), concerning the definition  
9 of "executive director" under the Arkansas Economic Development Incentive  
10 Act, is repealed.

11 ~~(5) "Executive director" means the Executive Director of the~~  
12 ~~Arkansas Economic Development Commission;~~

13  
14 SECTION 367. Arkansas Code § 15-4-1602(9), concerning the definition  
15 of "high unemployment" under the Arkansas Economic Development Incentive Act  
16 of 1993, is amended to read as follows:

17 (9)(A) "High unemployment" means an unemployment rate equal to  
18 or in excess of one hundred fifty percent (150%) of the state's average  
19 unemployment rate for the preceding calendar year as specified by statewide  
20 annual labor force statistics compiled by the ~~department~~ Division of  
21 Workforce Services when the state's annual average unemployment rate is six  
22 percent (6%) or below.

23 (B) When the state's annual average unemployment rate is  
24 above six percent (6%), "high unemployment" means equal to or in excess of  
25 three percent (3%) above the state's average unemployment rate for the  
26 preceding calendar year as specified by statewide annual labor force  
27 statistics compiled by the ~~department~~ Division of Workforce Services;

28  
29 SECTION 368. Arkansas Code § 15-4-1604(2)(A), concerning the powers  
30 and duties of the Arkansas Economic Development Commission, is amended to  
31 read as follows:

32 (2)(A) In highly competitive situations, the ~~Executive~~ Director  
33 of the Arkansas Economic Development Commission is authorized to negotiate  
34 proposals on behalf of the state with prospective businesses which are  
35 considering locating a new facility or expanding an existing facility that  
36 would employ the requisite number of net new full-time permanent employees

1 provided by § 15-4-1605.

2

3 SECTION 369. Arkansas Code § 15-4-1606(3)(A), concerning the  
4 limitations on all financial incentive plans negotiated by the Arkansas  
5 Economic Development Council, is amended to read as follows:

6 (3)(A) If the number of net new full-time permanent employees  
7 drops below the requisite number provided in § 15-4-1605, all benefits under  
8 the financial incentive plan entered into with the commission shall be  
9 terminated unless the ~~Executive~~ Director of the Arkansas Economic Development  
10 Commission and the Chief Fiscal Officer of the State approve a written  
11 request filed by the business explaining why the number of net new full-time  
12 permanent employees fell below the requisite number. The ~~executive~~ director  
13 and the Chief Fiscal Officer of the State may grant the business up to  
14 twenty-four (24) months to bring the number of net new full-time permanent  
15 employees back up to the requisite number and may approve the continuation of  
16 benefits during that period.

17

18 SECTION 370. Arkansas Code § 15-4-1606(4)(B)(ii), concerning the  
19 limitations on all financial incentive plans negotiated by the Arkansas  
20 Economic Development Council, is amended to read as follows:

21 (ii) A financial incentive plan may designate funds  
22 for employee training, infrastructure, or other purposes agreed to by the  
23 business and the ~~executive~~ director; and

24

25 SECTION 371. Arkansas Code § 15-4-1608(a), concerning verification by  
26 the Department of Finance and Administration of financial incentive plans  
27 with the Arkansas Economic Development Commission, is amended to read as  
28 follows:

29 (a) The Department of Finance and Administration shall have the  
30 authority to obtain whatever information necessary from participating  
31 businesses and from the ~~Department~~ Division of Workforce Services to verify  
32 that businesses which have entered into financial incentive plans with the  
33 Arkansas Economic Development Commission are complying with the terms of the  
34 financial incentive plans and reporting accurate information concerning the  
35 number of employees and their payrolls to the Department of Finance and  
36 Administration.

1  
2 SECTION 372. Arkansas Code § 15-4-1702(1)(A), concerning the  
3 definition of "average hourly wage" under the Arkansas Enterprise Zone Act of  
4 1993, is amended to read as follows:

5 (1)(A) "Average hourly wage" means the average wage of the net  
6 new full-time permanent employees based on payroll for the most recent  
7 quarter reported to the ~~Department~~ Division of Workforce Services.

8  
9 SECTION 373. Arkansas Code § 15-4-1702(5), concerning the definition  
10 of "executive director" under the Arkansas Enterprise Zone Act of 1993, is  
11 repealed.

12 ~~(5) "Executive director" means the Executive Director of the~~  
13 ~~Arkansas Economic Development Commission;~~

14  
15 SECTION 374. Arkansas Code § 15-4-1702(15), concerning the definition  
16 of "project plan" under the Arkansas Enterprise Zone Act of 1993, is amended  
17 to read as follows:

18 (15) "Project plan" means the plan submitted to the commission  
19 containing such information as may be required by the ~~executive~~ director to  
20 determine eligibility for benefits;

21  
22 SECTION 375. Arkansas Code § 15-4-1704(g)(2), concerning a refund of  
23 sales and use tax and a tax credit, is amended to read as follows:

24 (2) In the event that the requisite number of net new full-time  
25 permanent employees cannot be employed within the twenty-four-month period,  
26 the business can file a written application with the commission explaining  
27 why additional time is necessary. The business can be afforded up to twenty-  
28 four (24) more months to hire the requisite number of employees if the  
29 ~~Executive~~ Director of the Arkansas Economic Development Commission and the  
30 Chief Fiscal Officer of the State determine that the need for additional time  
31 is due to:

32 (A) Unanticipated and unavoidable delay in the  
33 construction of a facility that must be completed before the employees can be  
34 hired;

35 (B) The project as originally planned will require more  
36 than twenty-four (24) months to complete; or

1 (C) A change in the business ownership or business  
2 structure due to a merger or acquisition.

3  
4 SECTION 376. Arkansas Code § 15-4-1709(a), concerning the exceptions  
5 to a designation as a high-unemployment county, is amended to read as  
6 follows:

7 (a) A county that does not qualify as a high-unemployment county, as  
8 defined in § 15-4-1702, but has experienced a sudden and severe period of  
9 economic distress caused by the closing of a business entity that results in  
10 the loss of a minimum of five hundred (500) full-time permanent jobs or a  
11 minimum of five percent (5%) of the employed labor force, as determined by  
12 the most recent "Labor Market Information" publication published by the  
13 ~~Department~~ Division of Workforce Services, may be designated as a high-  
14 unemployment county by the Arkansas Economic Development Council.

15  
16 SECTION 377. Arkansas Code § 15-4-1902(1)(A), concerning the  
17 definition of "average hourly wage" under the Arkansas Economic Development  
18 Act of 1995, is amended to read as follows:

19 (1)(A) "Average hourly wage" means the average wage of the net  
20 new full-time permanent employees based on payroll for the most recent  
21 quarter reported to the ~~Department~~ Division of Workforce Services.

22  
23 SECTION 378. Arkansas Code § 15-4-1902(6), concerning the definition  
24 of "executive director" under the Arkansas Economic Development Act of 1995,  
25 is repealed.

26 ~~(6) "Executive director" means the Executive Director of the~~  
27 ~~Arkansas Economic Development Commission;~~

28  
29 SECTION 379. Arkansas Code § 15-4-1903(2)(B)(iv), concerning the  
30 powers and duties of the Arkansas Economic Development Commission, is amended  
31 to read as follows:

32 (iv) If the project is located in a high  
33 unemployment area, the ~~Executive~~ Director of the Arkansas Economic  
34 Development Commission will consider all the factors of the project and  
35 negotiate with the business an income tax credit in an amount up to one  
36 hundred percent (100%) of the state income tax liability;

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SECTION 380. Arkansas Code § 15-4-1906(b)(1)(2)(B), concerning the refund of sales and use taxes and income tax credits, is amended to read as follows:

(B) In the event that the requisite number of net new full-time permanent employees cannot be employed within the twenty-four-month period, the business can file a written application with the commission explaining why additional time is necessary. The business can be afforded up to twenty-four (24) more months to hire the requisite number of employees if the ~~Executive~~ Director of the Arkansas Economic Development Commission and the Chief Fiscal Officer of the State determine that the need for additional time is due to:

(i) Unanticipated and unavoidable delay in the construction of a facility that must be completed before the employees can be hired;

(ii) The project as originally planned will require more than twenty-four (24) months to complete; or

(iii) A change in the business ownership or business structure due to a merger or acquisition.

SECTION 381. Arkansas Code § 15-4-1907(a), concerning verification by the Department of Finance and Administration of financial incentive plans with the Arkansas Economic Development Commission is amended to read as follows:

(a) The Department of Finance and Administration shall have the authority to obtain whatever information necessary from the participating businesses and from the ~~Department~~ Division of Workforce Services to verify that businesses which have entered into financial incentive plans with the Arkansas Economic Development Commission are complying with the terms of the financial incentive plans and reporting accurate information concerning the number of employees and their payroll to the Department of Finance and Administration.

SECTION 382. Arkansas Code § 15-4-2004(b)(2), concerning the requirement for registration of a production company with the Film Office, is amended to read as follows:

1           (2) The ~~Executive~~ Director of the Arkansas Economic Development  
2 Commission may waive this requirement if he or she determines that the state  
3 should not be acknowledged.  
4

5           SECTION 383. Arkansas Code § 15-4-2007(b)(2)(B)(ii), concerning the  
6 filing application for rebate with the Arkansas Economic Development  
7 Commission, is amended to read as follows:

8                         (ii) Term of the agreement, which shall be  
9 calculated from the date the agreement is signed by the production company  
10 and the ~~Executive~~ Director of the Arkansas Economic Development Commission;  
11

12           SECTION 384. Arkansas Code § 15-4-2303(6), concerning the definition  
13 of "executive director" under the Arkansas Public Roads Improvements Credit  
14 Act, is repealed.

15                         ~~(6) "Executive director" means the Executive Director of the~~  
16 ~~Arkansas Economic Development Commission;~~  
17

18           SECTION 385. Arkansas Code § 15-4-2303(10), concerning the definition  
19 of "project" under the Arkansas Public Roads Improvements Credit Act, is  
20 amended to read as follows:

21                         (10) "Project" means all, any combination, or any part of the  
22 capital improvements for public roads which are authorized by a governing  
23 authority and approved by the ~~executive director~~ Director of the Arkansas  
24 Economic Development Commission;  
25

26           SECTION 386. Arkansas Code § 15-4-2304 is amended to read as follows:

27           15-4-2304. Approval of projects.

28           Governing authorities may apply to the ~~Executive~~ Director of the  
29 Arkansas Economic Development Commission for funding assistance for capital  
30 improvement projects for public roads as provided by this subchapter. The  
31 ~~executive~~ director is authorized to approve capital improvements for funding  
32 assistance upon a finding that a project is in the public interest.  
33

34           SECTION 387. Arkansas Code § 15-4-2305(b), concerning the Public Roads  
35 Incentive Fund, is amended to read as follows:

36           (b) The fund shall consist of contributions made by taxpayers for

1 public roads projects approved by the ~~Executive~~ Director of the Arkansas  
2 Economic Development Commission and any other funds as are designated or  
3 deposited to the fund by law.

4  
5 SECTION 388. Arkansas Code § 15-4-2305(c)(2), concerning the Public  
6 Roads Incentive Fund, is amended to read as follows:

7 (2) Any contributions which remain in the fund when a project is  
8 completed or terminated shall be held and applied to other public roads  
9 projects in such manner as the ~~executive~~ director shall direct.

10  
11 SECTION 389. Arkansas Code § 15-4-2501(4), concerning the definition  
12 of "executive director" under the law regarding the Arkansas Economic  
13 Development Commission, is repealed.

14 ~~(4) "Executive director" means the Executive Director of the~~  
15 ~~Arkansas Economic Development Commission;~~

16  
17 SECTION 390. Arkansas Code § 15-4-2501(5)(A), concerning the  
18 definition of "high unemployment" under the law regarding the Arkansas  
19 Economic Development Commission, is amended to read as follows:

20 (5)(A) "High unemployment" means an unemployment rate equal to  
21 or greater than one hundred fifty percent (150%) of the state's average  
22 unemployment rate for the preceding calendar year as specified by statewide  
23 annual labor force statistics compiled by the ~~Department~~ Division of  
24 Workforce Services, when the state's annual average unemployment is six  
25 percent (6%) or lower.

26  
27 SECTION 391. Arkansas Code § 15-4-2703(7)(A), concerning the  
28 definition of "county or state average hourly wage" under the Consolidated  
29 Incentive Act of 2003, is amended to read as follows:

30 (7)(A) "County or state average hourly wage" means the weighted  
31 average weekly earnings for Arkansans in all industries, both statewide and  
32 countywide, as calculated by the ~~Department~~ Division of Workforce Services in  
33 its most recent "Annual Covered Employment and Earnings" publication, divided  
34 by forty (40).

35  
36 SECTION 392. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 15-4-

1 2703(9)(I), concerning the definition of "eligible businesses" under the  
2 Consolidated Incentive Act of 2003, is amended to read as follows:

3 (I) The ~~Executive~~ Director of the Arkansas Economic  
4 Development Commission may classify a nonretail business as an eligible  
5 business if the following conditions exist:

6  
7 SECTION 393. Arkansas Code § 15-4-2703(11), concerning the definition  
8 of "executive director" under the Consolidated Incentive Act of 2003, is  
9 repealed.

10 ~~(11) "Executive director" means the Executive Director of the~~  
11 ~~Arkansas Economic Development Commission;~~

12  
13 SECTION 394. Arkansas Code § 15-4-2703(12)(C), concerning the  
14 definition of "existing employees" under the Consolidated Incentive Act of  
15 2003, is amended to read as follows:

16 (C) If the ~~Executive~~ Director of the Arkansas Economic  
17 Development Commission and the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of  
18 Finance and Administration find that a significant impairment of Arkansas job  
19 opportunities for existing employees will otherwise occur, they may jointly  
20 authorize the counting of existing employees as new full-time permanent  
21 employees;

22  
23 SECTION 395. Arkansas Code § 15-4-2703(17)(A)(ii)(b), concerning the  
24 definition of "in-house research" under the Consolidated Incentive Act of  
25 2003, is amended to read as follows:

26 (b) A contractual agreement with a state  
27 college, state university, or other research organization to perform research  
28 for a targeted business if the ~~Executive~~ Director of the Arkansas Economic  
29 Development Commission with the advice of the Board of Directors of the  
30 Division of Science and Technology of the Arkansas Economic Development  
31 Commission makes a written determination before the research is performed  
32 that the research is essential to the core function of the targeted business.

33  
34 SECTION 396. Arkansas Code § 15-4-2703(32)(A), concerning the  
35 definition of "project plan" under the Consolidated Incentive Act of 2003, is  
36 amended to read as follows:

1 (A) Submitted to the commission containing such  
2 information as may be required by the ~~Executive~~ Director of the Arkansas  
3 Economic Development Commission to determine eligibility for benefits; and  
4

5 SECTION 397. Arkansas Code § 15-4-2703(41), concerning the definition  
6 of "strategic research" under the Consolidated Incentive Act of 2003, is  
7 amended to read as follows:

8 (41) "Strategic research" means research that has strategic  
9 economic or long-term commercial value to the state and that is identified in  
10 the research and development plan approved from time to time by the ~~Executive~~  
11 Director of the Arkansas Economic Development Commission with the advice of  
12 the Board of Directors of the Division of Science and Technology of the  
13 Arkansas Economic Development Commission;  
14

15 SECTION 398. Arkansas Code § 15-4-2704(e)(1), concerning the tier  
16 system of the Arkansas Economic Development Commission, is amended to read as  
17 follows:

18 (e)(1) A county that has experienced a sudden and severe period of  
19 economic distress caused by the closing of a business entity that results in  
20 the loss of a minimum of five percent (5%) of the employed labor force, as  
21 determined by the most recent Labor Market Information publication published  
22 by the ~~Department~~ Division of Workforce Services, may be moved up one (1)  
23 tier upon submitting a request to and being approved by the Arkansas Economic  
24 Development Council.  
25

26 SECTION 399. Arkansas Code § 15-4-2705(d)(3), concerning a job-  
27 creation tax credit, is amended to read as follows:

28 (3) To qualify for a credit under this subsection, the proposed  
29 average hourly wage of a company applying for the benefit shall equal or be  
30 greater than the lowest county average hourly wage as calculated by the  
31 commission based on the most recent calendar year data published by the  
32 ~~Department~~ Division of Workforce Services.  
33

34 SECTION 400. Arkansas Code § 15-4-2705(h)(1), concerning a job-  
35 creation tax credit, is amended to read as follows:

36 (h)(1) If a business fails to meet the payroll threshold within two

1 (2) years after the signing of the financial incentive agreement or within  
2 the time period established by an extension approved by the ~~Director~~  
3 Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration and the ~~Executive~~  
4 Director of the Arkansas Economic Development Commission, that business will  
5 be liable for repayment of all benefits previously received by the business.  
6

7 SECTION 401. Arkansas Code § 15-4-2706(b)(1), concerning investment  
8 tax incentives, is amended to read as follows:

9 (b)(1) The award of this incentive shall be at the discretion of the  
10 ~~Executive~~ Director of the Arkansas Economic Development Commission.  
11

12 SECTION 402. Arkansas Code § 15-4-2706(b)(4), concerning investment  
13 tax incentives, is amended to read as follows:

14 (4) Upon approval by the commission, the ~~Executive~~ Director of  
15 the Arkansas Economic Development Commission shall transmit an approved  
16 financial incentive agreement to the approved company and the Revenue  
17 Division of the Department of Finance and Administration.  
18

19 SECTION 403. Arkansas Code § 15-4-2706(b)(7), concerning investment  
20 tax incentives, is amended to read as follows:

21 (7) Technology-based enterprises, as defined by § 14-164-  
22 203(12), may earn, at the discretion of the ~~Executive~~ Director of the  
23 Arkansas Economic Development Commission, an income tax credit or sales and  
24 use tax credit based on new investment, provided that the technology-based  
25 enterprise:

26 (A) Creates a new payroll of at least two hundred fifty  
27 thousand dollars (\$250,000); and

28 (B) Pays wages that are at least one hundred seventy-five  
29 percent (175%) of the state or county average hourly wage, whichever is less.  
30

31 SECTION 404. Arkansas Code § 15-4-2706(c)(4)(A)-(D), concerning  
32 investment tax incentives, are amended to read as follows:

33 (4)(A) Upon determination by the ~~Executive~~ Director of the  
34 Arkansas Economic Development Commission that the project qualifies for  
35 credit under this subsection, the ~~Executive~~ Director of the Arkansas Economic  
36 Development Commission shall certify to the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the

1 Department of Finance and Administration that the project qualifies and shall  
2 transmit with his or her certification the documents or copies of the  
3 documents upon which the certification was based.

4 (B) The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance  
5 and Administration shall provide forms to the qualified business on which to  
6 claim the credit.

7 (C) At the end of the calendar year in which the  
8 application is made and at the end of each calendar year thereafter until the  
9 project is completed, the qualified business shall certify on the form  
10 provided by the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and  
11 Administration the amount of expenditures on the project during the preceding  
12 calendar year.

13 (D) Upon receipt of the form certifying expenditures, the  
14 ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration shall  
15 determine the amount due as a credit for the preceding calendar year and  
16 issue a memorandum of credit to the qualified business.

17  
18 SECTION 405. Arkansas Code § 15-4-2706(d)(2)(A)(i), concerning  
19 investment tax incentives, is amended to read as follows:

20 (2)(A)(i) A sales and use tax refund of state and local sales  
21 and use taxes, excepting the sales and use taxes dedicated to the Educational  
22 Adequacy Fund created in § 19-5-1227 and the Conservation Tax Fund as  
23 authorized by § 19-6-484, on the purchases of the material used in the  
24 construction of a building or buildings or any addition, modernization, or  
25 improvement thereon for housing any new or expanding qualified business and  
26 machinery and equipment to be located in or in connection with such a  
27 building shall be authorized by the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of  
28 Finance and Administration.

29  
30 SECTION 406. Arkansas Code § 15-4-2706(e)(3), concerning investment  
31 tax incentives, is amended to read as follows:

32 (3) After the ~~Executive~~ Director of the Arkansas Economic  
33 Development Commission has determined that the project is eligible for the  
34 sales and use tax refund, this determination accompanied by the financial  
35 incentive agreement and any other pertinent documentation shall be forwarded  
36 to the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration.

1  
2 SECTION 407. Arkansas Code § 15-4-2706(e)(4)(A)(i), concerning  
3 investment tax incentives, is amended to read as follows:

4 (4)(A)(i) A sales and use tax refund of state and local sales  
5 and use taxes, excepting the sales and use taxes dedicated to the Educational  
6 Adequacy Fund as authorized by § 26-57-1002(d)(1)(A)(ii)(b) and the  
7 Conservation Tax Fund as authorized by § 19-6-484, on the purchases of the  
8 material used in the construction of a building or buildings or any addition,  
9 modernization, or improvement thereon for housing any new or expanding  
10 qualified business and machinery and equipment to be located in or in  
11 connection with such a building shall be authorized by the ~~Director~~ Secretary  
12 of the Department of Finance and Administration.  
13

14 SECTION 408. Arkansas Code § 15-4-2707(d)(1), concerning the Economic  
15 Development Incentive Fund payroll rebate, is amended to read as follows:

16 (d)(1) The award of this incentive is at the discretion of the  
17 ~~Executive~~ Director of the Arkansas Economic Development Commission and may be  
18 offered for a period of up to ten (10) years.  
19

20 SECTION 409. Arkansas Code § 15-4-2707(d)(3)(E), concerning the  
21 Economic Development Incentive Fund payroll rebate, is amended to read as  
22 follows:

23 (E) The ~~executive~~ director may authorize benefits to a  
24 prospective eligible business up to five percent (5%) of the payroll of new  
25 full-time permanent employees if the following conditions exist:

26 (i) The prospective eligible business is considering  
27 a location in another state;

28 (ii) The prospective eligible business receives at  
29 least seventy-five percent (75%) of its sales revenues from out of state; and

30 (iii) The prospective eligible business is proposing  
31 to pay wages in excess of one hundred percent (100%) of the county average  
32 hourly wage of the county in which it locates.  
33

34 SECTION 410. Arkansas Code § 15-4-2707(e)(1), concerning the Economic  
35 Development Incentive Fund payroll rebate, is amended to read as follows:

36 (e)(1) Technology-based enterprises, as defined in § 14-164-

1 203(12), may earn, at the discretion of the ~~executive~~ director, a payroll  
2 rebate equal to five percent (5%) of the payroll for new full-time permanent  
3 employees for a period not to exceed ten (10) years.

4  
5 SECTION 411. Arkansas Code § 15-4-2708(d)(1)(B), concerning the  
6 granting of tax credits for research and development, is amended to read as  
7 follows:

8 (B) Projects under the research and development programs  
9 of the Division of Science and Technology of the Arkansas Economic  
10 Development Commission when the projects directly involve an Arkansas  
11 business and are approved by the ~~Executive~~ Director of the Arkansas Economic  
12 Development Commission with the advice of the Board of Directors of the  
13 Division of Science and Technology of the Arkansas Economic Development  
14 Commission under rules promulgated by the division for those programs.

15  
16 SECTION 412. Arkansas Code § 15-4-2708(e), concerning the granting of  
17 tax credits for research and development, is amended to read as follows:

18 (e) To claim the credit granted under subsections (b)-(d) of this  
19 section, the taxpayer shall file with his or her return, as an attachment to  
20 the form prescribed by the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance  
21 and Administration, copies of documentation to show that the ~~Executive~~  
22 Director of the Arkansas Economic Development Commission has approved the  
23 research expenditure as a part of a qualified in-house research program or  
24 under the research and development programs of the division.

25  
26 SECTION 413. Arkansas Code § 15-4-2709(c)(2)(A), concerning special  
27 incentives based on payroll of targeted businesses, is amended to read as  
28 follows:

29 (2)(A) The term of the financial incentive agreement shall be  
30 established by the ~~Executive~~ Director of the Arkansas Economic Development  
31 Commission for a period not to exceed five (5) years.

32  
33 SECTION 414. Arkansas Code § 15-4-2709(c)(2)(C), concerning special  
34 incentives based on payroll of targeted businesses, is amended to read as  
35 follows:

36 (C) The ~~executive~~ director may allow a qualified targeted

1 business to sell any income tax credits earned through one (1) or more  
2 incentives authorized by this subchapter.

3  
4 SECTION 415. Arkansas Code § 15-4-2711(g)(2)(A), concerning the  
5 administration of a sales and use tax refund, is amended to read as follows:

6 (2)(A) If the ~~Executive~~ Director of the Arkansas Economic  
7 Development Commission and the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of  
8 Finance and Administration find that the approved business has presented  
9 compelling reasons for an extension of time, the ~~Executive~~ Director of the  
10 Arkansas Economic Development Commission may grant an extension of time not  
11 to exceed forty-eight (48) months.

12  
13 SECTION 416. Arkansas Code § 15-4-2711(i)(2), concerning the  
14 administration of a sales and use tax refund, is amended to read as follows:

15 (2) The ~~Executive~~ Director of the Arkansas Economic Development  
16 Commission and the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and  
17 Administration may approve the request for extension of time, not to exceed  
18 twenty-four (24) months, for the business to bring the payroll back up to the  
19 requisite threshold amount and may approve the continuation of benefits  
20 during the period the extension is granted.

21  
22 SECTION 417. Arkansas Code § 15-4-2711(1)(2)(B), concerning the  
23 administration of a sales and use tax refund, is amended to read as follows:

24 (B) If the ~~Executive~~ Director of the Arkansas Economic  
25 Development Commission finds that the business has presented compelling  
26 reasons for an extension of time, the ~~Executive~~ Director of the Arkansas  
27 Economic Development Commission may grant an extension of time not to exceed  
28 twenty-four (24) months.

29  
30 SECTION 418. Arkansas Code § 15-4-3005(e)(2)(D), concerning the State  
31 of Arkansas general obligation economic development superprojects bonds, is  
32 amended to read as follows:

33 (D) A certification by the ~~Executive~~ Director of the  
34 Arkansas Economic Development Commission that each project to benefit from  
35 the expenditure of the proceeds of the bonds consists of an investment in the  
36 state of not less than four hundred million dollars (\$400,000,000) and the

1 creation of no fewer than four hundred (400) new permanent full-time jobs;  
2 and

3

4 SECTION 419. Arkansas Code § 15-4-3202(4), concerning the definition  
5 of "Chief Fiscal Officer of the State" under the Arkansas Amendment 82  
6 Implementation Act, is amended to read as follows:

7 (4) "Chief Fiscal Officer of the State" means the Chief Fiscal  
8 Officer of the State of Arkansas, who is also the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the  
9 Department of Finance and Administration;

10

11 SECTION 420. Arkansas Code § 15-4-3202(6), concerning the definition  
12 of "county average hourly wage" under the Arkansas Amendment 82  
13 Implementation Act, is amended to read as follows:

14 (6) "County average hourly wage" means the weighted average weekly  
15 earnings for Arkansas residents in all industries countywide as calculated by  
16 the ~~Department~~ Division of Workforce Services in its most recent Annual  
17 Covered Employment and Earnings publication, divided by forty (40);

18

19 SECTION 421. Arkansas Code § 15-4-3202(25), concerning the definition  
20 of "state average hourly wage" under the Arkansas Amendment 82 Implementation  
21 Act, is amended to read as follows:

22 (25) "State average hourly wage" means the weighted average  
23 weekly earnings for Arkansas residents in all industries statewide as  
24 calculated by the ~~Department~~ Division of Workforce Services in its most  
25 recent Annual Covered Employment and Earnings publication, divided by forty  
26 (40).

27

28 SECTION 422. Arkansas Code § 15-4-3203(h)(2)(G), concerning Amendment  
29 82 project qualifications, is amended to read as follows:

30 (G) A statement by the ~~Executive~~ Director of the Arkansas  
31 Economic Development Commission based on and outlining the:

32 (i) Terms of the letter of the commitment;

33 (ii) Estimated dollar amount of investment in the  
34 state from the proposed project; and

35 (iii) Estimated number of new jobs to be created by  
36 the proposed project;

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SECTION 423. Arkansas Code § 15-4-3204 is amended to read as follows:  
15-4-3204. Amendment 82 agreement.

As soon as practicable after the General Assembly's approval of the issuance of bonds and before the Arkansas Development Finance Authority issues bonds, the Governor, the Speaker of the House of Representatives, the President Pro Tempore of the Senate, the ~~Executive~~ Director of the Arkansas Economic Development Commission, the President of the Arkansas Development Finance Authority, and the Chief Fiscal Officer of the State, all on behalf of the state, and the sponsor of the qualified Amendment 82 project shall execute the Amendment 82 agreement in substantially the same form as approved by the General Assembly.

SECTION 424. Arkansas Code § 15-4-3206(b)(2), concerning the compliance time period and audit requirements of Amendment 82, is amended to read as follows:

(2)(A) Upon receipt of a request to extend the applicable time period, the ~~executive director~~ Director of the Arkansas Economic Development Commission shall immediately notify the ~~President of the Arkansas Development Finance Authority~~ Secretary of the Department of Commerce, the Chief Fiscal Officer of the State, and the Governor.

(B) The ~~executive director, the president~~ Secretary of the Department of Commerce, and the Chief Fiscal Officer of the State may approve a request for a one-year extension upon a determination that there is a valid economic reason for granting the extension.

SECTION 425. Arkansas Code § 15-4-3303(b)(1), concerning eligibility for equity investment incentives, is amended to read as follows:

(b)(1) The award of the equity investment incentive tax credit to a qualified business under subsection (a) of this section shall be determined jointly at the discretion of the ~~Executive~~ Director of the Arkansas Economic Development Commission with the advice of the Board of Directors of the Division of Science and Technology of the Arkansas Economic Development Commission and the President of the Arkansas Development Finance Authority.

SECTION 426. Arkansas Code § 15-4-3304(b)(4), concerning an

1 application for an equity investment incentive tax credit, is amended to read  
2 as follows:

3 (4) Other information requested jointly by the ~~Executive~~  
4 Director of the Arkansas Economic Development Commission and the President of  
5 the Arkansas Development Finance Authority.

6  
7 SECTION 427. Arkansas Code § 15-4-3501(c) and (d), concerning an  
8 increased tax refund for major maintenance and improvement projects, are  
9 amended to read as follows:

10 (c) The increased refund of sales and use taxes for major maintenance  
11 and improvement projects provided in this section is a discretionary  
12 incentive and is not available unless offered by the ~~Executive~~ Director of  
13 the Arkansas Economic Development Commission.

14 (d) The ~~Executive~~ Director of the Arkansas Economic Development  
15 Commission shall forward the taxpayer's application, financial incentive  
16 agreement, any other pertinent documentation, and a written copy of the  
17 determination under this subsection to the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the  
18 Department of Finance and Administration if the ~~Executive~~ Director of the  
19 Arkansas Economic Development Commission:

20 (1) Determines that the taxpayer is eligible for the increased  
21 refund for major maintenance and improvement projects provided for in this  
22 section;

23 (2) Determines that the taxpayer has provided reasonable proof  
24 that there will be a positive return on the taxpayer's investment in the  
25 major maintenance and improvement project that is sufficient to offset the  
26 taxes refunded under this section;

27 (3) Determines that the taxpayer has provided a defined scope,  
28 beginning date, and ending date for the major maintenance and improvement  
29 project;

30 (4) Determines that the refund is reasonably necessary for the  
31 taxpayer to remain competitive and preserve Arkansas jobs; and

32 (5) Agrees to provide the incentive under this section.

33

34 SECTION 428. Arkansas Code § 15-4-3501(h), concerning an increased tax  
35 refund for major maintenance and improvement projects, is amended to read as  
36 follows:

1 (h) The ~~Executive~~ Director of the Arkansas Economic Development  
2 Commission and the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and  
3 Administration may promulgate rules necessary to implement this section.  
4

5 SECTION 429. Arkansas Code § 15-4-3704(b)(3)-(5), concerning the  
6 creation of the Arkansas Workforce Development Board, are amended to read as  
7 follows:

8 (3) The Director of the ~~Department of Career Education~~ Adult  
9 Education Section;

10 (4) The Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of Workforce  
11 Services;

12 (5) The Director of Arkansas Rehabilitation Services ~~of the~~  
13 ~~Department of Career Education~~;

14  
15 SECTION 430. Arkansas Code § 15-4-3704(b)(7), concerning the creation  
16 of the Arkansas Workforce Development Board, is amended to read as follows:

17 (7) The ~~Executive~~ Director of the Arkansas Economic Development  
18 Commission;

19  
20 SECTION 431. Arkansas Code § 15-4-3704(k)(2), concerning the creation  
21 of the Arkansas Workforce Development Board, is amended to read as follows:

22 (2) Staff support shall be provided by the ~~Department~~ Division  
23 of Workforce Services.

24  
25 SECTION 432. Arkansas Code § 15-4-3705(b)(2)(D), concerning the  
26 committees of the Arkansas Workforce Development Board, is amended to read as  
27 follows:

28 (D) The Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of Workforce  
29 Services; and

30  
31 SECTION 433. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 15-4-3706,  
32 concerning the powers and duties of the Arkansas Workforce Development Board,  
33 is amended to read as follows:

34 The Arkansas Workforce Development Board shall assist the Governor and  
35 the Secretary of the Department of Commerce in:

36

1 SECTION 434. Arkansas Code § 15-4-3707(b), concerning the requirements  
2 for the unified state workforce development plan, is amended to read as  
3 follows:

4 (b) The state plan shall be a unified plan addressing services  
5 available through all core programs and developed jointly by the ~~Department~~  
6 Division of Workforce Services, the Adult Education Section, Arkansas  
7 Rehabilitation Services, and the Division of State Services for the Blind ~~of~~  
8 ~~the Department of Human Services~~, in coordination with the Arkansas Workforce  
9 Development Board.

10  
11 SECTION 435. Arkansas Code § 15-4-3707(c)(2)(E), concerning the  
12 requirements for the unified state workforce development plan, is amended to  
13 read as follows:

14 (E) How the ~~Department of Career Education~~ Adult Education  
15 Section will, if applicable, align content standards for adult education with  
16 state-adopted challenging academic content standards, as adopted under §  
17 1111(b)(1) of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965, 20 U.S.C. §  
18 6311(b)(1);

19  
20 SECTION 436. Arkansas Code § 15-5-202(a)(1), concerning the board of  
21 directors and members of the Arkansas Development Finance Authority, is  
22 amended to read as follows:

23 (a)(1) The Board of Directors of the Arkansas Development Finance  
24 Authority shall consist of the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of  
25 Finance and Administration or his or her designee, who shall serve during the  
26 ~~director's~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration's  
27 absence, ~~and~~ eleven (11) public members to be appointed by the Governor with  
28 the advice and consent of the Senate, and the Secretary of the Department of  
29 Commerce who shall serve as a nonvoting member.

30  
31 SECTION 437. Arkansas Code § 15-5-203(b) and (c), concerning the board  
32 officers and employees of the Arkansas Development Finance Authority, are  
33 amended to read as follows:

34 (b) *The board shall also employ a president who shall serve at the*  
35 *will of the Governor.*

36 (c) The board shall in consultation with the secretary appoint and

1 employ such additional officers, accountants, financial advisors or experts,  
2 bond counsel, or other attorneys, agents, and employees as it may require and  
3 shall determine their qualifications, duties, and compensation. Periodically,  
4 the Arkansas Development Finance Authority will review selection of bond  
5 counsel or other attorneys to ensure that legal representatives are selected  
6 in a manner that will provide the authority with competent, economical legal  
7 representation that furthers the best interest of the authority.

8  
9 SECTION 438. Arkansas Code § 15-5-207(b)(7), concerning the rights,  
10 powers, privileges, and duties of the Arkansas Development Finance Authority,  
11 is repealed.

12 ~~(7) To appoint officers, agents, and employees, prescribe their~~  
13 ~~duties and qualifications, and fix their compensation;~~

14  
15 SECTION 439. Arkansas Code § 15-5-210(a), concerning the annual report  
16 by the Arkansas Development Finance Authority, is amended to read as follows:

17 (a) On or before January 31 of each year, the Arkansas Development  
18 Finance Authority shall make an annual report of its activities for the  
19 preceding fiscal year to the ~~Governor~~ Secretary of the Department of Commerce  
20 and to the General Assembly.

21  
22 SECTION 440. Arkansas Code § 15-5-212(a), concerning approval by the  
23 Legislative Council for certain hires or selections by the Arkansas  
24 Development Finance Authority, is amended to read as follows:

25 (a) The Arkansas Development Finance Authority or the Secretary of the  
26 Department of Commerce on behalf of the Arkansas Development Finance  
27 Authority shall not employ or select any investment banker, consultant,  
28 professional financial advisor, or attorney unless the selection criteria to  
29 be used in the selection have been submitted to the Legislative Council for  
30 review.

31  
32 SECTION 441. Arkansas Code § 15-5-214(b), concerning a criminal  
33 background check by the Arkansas Development Finance Authority, is amended to  
34 read as follows:

35 (b) The criminal background check shall be performed through the  
36 Identification Bureau of the ~~Department~~ Division of Arkansas State Police and

1 the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

2

3 SECTION 442. Arkansas Code § 15-5-1603(8), concerning the definition  
4 of "Venture Capital Investment Trust" under the Arkansas Risk Capital  
5 Matching Fund Act of 2007, is amended to read as follows:

6 (8) "Venture Capital Investment Trust" means the public trust  
7 formed July 21, 2003, under § 28-72-201 et seq., the trustees of which are  
8 the President of the Arkansas Development Finance Authority, the ~~Executive~~  
9 Director of the Arkansas Economic Development Commission, and the ~~Director~~  
10 Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration, and that has as a  
11 principal purpose increasing the availability of equity capital and near-  
12 equity capital for emerging and expanding enterprises in the State of  
13 Arkansas.

14

15 SECTION 443. Arkansas Code § 15-5-1707(b)(4), concerning the roles and  
16 responsibilities of the Arkansas Housing Trust Fund Advisory Committee, is  
17 amended to read as follows:

18 (4) Prepare, working with the staff of the authority or the  
19 Department of Commerce, an annual review of the rules, compliance  
20 responsibilities, set-asides, funding priorities, and funding decisions,  
21 including any recommended changes, which review shall be presented to the  
22 board for final approval; and

23

24 SECTION 444. Arkansas Code § 15-6-104(e), concerning the creation of  
25 the Arkansas Rural Development Commission, is amended to read as follows:

26 (e) The Arkansas Rural Development Commission shall advise and assist  
27 the ~~Executive~~ Director of the Arkansas Economic Development Commission in the  
28 performance of his or her duties under this subchapter.

29

30 SECTION 445. Arkansas Code § 15-6-105 is amended to read as follows:

31 15-6-105. Rural Services Division of the Arkansas Economic Development  
32 Commission.

33 (a) There is created the Rural Services Division of the Arkansas  
34 Economic Development Commission.

35 (b) The head of the division shall be the ~~Executive~~ Director of the  
36 Arkansas Economic Development Commission.

1           (c) ~~The division shall employ necessary staff to carry out the duties~~  
2 ~~and functions of the division as otherwise provided in this chapter or as~~  
3 ~~otherwise provided by law.~~

4           (d) The Governor shall direct that all state agencies provide the  
5 executive director with assistance in advancing the purpose of the division  
6 to assure that the activities of the division are fully coordinated with the  
7 activities of state agencies providing related services.

8  
9           SECTION 446. Arkansas Code § 15-6-106(a) and (b), concerning the  
10 functions, powers, and duties of the Executive Director of the Arkansas  
11 Economic Development Commission, are amended to read as follows:

12           (a) The Executive Director of the Arkansas Economic Development  
13 Commission by and through the Rural Services Division of the Arkansas  
14 Economic Development Commission shall have the following functions, powers,  
15 and duties:

16                   (1) To serve as a clearinghouse and provide comprehensive  
17 information relating to rural development and revitalization upon request to  
18 any agency, individual, or corporation;

19                   (2) To advise and assist agencies, individuals, and corporations  
20 in answering particular rural revitalization and development needs, including  
21 cooperative efforts among such agencies, individuals, and corporations to  
22 solve common problems or provide services in these areas;

23                   (3)(A) To receive notification from all state and federal  
24 agencies, individuals, or corporations engaged in rural development and  
25 revitalization of program descriptions, appropriation data, and application  
26 procedures.

27                   (B) The division shall maintain a listing of existing  
28 programs and advise local agencies, individuals, or corporations of their  
29 existence;

30                   (4) To assist, upon request, applicant local agencies,  
31 individuals, or corporations located in rural areas in obtaining timely and  
32 efficient responses from state and federal agencies, to assist such  
33 applicants in consideration of alternative program grant strategies, to  
34 assist state and federal agencies in cooperative approaches to address the  
35 needs of such applicants, and to provide technical assistance to agencies in  
36 formulating and implementing rural development and revitalization programs;

1           (5) To assist the ~~Governor~~ Secretary of the Department of  
2 Commerce and the General Assembly in the integration and formulation of state  
3 rural development and revitalization policy and long-range plans for rural  
4 areas and in answering needs related thereto;

5           (6) To analyze and make recommendations concerning proposed new  
6 state legislation or programs that may affect rural areas;

7           (7) To apply for and receive grants or financial assistance from  
8 the federal government or other agencies, individuals, or corporations;

9           (8) To assist the ~~Governor~~ secretary in coordinating the  
10 activities and services of those departments and agencies of the state having  
11 relationships with local rural agencies, individuals, and corporations in  
12 order to provide more effective service to them and to simplify state  
13 procedures relating thereto;

14           (9) To keep the ~~Governor~~ secretary informed about the problems  
15 and needs of agencies, individuals, and corporations that are involved with  
16 rural development and revitalization and to assist in formulating policies  
17 with respect thereto and utilizing the resources of state government for the  
18 benefit of rural areas;

19           (10) To promote and encourage the establishment of a nonprofit  
20 foundation, a Center for Rural Arkansas, and to cooperate and coordinate with  
21 and assist the center in accessing state and federal government and private  
22 nonprofit and corporate foundation grant funds to aid in rural development  
23 and revitalization for rural Arkansas; and

24           (11) To administer the conservation education programs  
25 established under § 6-16-1101 for the benefit of all school districts and  
26 conservation districts in the state, regardless of population.

27           (b) The ~~executive~~ director may prescribe and issue, pursuant to the  
28 Arkansas Administrative Procedure Act, § 25-15-201 et seq., such reasonable  
29 rules as may be necessary to carry out the provisions of this chapter.

30  
31           SECTION 447. Arkansas Code § 15-6-107(a), concerning assistance  
32 programs and grants for the Rural Services Division of the Arkansas Economic  
33 Development Commission, is amended to read as follows:

34           (a) The Rural Services Division of the Arkansas Economic Development  
35 Commission shall request such specific information as the ~~Executive~~ Director  
36 of the Arkansas Economic Development Commission determines to be necessary

1 concerning assistance programs and grants administered by federal, state, and  
2 local agencies, individuals, and corporations designed to enhance rural  
3 areas. The information shall be used to advise local agencies, individuals,  
4 or corporations for the purpose of promoting coordination in program or grant  
5 efforts wherever feasible or proper.

6  
7 SECTION 448. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 15-6-107(c),  
8 concerning assistance programs and grants for the Rural Services Division of  
9 the Arkansas Economic Development Commission, is amended to read as follows:

10 (c) The division, so far as possible, shall render such assistance,  
11 and the ~~executive~~ director may designate an officer or employee of the  
12 division to act as an expediter for the purpose of:

13  
14 SECTION 449. Arkansas Code § 15-11-503(1) and (2), concerning the  
15 definitions of "agreement" and "approved company" under the Arkansas Tourism  
16 Development Act, are amended to read as follows:

17 (1) "Agreement" means an agreement entered into pursuant to §  
18 15-11-506 by and between the ~~Executive~~ Director of the Arkansas Economic  
19 Development Commission and an approved company with respect to a tourism  
20 attraction project;

21 (2) "Approved company" means any eligible company that is  
22 seeking to undertake a tourism attraction project and is approved by the  
23 ~~executive~~ director pursuant to §§ 15-11-505 and 15-11-506;

24  
25 SECTION 450. Arkansas Code § 15-11-503(4), concerning the definition  
26 of "eligible company" under the Arkansas Tourism Development Act, is amended  
27 to read as follows:

28 (4) "Eligible company" means any corporation, limited liability  
29 company, partnership, registered limited liability partnership, sole  
30 proprietorship, business trust, or any other entity that invests a minimum of  
31 five hundred thousand dollars (\$500,000) in a high-unemployment county or one  
32 million dollars (\$1,000,000) in any other county for the purpose of  
33 constructing, operating, or intending to operate a tourism attraction  
34 project, whether owned or leased, within the state that meets the standards  
35 promulgated by the ~~executive~~ director pursuant to § 15-11-504;

36

1 SECTION 451. Arkansas Code § 15-11-503(5), concerning the definition  
2 of "executive director" under the Arkansas Tourism Development Act, is  
3 repealed.

4 ~~(5) "Executive director" means the Executive Director of the~~  
5 ~~Arkansas Economic Development Commission or the executive director's~~  
6 ~~designated representative;~~

7  
8 SECTION 452. Arkansas Code § 15-11-503(7), concerning the definition  
9 of "high unemployment" under the Arkansas Tourism Development Act, is amended  
10 to read as follows:

11 (7)(A) "High unemployment" means an unemployment rate equal to  
12 or in excess of one hundred fifty percent (150%) of the state's average  
13 unemployment rate for the preceding calendar year as specified by statewide  
14 annual labor force statistics compiled by the ~~Department~~ Division of  
15 Workforce Services when the state's annual average unemployment rate is six  
16 percent (6%) or below.

17 (B) When the state's annual average unemployment rate is  
18 above six percent (6%), "high unemployment" means equal to or in excess of  
19 three percent (3%) above the state's average unemployment rate for the  
20 preceding calendar year as specified by statewide annual labor force  
21 statistics compiled by the ~~Department of Workforce Services~~ division;

22  
23 SECTION 453. Arkansas Code § 15-11-504(a) and (b), concerning the  
24 evaluation standards of applications for tourism attraction projects, are  
25 amended to read as follows:

26 (a) The ~~Executive~~ Director of the Arkansas Economic Development  
27 Commission shall establish standards for the making of applications for  
28 inducements to eligible companies and their tourism attraction projects by  
29 the promulgation of administrative regulations in accordance with the  
30 Arkansas Administrative Procedure Act, § 25-15-201 et seq.

31 (b) With respect to each eligible company making an application to the  
32 ~~executive~~ director for inducements and with respect to the tourism attraction  
33 project described in the application, the ~~executive~~ director shall make  
34 inquiries and request materials of the applicant that shall include, but  
35 shall not be limited to:

36 (1) Marketing plans for the tourism attraction project that

1 target individuals who are not residents of the state;

2 (2) A description and location of the tourism attraction  
3 project;

4 (3) Capital and other anticipated expenditures for the tourism  
5 attraction project that indicate that the total cost of the tourism  
6 attraction project shall exceed five hundred thousand dollars (\$500,000) in a  
7 high-unemployment county and one million dollars (\$1,000,000) in all other  
8 counties and the anticipated sources of funding for the tourism attraction  
9 project;

10 (4) The anticipated employment and wages to be paid at the  
11 tourism attraction project;

12 (5) Business plans which indicate the average number of days in  
13 a year in which the tourism attraction project will be in operation and open  
14 to the public; and

15 (6) The anticipated revenues and expenses generated by the  
16 tourism attraction project.

17  
18 SECTION 454. Arkansas Code § 15-11-505 is amended to read as follows:

19 15-11-505. Standards for preliminary and final approval of companies  
20 and projects.

21 (a) The ~~Executive~~ Director of the Arkansas Economic Development  
22 Commission shall establish standards for final approval of eligible companies  
23 and their tourism attraction projects by the promulgation of administrative  
24 regulations in accordance with the Arkansas Administrative Procedure Act, §  
25 25-15-201 et seq.

26 (b) The ~~Executive~~ Director of the Arkansas Economic Development  
27 Commission shall obtain the review and advice of the ~~Director~~ Secretary of  
28 the Department of Parks, Heritage, and Tourism prior to designating an entity  
29 as an approved company eligible for the tourism incentive.

30 (c) The ~~Executive~~ Director of the Arkansas Economic Development  
31 Commission may give approval by designating an eligible company as an  
32 approved company and authorizing the undertaking of the tourism attraction  
33 project.

34 (d) The ~~Executive~~ Director of the Arkansas Economic Development  
35 Commission shall review the information that has been made available to the  
36 ~~Executive~~ Director of the Arkansas Economic Development Commission in order

1 to determine whether the tourism attraction project will further the purposes  
2 of this subchapter.

3 (e) The criteria for final approval of eligible companies and tourism  
4 attraction projects shall include, but shall not be limited to, the criteria  
5 set forth in § 15-11-504(c).

6 (f) After a review of the relevant materials, other information made  
7 available to the ~~Executive~~ Director of the Arkansas Economic Development  
8 Commission, the completion of other inquiries, and the review and advice of  
9 the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Parks, Heritage, and Tourism, the  
10 ~~Executive~~ Director of the Arkansas Economic Development Commission may give  
11 final approval to the eligible company's application for a tourism attraction  
12 project and may grant the approval to the eligible company in the form of a  
13 financial incentive agreement.

14

15 SECTION 455. Arkansas Code § 15-11-506(a), concerning contracts with  
16 the Arkansas Economic Development Commission for tourism attraction projects,  
17 is amended to read as follows:

18 (a) Upon granting final approval, the ~~Executive~~ Director of the  
19 Arkansas Economic Development Commission may enter into an agreement with an  
20 approved company with respect to its tourism attraction project.

21

22 SECTION 456. Arkansas Code § 15-11-506(b)(1), concerning contracts  
23 with the Arkansas Economic Development Commission for tourism attraction  
24 projects, is amended to read as follows:

25 (1) The amount of approved costs, which shall be determined by  
26 negotiations between the ~~Executive Director of the Arkansas Economic~~  
27 ~~Development Commission~~ director and the approved company;

28

29 SECTION 457. Arkansas Code § 15-11-506(b)(2)(B), concerning contracts  
30 with the Arkansas Economic Development Commission for tourism attraction  
31 projects, is amended to read as follows:

32 (B) Within three (3) months of the completion date, the  
33 approved company shall document the actual cost of the tourism attraction  
34 project through a certification of such costs by an independent certified  
35 public accountant acceptable to the ~~Executive Director of the Arkansas~~  
36 ~~Economic Development Commission~~ director; and

1  
2 SECTION 458. Arkansas Code § 15-11-506(b)(3)(A)(ii), concerning  
3 contracts with the Arkansas Economic Development Commission for tourism  
4 attraction projects, is amended to read as follows:

5 (ii) However, the term of the agreement may be  
6 extended for up to two (2) additional years by the ~~Executive Director of the~~  
7 ~~Arkansas Economic Development Commission~~ director with the advice and consent  
8 of the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration, if  
9 the ~~Executive Director of the Arkansas Economic Development Commission~~  
10 director determines that:

11 (a) The failure to complete the tourism attraction  
12 project within two (2) years resulted from unanticipated and unavoidable  
13 delay in the construction of the tourism attraction project;

14 (b) The tourism attraction project as originally  
15 planned will require more than two (2) years to complete; or

16 (c) The failure to complete the tourism attraction  
17 project within two (2) years resulted from a merger, acquisition, or other  
18 change in business ownership or business structure;

19  
20 SECTION 459. Arkansas Code § 15-11-506(b)(3)(C), concerning contracts  
21 with the Arkansas Economic Development Commission for tourism attraction  
22 projects, is amended to read as follows:

23 (C) Within forty-five (45) days after the end of each  
24 calendar year, the approved company shall supply the ~~Executive Director of~~  
25 ~~the Arkansas Economic Development Commission~~ director with such reports and  
26 certifications as the ~~Executive Director of the Arkansas Economic Development~~  
27 ~~Commission~~ director may request, demonstrating to the satisfaction of the  
28 ~~Executive Director of the Arkansas Economic Development Commission~~ director  
29 that the approved company is in compliance with the provisions of this  
30 subchapter; and

31  
32 SECTION 460. Arkansas Code § 15-11-506(c) -(e), concerning contracts  
33 for tourism attraction projects, are amended to read as follows:

34 (c) The agreement shall not be transferable or assignable by the  
35 approved company without the written consent of the ~~Executive~~ Director of the  
36 Arkansas Economic Development Commission.

1 (d) If the approved company utilizes sales tax credits which are  
2 subsequently disallowed, then the approved company will be liable for the  
3 payment to the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and  
4 Administration of all taxes resulting from the disallowance of the credits,  
5 plus applicable penalties and interest.

6 (e) The ~~Executive Director of the Arkansas Economic Development~~  
7 ~~Commission~~ director shall provide a copy of each agreement entered into with  
8 an approved company to the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance  
9 and Administration.

10  
11 SECTION 461. Arkansas Code § 15-11-507(a) and (b), concerning tourism  
12 attraction project sales tax credits, are amended to read as follows:

13 (a) Upon receiving notification from the ~~Executive~~ Director of the  
14 Arkansas Economic Development Commission that an approved company has entered  
15 into a tourism attraction project agreement and is entitled to the sales tax  
16 credits provided by this subchapter, the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department  
17 of Finance and Administration shall provide the approved company with such  
18 forms and instructions as are necessary to claim those credits.

19 (b)(1)(A)(i)(a) An approved company shall be entitled to a credit if  
20 the approved company certifies to the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of  
21 Finance and Administration that it has expended at least five hundred  
22 thousand dollars (\$500,000) in a high-unemployment county and one million  
23 dollars (\$1,000,000) in all other counties in approved costs and the  
24 ~~Executive Director of the Arkansas Economic Development Commission~~ director  
25 certifies that the approved company is in compliance with this subchapter.

26 (b)(1) The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the  
27 Department of Finance and Administration shall then issue a sales tax credit  
28 memorandum to the approved company equal to fifteen percent (15%) of the  
29 approved costs.

30 (2) However, in high-unemployment  
31 counties the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and  
32 Administration shall issue a credit memorandum to the approved company equal  
33 to twenty-five percent (25%) of the approved costs.

34 (c) The sales tax credit memorandum shall not  
35 include an offset of the tourism tax levied under § 26-63-401 et seq.

36 (ii) Subsequent requests for credit for additional

1 certified approved costs shall be filed with the Department of Finance and  
2 Administration during the term of the agreement.

3 (B)(i) The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance  
4 and Administration may require proof of expenditures.

5 (ii) Additional credit memoranda may be issued as  
6 the approved company certifies additional expenditures of approved costs.

7 (2)(A) No sales tax credit memorandum shall be issued for any  
8 approved costs expended after the expiration of two (2) years from the date  
9 the agreement was signed by the ~~Executive Director of the Arkansas Economic~~  
10 ~~Development Commission~~ director and the approved company.

11 (B) However, the ~~Executive Director of the Arkansas~~  
12 ~~Economic Development Commission~~ director, with the advice and consent of the  
13 ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration, may  
14 authorize sales tax credits for approved costs expended up to four (4) years  
15 from the date the agreement was signed if the ~~Executive Director of the~~  
16 ~~Arkansas Economic Development Commission~~ director determines that the failure  
17 to complete the tourism attraction project within two (2) years resulted  
18 from:

19 (i) Unanticipated and unavoidable delay in the  
20 construction of the tourism attraction project;

21 (ii) The tourism attraction project, as originally  
22 planned, will require more than two (2) years to complete; or

23 (iii) A change in business ownership or business  
24 structure resulting from a merger or acquisition.

25  
26 SECTION 462. Arkansas Code § 15-11-507(e)-(g), concerning tourism  
27 attraction project sales tax credits, are amended to read as follows:

28 (e) By April 1 of each year, the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department  
29 of Finance and Administration shall certify to the ~~Executive Director of the~~  
30 ~~Arkansas Economic Development Commission~~ director the state sales tax  
31 liability of the approved companies receiving inducements under this section  
32 and the amount of state sales tax credits taken during the preceding calendar  
33 year.

34 (f)(1) The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and  
35 Administration may promulgate administrative regulations as are necessary for  
36 the proper administration of this subchapter.

1           (2) The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and  
2 Administration may also develop such forms and instructions as are necessary  
3 for an approved company to claim the sales tax credit provided by this  
4 subchapter.

5           (g)(1) The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and  
6 Administration shall have the authority to obtain any information necessary  
7 from the approved company and the ~~Executive Director of the Arkansas Economic~~  
8 ~~Development Commission~~ director to verify that approved companies have  
9 received the proper amounts of sales tax credits as authorized by this  
10 subchapter.

11           (2) The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and  
12 Administration shall demand the repayment of any credits taken in excess of  
13 the credit allowed by this subchapter.

14  
15           SECTION 463. Arkansas Code § 15-11-509(b), concerning an income tax  
16 credit for tourism attraction projects, is amended to read as follows:

17           (b) Upon notification from the ~~Executive~~ Director of the Arkansas  
18 Economic Development Commission that an approved company has entered into a  
19 tourism attraction project agreement and is entitled to the income tax credit  
20 provided by this section, the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance  
21 and Administration shall provide the approved company with such forms and  
22 instructions as are necessary to claim those credits.

23  
24           SECTION 464. Arkansas Code § 15-11-511(d)(1)-(3), concerning special  
25 rules and qualified amusement parks, are amended to read as follows:

26           (d)(1) Notwithstanding the other provisions of this subchapter, a  
27 qualified amusement park that on or after January 1, 2006, enters into an  
28 agreement that provides that the qualified amusement park shall expend  
29 approved costs of more than one million dollars (\$1,000,000) shall be  
30 entitled to a sales tax credit if the qualified amusement park certifies to  
31 the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration that  
32 it has expended at least one million dollars (\$1,000,000) in approved costs  
33 and the ~~Executive~~ Director of the Arkansas Economic Development Commission  
34 certifies that the qualified amusement park is in compliance with this  
35 subchapter.

36           (2) The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and

1 Administration shall then issue a sales tax credit memorandum to the  
2 qualified amusement park equal to twenty-five percent (25%) of the approved  
3 costs. The sales tax credit memorandum may be used to offset the liability of  
4 the qualified amusement park for:

5 (A) Gross receipts tax levied under the Arkansas Gross  
6 Receipts Act of 1941, § 26-52-101 et seq.; and

7 (B) Tourism gross receipts tax levied under § 26-52-1001  
8 et seq. [repealed].

9 (3) The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and  
10 Administration may require proof of expenditures.

11

12 SECTION 465. Arkansas Code § 15-11-511(d)(5), concerning special rules  
13 and qualified amusement parks, is amended to read as follows:

14 (5)(A) No sales tax credit memorandum shall be issued for any  
15 approved costs expended after the expiration of two (2) years from the date  
16 the agreement was signed by the ~~Executive Director of the Arkansas Economic  
17 Development Commission~~ director and the qualified amusement park.

18 (B) However, the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of  
19 Finance and Administration, with the advice and consent of the ~~Executive  
20 Director of the Arkansas Economic Development Commission~~ director, may  
21 authorize sales tax credits for approved costs expended up to four (4) years  
22 from the date the agreement was signed if the ~~Executive Director of the  
23 Arkansas Economic Development Commission~~ director determines that the failure  
24 to complete the tourism attraction project within two (2) years resulted  
25 from:

26 (i) Unanticipated and unavoidable delay in the  
27 construction of the tourism attraction project;

28 (ii) The tourism attraction project, as originally  
29 planned, will require more than two (2) years to complete; or

30 (iii) A change in business ownership or business  
31 structure resulting from a merger or an acquisition.

32

33 SECTION 466. Arkansas Code § 15-11-511(d)(8), concerning special rules  
34 and qualified amusement parks, is amended to read as follows:

35 (8) By April 1 of each year, the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the  
36 Department of Finance and Administration shall certify to the ~~Executive~~

1 ~~Director of the Arkansas Economic Development Commission~~ director the state  
2 sales tax liability of the qualified amusement parks receiving inducements  
3 under this section and the amount of state sales tax credits taken during the  
4 preceding calendar year.

5  
6 SECTION 467. Arkansas Code § 15-23-203 is amended to read as follows:

7 15-23-203. Employees.

8 The Arkansas Waterways Commission may employ ~~an Executive~~ a Director of  
9 the Arkansas Waterways Commission ~~and such other employees~~ as authorized by  
10 law and fix the ~~salaries thereof~~ salary of the director within the  
11 limitations of funds appropriated therefor to assist the commission in the  
12 performance of its duties under this subchapter.

13  
14 SECTION 468. Arkansas Code § 17-25-402(b)(1), concerning the expenses  
15 and disposition of funds of the Contractors Licensing Board, is amended to  
16 read as follows:

17 (b)(1) All taxes, premiums, contributions, penalties, interest, and  
18 fines collected pursuant to this subchapter, except enforcement penalties,  
19 shall be distributed pro rata, based upon the amount of taxes, premiums, and  
20 contributions due to the Department of Finance and Administration, the  
21 ~~Department~~ Division of Workforce Services, the Workers' Compensation  
22 Commission, or any city, county, or school district, or any other state  
23 agency or other political subdivision of the state, first to the extent of  
24 any taxes, premiums, and contributions due with any remainder applied to  
25 interest, penalties, and fines, in that order.

26  
27 SECTION 469. Arkansas Code § 17-25-404(b)(3), concerning bond filing  
28 and terms with the Contractors Licensing Board, is amended to read as  
29 follows:

30 (3) Conditioned on the contractor's complying with the tax laws  
31 of the State of Arkansas and, when applicable, the ordinances, rules, and  
32 regulations of any city, county, school district, state agency, or other  
33 political subdivision of the state, the ~~Department~~ Division of Workforce  
34 Services Law, § 11-10-101 et seq., the Workers' Compensation Law, § 11-9-101  
35 et seq., and the provisions of this subchapter.

36

1 SECTION 470. Arkansas Code § 17-25-406(a)(1), concerning the notice of  
2 bond cancellation, is amended to read as follows:

3 (a)(1) Notice of bond cancellation shall be given to the Contractors  
4 Licensing Board in writing sixty (60) days before cancellation. The board  
5 shall notify the Department of Finance and Administration, the ~~Department~~  
6 Division of Workforce Services, and the Workers' Compensation Commission of  
7 the notice of cancellation.

8  
9 SECTION 471. Arkansas Code § 17-38-201(a)(2)(B), concerning the powers  
10 and duties of the State Board of Health, is amended to read as follows:

11 (B) The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Health or  
12 any employee of the Department of Health designated by the ~~board~~ State Board  
13 of Health may act for the State Board of Health except in adoption of rules  
14 and regulations;

15  
16 SECTION 472. Arkansas Code § 17-38-202(b), concerning the appointment  
17 and duties of the Committee of Plumbing Examiners, is amended to read as  
18 follows:

19 (b) The member from the department shall serve on the committee until  
20 replaced by the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Health.

21  
22 SECTION 473. Arkansas Code § 17-38-401(3), concerning the definition  
23 of "department" under the apprentice plumber program, is repealed.

24 ~~(3) "Department" means the Department of Career Education.~~

25  
26 SECTION 474. Arkansas Code § 17-38-402(3)(A), concerning the powers of  
27 the Career Education and Workforce Development Board, is amended to read as  
28 follows:

29 (A) The ~~Department of Career Education~~ Office of Skills  
30 Development;

31  
32 SECTION 475. Arkansas Code § 17-38-402(4), concerning the powers of  
33 the Career Education and Workforce Development Board, is repealed.

34 ~~(4) To review and approve a correspondence course for apprentice~~  
35 ~~plumbers in hardship cases, provided that:~~

36 ~~(A) The Department of Education will maintain the~~

1 ~~responsibility for a correspondence course. However, the Department of~~  
2 ~~Education shall delegate the administration of the correspondence course to~~  
3 ~~the Department of Career Education;~~

4 ~~(B) The correspondence course material shall be developed~~  
5 ~~by the Department of Education, subject to the approval of the State~~  
6 ~~Apprenticeship Committee and the Department of Health, and made available and~~  
7 ~~to be implemented by the local apprenticeship committee; and~~

8 ~~(C) The apprentice is tested for adequate progress no~~  
9 ~~fewer than four (4) times a year.~~

10  
11 SECTION 476. Arkansas Code § 17-38-403(c), concerning the State  
12 Apprenticeship Committee, is amended to read as follows:

13 (c) The Director of the ~~Department of Career Education~~ Office of  
14 Skills Development or his or her designee shall serve as a nonvoting advisory  
15 member to the committee.

16  
17 SECTION 477. Arkansas Code § 17-38-407 is repealed.

18 ~~17-38-407. Fees for correspondence courses.~~

19 ~~The Department of Career Education is authorized to charge reasonable~~  
20 ~~fees to those persons approved for correspondence courses for the costs of~~  
21 ~~development, procurement, administration, and material associated with the~~  
22 ~~correspondence course.~~

23  
24 SECTION 478. Arkansas Code § 17-38-408 is repealed.

25 ~~17-38-408. Disposition of fees and payments—Uses of funds.~~

26 ~~(a) All fees or payments of any type collected by the Department of~~  
27 ~~Career Education under this subchapter shall be deposited into the State~~  
28 ~~Treasury on or before the fifth day of the month next following the month of~~  
29 ~~collection of the fees or payments. The Treasurer of State shall credit the~~  
30 ~~fees or payments to the credit of the Apprentice Plumbers Training Fund which~~  
31 ~~is hereby created on the books of the Treasurer of State.~~

32 ~~(b) All funds deposited into the Apprentice Plumbers Training Fund~~  
33 ~~shall be used for the maintenance, operation, and improvement of the~~  
34 ~~apprentice plumbers training program administered by the department.~~

35  
36 SECTION 479. Arkansas Code § 19-5-701 is amended to read as follows:

1 19-5-701. Purpose.

2 It is the purpose of this subchapter that all programs, regardless of  
3 their funding source, contribute equally to the cost of unemployment  
4 compensation benefits charged to the state agencies operating such programs.  
5 It is not the intent of this subchapter that the State of Arkansas relinquish  
6 its status as a nontaxable reimbursable employer under the ~~Department~~  
7 Division of Workforce Services Law, § 11-10-101 et seq.

8

9 SECTION 480. Arkansas Code § 19-5-702(1), concerning the definition of  
10 "contribution" under the laws governing the reimbursement of unemployment  
11 compensation benefits, is amended to read as follows:

12 (1) "Contribution" means a percentage of payroll expenditures  
13 paid to the Unemployment Compensation Revolving Fund by a state agency in  
14 order to provide current and timely reimbursements of benefits paid by the  
15 ~~Department~~ Division of Workforce Services Law, § 11-10-101 et seq., for  
16 unemployment benefits charged to the agency;

17

18 SECTION 481. Arkansas Code § 19-5-704(b), concerning the  
19 administration reimbursement of unemployment compensation benefits, is  
20 amended to read as follows:

21 (b) Upon certification to the Chief Fiscal Officer of the State by the  
22 ~~Department~~ Division of Workforce Services of unemployment compensation  
23 benefits paid during a benefit period and charged to a state agency, the  
24 Chief Fiscal Officer of the State shall direct that reimbursement be made to  
25 the ~~department~~ division from the Unemployment Compensation Revolving Fund for  
26 such amounts as are properly certified.

27

28 SECTION 482. Arkansas Code § 19-5-706(c), concerning the Unemployment  
29 Compensation Revolving Fund, is amended to read as follows:

30 (c) The funds shall be used to reimburse the ~~Department~~ Division of  
31 Workforce Services, in a timely manner, for unemployment compensation  
32 benefits paid by the ~~department~~ division and charged to a state agency, as  
33 provided in this subchapter and other laws applicable to state employees'  
34 unemployment compensation and for such other purposes as may be authorized by  
35 law.

36

1 SECTION 483. Arkansas Code § 19-5-709(a), concerning loans to the  
2 Unemployment Compensation Revolving Fund, is amended to read as follows:

3 (a) In the event that the Unemployment Compensation Revolving Fund  
4 does not have sufficient funds available from contributions by state agencies  
5 to make reimbursement to the ~~Department~~ Division of Workforce Services for  
6 benefits paid, loans may be made from the Budget Stabilization Trust Fund to  
7 make such payments.

8  
9 SECTION 484. Arkansas Code § 19-5-912 is amended to read as follows:  
10 19-5-912. ~~Department~~ Division of Workforce Services Trust Fund.

11 (a) There is established on the books of the Treasurer of State, the  
12 Auditor of State, and the Chief Fiscal Officer of the State a trust fund to  
13 be known as the "~~Department~~ Division of Workforce Services Trust Fund".

14 (b) The fund shall consist of such revenues as may be authorized by  
15 the federal government for support of various programs within the ~~Department~~  
16 Division of Workforce Services, any interest accruing on these revenues, and  
17 any other funds made available by the General Assembly.

18 (c) The fund shall be used for the payment of program expenses of the  
19 ~~department~~ division.

20  
21 SECTION 485. Arkansas Code § 19-5-939(c), concerning the Unemployment  
22 Compensation Revolving Fund, is amended to read as follows:

23 (c) The funds shall be used to reimburse the ~~Department~~ Division of  
24 Workforce Services, in a timely manner, for unemployment compensation  
25 benefits paid by the ~~department~~ division and charged to a state agency, as  
26 provided in § 19-5-701 et seq., and other laws applicable to state employees'  
27 unemployment compensation and for such other purposes as may be authorized by  
28 law.

29  
30 SECTION 486. Arkansas Code § 19-5-984 is amended to read as follows:  
31 19-5-984. ~~Department~~ Division of Workforce Services Special Fund.

32 (a) There is established on the books of the Treasurer of State, the  
33 Auditor of State, and the Chief Fiscal Officer of the State a fund to be  
34 known as the "~~Department~~ Division of Workforce Services Special Fund".

35 (b)(1) The fund shall consist of unemployment compensation  
36 contribution interest and penalty payments collected under §§ 11-10-716 – 11-

1 10-723 and interest and penalty payments on overpayments collected under §  
2 11-10-532.

3 (2) The fund shall be used for refunds of interest and penalties  
4 erroneously paid and other additional purposes necessary to the proper  
5 administration of the ~~Department~~ Division of Workforce Services Law, § 11-10-  
6 101 et seq., as determined by the Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of  
7 Workforce Services under §§ 11-10-532 and 11-10-716 – 11-10-723.

8 (c) The director shall report to the Legislative Council on a  
9 quarterly basis on all uses of the fund.

10

11 SECTION 487. Arkansas Code § 19-5-999(a), concerning the Individual  
12 Development Account Trust Fund, is amended to read as follows:

13 (a) There is created on the books of the Treasurer of State, the  
14 Auditor of State, and the Chief Fiscal Officer of the State a trust fund for  
15 the ~~Department~~ Division of Workforce Services to be designated the  
16 “Individual Development Account Trust Fund”.

17

18 SECTION 488. Arkansas Code § 19-5-1097(b), concerning the Public Roads  
19 Incentive Fund, is amended to read as follows:

20 (b) The fund shall consist of contributions made by taxpayers for  
21 public roads projects approved by the ~~Executive~~ Director of the Arkansas  
22 Economic Development Commission and any other funds as are designated or  
23 deposited into the fund by law.

24

25 SECTION 489. Arkansas Code § 19-5-1097(c)(2), concerning the Public  
26 Roads Incentive Fund, is amended to read as follows:

27 (2) Any contributions which remain in the fund when a project is  
28 completed or terminated shall be held and applied to other public roads  
29 projects in such manner as the ~~executive~~ director shall direct.

30

31 SECTION 490. Arkansas Code § 19-5-1131 is amended to read as follows:

32 19-5-1131. ~~Department~~ Division of Workforce Services Training Trust  
33 Fund.

34 (a) There is established on the books of the Treasurer of State, the  
35 Auditor of State, and the Chief Fiscal Officer of the State a trust fund to  
36 be known as the “~~Department~~ Division of Workforce Services Training Trust

1 Fund”.

2 (b)(1) The fund shall consist of the proceeds of the stabilization tax  
3 specified in § 11-10-706(f), any interest accruing on these revenues, and any  
4 other funds made available by the General Assembly.

5 (2) The fund shall be used for worker training under rules and  
6 regulations promulgated by the Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of  
7 Workforce Services.

8 (c) The director shall report to the Legislative Council on a  
9 quarterly basis on all uses of the fund.

10

11 SECTION 491. Arkansas Code § 19-5-1232 is amended to read as follows:

12 19-5-1232. ~~Department~~ Division of Workforce Services Unemployment  
13 Insurance Administration Fund.

14 (a) There is established on the books of the Treasurer of State, the  
15 Auditor of State, and the Chief Fiscal Officer of the State a miscellaneous  
16 fund to be known as the “~~Department~~ Division of Workforce Services  
17 Unemployment Insurance Administration Fund”.

18 (b)(1) The fund shall consist of the proceeds of the stabilization tax  
19 as specified in § 11-10-706(f), any interest accruing on these revenues, and  
20 any other funds made available by the General Assembly.

21 (2) The fund shall be used for personal services and operating  
22 expenses of the unemployment insurance program necessary to the proper  
23 administration of the ~~Department~~ Division of Workforce Services Law, § 11-10-  
24 101 et seq., as determined by the Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of  
25 Workforce Services.

26 (c) The ~~Director of the Department of Workforce Services~~ director  
27 shall report to the Legislative Council on a quarterly basis on all uses of  
28 the fund.

29

30 SECTION 492. Arkansas Code § 19-5-1234 is amended to read as follows:

31 19-5-1234. ~~Department~~ Division of Workforce Services Fund.

32 (a) There is created on the books of the Treasurer of State, the  
33 Auditor of State, and the Chief Fiscal Officer of the State a fund to be  
34 known as the “~~Department~~ Division of Workforce Services Fund”.

35 (b) The fund shall consist of those general revenues as may be  
36 authorized by law and any other nonfederal funds as may be provided by law.

1 (c) The fund shall be used for the maintenance, operation, and  
2 improvement required by the ~~Department~~ Division of Workforce Services in  
3 carrying out those powers, functions, and duties imposed by law upon the  
4 Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of Workforce Services as set out in the  
5 ~~Department~~ Division of Workforce Services Law, § 11-10-101 et seq., and § 20-  
6 76-101 et seq., or any other duties that may be imposed by law upon the  
7 ~~department~~ division, including those duties transferred to the ~~department~~  
8 division under the provisions of § 20-76-111 [repealed].

9  
10 SECTION 493. Arkansas Code § 19-6-402 is amended to read as follows:

11 19-6-402. ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of Aeronautics Fund.

12 The ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of Aeronautics Fund shall  
13 consist of those special revenues as specified in § 19-6-301(17), there to  
14 be used for making grants-in-aid to qualifying airports of this state as  
15 authorized by law and for the maintenance, operation, and improvement  
16 required by the ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of Aeronautics in carrying out  
17 the functions, powers, and duties, as set out in § 27-114-101 et seq., or  
18 other duties imposed by law upon the ~~department~~ division.

19  
20 SECTION 494. Arkansas Code § 19-10-204(b)(1)(A)(i)(b), concerning  
21 jurisdiction of the Arkansas State Claims Commission, is amended to read as  
22 follows:

23 (b) The ~~Department~~ Division of Workforce  
24 Services Law, § 11-10-101 et seq.;

25  
26 SECTION 495. Arkansas Code § 19-10-204(b)(1)(A)(iii)(a), concerning  
27 the jurisdiction of the Arkansas State Claims Commission, is amended to read  
28 as follows:

29 (a) A claim by a member of the uniformed armed  
30 services against the ~~State Military Department~~ Department of the Military,  
31 the State ~~militia~~ Militia, or any subdivision thereof, if the claim arises  
32 out of the performance of the claimant's military duty;

33  
34 SECTION 496. Arkansas Code § 19-10-204(b)(1)(A)(iii)(b) and (c),  
35 concerning jurisdiction of the Arkansas State Claims Commission, are amended  
36 to read as follows:

1 (b) Claims against the ~~Department~~ Division of  
2 Community Correction for acts committed by a person while that person is  
3 subject to conditions of parole or probation under Arkansas law;

4 (c) Claims against the ~~Department~~ Division of  
5 Correction for acts committed by inmates while on authorized release from the  
6 ~~Department~~ Division of Correction; or  
7  
8

9 SECTION 497. Arkansas Code § 19-11-259(a)(2)(B)(ii), concerning the  
10 definition of "firm resident in Arkansas" under the law regarding preferences  
11 among bidders, is amended to read as follows:

12 (ii) For not fewer than two (2) successive years  
13 immediately prior to submitting a bid, has paid taxes under the ~~Department~~  
14 Division of Workforce Services Law, § 11-10-101 et seq., unless exempt, and  
15 either the Arkansas Gross Receipts Act of 1941, § 26-52-101 et seq., or the  
16 Arkansas Compensating Tax Act of 1949, § 26-53-101 et seq., on any property  
17 used or intended to be used for or in connection with the firm's business;  
18 and  
19

20 SECTION 498. Arkansas Code § 19-12-115(c)(1), derived from Initiated  
21 Act 1 of 2000 and concerning the establishment and administration of the  
22 Arkansas Biosciences Institute, is amended to read as follows:

23 (c)(1) Arkansas Biosciences Institute Board. There is hereby  
24 established the Arkansas Biosciences Institute Board which shall consist of  
25 the following: the President of the University of Arkansas; the President of  
26 Arkansas State University; the Chancellor of the University of Arkansas for  
27 Medical Sciences; the Chancellor of the University of Arkansas at  
28 Fayetteville; the Vice President for Agriculture of the University of  
29 Arkansas; the ~~Executive~~ Director of the Arkansas Economic Development  
30 Commission; the Director of the National Center for Toxicological Research;  
31 the President of Arkansas Children's Hospital; and two (2) individuals  
32 possessing recognized scientific, academic or business qualifications  
33 appointed by the Governor. The two (2) members of the Arkansas Biosciences  
34 Institute Board who are appointed by the Governor will serve four (4) year  
35 terms and are limited to serving two consecutive four (4) year terms. The  
36 terms shall commence on October 1 of each year. These members appointed by

1 the Governor are not entitled to compensation for their services, but may  
2 receive expense reimbursement in accordance with § 25-16-902, to be paid from  
3 funds appropriated for this program. The Arkansas Biosciences Institute Board  
4 shall establish and appoint the members of an Industry Advisory Committee and  
5 a Science Advisory Committee composed of knowledgeable persons in the fields  
6 of industry and science. These Committees shall serve as resources for the  
7 Arkansas Biosciences Institute Board in their respective areas and will  
8 provide an avenue of communication to the Arkansas Biosciences Institute  
9 Board on areas of potential research.

10  
11 SECTION 499. Arkansas Code § 20-14-203(a), concerning ex officio  
12 members of the Governor's Commission on People with Disabilities, is amended  
13 to read as follows:

14 (a) The Director of ~~the Department of Human Services~~ Arkansas  
15 Rehabilitation Services, the deputy director of the appropriate division as  
16 determined by the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of ~~Human Services~~  
17 Commerce, and the Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of Workforce Services  
18 or any director, commissioner, or administrator of successors' agencies shall  
19 serve as ex officio members of the Governor's Commission on People with  
20 Disabilities.

21  
22 SECTION 500. Arkansas Code § 20-14-207(b)(1), concerning the Executive  
23 Board of the Governor's Commission on People with Disabilities, is repealed.

24 ~~(1) Appointing, subject to the personnel law, such staff as is~~  
25 ~~necessary to carry out the commission's objectives of the Governor's~~  
26 ~~Commission on people with Disabilities;~~

27  
28 SECTION 501. Arkansas Code § 20-14-209 is amended to read as follows:  
29 20-14-209. Administrative support.

30 (a) The appropriate division as determined by the ~~Director of the~~  
31 ~~Department of Human Services~~ Director of Arkansas Rehabilitation Services,  
32 Secretary of the Department of Commerce, or any other agency or division as  
33 the Governor shall designate shall provide administrative support to the  
34 Governor's Commission on People with Disabilities.

35 (b) A representative of the ~~appropriate division as determined by the~~  
36 ~~director or any other agency or division as the Governor shall designate~~

1 Secretary of the Department of Commerce shall be appointed as ~~executive~~  
2 director to effect the coordination between the division and the Chair of the  
3 Governor's Commission on People with Disabilities in the arrangement of the  
4 support.

5

6 SECTION 502. Arkansas Code § 20-76-102(a) and (b), concerning  
7 coordination of state agency service delivery of transitional employment  
8 assistance services, are amended to read as follows:

9 (a) To ensure that all available state government resources are used  
10 to help transitional employment assistance recipients make the transition  
11 from welfare to work, each of the following state agencies and organizations  
12 shall also be required to work with the ~~Department~~ Division of Workforce  
13 Services in providing transitional employment assistance services:

14 (1) The Department of Human Services;

15 (2) The ~~Department~~ Division of Higher Education, including  
16 community colleges and the University of Arkansas Cooperative Extension  
17 Service;

18 (3) The ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and  
19 Secondary Education;

20 (4) The Arkansas Development Finance Authority;

21 (5) The Arkansas Economic Development Council;

22 (6) The Arkansas Department of Transportation;

23 (7) The Department of Finance and Administration, including the  
24 Office of Child Support Enforcement;

25 (8) The Adult Learning Alliance, Inc.;

26 (9) The ~~Department of Career Education~~ Adult Education Section  
27 of the Division of Workforce Services; and

28 (10) Other state agencies as directed by the Governor or as  
29 directed by the General Assembly.

30 (b) State agencies required under subsection (a) of this section to  
31 work with the ~~Department~~ Division of Workforce Services in providing  
32 transitional employment assistance services to recipients shall make every  
33 effort to use financial resources in their respective budgets and to seek  
34 additional funding sources, whether private or federal, to supplement the  
35 moneys allocated by the ~~Department~~ Division of Workforce Services for the  
36 Transitional Employment Assistance Program.

1  
2 SECTION 503. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 20-76-  
3 106(a), concerning Transitional Employment Assistance Program and the  
4 statewide implementation plan, is amended to read as follows:

5 (a) The ~~Department~~ Division of Workforce Services shall:  
6

7 SECTION 504. Arkansas Code § 20-76-106(b)(1), concerning Transitional  
8 Employment Assistance Program and the statewide implementation plan, is  
9 amended to read as follows:

10 (1) Performance standards and measurement criteria for state and  
11 county offices of the Department of Human Services, the ~~Department~~ Division  
12 of Workforce Services, and all service providers under the program;  
13

14 SECTION 505. Arkansas Code § 20-76-106(c)(1) and (2), concerning  
15 Transitional Employment Assistance Program and the statewide implementation  
16 plan, are amended to read as follows:

17 (c)(1)(A) The ~~Department~~ Division of Workforce Services shall prepare  
18 a comprehensive annual program report.

19 (B) The report shall be subject to review and  
20 recommendation by the board.

21 (2) The ~~Department~~ Division of Workforce Services shall submit  
22 the comprehensive annual program report to the Governor, the House Committee  
23 on Public Health, Welfare, and Labor, and the Senate Committee on Public  
24 Health, Welfare, and Labor.  
25

26 SECTION 506. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 20-76-109,  
27 concerning the use of contracts by the Department of Workforce Services, is  
28 amended to read as follows:

29 The ~~Department~~ Division of Workforce Services, as appropriate, should  
30 provide work activities, training, and other services through contracts. In  
31 contracting for work activities, training, or services, the following apply:  
32

33 SECTION 507. Arkansas Code § 20-76-109(4)(A), concerning the use of  
34 contracts by the Department of Workforce Services, is amended to read as  
35 follows:

36 (4)(A) The ~~department~~ division may contract with commercial,

1 charitable, or faith-based organizations.

2  
3 SECTION 508. Arkansas Code § 20-76-113(b) and (c), concerning  
4 promoting outcomes for the Transitional Employment Assistance Program and  
5 Arkansas Work Pays Program, are amended to read as follows:

6 (b) The ~~Department~~ Division of Workforce Services shall develop and  
7 maintain the indicators for the Transitional Employment Assistance Program  
8 outcomes listed in subdivisions (a)(1)-(5) of this section, subject to review  
9 and approval by the Arkansas Workforce Development Board.

10 (c)(1) The ~~Department of Workforce Services~~ division shall develop  
11 proper targets for each Transitional Employment Assistance Program outcome by  
12 July 1 of each year, subject to review and approval by the board.

13 (2) The ~~Department of Workforce Services~~ division shall review  
14 and report on progress in achieving the targets in the comprehensive annual  
15 program report.

16 (3)(A) On the forty-fifth day after the end of the federal  
17 fiscal year, the report shall be submitted to the Governor and to the Chair  
18 of the House Committee on Public Health, Welfare, and Labor and the Chair of  
19 the Senate Committee on Public Health, Welfare, and Labor.

20 (B) The report shall include comments from the Department  
21 of Human Services, the ~~Department~~ Division of Workforce Services, and other  
22 relevant state agencies about their activities and their progress toward the  
23 Transitional Employment Assistance Program outcome targets.

24  
25 SECTION 509. Arkansas Code § 20-76-209(a), concerning payment of  
26 certain contributions and withholdings by Department of Human Services, is  
27 amended to read as follows:

28 (a) The appropriate division of the Department of Human Services is  
29 authorized to pay the employer's portion of contributions and withholdings  
30 required by the federal and state income tax laws, the Federal Insurance  
31 Contributions Law, the Workers' Compensation Law, § 11-9-101 et seq., and the  
32 ~~Department~~ Division of Workforce Services Law, § 11-10-101 et seq., in all  
33 cases wherein the recipient has been determined to be the employer of the  
34 provider and, as such, required to withhold an amount from the employee's  
35 wage and contribute an amount based upon the wages under the provisions of  
36 the above enumerated acts.

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SECTION 510. Arkansas Code § 20-76-210(a), concerning the payment of certain contributions and withholdings for certain nursing home care projects, is amended to read as follows:

(a) The appropriate division of the Department of Human Services is authorized to pay the employer's portion of contributions and withholdings required by the federal and state income tax laws, the Federal Insurance Contributions Act, the Workers' Compensation Law, § 11-9-101 et seq., and the ~~Department~~ Division of Workforce Services Law, § 11-10-101 et seq., in all cases wherein the homemaker and home health aid trainee is participating in the subsidized employment project to prevent premature nursing home care.

SECTION 511. Arkansas Code § 20-76-214(a), concerning the payment of certain contributions and withholdings related to transitional employment assistance, is amended to read as follows:

(a) The Department of Human Services is authorized to pay the employer's portion of contributions and withholdings required by the federal and state income tax laws, the Federal Insurance Contributions Act, the Workers' Compensation Law, § 11-9-101 et seq., the ~~Department~~ Division of Workforce Services Law, § 11-10-101 et seq., and private medical insurance premiums for eligible individuals where that is necessary to achieve employment assistance.

SECTION 512. Arkansas Code § 20-76-401(a)(2) and (3), concerning eligibility for the Transitional Employment Assistance Program, are amended to read as follows:

(2)(A) The Transitional Employment Assistance Program shall be administered by the Department of Human Services and the ~~Department~~ Division of Workforce Services.

(B) Subject to the order of the Governor, the ~~Department~~ Division of Workforce Services may take full authority for administering the Transitional Employment Assistance Program.

(C) The ~~Department~~ Division of Workforce Services may contract with the Department of Human Services for administrative services.

(3) The ~~Department~~ Division of Workforce Services may operate a separate Transitional Employment Assistance Program Two-Parent Program funded

1 by state funds not claimed for the federal Temporary Assistance for Needy  
2 Families program maintenance of effort requirement if the Director of the  
3 ~~Department~~ Division of Workforce Services deems such action necessary to  
4 avoid the risk of not meeting the two-parent work participation rate.  
5

6 SECTION 513. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 20-76-  
7 402(a), concerning work activities of the Department of Workforce Services,  
8 is amended to read as follows:

9 (a) The ~~Department~~ Division of Workforce Services shall develop and  
10 describe categories of approved work activities for transitional employment  
11 assistance recipients in accordance with this section. The rules shall be  
12 subject to review and recommendation by the Arkansas Workforce Development  
13 Board. Approved work activities may include unsubsidized employment,  
14 subsidized private sector employment, subsidized public sector employment,  
15 education or training, vocational educational training, skills training, job  
16 search and job readiness assistance, on-the-job training, micro enterprise,  
17 community service, and work experience. For purposes of this section:  
18

19 SECTION 514. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 20-76-  
20 402(a)(2)(A), concerning work activities of the Department of Workforce  
21 Services, is amended to read as follows:

22 (2)(A) "Subsidized private sector employment" is employment in a  
23 private for-profit enterprise or a private not-for-profit enterprise which is  
24 directly supplemented by federal or state funds. A program recipient in  
25 subsidized private sector employment shall be eligible for the same benefits  
26 as a nonsubsidized employee who performs similar work. Before receiving any  
27 subsidy or incentive, an employer shall enter into a written contract with  
28 the ~~Department~~ Division of Workforce Services which may include, but not be  
29 limited to, provisions addressing any of the following:  
30

31 SECTION 515. Arkansas Code § 20-76-402(a)(2)(A)(v), concerning work  
32 activities of the Department of Workforce Services, is amended to read as  
33 follows:

34 (v) Weighting of incentive payments proportionally  
35 to the extent to which the recipient has limitations associated with the  
36 long-term receipt of welfare and difficulty in sustaining employment. In

1 establishing incentive payments, the ~~Department~~ Division of Workforce  
2 Services shall consider the extent of the recipient's prior receipt of  
3 welfare, lack of employment experience, lack of education, lack of job  
4 skills, and other appropriate factors.

5  
6 SECTION 516. Arkansas Code § 20-76-402(a)(2)(B), concerning work  
7 activities of the Department of Workforce Services, is amended to read as  
8 follows:

9 (B) The ~~Department~~ Division of Workforce Services may  
10 require an employer to repay some or all of a subsidy or incentive previously  
11 paid to an employer under the program unless the recipient is terminated for  
12 cause;

13  
14 SECTION 517. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 20-76-  
15 402(a)(3)(A), concerning work activities of the Department of Workforce  
16 Services, is amended to read as follows:

17 (3)(A) "Subsidized public sector employment" is employment by an  
18 agency of the federal, state, or local government which is directly  
19 supplemented by federal or state funds. A program recipient in subsidized  
20 public sector employment shall be eligible for the same benefits as a  
21 nonsubsidized employee who performs similar work. Before receiving any  
22 subsidy or incentive, an employer shall enter into a written contract with  
23 the ~~Department~~ Division of Workforce Services that may include, but not be  
24 limited to, provisions addressing any of the following:

25  
26 SECTION 518. Arkansas Code § 20-76-402(a)(3)(A)(v), concerning work  
27 activities of the Department of Workforce Services, is amended to read as  
28 follows:

29 (v) Weighting of incentive payments proportionally  
30 to the extent to which the recipient has limitations associated with the  
31 long-term receipt of welfare and difficulty in sustaining employment. In  
32 establishing incentive payments, the ~~Department~~ Division of Workforce  
33 Services shall consider the extent of the recipient's prior receipt of  
34 welfare, lack of employment experience, lack of education, lack of job  
35 skills, and other appropriate factors.

36

1 SECTION 519. Arkansas Code § 20-76-402(a)(3)(B), concerning work  
2 activities of the Department of Workforce Services, is amended to read as  
3 follows:

4 (B) The ~~Department~~ Division of Workforce Services may  
5 require an employer to repay some or all of a subsidy and incentive  
6 previously paid to an employer under the program unless the recipient is  
7 terminated for cause;

8  
9 SECTION 520. Arkansas Code § 20-76-402(b)(1), concerning work  
10 activities of the Department of Workforce Services, is amended to read as  
11 follows:

12 (1) Be on the statewide or appropriate area list of occupations  
13 in the "Guide to Educational Training Programs for Demand Occupations"  
14 published by the ~~Department~~ Division of Workforce Services;

15  
16 SECTION 521. Arkansas Code § 20-76-402(d), concerning work activities  
17 of the Department of Workforce Services, is amended to read as follows:

18 (d)(1) The ~~Department~~ Division of Workforce Services shall require  
19 participation in approved work activities to the maximum extent possible,  
20 subject to federal and state funding. If funds are projected to be  
21 insufficient to support full-time work activities by all program recipients  
22 who are required to participate in work activities, the ~~Department~~ Division  
23 of Workforce Services shall screen recipients and assign priority in  
24 accordance with the implementation plan.

25 (2) In accordance with the implementation plan, the ~~Department~~  
26 Division of Workforce Services may limit a recipient's weekly work  
27 requirement to the minimum required to meet federal work activity  
28 requirements and may develop screening and prioritization procedures within  
29 employment opportunity districts or within counties based on the allocation  
30 of resources, the availability of community resources, or the work activity  
31 needs of the employment opportunity district or county.

32  
33 SECTION 522. Arkansas Code § 20-76-402(e)(3), concerning work  
34 activities of the Department of Workforce Services, is amended to read as  
35 follows:

36 (3) The ~~Department~~ Division of Workforce Services shall

1 establish and maintain a grievance procedure for resolving complaints of  
2 alleged violations of subdivision (e)(2) of this section.

3  
4 SECTION 523. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 20-76-  
5 402(f), concerning work activities of the Department of Workforce Services,  
6 is amended to read as follows:

7 (f) The ~~Department~~ Division of Workforce Services, subject to review  
8 and recommendation by the board, shall establish criteria to exempt or  
9 temporarily defer the following persons from any work activity requirement:

10  
11 SECTION 524. Arkansas Code § 20-76-402(f)(9), concerning work  
12 activities of the Department of Workforce Services, is amended to read as  
13 follows:

14 (9) An individual who, as determined by a ~~Department~~ Division of  
15 Workforce Services case manager, is unable to participate in work activities  
16 due directly to the effects of domestic violence. All case manager  
17 determinations made under this subdivision (f)(9) shall be reviewed by a  
18 supervisor within five (5) days of such determination;

19  
20 SECTION 525. Arkansas Code § 20-76-404 is amended to read as follows:

21 20-76-404. Duration of assistance – Extended support services.

22 (a)(1) ~~Beginning July 1, 1998, the Department~~ The Division of  
23 Workforce Services shall not provide financial assistance to a family that  
24 includes an adult recipient who has received financial assistance for more  
25 than twenty-four (24) months, except as provided in subsection (c) of this  
26 section.

27 (2) The number of months need not be consecutive and shall  
28 include the time a recipient receives financial assistance from another  
29 state.

30 (3) The ~~Department~~ Division of Workforce Services may by  
31 regulation establish other limitations on the receipt of financial assistance  
32 not inconsistent with state or federal law.

33 (b)(1) The ~~Department~~ Division of Workforce Services shall certify to  
34 the Governor, the House Committee on Public Health, Welfare, and Labor, and  
35 the Senate Committee on Public Health, Welfare, and Labor when the support  
36 services necessary for program recipients to obtain employment or participate

1 in allowable work activities are available.

2 (2) The ~~Department~~ Division of Workforce Services may certify  
3 subsets of program recipients, including without limitation recipients in a  
4 certain geographical area or employment opportunity district or program  
5 recipients with a high school diploma or high school equivalency diploma  
6 approved by the ~~Department of Career Education~~ Adult Education Section.

7 (3) Before implementing the twenty-four-month cumulative limit  
8 on financial assistance, the ~~Department~~ Division of Workforce Services shall  
9 notify program recipients by direct mail or contact and by other means  
10 reasonably calculated to reach to current and potential program recipients,  
11 including, but not limited to, the posting of notices in county offices.

12 (c) The ~~Department~~ Division of Workforce Services shall exempt or  
13 temporarily defer within thirty (30) calendar days the following persons from  
14 the twenty-four-month cumulative limit on financial assistance:

15 (1) An individual, as determined by a ~~Department~~ Division of  
16 Workforce Services case manager, who cooperated and participated in  
17 activities, but was unable to obtain employment because of circumstances or  
18 barriers beyond his or her control;

19 (2) Child-only cases;

20 (3) An individual unable to obtain employment because of the  
21 lack of support services necessary to overcome barriers to employment;

22 (4) A parent or caregiver over sixty (60) years of age;

23 (5) A parent or caregiver who is caring for a disabled child  
24 relative or disabled adult relative, based upon criteria set forth in  
25 ~~Department~~ Division of Workforce Services regulations;

26 (6) A disabled parent or caregiver, based upon criteria set  
27 forth in ~~Department~~ Division of Workforce Services regulations;

28 (7) A parent less than eighteen (18) years of age who resides in  
29 the home of a parent or in an approved adult-supervised setting and who  
30 participates in full-time education or training;

31 (8) An individual, who as determined by a ~~Department~~ Division of  
32 Workforce Services case manager, is unable to obtain employment due directly  
33 to the effects of domestic violence. All case manager determinations made  
34 under this subdivision (c)(8) shall be reviewed by a supervisor within five  
35 (5) days of the determination;

36 (9) Other individuals as determined by the ~~Department~~ Division

1 of Workforce Services, including, but not limited to, a child when necessary  
2 to protect the child from the risk of neglect, as defined by § 12-18-103(14);  
3 and

4 (10) Individuals participating in education and training  
5 activities who have reached the end of their twenty-four-month cumulative  
6 limit on financial assistance, have complied with all transitional employment  
7 assistance regulations, are making satisfactory academic progress as  
8 determined by the academic institution or training program in which the  
9 individual is currently enrolled, and are expected to complete the  
10 requirements for the education or training program within a reasonable period  
11 of time as defined in regulations issued by the ~~Department~~ Division of  
12 Workforce Services.

13 (d)(1) No months shall be counted toward a person's twenty-four-month  
14 cumulative limit on financial assistance while he or she is receiving a  
15 deferral or exemption.

16 (2) There shall be no limit on the length or the number of  
17 deferrals or exemptions granted each person as long as the person meets any  
18 of the criteria outlined in subsection (c) of this section.

19 (3) The ~~Department~~ Division of Workforce Services shall  
20 periodically review each case to determine whether the person still meets any  
21 of the criteria outlined in subsection (c) of this section.

22 (4)(A) The ~~Department~~ Division of Workforce Services shall carry  
23 out an enhanced review of all cases six (6) months before the expiration of  
24 the time limit.

25 (B) The review shall assess the barriers that remain to  
26 the adult or adults in the case obtaining employment, what enhanced services  
27 can be provided to enable him or her to obtain employment, and whether the  
28 case should be given a six-month extension or be exempted from the time  
29 limit.

30 (C) The ~~Department~~ Division of Workforce Services shall  
31 make every reasonable effort to deliver the available services identified in  
32 subdivision (d)(4)(B) of this section.

33 (D) The ~~Department~~ Division of Workforce Services shall  
34 grant an extension at the time for review if the client meets one (1) of the  
35 grounds for extension.

36 (E) The ~~Department~~ Division of Workforce Services shall

1 carry out a further review at the end of the extension period.

2 (e)(1) A recipient who was eligible for Medicaid and loses his or her  
3 financial assistance due to earnings and whose income remains below one  
4 hundred eighty-five percent (185%) of the federal poverty level shall remain  
5 eligible for transitional Medicaid without reapplication during the  
6 immediately succeeding twelve-month period if private medical insurance is  
7 unavailable from the employer.

8 (2) A recipient who loses his or her financial assistance due to  
9 earnings and who is employed shall be eligible for:

10 (A) Childcare assistance at no cost and without  
11 reapplication for a cumulative period of twelve (12) months; and

12 (B) Twenty-four (24) additional months of childcare  
13 assistance provided on a sliding fee scale or other cost-sharing arrangement  
14 as determined by the ~~Department~~ Division of Workforce Services.

15 (3) The ~~Department~~ Division of Workforce Services may reduce the  
16 period of transitional child care to a total of twenty-four (24) months for  
17 recipients who lose assistance at a specified date after the ~~Department~~  
18 Division of Workforce Services' decision to limit the assistance if the  
19 ~~Department~~ Division of Workforce Services certifies to the Governor and the  
20 Chief Fiscal Officer of the State that the reduction is necessary to avoid  
21 overspending the biennial budget for child care.

22 (4) The transitional childcare assistance available to former  
23 recipients shall not exceed the cumulative number of months provided under  
24 subdivisions (e)(2) and (3) of this section, regardless of whether the former  
25 recipient reenters the Transitional Employment Assistance Program.

26 (f)(1) The ~~Department~~ Division of Workforce Services shall deny  
27 Medicaid, childcare, and transportation assistance during the twelve-month  
28 period for any month in which the recipient's family does not include a  
29 dependent child.

30 (2) The ~~Department~~ Division of Workforce Services shall notify  
31 the recipient of transitional Medicaid, childcare, and transportation  
32 assistance when the recipient is notified of the termination of cash  
33 assistance. The notice shall include a description of the circumstances in  
34 which the transitional Medicaid and childcare assistance may be terminated.

35 (g)(1) In order to assist current and former program recipients in  
36 continuing training and upgrading skills, transitional education or training

1 may be provided to a recipient for up to one (1) year after the recipient is  
2 no longer eligible to participate in the program due to employment earnings.

3 (2) Education or training resources available in the community  
4 at no additional cost to the ~~Department~~ Division of Workforce Services shall  
5 be used whenever possible.

6 (3) Transitional education or training shall be employment-  
7 related and may include education or training to improve a recipient's job  
8 skills in the recipient's existing area of employment or may include  
9 education or training to prepare a recipient for employment in another  
10 occupation.

11 (4) The ~~Department~~ Division of Workforce Services may enter into  
12 an agreement with an employer to share the costs relating to upgrading the  
13 skills of recipients hired by the employer.

14 (h) Other extended support services may be available to recipients no  
15 longer eligible for financial assistance under transitional employment  
16 assistance.

17 (i)(1) By August 1, 2001, the ~~Department~~ Division of Workforce  
18 Services shall develop a plan, subject to review and recommendation by the  
19 Arkansas Workforce Development Board, to monitor and protect the safety and  
20 well-being of the children within a family whose temporary assistance is  
21 terminated for any reason other than the family's successful transition to  
22 economic self-sufficiency.

23 (2)(A) Actions required by the plan shall include at least one  
24 (1) home visit with the parents and children.

25 (B) Every reasonable effort shall be made to make contact  
26 with all families, including visits during evenings and on weekends.

27 (C) The first home visit shall occur within six (6) months  
28 after the termination of cash assistance.

29 (D) The purposes of the home visits shall include checking  
30 on the well-being of children in those families and determining whether the  
31 families need available services.

32 (3) The ~~Department~~ Division of Workforce Services may contract  
33 with other state agencies, private companies, local government agencies, or  
34 community organizations for the conducting of these visits.

35 (4) The board shall submit a report to the Governor and the  
36 Chair of the House Committee on Public Health, Welfare, and Labor and the

1 Chair of the Senate Committee on Public Health, Welfare, and Labor that  
2 report on the outcomes of the home visits and provide separate information  
3 for families who left transitional assistance due to noncompliance and time  
4 limits.

5 (j) As part of the home visits, families shall be informed about the  
6 availability of Medicaid and ARKids First, food stamps, child care, housing  
7 assistance, any other supportive services offered by the ~~Department~~ Division  
8 of Workforce Services or the Department of Health designed to help meet the  
9 basic needs and well-being of children, federal and state earned income tax  
10 credits, individual development accounts, employment counseling services, and  
11 education and training opportunities designed to increase the future earnings  
12 and employment prospects of clients.

13

14 SECTION 526. Arkansas Code § 20-76-410(b)-(f), concerning transitional  
15 employment assistance and administrative sanctions, are amended to read as  
16 follows:

17 (b) The ~~Department~~ Division of Workforce Services may define by rule  
18 additional situations that require sanction, establish additional sanctions,  
19 and provide for administrative disqualification.

20 (c)(1) If a parent fails to comply with the Transitional Employment  
21 Assistance Program requirements, financial assistance for the child or  
22 children may be continued under subdivisions (a)(1)-(5) of this section, and  
23 the ~~department~~ division shall suspend the family's assistance for one (1)  
24 month.

25 (2)(A) During the thirty (30) days after suspension of benefits,  
26 the ~~department~~ division shall make strong efforts to arrange a face-to-face  
27 meeting with the parent, including a home visit to the family if necessary.

28 (B) In the face-to-face meeting, the ~~department~~ division  
29 shall explain:

30 (i) The reason that the family has been found to be  
31 noncompliant;

32 (ii) The penalty that will be imposed; and

33 (iii) The opportunity to correct that noncompliance  
34 and avoid the penalty.

35 (C) The ~~department~~ division shall also seek to determine  
36 the well-being of the child or children and whether additional services or

1 actions are required to protect the well-being of the child or children.

2 (D) If the parent comes into compliance within fifteen  
3 (15) business days after the face-to-face meeting and maintains compliance  
4 for two (2) weeks, the suspended benefits shall be paid to the family.

5 (3) If the parent fails to come into compliance during the  
6 period of suspended benefits, the family's financial assistance may be  
7 reduced by up to twenty-five percent (25%) for the next three (3) months if  
8 noncompliance continues.

9 (4) If the parent's noncompliance continues after the fourth  
10 month, the ~~department~~ division shall suspend the family's financial  
11 assistance for two (2) months.

12 (5)(A) During the thirty (30) days after suspension of benefits,  
13 the ~~department~~ division shall make strong efforts to arrange a face-to-face  
14 meeting with the parent, including a home visit to the family if necessary.

15 (B) In the face-to-face meeting, the ~~department~~ division  
16 shall explain:

17 (i) The reason that the family has been found to be  
18 noncompliant;

19 (ii) The penalty that will be imposed; and

20 (iii) The opportunity to correct that noncompliance  
21 and avoid the penalty.

22 (C) The ~~department~~ division shall also seek to determine  
23 the well-being of the child or children and whether additional services or  
24 actions are required to protect the well-being of the child or children.

25 (D) If the parent comes into compliance within fifteen  
26 (15) business days and maintains compliance for two (2) weeks, the suspended  
27 benefits shall be paid to the parent.

28 (E) If the parent fails to come into compliance during the  
29 second period of suspended benefits, the family's financial assistance may be  
30 reduced by up to fifty percent (50%) for the next three (3) months, if  
31 noncompliance continues.

32 (F) Months during which cash assistance benefits are  
33 suspended shall not count toward the family's twenty-four-month limit on  
34 receiving Transitional Employment Assistance Program assistance.

35 (G) The Transitional Employment Assistance Program cash  
36 assistance case shall be closed if noncompliance continues after the end of

1 the period under this subdivision (c)(5).

2 (6) The ~~department~~ division shall arrange a home visit with the  
3 family during the last month of the sanction to determine the well-being of  
4 the child or children and to determine whether additional services are  
5 required to protect the well-being of the child or children.

6 (7) Medicaid and food stamp benefits shall be continued without  
7 need for reapplication if the family is being sanctioned and for as long as  
8 the family remains eligible under the requirements of those programs.

9 (8) ~~Department~~ Division staff may contract with other state  
10 agencies, local coalitions, or appropriate community organizations to carry  
11 out the strong efforts to communicate with families facing sanction and to  
12 conduct the face-to-face meetings and home visits specified in this section.

13 (d) Beginning after July 27, 2011, the ~~department~~ division shall  
14 include in the comprehensive annual program report information on the  
15 families sanctioned and the outcomes of the home visits to the Governor and  
16 the House Committee on Public Health, Welfare, and Labor and the Senate  
17 Committee on Public Health, Welfare, and Labor.

18 (e) When appropriate, protective payees may be designated by the  
19 ~~department~~ division and may include:

20 (1) A relative or other individual who is interested in or  
21 concerned with the welfare of the child or children and agrees in writing to  
22 utilize the assistance in the best interests of the child or children;

23 (2) A member of the community affiliated with a religious,  
24 community, neighborhood, or charitable organization who agrees in writing to  
25 utilize the assistance in the best interests of the child or children; or

26 (3) A volunteer or member of an organization who agrees in  
27 writing to utilize the assistance in the best interests of the child or  
28 children.

29 (f)(1) If it is in the best interest of the child or children, as  
30 determined by the ~~department~~ division, for the staff member of a private  
31 agency, a public agency, the ~~department~~ division, or any other appropriate  
32 organization to serve as a protective payee, the designation may be made.

33 (2) However, a protective payee shall not be any individual  
34 involved in determining eligibility for assistance for the family, staff  
35 handling any fiscal pressures related to the issuance of assistance, or  
36 landlords, grocers, or vendors of goods, services, or items dealing directly

1 with the recipient.

2

3 SECTION 527. Arkansas Code § 20-76-437 is amended to read as follows:

4 20-76-437. Reporting – Transitional employment assistance.

5 The Department of Human Services, the ~~Department~~ Division of Workforce  
6 Services, the Department of Health, the ~~Department of Education~~ Division of  
7 Elementary and Secondary Education, the ~~Department~~ Division of Higher  
8 Education, the ~~Department of Career Education~~ Adult Education Section, the  
9 Arkansas Development Finance Authority, the Arkansas Economic Development  
10 Council, and the Arkansas Department of Transportation shall report  
11 periodically to the House Committee on Public Health, Welfare, and Labor and  
12 the Senate Committee on Public Health, Welfare, and Labor regarding the  
13 provision of services to Transitional Employment Assistance Program  
14 recipients.

15

16 SECTION 528. Arkansas Code § 20-76-438(b)(1)(A) and (B), concerning  
17 the purpose of public assistance, are amended to read as follows:

18 (A) Currently there are inefficiencies and duplication of  
19 effort on the part of the ~~Department~~ Division of Workforce Services and the  
20 Department of Human Services in the administration of the Transitional  
21 Employment Assistance Program; and

22 (B) A different division of responsibility for  
23 administration of the Transitional Employment Assistance Program by the  
24 ~~Department~~ Division of Workforce Services and the Department of Human  
25 Services may result in the more efficient and effective administration of the  
26 Transitional Employment Assistance Program.

27

28 SECTION 529. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 20-76-  
29 438(b)(2), concerning the purpose of public assistance, are amended to read  
30 as follows:

31 (2) Therefore, it is in the public interest that the General  
32 Assembly authorize the ~~Department~~ Division of Workforce Services to:

33

34 SECTION 530. Arkansas Code § 20-76-443(a)(1) and (2), concerning the  
35 education and training of Transitional Employment Assistance Program  
36 recipients, are amended to read as follows:

1 (a)(1) The Department of Human Services and the ~~Department~~ Division of  
2 Workforce Services shall permit Transitional Employment Assistance Program  
3 recipients to obtain the education and training they need to obtain jobs that  
4 pay wages allowing them to be economically self-sufficient.

5 (2) Program recipients who are assessed as having basic  
6 education deficiencies shall be allowed to combine educational activities  
7 leading to a high school diploma or high school equivalency diploma approved  
8 by the ~~Department of Career Education~~ Adult Education Section and employment  
9 and work experience. Participants may be required to engage in internships,  
10 work experience, or employment. Work requirements shall not exceed fifteen  
11 (15) hours per week unless the Department of Human Services certifies that  
12 allowing education to count toward Transitional Employment Assistance Program  
13 recipients' required work activities would affect the state's ability to meet  
14 federal work participation rates. To the extent possible, educational  
15 activities shall take place in a work context.

16  
17 SECTION 531. Arkansas Code § 20-76-443(d)(2), concerning education and  
18 training for Transitional Employment Assistance Program recipients, is  
19 amended to read as follows:

20 (2) The ~~Department~~ Division of Workforce Services and the  
21 Arkansas Early Childhood Commission jointly shall promulgate rules to develop  
22 an evening childcare program with extended hours under subdivision (d)(1) of  
23 this section.

24  
25 SECTION 532. Arkansas Code § 20-76-444(a)(2)(A), concerning the  
26 creation and duties of the Arkansas Work Pays Program, is amended to read as  
27 follows:

28 (2)(A) The Arkansas Work Pays Program shall be administered by  
29 the ~~Department~~ Division of Workforce Services.

30  
31 SECTION 533. Arkansas Code § 20-76-444(c)(2), concerning the creation  
32 and duties of the Arkansas Work Pays Program, is amended to read as follows:

33 (2) The ~~department~~ division may set payment levels for families  
34 earning above the federal poverty level by rule to allow for a gradual  
35 reduction in payments as earnings rise toward one hundred fifty percent  
36 (150%) of the federal poverty level.

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SECTION 534. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 20-76-444(f), concerning the creation and duties of the Arkansas Work Pays Program, is amended to read as follows:

(f) The ~~Department~~ Division of Workforce Services shall administer a work incentive program that includes cash bonuses and other financial incentives to encourage:

SECTION 535. Arkansas Code § 20-76-444(g)(1), concerning the creation and duties of the Arkansas Work Pays Program, is amended to read as follows:

(g)(1) The ~~Department~~ Division of Workforce Services shall work with local workforce offices to develop and administer services to Arkansas Work Pays Program participants designed to help them move into higher-paying jobs available in their regions.

SECTION 536. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 20-76-444(g)(3), concerning the creation and duties of the Arkansas Work Pays Program, is amended to read as follows:

(3) The ~~Department~~ Division of Workforce Services may make these services available to low-income workers who are not participating in the Arkansas Work Pays Program.

SECTION 537. Arkansas Code § 20-76-444(h)-(j), concerning the creation and duties of the Arkansas Work Pays Program, are amended to read as follows:

(h) The ~~Department~~ Division of Workforce Services may contract with the Department of Human Services for administrative services related to eligibility and payments.

(i) The ~~Department~~ Division of Workforce Services shall make arrangements with the Department of Human Services to facilitate participants' enrollment in the Arkansas Work Pays Program after they leave the Transitional Employment Assistance Program.

(j)(1) The ~~Department~~ Division of Workforce Services shall promulgate rules establishing the Arkansas Work Pays Program.

(2) The rules shall be subject to review and recommendation by the board.

1 SECTION 538. Arkansas Code § 20-76-445(b)(1)(A), concerning the Career  
2 Pathways Initiative, is amended to read as follows:

3 (b)(1)(A) The ~~Department~~ Division of Workforce Services, the  
4 Department of Higher Education, and the Arkansas Workforce Development Board  
5 shall work jointly to develop a plan for the Career Pathways Initiative.  
6

7 SECTION 539. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 20-76-  
8 445(d), concerning the Career Pathways Initiative, is amended to read as  
9 follows:

10 (d) Under the initiative, the ~~Department~~ Division of Higher Education  
11 shall contract to provide education and training that will result in job  
12 training certificates or higher education degrees for Transitional Employment  
13 Assistance Program participants and other low-income adults with:  
14

15 SECTION 540. Arkansas Code § 20-76-445(e)(2), concerning the Career  
16 Pathways Initiative, is amended to read as follows:

17 (2) Applications shall be made to the ~~Department~~ Division of  
18 Higher Education.  
19

20 SECTION 541. Arkansas Code § 20-76-445(f), concerning the Career  
21 Pathways Initiative, is amended to read as follows:

22 (f) The ~~Department~~ Division of Higher Education shall determine which  
23 two-year college proposals are funded under the initiative.  
24

25 SECTION 542. Arkansas Code § 20-76-446(a)(2), concerning the creation  
26 of the Community Investment Initiative, is amended to read as follows:

27 (2) The ~~Department~~ Division of Workforce Services shall develop  
28 the initiative.  
29

30 SECTION 543. Arkansas Code § 20-76-446(b), concerning the creation of  
31 the Community Investment Initiative, is amended to read as follows:

32 (b) The ~~department~~ division shall contract with private or community  
33 organizations, including faith-based organizations, to offer services and  
34 support to parents, children, and youth in their communities.  
35

36 SECTION 544. Arkansas Code § 20-76-446(d)(1), concerning the creation

1 of the Community Investment Initiative, is amended to read as follows:

2 (d)(1) The ~~department~~ division shall authorize contracts with state  
3 agencies or community organizations to provide training and capacity building  
4 services to organizations eligible to apply for initiative funds.

5

6 SECTION 545. Arkansas Code § 20-76-702(4)(B), concerning definitions  
7 for the Drug Screening and Testing Act of 2015, is amended to read as  
8 follows:

9 (B) The Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of Workforce  
10 Services may add under the definition of subdivision (4)(A) of this section  
11 additional drugs by rule;

12

13 SECTION 546. Arkansas Code § 20-76-702(6), concerning definitions for  
14 the Drug Screening and Testing Act of 2015, is amended to read as follows:

15 (6) "Drug testing agency" means an entity that has the required  
16 credentials as established by the ~~Department~~ Division of Workforce Services  
17 to administer drug tests using a person's urine, blood, or DNA that will  
18 detect and validate the presence of drugs in a person's body;

19

20 SECTION 547. Arkansas Code § 20-76-703(a)(1), concerning the  
21 administration of drug screening and testing program under the Temporary  
22 Assistance for Needy Families Program, is amended to read as follows:

23 (a)(1) Subject to state appropriation, the ~~Department~~ Division of  
24 Workforce Services, in coordination with the Department of Human Services,  
25 shall establish and administer a drug screening and testing program of  
26 suspicion-based drug screening and testing for each applicant who is  
27 otherwise eligible for the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families Program, §  
28 20-76-101 et seq., or its successor program and for each recipient of the  
29 Temporary Assistance for Needy Families Program, § 20-76-101 et seq., or its  
30 successor program.

31

32 SECTION 548. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 20-76-  
33 704(a), concerning the powers and duties of the Department of Workforce  
34 Services in the administration of a drug screening and testing program under  
35 the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families Program, is amended to read as  
36 follows:

1 (a) The ~~Department~~ Division of Workforce Services, in coordination  
2 with the Department of Human Services, shall:

3  
4 SECTION 549. Arkansas Code § 20-76-704(a)(2), concerning the powers  
5 and duties of the Department of Workforce Services in the administration of a  
6 drug screening and testing program under the Temporary Assistance for Needy  
7 Families Program, is amended to read as follows:

8 (2) Develop appropriate screening techniques and processes to  
9 establish reasonable cause that an applicant or recipient is using a drug and  
10 to establish the necessary criteria to permit the ~~Department~~ Division of  
11 Workforce Services, in coordination with the Department of Human Services, to  
12 require the applicant or recipient to undergo no less than a five-panel drug  
13 test;

14  
15 SECTION 550. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 20-76-  
16 704(b), concerning the powers and duties of the Department of Workforce  
17 Services in the administration of a drug screening and testing program under  
18 the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families Program, is amended to read as  
19 follows:

20 (b) Annually, the ~~Department~~ Division of Workforce Services, in  
21 coordination with the Department of Human Services, shall submit a report of  
22 the past calendar year on or before February 1 to the General Assembly that  
23 includes without limitation:

24  
25 SECTION 551. Arkansas Code § 20-76-704(b)(8), concerning the powers  
26 and duties of the Department of Workforce Services in the administration of a  
27 drug screening and testing program under the Temporary Assistance for Needy  
28 Families Program, is amended to read as follows:

29 (8) The amount of costs incurred by the ~~department~~ division for  
30 the administration of the drug screening and testing program; and

31  
32 SECTION 552. Arkansas Code § 20-76-705(1)(B), concerning standards in  
33 the drug screening and testing pilot program, is amended to read as follows:

34 (B) If the result of the drug screening tool gives the  
35 ~~Department~~ Division of Workforce Services a reasonable suspicion to believe  
36 that the applicant or recipient has engaged in the use of drugs, then the

1 applicant or recipient shall be required to take a drug test.

2  
3 SECTION 553. Arkansas Code § 20-76-705(2)(A) and (B), concerning  
4 standards in the drug screening and testing pilot program, are amended to  
5 read as follows:

6 (A) If an applicant or recipient receives a negative  
7 result on a drug test, the cost of administering the drug test shall be paid  
8 by the ~~department~~ division;

9 (B) If an applicant or recipient receives a positive  
10 result on a drug test, refuses to enter a treatment plan, and receives a  
11 negative result on a drug test upon reapplying for benefits after six (6)  
12 months, the cost of administering the first drug test shall be deducted from  
13 his or her first program benefits, and the cost of administering the second  
14 drug test shall be paid by the ~~department~~ division;

15  
16 SECTION 554. Arkansas Code § 20-76-705(3)(A), concerning standards in  
17 the drug screening and testing pilot program, are amended to read as follows:

18 (3)(A) A referral process for any applicant or recipient who  
19 receives a positive result on a drug test to be referred to an appropriate  
20 treatment resource for drug abuse treatment or other resource by the  
21 ~~department~~ division for an appropriate treatment period as determined by the  
22 ~~department~~ division.

23  
24 SECTION 555. Arkansas Code § 20-76-705(5)(C), concerning standards in  
25 the drug screening and testing pilot program, are amended to read as follows:

26 (C) If an applicant or recipient who has failed a drug  
27 test reapplies for program benefits, the applicant or recipient shall test  
28 negative for illegal use of controlled substances in order to receive program  
29 benefits, and the ~~department~~ division may provide a referral to an  
30 appropriate treatment resource for drug abuse treatment or other resource;  
31 and

32  
33 SECTION 556. Arkansas Code § 20-76-706(a), concerning information  
34 regarding drug testing, is amended to read as follows:

35 (a) All information, interviews, reports, statements, memoranda, and  
36 drug test results, written or otherwise, received by the ~~Department~~ Division

1 of Workforce Services as a part of the drug testing program under this  
2 subchapter shall be confidential and not subject to disclosure and may not be  
3 used or received in evidence, obtained in discovery, or disclosed in any  
4 public or private proceedings.

5

6 SECTION 557. Arkansas Code § 20-76-706(c)(1), concerning information  
7 regarding drug testing, is amended to read as follows:

8 (1) The ~~department~~ division or a drug testing agency conducting  
9 the drug test from having access to an adult applicant's or adult recipient's  
10 drug test information or using the information when consulting with legal  
11 counsel in connection with actions brought under or related to this  
12 subchapter or when the information is relevant to its defense in a civil or  
13 administrative matter; or

14

15 SECTION 558. Arkansas Code § 20-76-708(a), concerning the rulemaking  
16 authority of the Director of the Department of Workforce Services, is amended  
17 to read as follows:

18 (a) The Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of Workforce Services, in  
19 coordination with the Department of Human Services, shall promulgate rules  
20 necessary for the implementation of this subchapter.

21

22 SECTION 559. Arkansas Code § 20-77-2002(a)(5)(B)(vi), concerning the  
23 administration of the ARKids First Programs, is amended to read as follows:

24 (vi) The ~~Department~~ Division of Workforce Services  
25 database.

26

27 SECTION 560. Arkansas Code § 20-79-204 is amended to read as follows:  
28 20-79-204. Deputy director.

29 (a) ~~The~~ Arkansas Rehabilitation Services shall be administered, under  
30 the general supervision and direction of the ~~appropriate division~~ Division of  
31 Workforce Services ~~of the Department of Human Services~~, by a deputy director,  
32 appointed in accordance with established personnel standards and on the basis  
33 of education, training, experience, and demonstrated ability in the field of  
34 rehabilitation.

35 (b) In carrying out his or her duties under this subchapter, the  
36 deputy director:

1           (1) Shall, with the approval of the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the  
2 Department of ~~Human Services~~ Commerce, prepare regulations for promulgation  
3 by the appropriate division of the department governing personnel standards,  
4 the protection of records and confidential information, the manner and form  
5 of filing applications, eligibility, and investigation and determination  
6 thereof, for rehabilitation services, procedures for fair hearings, and such  
7 other regulations as he or she finds necessary to carry out the purposes of  
8 this subchapter, including the order to be followed in selecting those to  
9 whom rehabilitation services are to be provided in situations where service  
10 cannot be provided to all who are eligible for service;

11           (2) Shall, with the approval of the ~~director~~ secretary,  
12 establish appropriate subordinate administrative units within ~~the~~ Arkansas  
13 Rehabilitation Services;

14           (3) Shall recommend to the ~~director~~ secretary for appointment  
15 such personnel as he or she deems necessary for the efficient performance of  
16 the functions of ~~the~~ Arkansas Rehabilitation Services;

17           (4) Shall prepare and submit to the ~~director~~ secretary and the  
18 Governor annual reports of activities and expenditures and, prior to each  
19 regular session of the General Assembly, estimates of sums required to carry  
20 out this subchapter, as well as estimates of the amounts to be made available  
21 for this purpose from all sources;

22           (5) Shall make certification for disbursement, in accordance  
23 with regulations, of funds available for carrying out the purposes of this  
24 subchapter; and

25           (6) May, with the approval of the ~~director~~ secretary, delegate  
26 to any officer or employee of ~~the~~ Arkansas Rehabilitation Services such of  
27 his or her powers and duties, except the making of regulations and the making  
28 of recommendations for appointment of personnel, as he or she finds necessary  
29 to carry out the purposes of this subchapter.

30  
31           SECTION 561. Arkansas Code § 20-86-105(a), concerning proposals for  
32 contracts with fiduciary organizations by the Department of Workforce  
33 Services, is amended to read as follows:

34           (a)(1) The ~~Department~~ Division of Workforce Services shall enter into  
35 contracts with one (1) or more fiduciary organizations pursuant to the  
36 provisions of this section in such a manner that different regions of the

1 state are served by one (1) or more fiduciary organizations.

2 (2)(A) An organization based in this state which desires to  
3 enter into such a contract shall submit a proposal to the ~~department~~ division  
4 for the right to be approved as a fiduciary organization.

5 (B) Proposals shall be made upon forms prescribed by the  
6 ~~department~~ division and shall contain such information as the ~~department~~  
7 division may require.

8

9 SECTION 562. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 20-86-  
10 105(b), concerning proposals for contracts with fiduciary organizations by  
11 the Division of Workforce Services, is amended to read as follows:

12 (b) Organizations' proposals shall be evaluated and contracts awarded  
13 by the ~~department~~ division on the basis of such items as geographic diversity  
14 and an organization's:

15

16 SECTION 563. Arkansas Code § 20-86-106(a)(1), concerning an individual  
17 development account, is amended to read as follows:

18 (a)(1) An individual who is a resident of this state may submit an  
19 application to open an individual development account to a fiduciary  
20 organization approved by the ~~Department~~ Division of Workforce Services  
21 pursuant to the provisions of § 20-86-105.

22

23 SECTION 564. Arkansas Code § 20-86-109(d)(1)(B), concerning matching  
24 funds contributed to a fiduciary organization, is amended to read as follows:

25 (B) The fiduciary organization shall then notify the  
26 ~~Department~~ Division of Workforce Services and request a certification from  
27 the ~~Department~~ Division of Workforce Services certifying the amount of the  
28 tax credit to which the taxpayer is entitled.

29

30 SECTION 565. Arkansas Code § 20-86-109(g), concerning matching funds  
31 contributed to a fiduciary organization, is amended to read as follows:

32 (g) The ~~Department~~ Division of Workforce Services may monitor the use  
33 of these funds by fiduciary organizations.

34

35 SECTION 566. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 20-86-111,  
36 concerning reporting requirements of fiduciary organizations, is amended to

1 read as follows:

2 Each fiduciary organization shall provide quarterly to the ~~Department~~  
3 Division of Workforce Services the following information:

4

5 SECTION 567. Arkansas Code § 20-86-112 is amended to read as follows:

6 20-86-112. Implementation.

7 The ~~Department~~ Division of Workforce Services shall be responsible for  
8 implementation of this subchapter and shall promulgate rules as necessary in  
9 accordance with the provisions of this subchapter.

10

11 SECTION 568. Arkansas Code § 20-86-113(a), concerning reports and  
12 recommendations of the Department of Workforce Services, is amended to read  
13 as follows:

14 (a) The ~~Department~~ Division of Workforce Services shall prepare a  
15 written report annually regarding the implementation of this act and shall  
16 make recommendations for improving the program.

17

18 SECTION 569. Arkansas Code § 21-5-218 is amended to read as follows:  
19 21-5-218. Reimbursement for interpreter services for deaf.

20 Whereas ~~the Arkansas Rehabilitation Services of the Department of~~  
21 ~~Career Education~~ currently purchases and sells staff interpreter services for  
22 the deaf with four (4) other agencies, the University of Arkansas at  
23 Fayetteville, the University of Arkansas at Little Rock, the Arkansas School  
24 for the Deaf, and the Administrative Office of the Courts and whereas the  
25 need for interpreters is immediate and often for crisis purposes and cannot  
26 be planned ahead, the ~~Department of Career Education~~ Division of Workforce  
27 Services is authorized to arrange for reimbursement with those agencies,  
28 assuring that the amount paid from both agencies will not exceed the maximum  
29 for the grades they occupy consistent with the intent of § 19-4-1604, with  
30 notification and justification to the ~~Chief Fiscal Officer of the State~~  
31 Secretary of the Department of Transformation and Shared Services.

32

33 SECTION 570. Arkansas Code § 23-2-423(d), concerning the procedure for  
34 judicial review for orders of the Arkansas Public Service Commission, is  
35 amended to read as follows:

36 (d) The Court of Appeals, on review, shall advance commission cases as

1 matters of public interest over all other civil cases except child custody  
2 cases, and appeals under the Workers' Compensation Law, § 11-9-101 et seq.,  
3 and the ~~Department~~ Division of Workforce Services Law, § 11-10-101 et seq.  
4

5 SECTION 571. Arkansas Code § 23-35-201 is amended to read as follows:

6 23-35-201. Credit Union Division – State Credit Union Supervisor –  
7 Staff.

8 There is created under the State Securities Department a Credit Union  
9 Division which shall be administered by the State Credit Union Supervisor.  
10 The Securities Commissioner, in consultation with the Secretary of the  
11 Department of Commerce, shall act as State Credit Union Supervisor. The  
12 supervisor, in consultation with the Secretary of the Department of Commerce,  
13 shall appoint such ~~assistants, secretaries,~~ administrative assistants and  
14 examiners as may be necessary to assist in the performance of his or her  
15 duties under this chapter.  
16

17 SECTION 572. Arkansas Code § 23-37-206 is amended to read as follows:

18 23-37-206. Division of Savings and Loan Associations – Supervisor –  
19 Staff.

20 (a) There is created a Division of Savings and Loan Associations of  
21 the State Securities Department which shall be administered by the Supervisor  
22 of Savings and Loan Associations.

23 (b)(1) The Securities Commissioner, in consultation with the Secretary  
24 of the Department of Commerce, shall act as Supervisor of Savings and Loan  
25 Associations. He or she may appoint an assistant securities commissioner  
26 responsible for financial institutions to act as the Assistant Supervisor of  
27 Savings and Loan Associations and perform all duties delegated by the  
28 commissioner.

29 (2) The supervisor, in consultation with the Secretary of the  
30 Department of Commerce, shall appoint any other assistants, secretaries, and  
31 examiners who may be necessary to assist in the performance of his or her  
32 duties under this chapter.  
33

34 SECTION 573. Arkansas Code § 23-39-512(b)(2)(A), concerning exceptions  
35 to the public inspection of the records of the State Securities Department,  
36 is amended to read as follows:

1 (A) Generally, records that reflect discussions between or  
2 consideration by the commissioner or members of ~~his or her~~ the staff of the  
3 State Securities Department or the staff of the Department of Commerce  
4 working for the State Securities Department, or both, of any action taken or  
5 proposed to be taken by the commissioner or by any members of ~~his or her~~ the  
6 staff of the State Securities Department or the staff of the Department of  
7 Commerce working for the State Securities Department; and

8  
9 SECTION 574. Arkansas Code § 23-39-512(b)(3)(A) and (B), concerning  
10 exceptions to the public inspection of the records of the State Securities  
11 Department, are amended to read as follows:

12 (A) Information concerning all employees of the State  
13 Securities Department or the Department of Commerce working for the State  
14 Securities Department and information concerning persons subject to  
15 regulation by the department; and

16 (B) Personal information about employees of mortgage  
17 brokers, mortgage bankers, mortgage servicers, or loan officers reported to  
18 the commissioner under the ~~department's~~ State Securities Department rules  
19 concerning registration of those persons;

20  
21 SECTION 575. Arkansas Code § 23-42-201 is amended to read as follows:

22 23-42-201. Administration by Securities Commissioner – Conflicts of  
23 interest.

24 (a)(1) This chapter shall be administered by the Securities  
25 Commissioner, who shall be appointed by the Governor and who shall serve at  
26 the pleasure of the Governor.

27 (2) The commissioner shall report to the Secretary of the  
28 Department of Commerce.

29 (b)(1) There is created within the Department of commerce the State  
30 Securities Department.

31 (2) The State Securities Department shall have all the powers  
32 and duties assigned pursuant to Acts 1983, No. 691, and all subsequent  
33 delegations of authority.

34 ~~(b)(c)~~ No person shall serve in the State Securities Department or in  
35 the Department of Commerce working for the State Securities Department in any  
36 capacity who engages in any activities regulated under the provisions of this

1 chapter.

2

3 SECTION 576. Arkansas Code § 23-42-203 is amended to read as follows:

4 23-42-203. Confidentiality of information or proceedings generally.

5 (a) It is unlawful for the Securities Commissioner or any of ~~his or~~  
6 ~~her~~ the officers or employees of the State Securities Department or officers  
7 or employees of the Department of Commerce working for the State Securities  
8 Department to use for personal benefit any information which is filed with or  
9 obtained by the commissioner and which is not made public.

10 (b) Neither the commissioner nor any of ~~his or her~~ the officers or  
11 employees of the State Securities Department or officers or employees of the  
12 Department of Commerce working for the State Securities Department shall  
13 disclose the information except among themselves or when necessary or  
14 appropriate in a proceeding or investigation under this chapter or in any  
15 judicial proceedings when the information is not privileged.

16 (c) No provision of this chapter either creates or derogates from any  
17 privilege which exists at common law or otherwise when documentary or other  
18 evidence is sought under a subpoena directed to the commissioner or any of  
19 his or her officers or employees.

20 (d) Nothing herein shall prevent the commissioner or any officers or  
21 employees of the State Securities Department or officers or employees of the  
22 Department of Commerce working for the State Securities Department from  
23 sharing with state or federal law enforcement authorities, other state or  
24 federal regulatory authorities, or self-regulatory organizations authorized  
25 by law any information which they may have or obtain in aid of the  
26 enforcement of this chapter or any other securities act or the criminal  
27 provisions of any laws.

28 (e) The commissioner, in his or her discretion, shall determine when  
29 an administrative proceeding shall be public.

30

31 SECTION 577. Arkansas Code § 23-42-207(b)(3), concerning exceptions to  
32 the public inspection of records filed with the Securities Commissioner, is  
33 amended to read as follows:

34 (3) Personnel and medical files and similar files the disclosure  
35 of which would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy,  
36 including those concerning ~~all~~ employees of the State Securities Department

1 or employees of the Department of Commerce working for the State Securities  
2 Department and those concerning persons subject to regulation by employees of  
3 broker-dealers reported to the commissioner pursuant to the ~~department's~~  
4 State Securities Department's rules concerning registration of broker-dealers  
5 and agents;

6  
7 SECTION 578. Arkansas Code § 23-46-201 is amended to read as follows:  
8 23-46-201. Creation of State Bank Department.

9 There is created and established, at the seat of government of this  
10 state, a department to be known as the State Bank Department. The State Bank  
11 Department shall be a division of the Department of Commerce.

12  
13 SECTION 579. Arkansas Code § 23-46-202 is repealed.

14 ~~23-46-202. Offices.~~

15 ~~(a) The State Bank Department may own, acquire, construct,~~  
16 ~~reconstruct, extend, equip, improve, maintain, operate, lease, contract~~  
17 ~~concerning, or otherwise deal in and with any lands, improvements, buildings,~~  
18 ~~furniture, furnishings, machinery, and personal property of any and every~~  
19 ~~nature whatever, that can be used by the department for suitable offices for~~  
20 ~~the business of the department, with the necessary conveniences for the~~  
21 ~~transaction of business and the safekeeping of the records of the department.~~

22 ~~(b) The State Bank Department is authorized and empowered to obtain~~  
23 ~~the necessary funds to accomplish the purposes stated in subsection (a) of~~  
24 ~~this section from any source or sources necessary, including without~~  
25 ~~limitation contracting with the Building Authority Division of the Department~~  
26 ~~of Finance and Administration or the Arkansas Development Finance Authority~~  
27 ~~to provide for the issuance of bonds under the State Agencies Facilities~~  
28 ~~Acquisition Act of 1991, § 22-3-1401 et seq., or the Arkansas Development~~  
29 ~~Finance Authority Act, § 15-5-101 et seq., § 15-5-201 et seq., and § 15-5-301~~  
30 ~~et seq.~~

31 ~~(c)(1) Bonds and interest on the bonds issued under this section shall~~  
32 ~~be payable solely from and secured by a pledge of the fees and revenues~~  
33 ~~deposited into an account designated as the State Bank Department Building~~  
34 ~~Fund in accordance with § 23-46-209(a).~~

35 ~~(2) The pledged fees and revenues are specifically declared to~~  
36 ~~be cash funds, restricted in their use, and dedicated solely for the purposes~~

1 ~~set forth in this subchapter.~~

2 ~~(3) The Arkansas Development Finance Authority is authorized and~~  
3 ~~empowered to make a pledge of the fees and revenues in the resolution~~  
4 ~~authorizing the issuance of the bonds under this section.~~

5  
6 SECTION 580. Arkansas Code § 23-46-204 is amended to read as follows:

7 23-46-204. Bank Commissioner – Appointment and removal.

8 (a) The Governor, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate,  
9 shall appoint a Bank Commissioner who shall:

10 (1) Be a resident of this state;

11 (2) Be at least thirty (30) years of age; and

12 (3) Have not less than five (5) years' experience either in  
13 practical banking or in the bank department of a state.

14 (b) The commissioner shall be the head of the State Bank Department  
15 and shall hold his or her office for the term of four (4) years beginning  
16 from the date of actual appointment by the Governor and expiring four (4)  
17 years from that date and until a successor is appointed.

18 (c) The commissioner may be removed by the Governor from office for  
19 neglect of duty, malfeasance, misfeasance, extortion or corruption in office,  
20 incompetency, or mental or physical disability to such an extreme as to  
21 render the commissioner unable or unfit for the discharge of his or her  
22 duties, or for any offense involving moral turpitude while in office  
23 committed under color of or connected with such an office.

24 (d) In the event there shall be an inability to serve in the office  
25 caused by death, suspension, removal, disability, disqualification, or  
26 resignation of the commissioner, a deputy commissioner previously designated  
27 by the commissioner shall exercise the powers and perform the duties of the  
28 commissioner until a successor is appointed by the Governor, with the advice  
29 and consent of the Senate, who shall serve for the remainder of the unexpired  
30 term fixed by law.

31 (e) The commissioner shall report to the Secretary of the Department  
32 of Commerce.

33  
34 SECTION 581. Arkansas Code § 23-46-205(d)(10), concerning the powers  
35 and duties of the Bank Commissioner, is amended to read as follows:

36 (10)(A) Perform preemployment state criminal background checks

1 through the ~~Department~~ Division of Arkansas State Police and preemployment  
2 federal criminal background checks through the Federal Bureau of  
3 Investigation on all applicants selected for employment as examiners with the  
4 State Bank Department.

5 (B) The federal background check shall include taking  
6 fingerprints of the applicant.

7 (C) The applicant shall sign a release authorizing the  
8 ~~Department~~ Division of Arkansas State Police and the Federal Bureau of  
9 Investigation to disclose criminal history information about the applicant to  
10 the State Bank Department.

11 (D) The commissioner shall treat the information as  
12 confidential and shall disclose the information only to the applicant; and  
13

14 SECTION 582. Arkansas Code § 23-46-206 is amended to read as follows:

15 23-46-206. Employment and duties of staff generally.

16 (a)(1) The Bank Commissioner, in consultation with the Secretary of  
17 the Department of Commerce, shall employ from time to time the assistants,  
18 examiners, clerks, stenographers, counsel, and other personnel as he or she  
19 may find necessary to properly and efficiently discharge the duties of his or  
20 her office.

21 (2) The commissioner shall be authorized to set minimum  
22 qualifications for these persons and to fix their levels of compensation  
23 within the limitations of the numbers of employees and the appropriations for  
24 their salaries as provided from time to time by acts of the General Assembly,  
25 provided he or she shall incur no expense until an appropriation shall have  
26 been made therefor nor in excess of the revenues of the State Bank  
27 Department.

28 (b) Counsel employed by the commissioner shall advise the commissioner  
29 in all legal matters affecting the ~~department~~ State Bank Department.

30 (c) Notwithstanding any other provisions of state law, and in order to  
31 maintain the confidentiality of information and the security of ~~department~~  
32 State Bank Department personnel in the performance of their duties, the  
33 commissioner shall be authorized to establish travel reimbursement guidelines  
34 for payment of expenses of ~~department~~ State Bank Department personnel  
35 incurred in the performance of their duties.

36 (d) If the commissioner is not himself or herself at any time

1 available for the transaction of any specific matter committed by law to his  
2 or her authority or discretion, any one of the deputy commissioners, or any  
3 other staff member so designated by the commissioner in writing, may transact  
4 such matter in the name and stead of the commissioner.

5 (e)(1) The commissioner, each member of the State Banking Board, the  
6 deputy commissioners, chief examiners, counsel, each examiner, each  
7 accountant, each attorney, and each other officer, person, or employee, or  
8 both, of or for the ~~department~~ State Bank Department shall not be personally  
9 liable for damages occasioned by his or her official acts or omissions,  
10 except when the acts or omissions are corrupt and malicious.

11 (2) The Attorney General shall defend any action brought against  
12 any of the above-mentioned persons by reason of his or her official acts or  
13 omissions, regardless of whether at the time of institution of the action the  
14 defendant has terminated his or her service with the ~~department~~ State Bank  
15 Department.

16  
17 SECTION 583. Arkansas Code § 23-46-207(a)(1), concerning prohibited  
18 interests in financial institutions, is amended to read as follows:

19 (a)(1) No employee or officer of the State Bank Department, or  
20 employee or officer of the Department of Commerce working within the State  
21 Bank Department, who participates in the examination of a financial  
22 institution, or who may be called upon to make an official decision or  
23 determination affecting the operation of a financial institution, shall be an  
24 officer, director, attorney, owner, or holder of stock in any state bank,  
25 registered out-of-state bank, or bank holding company which controls a state  
26 bank or a registered out-of-state bank, or receive, directly or indirectly,  
27 any payment or gratuity from any such organizations.

28  
29 SECTION 584. Arkansas Code § 23-46-208 is repealed.

30 ~~23-46-208. Employee bonds.~~

31 ~~(a) All employees shall be required to furnish bonds in such amounts~~  
32 ~~as the Bank Commissioner shall deem sufficient to cover the liabilities of~~  
33 ~~their respective positions, which bonds may be made by any guaranty company~~  
34 ~~authorized to do business in this state.~~

35 ~~(b)(1) The fees paid by any officer or employee of the State Bank~~  
36 ~~Department to any guaranty or bonding company for a fidelity bond shall be~~

1 ~~considered and charged as expenses of the department.~~

2 ~~(2) However, the expense of any fidelity bond written on a~~  
3 ~~special deputy commissioner appointed as special liquidating agent for an~~  
4 ~~insolvent state bank or subsidiary trust company shall be paid out of the~~  
5 ~~assets of the insolvent state bank or subsidiary trust company.~~

6 ~~(c) No expense shall be incurred until an appropriation shall be made~~  
7 ~~for such a purpose, and in no case shall any liability be created for the~~  
8 ~~state in excess of the appropriation therefor.~~

9  
10 SECTION 585. Arkansas Code § 23-46-209 is amended to read as follows:

11 23-46-209. Records and financial reports – Disposition of funds.

12 (a)~~(1)~~ The Bank Commissioner shall keep a true and perfect record of  
13 all of the business of the State Bank Department and shall make monthly  
14 reports to the Auditor of State of all fees he or she collects.

15 ~~(2)(A) From the fees or other revenues collected, the~~  
16 ~~commissioner:~~

17 ~~(i) Shall deposit directly into the State Bank~~  
18 ~~Department Building Fund the amount due, if any, for the annual rental under~~  
19 ~~any lease or annual principal and interest payments under any bonds related~~  
20 ~~to the acquisition of any properties under § 23-46-202; and~~

21 ~~(ii) May deposit directly into the State Bank~~  
22 ~~Department Building Fund an additional annual amount not to exceed ten~~  
23 ~~percent (10%) of the original principal amount of any bonds related to the~~  
24 ~~acquisition of any properties under § 23-46-202.~~

25 ~~(B) The commissioner shall make the payments under this~~  
26 ~~subdivision (a)(2) from the moneys received by the department prior to the~~  
27 ~~payment of any of the moneys into the State Treasury.~~

28 ~~(C) Upon the discharge of all bonds and leases authorized~~  
29 ~~by § 23-46-202, the commissioner shall deposit into the State Bank Department~~  
30 ~~Building Fund an amount deemed necessary by the commissioner for the~~  
31 ~~operation and maintenance of the department's properties and the~~  
32 ~~establishment and maintenance of appropriate reserves for the repair and~~  
33 ~~replacement of the properties acquired under § 23-46-202.~~

34 ~~(D) All fees collected by the commissioner required for~~  
35 ~~the payments under this subdivision (a)(2) are specifically declared to be~~  
36 ~~cash funds and may be collected and deposited into banks and depositories~~

1 ~~selected by the commissioner.~~

2 ~~(3) The commissioner shall promptly pay to the Treasurer of~~  
3 ~~State all fees not necessary for the payments required by subdivision (a)(2)~~  
4 ~~of this section, taking duplicate receipts therefor, one (1) of which shall~~  
5 ~~be filed with the Auditor of State.~~

6 (b) All fees and other revenues received by the department ~~not~~  
7 ~~necessary for the payments required by subdivision (a)(2) of this section~~  
8 shall be deposited into the State Treasury as special revenues and credited  
9 to the Bank Department Fund to be used solely for the payment of the expenses  
10 of the department pursuant to the appropriations therefor.

11 (c) Upon proper voucher from the commissioner, the Auditor of State  
12 shall issue the Auditor of State's warrant on the Treasurer of State in  
13 payment of all salaries and other expenses incurred in the administration of  
14 the Arkansas Banking Code of 1997.

15  
16 SECTION 586. Arkansas Code § 23-46-210 is amended to read as follows:

17 23-46-210. Annual and biennial reports of Bank Commissioner.

18 (a) The Bank Commissioner shall make an annual report to the ~~Governor~~  
19 Secretary of the Department of Commerce of the work and the business of the  
20 State Bank Department, which shall embrace a statement of all receipts and  
21 expenditures and the name, officers, directors, domicile, capital, surplus,  
22 net profits, and deposits of each state bank, in the state, and such other  
23 information as the commissioner deems advisable.

24 (b) ~~He or she~~ The commissioner shall also, biennially, make a detailed  
25 estimate of the expenses of the ~~department~~ State Bank Department for the two  
26 (2) succeeding fiscal years.

27  
28 SECTION 587. Arkansas Code § 23-46-303 is amended to read as follows:

29 23-46-303. Study of banking statutes.

30 The State Banking Board is authorized, at such times as it deems  
31 appropriate, to request a review or study of state banking law and to  
32 recommend any changes that it may deem appropriate to the ~~Governor~~ Secretary  
33 of the Department of Commerce.

34  
35 SECTION 588. Arkansas Code § 23-55-607(b)(2)(A), concerning  
36 confidentiality under the Uniform Money Services Act, is amended to read as

1 follows:

2 (A) Records that reflect discussions between or  
3 consideration by the commissioner or members of ~~his or her staff~~ the staff of  
4 the State Securities Department or the staff of the Department of Commerce  
5 working for the State Securities Department, or both, of any action taken or  
6 proposed to be taken by the commissioner or by any members of ~~his or her~~  
7 ~~staff~~ the staff of the State Securities Department of the staff of the  
8 Department of Commerce working for the State Securities Department; and

9

10 SECTION 589. Arkansas Code § 23-55-607(b)(3)(A), concerning  
11 confidentiality under the Uniform Money Services Act, is amended to read as  
12 follows:

13 (A) Information concerning ~~all~~ employees of the State  
14 Securities Department or employees of the Department of Commerce working for  
15 the State Securities Department and all persons subject to regulation by the  
16 ~~department~~ State Securities Department; and

17

18 SECTION 590. Arkansas Code § 23-61-101 is amended to read as follows:  
19 23-61-101. State Insurance Department – Continuation – Assignment of  
20 space.

21 (a)(1) There is ~~continued at the seat of government of this state an~~  
22 ~~office or department designated~~ created as the State Insurance Department.

23 (2) The State Insurance Department is a division of the  
24 Department of Commerce.

25 (b) Suitable space shall be assigned for the use of the ~~department~~  
26 State Insurance Department.

27 (c)(1)(A) The purpose of the ~~department~~ State Insurance Department is  
28 to serve and protect the public interest by the equitable enforcement of the  
29 state's laws and regulations affecting the insurance industry.

30 (B) The primary mission of the ~~department~~ State Insurance  
31 Department shall be consumer protection through insurer solvency and market  
32 conduct regulation, and fraud prosecution and deterrence.

33 (2) Nothing in this subsection shall be construed to limit the  
34 Insurance Commissioner's authority as enumerated in other provisions of the  
35 Arkansas Insurance Code.

36

1 SECTION 591. Arkansas Code § 23-61-102(a) and (b), concerning the  
2 Insurance Commissioner, are amended to read as follows:

3 (a) The head of the State Insurance Department shall be ~~an~~ the  
4 Insurance Commissioner appointed by the Governor with the advice and consent  
5 of the Senate. No person shall be eligible for appointment as commissioner  
6 unless a citizen of this state and at least thirty (30) years of age.

7 (b) The commissioner shall serve at the pleasure of the Governor and  
8 shall report to the Secretary of the Department of Commerce.

9  
10 SECTION 592. Arkansas Code § 23-61-102(e)(2), concerning the Insurance  
11 Commissioner, is amended to read as follows:

12 (2) The form and surety of the bond shall be subject to the  
13 approval of the ~~Governor~~ Secretary of the Department of Commerce and the  
14 Auditor of State.

15  
16 SECTION 593. Arkansas Code § 23-61-104 is amended to read as follows:

17 23-61-104. Deputies, assistants, and other employees – Appointment –  
18 Duties.

19 (a) The Insurance Commissioner, in consultation with the Secretary of  
20 the Department of Commerce, may appoint such assistants and deputies and such  
21 examiners, attorneys, clerks, stenographers, and other personnel as may be  
22 necessary to assist him or her in the discharge of the duties imposed upon  
23 him or her under the Arkansas Insurance Code and as may be authorized by law.  
24 All such personnel shall devote their entire business time to their duties in  
25 the State Insurance Department.

26 (b) The commissioner, in consultation with the Secretary of the  
27 Department of Commerce, may employ an actuary on a consulting or full-time  
28 basis to perform such duties as the commissioner may designate.

29 (c) The commissioner, in consultation with the Secretary of the  
30 Department of Commerce, may at any time terminate the appointment,  
31 designation, or employment of any assistant, deputy, examiner, attorney,  
32 actuary, clerk, or other employee.

33 (d) The compensation for all such personnel so appointed or employed  
34 shall be as fixed by law.

35 (e) The commissioner, in consultation with the Secretary of the  
36 Department of Commerce, may contract for and procure on a basis of fee such

1 independently contracting examination, actuarial, technical, and other  
2 professional services as he or she may from time to time require for the  
3 discharge of his or her duties.

4  
5 SECTION 594. Arkansas Code § 23-61-105 is amended to read as follows:

6 23-61-105. Insurance Commissioner, deputies, assistants, and other  
7 employees – Expense allowance.

8 (a) In addition to compensation for their services, the Insurance  
9 Commissioner, his or her deputies, assistants, and other Department of  
10 Commerce employees performing duties or working within the State Insurance  
11 Department shall be paid their actual and necessary expenses as authorized by  
12 the commissioner and incurred by them in the performance of their duties,  
13 subject to such limitations as may be otherwise applicable pursuant to law.

14 (b) An itemized statement of all expenses for which payment is being  
15 claimed shall be certified by the claimant and attached to the expense  
16 voucher.

17  
18 SECTION 595. Arkansas Code § 23-61-106 is amended to read as follows:

19 23-61-106. Insurance Commissioner, deputies, assistants, and other  
20 employees – Financial interest prohibited – Exception.

21 (a) The Insurance Commissioner, ~~or~~ any deputy, examiner, assistant, or  
22 employee of the commissioner, or any employee of the Department of Commerce  
23 working for the State Insurance Department shall not be financially  
24 interested, directly or indirectly, in any insurer, insurance agency, or  
25 insurance transaction, except as:

26 (1) A policyholder or claimant under a policy;

27 (2) A grantor of a mortgage or similar instrument on the  
28 person's residence to an entity regulated under the Arkansas Insurance Code  
29 if done under customary terms and in the ordinary course of business; or

30 (3) A settlor or beneficiary of a blind trust into which any  
31 otherwise impermissible holdings have been placed, provided that the  
32 commissioner may make reasonable exceptions upon full and complete written  
33 disclosure to the commissioner of the exact nature and extent of the  
34 otherwise impermissible financial interest and adhering to any and all  
35 reasonable restrictions as the commissioner may impose upon the terms and  
36 conditions of employment.

1 (b) Notwithstanding the requirements of subsection (a) of this  
2 section, the commissioner may employ or retain, from time to time, insurance  
3 actuaries, technicians, or other professional personnel who are independently  
4 practicing their professions even though similarly employed or retained by  
5 insurers or others.

6 (c) The commissioner, ~~or~~ any assistant, deputy, examiner, or other  
7 employee of the commissioner, or any employee of the Department of Commerce  
8 working for the State Insurance Department shall not be given nor receive any  
9 fee, compensation, loan, gift, or other thing of value in addition to the  
10 compensation and expense allowance provided pursuant to law for any service  
11 rendered or to be rendered as commissioner, deputy, examiner, or employee, or  
12 in connection therewith.

13  
14 SECTION 596. Arkansas Code § 23-61-108(a)(1), concerning the rules and  
15 regulations to effectuate the Arkansas Insurance Code, is amended to read as  
16 follows:

17 (a)(1) The Insurance Commissioner, in consultation with the Secretary  
18 of the Department of Commerce, may make reasonable rules and regulations  
19 necessary for or as an aid to the effectuation of any provision of the  
20 Arkansas Insurance Code.

21  
22 SECTION 597. Arkansas Code § 23-61-108(b)(1), concerning the rules and  
23 regulations to effectuate the Arkansas Insurance Code, is amended to read as  
24 follows:

25 (b)(1) The commissioner, in consultation with the Secretary of the  
26 Department of Commerce, shall have the authority to promulgate rules and  
27 regulations necessary for the effective regulation of the business of  
28 insurance or as required for this state to be in compliance with federal  
29 laws.

30  
31 SECTION 598. Arkansas Code § 23-61-112(a), concerning the annual  
32 report of the Insurance Commissioner, is amended to read as follows:

33 (a) As early in the calendar year as reasonably possible, the  
34 Insurance Commissioner annually shall prepare and deliver a report to the  
35 ~~Governor~~ Secretary of the Department of Commerce showing, with respect to the  
36 preceding calendar year:

1 (1) Names of the authorized insurers transacting insurance in  
2 this state, with a summary of their financial statements that the  
3 commissioner considers proper;

4 (2) Names of admitted insurers that closed during the year or  
5 entered liquidation, a concise statement concerning the cause for each  
6 proceeding, and the amount of assets and liabilities as ascertainable;

7 (3) The total receipts and expenses of the State Insurance  
8 Department for the year; and

9 (4) Other pertinent information and matters the commissioner  
10 considers proper.

11  
12 SECTION 599. Arkansas Code § 23-61-116 is amended to read as follows:  
13 23-61-116. Annual report on health insurance fraud.

14 Annually on or before March 1, the Insurance Commissioner shall submit  
15 to the ~~Governor~~ Secretary of the Department of Commerce, the President Pro  
16 Tempore of the Senate, the Speaker of the House of Representatives, and the  
17 Attorney General a report summarizing the State Insurance Department's  
18 activities to investigate and combat health insurance fraud, including  
19 without limitation information regarding:

20 (1) Referrals received;

21 (2) Investigations initiated;

22 (3) Investigations completed; and

23 (4) Other material necessary or desirable to evaluate the  
24 department's efforts under this section.

25  
26 SECTION 600. Arkansas Code § 23-61-1004(c), concerning the  
27 administration of the Arkansas Works Program, is amended to read as follows:

28 (c) The Department of Human Services, the State Insurance Department,  
29 the ~~Department~~ Division of Workforce Services, and other necessary state  
30 agencies shall promulgate and administer rules to implement the Arkansas  
31 Works Program.

32  
33 SECTION 601. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 23-61-  
34 1004(g)(1), concerning the administration of the Arkansas Works Program, is  
35 amended to read as follows:

36 (g)(1) On a quarterly basis, the Department of Human Services, the

1 State Insurance Department, the ~~Department~~ Division of Workforce Services,  
2 and other necessary state agencies shall report to the Legislative Council,  
3 or to the Joint Budget Committee if the General Assembly is in session,  
4 available information regarding the overall Arkansas Works Program, including  
5 without limitation:

6  
7 SECTION 602. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 23-61-  
8 1005(b)(1), concerning requirements for eligible individuals, is amended to  
9 read as follows:

10 (b)(1) An eligible individual who has up to fifty percent (50%) of the  
11 federal poverty level at the time of an eligibility determination shall be  
12 referred to the ~~Department~~ Division of Workforce Services to:

13  
14 SECTION 603. Arkansas Code § 23-61-1005(b)(2), concerning requirements  
15 for eligible individuals, is amended to read as follows:

16 (2) The Department of Human Services or its designee shall  
17 provide work training opportunities, outreach, and education about work and  
18 work training opportunities through the ~~Department~~ Division of Workforce  
19 Services to all eligible individuals regardless of income at the time of an  
20 eligibility determination.

21  
22 SECTION 604. Arkansas Code § 23-61-1103(c)-(e), concerning the powers  
23 and duties of the State Board of Embalmers, Funeral Directors, Cemeteries,  
24 and Burial Services, are amended to read as follows:

25 (c)(1) *The commissioner, in consultation with the Secretary of the*  
26 *Department of Commerce,* may appoint assistants and deputies and examiners,  
27 inspectors, attorneys, clerks, stenographers, and other personnel as may be  
28 necessary to assist him or her in the discharge of the duties imposed upon  
29 him or her in overseeing the board.

30 (2) Personnel under subdivision (c)(1) of this section shall  
31 devote their entire business time to carrying out official duties concerning  
32 the board, or if appropriate, the State Insurance Department.

33 (d) The powers and authority under subsection (a) of this section  
34 shall not be in diminution or limitation of the powers and authority vested  
35 in the board by the various sections of this subchapter, but the board shall  
36 possess all powers and authority, whether set forth in this section or not,

1 to enable it to carry out the intent and purpose of this subchapter.

2 (e)(1) The board, when it shall deem necessary, shall be represented  
3 by the ~~department~~ State Insurance Department.

4 (2)(A) If deemed necessary by the board, the board may employ  
5 special counsel whose services shall be paid for from funds of the board.

6 (B) Special counsel shall be retained only with the prior  
7 approval of the commissioner.

8  
9 SECTION 605. Arkansas Code § 23-61-1104(a)(1), concerning the  
10 Executive Secretary of the State Board of Embalmers, Funeral Directors,  
11 Cemeteries, and Burial Services, is amended to read as follows:

12 (a)(1) The Insurance Commissioner, in consultation with the Secretary  
13 of the Department of Commerce, may appoint and employ a person as the  
14 Executive Secretary of the State Board of Embalmers, Funeral Directors,  
15 Cemeteries, and Burial Services who shall serve at the pleasure of the  
16 commissioner.

17  
18 SECTION 606. Arkansas Code § 23-61-1106(a)(1), concerning the  
19 Inspector of the State Board of Embalmers, Funeral Directors, Cemeteries, and  
20 Burial Services and funeral directing, embalming, cremating, or transferring  
21 human remains, is amended to read as follows:

22 (a)(1) The Insurance Commissioner may ~~appoint~~ request that the  
23 Department of Commerce employ an agent or agents as Inspector of the State  
24 Board of Embalmers, Funeral Directors, Cemeteries, and Burial Services.

25  
26 SECTION 607. Arkansas Code § 23-92-403(f), concerning the relationship  
27 of the Arkansas Professional Employer Organization Recognition and Licensing  
28 Act to other laws, is amended to read as follows:

29 (f)(1) Applicants for licensing or a professional employer  
30 organization licensed under this subchapter authorize the ~~Department~~ Division  
31 of Workforce Services, the Workers' Compensation Commission, and the State  
32 Insurance Department, or their successors, to release otherwise confidential  
33 information to the other departments or commission in this subdivision (f)(1)  
34 concerning the applicant or professional employer organization upon the  
35 written request by the requesting department or commission.

36 (2) The ~~Department~~ Division of Workforce Services, the Workers'

1 Compensation Commission, and the State Insurance Department shall maintain  
2 the confidentiality of information received under subdivision (f)(1) of this  
3 section unless the information is introduced into evidence at an  
4 administrative proceeding or at a civil or criminal trial arising out of a  
5 violation of this subchapter that involves the applicant, the professional  
6 employer organization, or the controlling person.

7  
8 SECTION 608. Arkansas Code § 23-92-403(g)(2)(A), concerning the  
9 relationship of the Arkansas Professional Employer Organization Recognition  
10 and Licensing Act to other laws, is amended to read as follows:

11 (A) Section 11-2-101 et seq., § 11-3-101 et seq., § 11-4-  
12 101 et seq., § 11-5-101 et seq., § 11-6-101 et seq., § 11-7-201 et seq., the  
13 ~~Department~~ Division of Workforce Services Law, § 11-10-101 et seq., and § 11-  
14 12-101 et seq.;

15  
16 SECTION 609. Arkansas Code § 23-92-404(d)(3)(B)(ii)(d), concerning  
17 licensing and renewal under the Arkansas Professional Employer Organization  
18 Recognition and Licensing Act, is amended to read as follows:

19 (d) The commissioner shall provide a copy of  
20 the order entered under subdivision (d)(3)(B)(ii)(a ) of this section to the  
21 Workers' Compensation Commission and the ~~Department~~ Division of Workforce  
22 Services or their successors.

23  
24 SECTION 610. Arkansas Code § 23-92-409(j)(2), concerning the  
25 coemployment relationship between the client and the professional employer  
26 organization and each coemployer governed by a professional employer  
27 agreement, is amended to read as follows:

28 (2) Pay unemployment taxes as required by the ~~Department~~  
29 Division of Workforce Services Law, § 11-10-101 et seq.;

30  
31 SECTION 611. Arkansas Code § 23-92-413(b), concerning nondisclosure of  
32 proprietary information, is amended to read as follows:

33 (b) Notwithstanding subsection (a) of this section or any other law  
34 governing disclosure of confidential information, the commissioner, the  
35 Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of Workforce Services, and the Workers'  
36 Compensation Commission may exchange information among themselves for the

1 purposes of regulating professional employer organizations.

2  
3 SECTION 612. Arkansas Code § 23-98-108(e), concerning payroll  
4 deduction and a notice of minimum basic benefit policies, is amended to read  
5 as follows:

6 (e) Upon request by the commissioner, the ~~Department~~ Division of  
7 Workforce Services is authorized to provide a copy of the form of notice  
8 prepared by the commissioner to employers as the commissioner and the  
9 ~~department~~ division may agree upon.

10  
11 SECTION 613. Arkansas Code § 25-10-205(h), concerning the creation of  
12 the Board of the Division of State Services for the Blind, is amended to read  
13 as follows:

14 (h)(1) The board shall employ a commissioner, subject to the approval  
15 of the Governor, qualified by experience to administer and implement the  
16 policies and directives of the board.

17 (2) The commissioner shall report to the Secretary of the  
18 Department of Commerce.

19 (3) The board may employ or appoint any additional personnel  
20 necessary to carry out the functions, duties, and responsibilities entrusted  
21 to the Division of State Services for the Blind in accordance with the  
22 requirements of law and within the limits of available appropriations.

23  
24 SECTION 614. Arkansas Code § 25-10-206 is amended to read as follows:  
25 25-10-206. Legal counsel.

26 The Division of State Services for the Blind within the Department of  
27 ~~Human Services~~ Commerce or any employees or committees thereof shall be  
28 entitled to the services of the Attorney General in connection with the  
29 operation of the affairs of the division.

30  
31 SECTION 615. Arkansas Code § 25-10-207 is amended to read as follows:  
32 25-10-207. Division of State Services for the Blind Fund.

33 Any sums provided by the General Assembly for the purposes of this  
34 subchapter shall be kept by the Treasurer of State in a fund to be designated  
35 as the ~~State Services for the Blind Fund Account of the Department of Human~~  
36 ~~Services Fund~~ "State Services for the Blind Fund Account of the Department of

1 Commerce Fund" and shall be used to carry out the particular purposes  
2 assigned to it in this subchapter.

3

4 SECTION 616. Arkansas Code § 25-10-208 is amended to read as follows:

5 25-10-208. State services for the blind – Supplemental insurance.

6 Staff members who transport blind and visually impaired persons on  
7 official state business of the Division of State Services for the Blind  
8 within the Department of ~~Human Services~~ Commerce are entitled to  
9 reimbursement for supplemental insurance costs. Costs incurred for  
10 supplemental liability automobile insurance above the minimum required by law  
11 for the purpose of including coverage for work-related activities shall be  
12 reimbursed through standard travel procedures annually, not to exceed fifty  
13 dollars (\$50.00) per year.

14

15 SECTION 617. Arkansas Code § 25-10-209(a), concerning the creation of  
16 Information Reading Services for the Blind, is amended to read as follows:

17 (a) ~~The~~ Information Reading Services for the Blind is created within  
18 the Division of State Services for the Blind of the Department of ~~Human~~  
19 ~~Services~~ Commerce.

20

21 SECTION 618. Arkansas Code § 25-10-209(d), concerning the creation of  
22 Information Reading Services for the Blind, is amended to read as follows:

23 (d) The Director of the Division of State Services for the Blind of  
24 the Department of ~~Human Services~~ Commerce shall consult at least annually  
25 with active consumers of Information Reading Services for the Blind,  
26 including participating state agencies, in the design, improvement, and  
27 delivery of the services.

28

29 SECTION 619. Arkansas Code § 25-11-101 is amended to read as follows:

30 25-11-101. Creation – Director – Organization – Personnel.

31 (a) There is created the Arkansas Economic Development Commission.

32 (b)(1) The executive head of the commission shall be the Director of  
33 the Arkansas Economic Development Commission. The director shall be appointed  
34 by the Governor, with the advice of the Arkansas Economic Development Council  
35 and the consent of the Senate, and shall serve at the pleasure of the  
36 Governor.

1           (2) The director shall report to the Secretary of the Department  
2 of Commerce.

3           (c) The commission shall consist of the divisions that may be  
4 necessary to fulfill its purposes and that may be created by law and placed  
5 under the commission.

6           (d) The director, with the advice and consent of the Governor, shall  
7 appoint the heads of the respective divisions. All other personnel of the  
8 commission shall be employed by and shall serve at the pleasure of the  
9 director. However, nothing in this section shall be so construed as to  
10 reduce any right that an employee of the commission shall have under any  
11 civil service or merit system.

12           (e) Each division of the commission shall be under the direction,  
13 control, and supervision of the director. The director may delegate his or  
14 her functions, powers, and duties to various divisions of the commission as  
15 he or she shall deem desirable and necessary for the effective and efficient  
16 operation of the commission.

17           (f) All personnel of the commission are employees of the Department of  
18 Commerce.

19  
20           SECTION 620. Arkansas Code § 25-15-202(1)(B), concerning the  
21 definition of "adjudication" under the Arkansas Administrative Procedure Act,  
22 is amended to read as follows:

23                   (B) "Adjudication" does not include inmate disciplinary  
24 proceedings conducted by the ~~Department~~ Division of Correction and the  
25 ~~Department~~ Division of Community Correction;

26  
27           SECTION 621. Arkansas Code § 25-15-202(2)(C), concerning the  
28 definition of "agency" under the Arkansas Administrative Procedure Act, is  
29 amended to read as follows:

30                   (C) The word "agency" shall not include the Arkansas  
31 Public Service Commission, the Arkansas Pollution Control and Ecology  
32 Commission, the Workers' Compensation Commission, and the ~~Department~~ Division  
33 of Workforce Services, as the existing laws governing those agencies provide  
34 adequate administrative procedures for those agencies.

35  
36           SECTION 622. Arkansas Code § 25-29-110 is amended to read as follows:

1 25-29-110. Annual report.

2 The Board of Directors of the Arkansas Deaf and Hearing Impaired  
3 Telecommunications Services Corporation shall transmit to the Legislative  
4 Council, the ~~Governor~~ Secretary of the Department of Commerce, and the  
5 Arkansas Public Service Commission an annual report of its activities. The  
6 annual report shall be filed by March 31 of each year.

7

8 SECTION 623. Arkansas Code § 25-30-101(b)(2)(A)-(C), concerning  
9 creation and membership of the Career Education and Workforce Development  
10 Board, are amended to read as follows:

11 (A) The Commissioner of Elementary and Secondary  
12 Education;

13 (B) The Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of Higher  
14 Education;

15 (C) The ~~Executive~~ Director of the Arkansas Community  
16 Colleges;

17

18 SECTION 624. Arkansas Code § 25-30-101(b)(2)(E), concerning creation  
19 and membership of the Career Education and Workforce Development Board, is  
20 amended to read as follows:

21 (E) The Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of Workforce  
22 Services;

23

24 SECTION 625. Arkansas Code § 25-30-109(a)(1) and (2), concerning the  
25 creation and duties of the Office of Skills Development, are amended to read  
26 as follows:

27 (a)(1) There is created within the ~~Department of Career Education~~  
28 ~~under the oversight of the Career Education and Workforce Development Board~~  
29 ~~an~~ Department of Commerce the Office of Skills Development.

30 (2)(A) The Director of the Office of Skills Development shall be  
31 appointed by the ~~Director of the Department of Career Education~~ Secretary of  
32 the Department of Commerce in consultation with the Career Education and  
33 Workforce Development Board.

34 (B) The Director of the ~~Department of Career Education~~  
35 Office of Skills Development may hire personnel necessary to carry out the  
36 duties of the office.

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SECTION 626. Arkansas Code § 25-30-109(b)(7), concerning the creation and duties of the Office of Skills Development, is amended to read as follows:

(7)(A) Use ~~the Department of Career Education and other~~ available labor market information systems to collect, analyze, and disseminate information on current and projected employment opportunities in this state and other appropriate information relating to labor market dynamics as determined by the office.

(B) The office shall make the information contained in the labor market information system available on the ~~Department of Career Education's~~ Office of Skills Development's website.

SECTION 627. Arkansas Code § 25-30-202(b), concerning the scope of authority of the Rehabilitation Act of Arkansas, is amended to read as follows:

(b) Any and all statutory authority, powers, duties, functions, records, authorized positions, property, unexpended balances of appropriations, allocations, or other funds transferred from the Division of Rehabilitation Services to the Department of Human Services by Acts 1985, No. 348, are hereby transferred to Arkansas Rehabilitation Services ~~of the Department of Career Education.~~

SECTION 628. Arkansas Code § 25-30-203(a), concerning the powers and duties of the State Board of Career Education, is amended to read as follows:

(a) ~~The State Board of Career Education~~ Division of Workforce Services, through ~~the Arkansas Rehabilitation Services of the Department of Career Education,~~ shall provide the rehabilitation services authorized by this subchapter to eligible physically or mentally disabled individuals and those who can benefit from vocational rehabilitation and independent living services, as determined by the agency to be eligible therefor.

SECTION 629. Arkansas Code § 25-30-205 is amended to read as follows:  
25-30-205. Office facilities.

~~The Building Authority Division of the Department of Finance and Administration~~ shall ensure that all offices of Arkansas Rehabilitation

1 Services ~~of the Department of Career Education~~ are exemplary models of  
2 accessibility and conform to the Americans with Disabilities Act, 42 U.S.C. §  
3 12101 et seq., accessibility guidelines.

4  
5 SECTION 630. Arkansas Code § 25-30-206(b)(1), concerning the creation  
6 of the Arkansas Rehabilitation Services Forgiveness of Student Loan Program,  
7 is amended to read as follows:

8 (b)(1) The program shall be administered by ~~the~~ Arkansas  
9 Rehabilitation Services ~~of the Department of Career Education~~.

10  
11 SECTION 631. Arkansas Code § 26-51-505(e)(2), concerning the  
12 establishment or expansion of a manufacturing enterprise, is amended to read  
13 as follows:

14 (2) The ~~division~~ Revenue Division of the Department of Finance  
15 and Administration shall consult with the ~~Department~~ Division of Workforce  
16 Services and the Arkansas Economic Development Council during the  
17 promulgation of the rules and regulations.

18  
19 SECTION 632. Arkansas Code § 26-51-815(d)(2)(D), concerning the  
20 definition of "qualified technology incubator" under the laws regarding  
21 computing capital gains and losses, is amended to read as follows:

22 (D) "Qualified technology incubator" means a business  
23 incubator certified by the ~~Executive~~ Director of the Arkansas Economic  
24 Development Commission with the advice of the Board of Directors of the  
25 Division of Science and Technology of the Arkansas Economic Development  
26 Commission as being a facility operated in cooperation with an Arkansas  
27 college or university to foster the growth of technology-based enterprises.

28  
29 SECTION 633. Arkansas Code § 26-51-1102(c)(2)(A), concerning the  
30 granting of a tax credit for donations of new machinery or equipment by  
31 taxpayer to an educational institution, is amended to read as follows:

32 (A) Be consistent with the research and development plan  
33 approved by the ~~Executive~~ Director of the Arkansas Economic Development  
34 Commission with the advice of the Board of Directors of the Division of  
35 Science and Technology of the Arkansas Economic Development Commission, as  
36 evidenced by a letter of support from the ~~executive~~ director; and

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SECTION 634. Arkansas Code § 27-115-101 is amended to read as follows:  
27-115-101. Creation.

There is created a commission to be known as the “~~Arkansas Department~~  
Division of Aeronautics”, which shall maintain an office in the City of  
Little Rock.

SECTION 635. Arkansas Code § 27-115-102 is amended to read as follows:  
27-115-102. Purpose.

The ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of Aeronautics is established and  
authorized to represent the State of Arkansas in the promotion and  
development of landing fields, airports, hangars, and other aeronautical  
projects and to cooperate with and secure the cooperation of the Federal  
Aviation Administration and any other duly authorized federal agencies  
interested in the development of aeronautics.

SECTION 636. Arkansas Code § 27-115-103(a), concerning the Arkansas  
Department of Aeronautics, is amended to read as follows:

(a) The ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of Aeronautics shall be composed  
of seven (7) members appointed by the Governor.

SECTION 637. Arkansas Code § 27-115-104 is amended to read as follows:  
27-115-104. Director.

Any person employed as Director of the ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of  
Aeronautics shall possess the qualifications of a multi-engine commercial  
pilot. No other flight or pilot qualification shall be required for such  
director.

SECTION 638. Arkansas Code § 27-115-105 is amended to read as follows:  
27-115-105. ~~Secretary~~ Director.

(a) The ~~Secretary~~ Director of the ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of  
Aeronautics, ~~or the administrative head of the department,~~ shall be appointed  
by the ~~department~~ Secretary of the Department of Commerce with the approval  
of the Governor and shall serve at the pleasure of the Governor.

(b) The director shall report to the secretary.

1 SECTION 639. Arkansas Code § 27-115-106 is amended to read as follows:

2 27-115-106. Administration – Promulgation of rules and regulations.

3 The ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of Aeronautics shall administer the  
4 provisions of this chapter and § 27-116-101 et seq. and is authorized and  
5 *directed to promulgate rules, in consultation with the Secretary of the*  
6 Department of Commerce, as necessary to execute the powers invested in ~~it~~ the  
7 division by this chapter and § 27-116-101 et seq. and other applicable laws.

8  
9 SECTION 640. Arkansas Code § 27-115-107 is amended to read as follows:

10 27-115-107. Powers generally.

11 (a) The ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of Aeronautics shall have the  
12 right to:

13 (1) Receive grants and donations, appropriations, and other  
14 funds or materials on behalf of the state, ~~or any county, or municipality, or~~  
15 other eligible applicants for utilization in the development of aeronautics,  
16 provided that the ~~department~~ division shall not have the right to use the  
17 funds received for a particular purpose for any other purpose without the  
18 consent of the person or agency providing the particular funds; and

19 (2) Plan and lay out a state system of landing fields, airports,  
20 and airways and to inspect them and to close any landing field or airport  
21 found to be unsafe.

22 (b) The ~~department~~ division is authorized:

23 (1) To accept as a loan or a gift any aircraft made available  
24 for its use by the federal government or any agency thereof; or

25 (2) To match any funds made available by the federal government,  
26 any agency thereof, or any person or corporation with any moneys available to  
27 the ~~department~~ division for the purpose of acquiring any aircraft which it  
28 may deem necessary to the proper performance of its duties as provided by  
29 law.

30  
31 SECTION 641. Arkansas Code § 27-115-108 is amended to read as follows:

32 27-115-108. Duties generally.

33 (a) It shall be the duty of the ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of  
34 Aeronautics to:

35 (1) Provide for the examination, rating, and licensing of  
36 airports, landing fields, and air navigation facilities available for the use

1 of aircraft;

2 (2) Adopt, in consultation with the Secretary of the Department  
3 of Commerce, rules and regulations for the issuance, expiration, suspension,  
4 or revocation of licenses of airports, landing fields, and air navigation  
5 facilities, and of other licenses or certificates that the ~~department~~  
6 division deems necessary in administering the functions vested in the  
7 ~~department~~ division under this chapter and § 27-116-101 et seq.;

8 (3) Establish, set apart, and provide for the protection of  
9 necessary air space reservations within the state in addition to and not in  
10 conflict with air space reservations established by the President of the  
11 United States or any department of the United States or with any civil or  
12 military airway designated under the provisions of the Air Commerce Act of  
13 1926 and the amendments thereto, or other act of Congress pertaining thereto;

14 (4) Designate, establish, and chart civil airways within, over,  
15 and above the lands or waters of the state and arrange for publication of  
16 maps of such airways, utilizing the facilities and assistance of existing  
17 agencies of the state as far as practicable. The ~~department~~ division shall  
18 grant no exclusive right for the use of any civil airway, airport,  
19 intermediate landing field, or other air navigation facility under its  
20 jurisdiction;

21 (5) Investigate, record, and report the causes of accidents in  
22 civil air navigation within this state;

23 (6) Encourage the establishment of airports, civil airways, and  
24 other air navigation facilities;

25 (7) Supervise and regulate the safety, adequacy, and sufficiency  
26 of all airports, landing fields, and air navigation facilities and equipment  
27 used or to be used in private or commercial flying;

28 (8) Adopt, in consultation with the Secretary of the Department  
29 of Commerce, rules and regulations governing instruction in flight or ground  
30 school offered to student fliers or mechanics when the instruction is  
31 conducted by individual flight instructors licensed under appropriate Federal  
32 Aviation Administration regulations and adopt rules and regulations governing  
33 the safety, adequacy, and sufficiency of airports, landing fields, and air  
34 navigation facilities and equipment used or to be used in the instruction of  
35 student fliers or mechanics;

36 (9) Adopt, in consultation with the Secretary of the Department

1 of Commerce, rules and regulations for the marking of highways,  
2 municipalities, and all other serial markings used throughout the state;

3 (10) Adopt, in consultation with the Secretary of the Department  
4 of Commerce, rules and regulations governing the erection, location, and  
5 maintenance of aerial beacon lights and other aerial night lighting equipment  
6 within the state;

7 (11) Exchange with the Federal Aviation Administration and other  
8 state governments through existing governmental channels information  
9 pertaining to civil air navigation;

10 (12) Enforce the regulations and air traffic rules, promulgated  
11 as provided hereunder, through the assistance and cooperation of state and  
12 local authorities charged with the enforcement of law in their respective  
13 jurisdictions;

14 (13) Establish by rule, in consultation with the Secretary of  
15 the Department of Commerce, the minimum safe altitudes for flight, including  
16 air traffic rules; and

17 (14) Establish, in consultation with the Secretary of the  
18 Department of Commerce, posting requirements for compliance with § 12-19-102,  
19 concerning the posting of information about the National Human Trafficking  
20 Resource Center Hotline.

21 (b) All rules and regulations prescribed by the ~~department~~ division  
22 under the authority of this section shall be consistent with and conform to  
23 current federal legislation governing aeronautics and the regulations duly  
24 promulgated thereunder and rules issued from time to time pursuant thereto.  
25 Nothing in this section shall confer upon the ~~department~~ division the power  
26 to determine schedules, issue stock, or determine public convenience or the  
27 adequacy and sufficiency of service of common carriers engaged in commercial  
28 flying within this state.

29  
30 SECTION 642. Arkansas Code § 27-115-109 is amended to read as follows:  
31 27-115-109. Location and construction of landing fields.

32 (a) The ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of Aeronautics shall assist in  
33 the location of landing fields and the promotion and development of  
34 aeronautics throughout the state.

35 (b) The ~~Arkansas Department of Aeronautics~~ division may use for the  
36 construction and development of these fields and for the grading and

1 construction of highways leading thereto, any equipment of the Arkansas  
2 Department of Transportation which is not at that time required for other  
3 construction purposes.

4  
5 SECTION 643. Arkansas Code § 27-115-110 is amended to read as follows:  
6 27-115-110. Disposition of funds.

7 (a) All revenues derived from the levying of the Arkansas Gross  
8 Receipts Tax, as amended, § 26-52-101 et seq., upon aircraft and aviation  
9 fuel, aviation services, aircraft parts and accessories, and other gross  
10 receipts taxes remitted by aircraft dealers, airports, and flying fields  
11 shall be reported to the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and  
12 Administration in a manner and on forms as he or she shall direct.

13 (b) The ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of Aeronautics is authorized to  
14 accept donations and grants of all property, whether real or personal.

15 (c) Tax proceeds and grants and donations of money shall be special  
16 revenues and shall be deposited in the State Treasury to the credit of the  
17 ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of Aeronautics Fund to be used for constructing  
18 and improving airports, civil airways, and other air navigation facilities  
19 and for preserving the history of aviation in the state.

20 (d) The ~~Arkansas Department of Aeronautics~~ division shall administer  
21 the funds so deposited and shall use the funds for the sole purpose of  
22 building airports, civil airways, and other air navigation facilities in this  
23 state in those cities or towns as the ~~Arkansas Department of Aeronautics~~  
24 division, in coordination with the Arkansas Economic Development Council,  
25 shall determine would attract the greatest volume of industry to this state.

26 (e) The funds may also be used for the purpose of:

27 (1) Matching funds with any federal funds made available for the  
28 purpose of this section; or

29 (2)(A) Establishing an aviation museum to preserve the history  
30 of aviation in the state.

31 (B) Assistance for the establishment of an aviation museum  
32 shall not exceed a total of twenty thousand dollars (\$20,000).

33 (f)(1) All revenues derived from the levying of the compensating use  
34 tax under the Arkansas Compensating Tax Act of 1949, § 26-53-101 et seq.,  
35 upon aircraft and aviation fuel, aviation services, and aircraft parts and  
36 accessories remitted by aircraft dealers, airports, and flying fields shall

1 be reported to the Director of the ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of  
2 Aeronautics in a manner and on forms as he or she shall direct.

3 ~~(2) The first eight hundred thousand dollars (\$800,000) of the~~  
4 ~~state use tax collected after June 30, 1997, and collected through June 30,~~  
5 ~~1998, shall be deposited in the State Treasury as general revenues. The~~  
6 ~~remainder of the revenues collected during this period shall be special~~  
7 ~~revenues and shall be deposited in the State Treasury to the credit of the~~  
8 ~~fund to be used for the purposes set forth in this subsection.~~

9 ~~(3) The first eight hundred thousand dollars (\$800,000) of the~~  
10 ~~state use tax collected after June 30, 1998, and collected through June 30,~~  
11 ~~1999, shall be deposited in the State Treasury as general revenues. The~~  
12 ~~remainder of the revenues collected during this period shall be special~~  
13 ~~revenues and shall be deposited in the State Treasury to the credit of the~~  
14 ~~fund to be used for the purposes set forth in this subsection.~~

15 ~~(4) The first four hundred thousand dollars (\$400,000) of the~~  
16 ~~state use tax collected after June 30, 1999, and collected through June 30,~~  
17 ~~2000, shall be deposited in the State Treasury as general revenues. The~~  
18 ~~remainder of the revenues collected during this period shall be special~~  
19 ~~revenues and shall be deposited in the State Treasury to the credit of the~~  
20 ~~fund to be used for the purposes set forth in this subsection.~~

21 ~~(5) The first two hundred thousand dollars (\$200,000) of the~~  
22 ~~state use tax collected after June 30, 2000, and collected through June 30,~~  
23 ~~2001, shall be deposited in the State Treasury as general revenues. The~~  
24 ~~remainder of the revenues collected during this period shall be special~~  
25 ~~revenues and shall be deposited in the State Treasury to the credit of the~~  
26 ~~fund to be used for the purposes set forth in this subsection.~~

27 ~~(6) Beginning July 1, 2001, all All state use tax derived shall~~  
28 ~~be special revenues and shall be deposited in the State Treasury to the~~  
29 ~~credit of the fund to be used for the purposes set forth in this subsection.~~

30  
31 SECTION 644. Arkansas Code Title 25, Chapter 43, is amended to add an  
32 additional subchapter to read as follows:

33 Subchapter 4 – Department of Corrections

34  
35 25-43-401. Department of Corrections.

36 (a) There is created the Department of Corrections as a cabinet-level

1 department.

2 (b)(1) The Board of Corrections:

3 (A) Is affiliated with the department;

4 (B) Shall be the governing authority of the department;

5 and

6 (C) Shall perform all functions with respect to the  
7 management and control of the department as contemplated by Arkansas  
8 Constitution, Amendment 33.

9 (2) No provision of the Transformation and Efficiencies Act of  
10 2019 shall abridge, diminish, or curtail, in any respect, the authority  
11 vested in the board to govern and supervise the administration of the board's  
12 responsibilities prior to the effective date of this act, including without  
13 limitation governing and supervising the administration of the state  
14 correctional institutions.

15 (c) The department shall:

16 (1) Maintain and administer real property on behalf of each  
17 state entity transferred under this chapter if the real property is not under  
18 the supervision and control of the board; and

19 (2) Maintain and administer all personal property on behalf of  
20 each state entity transferred under this chapter.

21 (d) The department shall:

22 (1) Assist the board with developing a biennial budget and  
23 annual, quarterly, and monthly fiscal plans for the operation of the board  
24 and assist the board in complying with the budget and fiscal policies  
25 promulgated by the Secretary of the Department of Corrections;

26 (2) Assist the board with complying with the general guidelines,  
27 policies, and rules of the department with respect to personnel and personnel  
28 policies, records, purchasing, bookkeeping, and other administrative  
29 procedures prescribed by the department;

30 (3) Consult with the board regarding personnel decisions and  
31 staffing; and

32 (4) Coordinate the policies promulgated by the board for the  
33 administration of personnel and personnel records to assure that all employee  
34 records and personnel records of the board conform to the personnel policies  
35 and practices of the department.

36

1 25-43-402. State entities transferred to Department of Corrections.

2 (a) The administrative functions of the following state entities are  
3 transferred to the Department of Corrections by a cabinet-level department  
4 transfer:

5 (1) The Arkansas Sentencing Commission, created under § 16-90-  
6 802;

7 (2) The Corrections School System, created under § 12-29-301;

8 (3) The criminal detention facility review committees, under §  
9 12-26-101;

10 (4) The Department of Community Correction, created under § 12-  
11 27-124, and now to be known as the Division of Community Correction;

12 (5) The Department of Correction, created under § 12-27-101, and  
13 now to be known as the Division of Correction;

14 (6) The Office of Criminal Detention Facilities, created under §  
15 12-26-103;

16 (7) The Parole Board, created under 16-93-201; and

17 (8) The State Council for Interstate Commission for Adult  
18 Offender Supervision, created under 12-51-104.

19 (b) Unless otherwise provided by law, a cabinet-level department  
20 transfer under subsection (a) of this section includes all state entities  
21 under a state entity transferred to the Department of Corrections under  
22 subsection (a) of this section, including without limitation a division,  
23 office, program, or other unit of a state entity transferred to the  
24 Department of Corrections under subsection (a) of this section.

25 (c) Unless otherwise provided by law, a state entity whose  
26 administrative functions have been transferred to the Department of  
27 Corrections under subsection (a) of this section shall otherwise continue to  
28 exercise the duties of the state entity under the administration of the  
29 cabinet-level Department of Corrections in the same manner as before the  
30 creation of the cabinet-level department.

31  
32 25-43-403. Secretary of the Department of Corrections.

33 (a) The executive head of the Department of Corrections shall be the  
34 Secretary of the Department of Corrections.

35 (b)(1) The Governor shall nominate to the Board of Corrections a  
36 candidate for secretary, subject to confirmation by the Senate.

1           (2)(A) The Board of Corrections shall appoint the secretary who  
2 shall serve at the pleasure of the Board of Corrections.

3           (B) The board is not required to appoint the nominee under  
4 subdivision (b)(1) of this section.

5           (c) The secretary may perform all duties to administer the Department  
6 of Corrections, subject to Arkansas Constitution, Amendment 33, including  
7 without limitation:

8           (1) Delegate to the employees of the Department of Corrections  
9 any of the powers or duties of the department required to administer the:

10           (A) Statutory duties; or

11           (B) Rules, orders, or directives promulgated or issued by  
12 the state entities transferred to or established within the department.

13           (2) Hire department personnel; and

14           (3) Perform or assign duties assigned to the department.

15  
16           SECTION 645. Arkansas Code § 5-2-330 is amended to read as follows:

17           5-2-330. Examination by ~~Department~~ Division of Correction prohibited.

18           A defendant committed to and under the supervision of the ~~Department~~  
19 Division of Correction who is charged in circuit court shall not undergo an  
20 examination or observation conducted under this subchapter by a psychiatrist  
21 or other mental health employee of the division to determine the mental  
22 condition of the defendant.

23  
24           SECTION 646. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 5-2-613(a),  
25 concerning the use of physical force to prevent escape from a correctional  
26 facility or custody of a correctional officer, is amended to read as follows:

27           (a) Unless the correctional officer knows or reasonably should know  
28 that a prisoner is charged with or has been convicted of only a misdemeanor,  
29 a correctional officer employed by the ~~Department~~ Division of Correction or  
30 by a private contractor in a correctional facility housing inmates for the  
31 division or a city or county correctional officer employed in a correctional  
32 facility or jail is justified in using deadly physical force when and to the  
33 extent that the correctional officer reasonably believes the use of deadly  
34 physical force is necessary to prevent the escape of a prisoner from:

35  
36           SECTION 647. Arkansas Code § 5-4-102(e), concerning presentence

1 investigations, is amended to read as follows:

2 (e) If the defendant is sentenced to imprisonment, a copy of the  
3 report of any presentence investigation or psychiatric examination or  
4 evaluation shall be transmitted immediately to the ~~Department~~ Division of  
5 Correction or, when the defendant is committed to the custody of a specific  
6 institution, to that specific institution.

7

8 SECTION 648. Arkansas Code § 5-4-104(f), concerning authorized  
9 sentences, is amended to read as follows:

10 (f)(1) If the court determines that an offender under eighteen (18)  
11 years of age would be more amenable to a rehabilitation program of the  
12 Division of Youth Services of the Department of Human Services and that he or  
13 she previously has not been committed to the division on more than one (1)  
14 occasion, the court may sentence the offender under eighteen (18) years of  
15 age to the ~~Department~~ Division of Correction for a term of years, suspend the  
16 sentence, and commit him or her to the custody of the ~~division~~ Division of  
17 Youth Services of the Department of Human Services.

18 (2) In a case under subdivision (f)(1) of this section, if the  
19 offender under eighteen (18) years of age completes the program of the  
20 division satisfactorily, the ~~division~~ Division of Youth Services of the  
21 Department of Human Services shall return him or her to the sentencing court  
22 and provide the sentencing court with a written report of his or her progress  
23 and a recommendation that the offender under eighteen (18) years of age be  
24 placed on probation.

25 (3)(A) In the event that the offender under eighteen (18) years  
26 of age violates a rule of the ~~division's~~ Division of Youth Services of the  
27 Department of Human Services' program or facility or is otherwise not  
28 amenable to the ~~division's~~ Division of Youth Services of the Department of  
29 Human Services' rehabilitative effort, the ~~division~~ Division of Youth  
30 Services of the Department of Human Services may return him or her to the  
31 sentencing court with a written report of his or her conduct and a  
32 recommendation that the offender under eighteen (18) years of age be  
33 transferred to the ~~Department~~ Division of Correction.

34 (B) If the court finds that the offender under eighteen  
35 (18) years of age has violated a rule of the ~~division's~~ Division of Youth  
36 Services of the Department of Human Services' program or facility or is

1 otherwise not amenable to the ~~division's~~ Division of Youth Services of the  
2 Department of Human Services' rehabilitative effort, the court shall then  
3 revoke the suspension of the sentence originally imposed and commit the  
4 offender under eighteen (18) years of age to the ~~Department~~ Division of  
5 Correction.

6  
7 SECTION 649. Arkansas Code § 5-4-107(a)(1) and (2), concerning  
8 extended supervision and monitoring for certain sex offenders, are amended to  
9 read as follows:

10 (a)(1) The ~~Department~~ Division of Correction within one hundred twenty  
11 (120) days before the release on parole of a person who is required to  
12 register as a sex offender under the Sex Offender Registration Act of 1997, §  
13 12-12-901 et seq., shall notify in writing the prosecuting attorney in the  
14 judicial district in which the person was sentenced of the person's impending  
15 release on parole.

16 (2) The ~~Department~~ Division of Community Correction within one  
17 hundred twenty (120) days before the release from probation of a person who  
18 is required to register as a sex offender under the Sex Offender Registration  
19 Act of 1997, § 12-12-901 et seq., shall notify in writing the prosecuting  
20 attorney in the judicial district in which the person was sentenced of the  
21 person's impending release from probation.

22  
23 SECTION 650. Arkansas Code § 5-4-107(b)(3), concerning extended  
24 supervision and monitoring for certain sex offenders, is amended to read as  
25 follows:

26 (3) If a hearing is requested, it shall be held at the earliest  
27 practicable time and at a time and on a date that would accommodate the  
28 transport of the person from a ~~Department~~ Division of Correction facility,  
29 ~~Department~~ Division of Community Correction facility, or the Arkansas State  
30 Hospital to the appropriate circuit court.

31  
32 SECTION 651. Arkansas Code § 5-4-107(h), concerning extended  
33 supervision and monitoring for certain sex offenders, is amended to read as  
34 follows:

35 (h) The ~~Department~~ Division of Community Correction shall administer  
36 any extended supervision and monitoring under this section and may adopt

1 rules to implement this section.

2

3 SECTION 652. Arkansas Code § 5-4-304(c)(1)(B), concerning confinement  
4 as a condition of suspension or probation, is amended to read as follows:

5 (B) In the case of confinement to a facility in the  
6 ~~Department~~ Division of Community Correction, the period actually spent in  
7 confinement under this section shall not exceed three hundred sixty-five  
8 (365) days.

9

10 SECTION 653. Arkansas Code § 5-4-312(b)(1)(D)(ii) and (iii),  
11 concerning presentence investigations and placement in community correction  
12 programs, are amended to read as follows:

13 (ii) Upon revocation as described in subdivision  
14 (b)(1)(D)(i) of this section, the court shall determine whether the defendant  
15 shall remain under the jurisdiction of the court and be assigned to a more  
16 restrictive community correction program, facility, or institution for a  
17 period of time or committed to the ~~Department~~ Division of Correction.

18 (iii) If the defendant is committed to the  
19 ~~Department~~ Division of Correction under subdivision (b)(1)(D)(ii) of this  
20 section, the court shall specify if the commitment is for judicial transfer  
21 of the defendant to the ~~Department~~ Division of Community Correction or is a  
22 commitment to the ~~Department~~ Division of Correction;

23

24 SECTION 654. Arkansas Code § 5-4-312(b)(2) and (3), concerning  
25 presentence investigations and placement in community correction programs,  
26 are amended to read as follows:

27 (2)(A) Commit the defendant to the custody of the ~~Department~~  
28 Division of Correction for judicial transfer to the ~~Department~~ Division of  
29 Community Correction subject to the following:

30 (i) That the sentence imposed provides that the  
31 defendant shall not serve more than three (3) years of confinement, with  
32 credit for meritorious good time, with initial placement in a ~~Department~~  
33 Division of Community Correction facility; and

34 (ii) That the preliminary placement in the  
35 ~~Department~~ Division of Community Correction facility is conditioned upon the  
36 ~~Department~~ Division of Community Correction's final determination of the

1 defendant's initial and continuing eligibility for ~~Department~~ Division of  
2 Community Correction placement and the defendant's compliance with all  
3 applicable rules established by the Board of Corrections for community  
4 correction programs.

5 (B) Post-prison supervision of the defendant shall  
6 accompany and follow the community correction program when appropriate; or

7 (3)(A) Sentence the defendant to the ~~Department~~ Division of  
8 Correction, granting the ~~Department~~ Division of Correction the ability to  
9 administratively transfer the defendant to the ~~Department~~ Division of  
10 Community Correction if the ~~Department~~ Division of Correction determines that  
11 the sentence imposed meets the eligibility requirements for placement in a  
12 community correction program under this subchapter and § 16-93-1201 et seq.

13 (B) Administrative transfer to the ~~Department~~ Division of  
14 Community Correction under subdivision (b)(3)(A) of this section is  
15 conditioned upon bed space availability and upon the ~~Department~~ Division of  
16 Community Correction's final determination of the defendant's initial and  
17 continuing eligibility for ~~Department~~ Division of Community Correction  
18 placement.

19 (C) A determination of ineligibility under subdivision  
20 (b)(3)(A) of this section by the ~~Department~~ Division of Community Correction  
21 shall result in the immediate return of the defendant to the ~~Department~~  
22 Division of Correction.

23 (D) A decision to release a defendant administratively  
24 transferred to the ~~Department~~ Division of Community Correction from the  
25 ~~Department~~ Division of Correction under subdivision (b)(3)(A) of this section  
26 is vested solely with the Parole Board.

27  
28 SECTION 655. Arkansas Code § 5-4-312(d), concerning presentence  
29 investigations and placement in community correction programs, is amended to  
30 read as follows:

31 (d)(1) If after receipt of an order directing a defendant to a  
32 community correction center, the ~~Department~~ Division of Community Correction  
33 determines that the defendant is not eligible for placement in a community  
34 correction program under § 16-93-1201 et seq., the ~~Department~~ Division of  
35 Community Correction shall not admit the defendant but shall immediately  
36 notify the prosecuting attorney in writing.

1 (2) After receipt of the notice required under subdivision  
2 (d)(1) of this section, the prosecuting attorney shall notify the court of  
3 the defendant's ineligibility for placement in a community correction center,  
4 and the court shall resentence the defendant accordingly.

5  
6 SECTION 656. Arkansas Code § 5-4-320(a), concerning certain convicted  
7 felons to observe operations of correctional facilities, is amended to read  
8 as follows:

9 (a) Any person who pleads guilty or nolo contendere or is found guilty  
10 in any circuit court of this state of a felony and whose sentence of  
11 imprisonment is placed on suspension or who is placed on probation may be  
12 ordered by the circuit court to report to an appropriate ~~Department~~ Division  
13 of Correction facility on a date certain to be scheduled by the ~~department~~  
14 division for the duration of that work day to observe the operation of the  
15 ~~department's~~ division's facility.

16  
17 SECTION 657. Arkansas Code § 5-4-402 is amended to read as follows:

18 5-4-402. Place of imprisonment.

19 (a) Except as provided in §§ 5-4-304 and 16-93-708, a defendant  
20 convicted of a felony and sentenced to imprisonment shall be committed to the  
21 custody of the ~~Department~~ Division of Correction for the term of his or her  
22 sentence or until released in accordance with law.

23 (b) Except as provided in § 16-93-708, a defendant convicted of a  
24 misdemeanor and sentenced to imprisonment shall be committed to the county  
25 jail or other authorized institution designated by the court for the term of  
26 his or her sentence or until released in accordance with law.

27 (c) Except as provided in § 5-4-304 or § 16-93-708, a defendant  
28 convicted of a felony violation of §§ 5-64-419 – 5-64-442 and sentenced to  
29 imprisonment shall be committed to the custody of the ~~Department~~ Division of  
30 Correction for the term of his or her sentence or until released in  
31 accordance with law.

32 (d)(1)(A) A juvenile sentenced in circuit court who is less than  
33 sixteen (16) years of age when sentenced shall be committed to the custody of  
34 the Division of Youth Services of the Department of Human Services until his  
35 or her sixteenth birthday, at which time he or she shall be transferred to  
36 the ~~Department~~ Division of Correction, except as provided by court order or

1 parole decision made by the Parole Board.

2 (B) Any record from the ~~division~~ Division of Youth  
3 Services of the Department of Human Services shall be transferred to the  
4 ~~Department~~ Division of Correction at the time the juvenile is transferred.

5 (2) A juvenile less than sixteen (16) years of age who is  
6 awaiting transfer to the ~~Department~~ Division of Correction shall be  
7 segregated from the general delinquency population housed at the ~~division~~  
8 Division of Youth Services of the Department of Human Services.

9 (e)(1) With the consent and approval of the ~~division~~ Division of Youth  
10 Services of the Department of Human Services, the ~~Department~~ Division of  
11 Correction may transfer from the ~~Department~~ Division of Correction to the  
12 ~~division~~ Division of Youth Services of the Department of Human Services any  
13 inmate less than eighteen (18) years of age who, in the opinion of the  
14 ~~Department~~ Division of Correction and the ~~division~~ Division of Youth Services  
15 of the Department of Human Services, is more suited and adaptable by age,  
16 physical size, and temperament to a program of the Department of Human  
17 Services.

18 (2)(A) An inmate transferred to the ~~division~~ Division of Youth  
19 Services of the Department of Human Services shall be segregated from the  
20 general delinquency population housed at the ~~division~~ Division of Youth  
21 Services of the Department of Human Services.

22 (B) If an inmate violates a rule of the ~~division's~~  
23 Division of Youth Services of the Department of Human Services' program or  
24 facility or is otherwise not amenable to the ~~division's~~ Division of Youth  
25 Services of the Department of Human Services' rehabilitative effort, the  
26 ~~division~~ Division of Youth Services of the Department of Human Services may  
27 return the inmate to the ~~Department~~ Division of Correction.

28 (3) Any inmate transferred to the ~~division~~ Division of Youth  
29 Services of the Department of Human Services under this subsection shall be  
30 returned to the ~~Department~~ Division of Correction on the inmate's eighteenth  
31 birthday.

32  
33 SECTION 658. Arkansas Code § 5-4-404 is amended to read as follows:

34 5-4-404. Credit for time spent in custody.

35 If a defendant is held in custody for conduct that results in a  
36 sentence to imprisonment or confinement as a condition of suspension or

1 probation, the court, the ~~Department~~ Division of Correction, or the  
2 ~~Department~~ Division of Community Correction shall credit the time spent in  
3 custody against the sentence, including time spent in a local jail facility  
4 awaiting transfer to the ~~Department~~ Division of Correction or the ~~Department~~  
5 Division of Community Correction.

6  
7 SECTION 659. Arkansas Code § 5-4-501(f), concerning habitual offenders  
8 and sentencing for felony, is amended to read as follows:

9 (f) For the purposes of determining whether a defendant has previously  
10 been convicted of a serious felony involving violence or a felony involving  
11 violence under subsections (c) and (d) of this section, the entry of a plea  
12 of guilty or nolo contendere or a finding of guilt by a court to a felony  
13 enumerated in subsections (c) and (d) of this section, respectively, as a  
14 result of which a court places the defendant on a suspended imposition of  
15 sentence, a suspended sentence, or probation, or sentences the defendant to  
16 the ~~Department~~ Division of Correction, is considered a previous felony  
17 conviction.

18  
19 SECTION 660. Arkansas Code § 5-4-606(1), concerning life imprisonment  
20 without parole, is amended to read as follows:

21 (1) Be remanded to the custody of the ~~Department~~ Division of  
22 Correction for imprisonment for the remainder of his or her life; and

23  
24 SECTION 661. Arkansas Code § 5-4-803(b)(2)(A), concerning the  
25 procedure for determining the sentence for an eligible offender, is amended  
26 to read as follows:

27 (A) ~~Department~~ Division of Correction for an eligible  
28 offender committed to the division; or

29  
30 SECTION 662. Arkansas Code § 5-4-803(c)(2)(A), concerning the  
31 procedure for determining the sentence for an eligible offender, is amended  
32 to read as follows:

33 (A) ~~Department~~ Division of Correction for a felony  
34 offense; or

35  
36 SECTION 663. Arkansas Code § 5-4-803(d)(4)(A), concerning the

1 procedure for determining the sentence for an eligible offender, is amended  
2 to read as follows:

3 (A) ~~Department~~ Division of Correction for a felony  
4 offense; or

5  
6 SECTION 664. Arkansas Code § 5-4-804 is amended to read as follows:

7 5-4-804. Medical treatment and costs.

8 The state is responsible for the cost of medical treatment approved by  
9 the ~~Department~~ Division of Correction of an eligible offender sentenced to a  
10 felony under this subchapter if the medical treatment is for:

11 (1) The result of an injury sustained on the work site of the  
12 community work project or during transportation to and from the work site by  
13 a government entity; or

14 (2)(A) The result of illness or an injury sustained by an  
15 eligible offender committed to the county jail or regional jail and who is  
16 assigned to a community work project.

17 (B) The ~~Department~~ Division of Correction may transfer an  
18 eligible offender committed to a county jail or regional jail under this  
19 subchapter to a medical facility or treatment facility, including a facility  
20 of the ~~Department~~ Division of Correction, it deems appropriate for the  
21 medical treatment.

22 (3) Nothing in this section precludes the ~~Department~~ Division of  
23 Correction from seeking reimbursement or damages from a person or entity that  
24 contributes to or causes the injury or illness referred to in this section.

25  
26 SECTION 665. Arkansas Code § 5-4-901 is amended to read as follows:

27 5-4-901. Legislative intent.

28 The intent of this act is to provide the judiciary with an additional  
29 alternative to the disposition of criminal offenders that would assist the  
30 offender in atoning for his or her criminal transgression and promote the  
31 enforcement of the state's criminal statutes while easing the inmate burden  
32 on the county jails and the ~~Department~~ Division of Correction.

33  
34 SECTION 666. Arkansas Code § 5-10-101(a)(6), concerning capital  
35 murder, is amended to read as follows:

36 (6) While incarcerated in the ~~Department~~ Division of Correction

1 or the ~~Department~~ Division of Community Correction, the person purposely  
2 causes the death of another person after premeditation and deliberation;

3  
4 SECTION 667. Arkansas Code § 5-13-202(a)(4)(A)(ii)(b), concerning  
5 battery in the second degree, is amended to read as follows:

6 (b) "Employee of a correctional facility"  
7 includes a person working under a professional services contract with the  
8 ~~Department~~ Division of Correction, the ~~Department~~ Division of Community  
9 Correction, or the Division of Youth Services of the Department of Human  
10 Services;

11  
12 SECTION 668. Arkansas Code § 5-14-110(a)(3)(A), concerning sexual  
13 indecency with a child, is amended to read as follows:

14 (A) Employed with the ~~Department~~ Division of Correction,  
15 ~~Department~~ Division of Community Correction, any city or county jail, or any  
16 juvenile detention facility, and the minor is in custody at a facility  
17 operated by the agency or contractor employing the actor;

18  
19 SECTION 669. Arkansas Code § 5-14-110(a)(4)(A) and (B), concerning  
20 sexual indecency with a child, are amended to read as follows:

21 (A) Employed with the ~~Department~~ Division of Correction,  
22 the ~~Department~~ Division of Community Correction, any city or county jail, or  
23 any juvenile detention facility, and the minor is in custody at a facility  
24 operated by the agency or contractor employing the actor;

25 (B) Employed by or contracted with the ~~Department~~ Division  
26 of Community Correction, a local law enforcement agency, a court, or a local  
27 government and the actor is supervising the minor while the minor is on  
28 probation or parole or for any other court-ordered reason;

29  
30 SECTION 670. Arkansas Code § 5-14-124(a)(1)(A) and (B), concerning  
31 sexual assault in the first degree, are amended to read as follows:

32 (A) Employed with the ~~Department~~ Division of Correction,  
33 the ~~Department~~ Division of Community Correction, the Department of Human  
34 Services, or any city or county jail or a juvenile detention facility, and  
35 the victim is in the custody of the ~~Department~~ Division of Correction, the  
36 ~~Department~~ Division of Community Correction, the Department of Human

1 Services, any city or county jail or juvenile detention facility, or their  
2 contractors or agents;

3 (B) Employed by or contracted with the ~~Department~~ Division  
4 of Community Correction, a local law enforcement agency, a court, or a local  
5 government and the actor is supervising the minor while the minor is on  
6 probation or parole or for any other court-ordered reason;

7

8 SECTION 671. Arkansas Code § 5-14-125(a)(4)(A)(i) and (ii), concerning  
9 sexual assault in the second degree, are amended to read as follows:

10 (i) Employed with the ~~Department~~ Division of  
11 Correction, the ~~Department~~ Division of Community Correction, any city or  
12 county jail, or any juvenile detention facility, and the minor is in custody  
13 at a facility operated by the agency or contractor employing the actor;

14 (ii) Employed by or contracted with the ~~Department~~  
15 Division of Community Correction, a local law enforcement agency, a court, or  
16 a local government and the actor is supervising the minor while the minor is  
17 on probation or parole or for any other court-ordered reason;

18

19 SECTION 672. Arkansas Code § 5-14-126(a)(1)(A)-(C), concerning sexual  
20 assault in the third degree, are amended to read as follows:

21 (A) Employed with the ~~Department~~ Division of Correction,  
22 ~~Department~~ Division of Community Correction, Department of Human Services, or  
23 any city or county jail, the victim is in the custody of the ~~Department~~  
24 Division of Correction, ~~Department~~ Division of Community Correction,  
25 Department of Human Services, or any city or county jail, and the actor is in  
26 a position of trust or authority over the victim and uses the position of  
27 trust or authority to engage in sexual intercourse or deviate sexual  
28 activity;

29 (B) Employed by or contracted with the ~~Department~~ Division  
30 of Community Correction, a local law enforcement agency, a court, or a local  
31 government and the actor is supervising the person while the person is on  
32 probation or parole or for any other court-ordered reason;

33 (C) Employed or contracted with or otherwise providing  
34 services, supplies, or supervision to an agency maintaining custody of  
35 inmates, detainees, or juveniles, the victim is in the custody of the  
36 ~~Department~~ Division of Correction, ~~Department~~ Division of Community

1 Correction, Department of Human Services, or any city or county jail, and the  
2 actor is in a position of trust or authority over the victim and uses the  
3 position of trust or authority to engage in sexual intercourse or deviate  
4 sexual activity; or

5

6 SECTION 673. Arkansas Code § 5-14-127(a)(2), concerning sexual assault  
7 in the fourth degree, is amended to read as follows:

8 (2) Engages in sexual contact with another person who is not the  
9 actor's spouse, and the actor is employed with the ~~Department~~ Division of  
10 Correction, ~~Department~~ Division of Community Correction, Department of Human  
11 Services, or any city or county jail, and the victim is in the custody of the  
12 ~~Department~~ Division of Correction, ~~Department~~ Division of Community  
13 Correction, Department of Human Services, or a city or county jail.

14

15 SECTION 674. Arkansas Code § 5-37-226(b)(2)(D) and (E), concerning  
16 filing instruments affecting title or interest in real property, are amended  
17 to read as follows:

18 (D) An employee of the ~~Department~~ Division of Correction;

19 (E) An employee of the ~~Department~~ Division of Community  
20 Correction;

21

22 SECTION 675. Arkansas Code § 5-54-101(11)(A), concerning the  
23 definition of "prohibited article" under the laws governing obstructing  
24 governmental operations, is amended to read as follows:

25 (A) An intoxicating beverage other than sacramental wine  
26 labeled as sacramental wine and supplied by a religious official who supplies  
27 the sacramental wine to an inmate in the ~~Department~~ Division of Correction or  
28 ~~Department~~ Division of Community Correction for the sole purpose of an  
29 approved religious service, pursuant to rules and regulations promulgated by  
30 the Board of Corrections;

31

32 SECTION 676. Arkansas Code § 5-54-110(b)(1)(A) and (B), concerning the  
33 offense of first degree escape, are amended to read as follows:

34 (A) The ~~Department~~ Division of Correction;

35 (B) The ~~Department~~ Division of Community Correction; or

36

1 SECTION 677. Arkansas Code § 5-54-111(b)(1)(A) and (B), concerning the  
2 offense of second degree escape, are amended to read as follows:

3 (A) The ~~Department~~ Division of Correction;

4 (B) The ~~Department~~ Division of Community Correction; or  
5

6 SECTION 678. Arkansas Code § 5-54-112(c)(1)(A) and (B), concerning the  
7 offense of second degree escape, are amended to read as follows:

8 (A) The ~~Department~~ Division of Correction;

9 (B) The ~~Department~~ Division of Community Correction; or  
10

11 SECTION 679. Arkansas Code § 5-73-119(e)(12)(B)(ii), concerning the  
12 possession of a handgun by a minor or possession on school property, is  
13 amended to read as follows:

14 (ii) "Parking lot" does not include a parking lot  
15 owned, maintained, or otherwise controlled by the ~~Department~~ Division of  
16 Correction or ~~Department~~ Division of Community Correction.  
17

18 SECTION 680. Arkansas Code § 5-73-122(a)(3)(C)(ii)(b), concerning  
19 carrying a firearm in publicly owned buildings or facilities, is amended to  
20 read as follows:

21 (b) "Parking lot" does not include a parking  
22 lot owned, maintained, or otherwise controlled by the ~~Department~~ Division of  
23 Correction or the ~~Department~~ Division of Community Correction;  
24

25 SECTION 681. Arkansas Code § 5-73-122(a)(3)(D)(iii), concerning  
26 carrying a firearm in publicly owned buildings or facilities, is amended to  
27 read as follows:

28 (iii) A facility operated by the ~~Department~~ Division  
29 of Correction or the ~~Department~~ Division of Community Correction; or  
30

31 SECTION 682. Arkansas Code § 5-73-131(a), concerning the possession or  
32 use of a weapon by an incarcerated person, is amended to read as follows:

33 (a) A person commits the offense of possession or use of weapons by  
34 incarcerated persons if, without approval of custodial authority he or she  
35 uses, possesses, makes, repairs, sells, or otherwise deals in any weapon,  
36 including, but not limited to, any bomb, firearm, knife, or other implement

1 for the infliction of serious physical injury or death and that serves no  
2 common lawful purpose, while incarcerated in the ~~Department~~ Division of  
3 Correction, the ~~Department~~ Division of Community Correction, or a county or  
4 municipal jail or detention facility.

5  
6 SECTION 683. Arkansas Code § 5-73-306(4), concerning places a licensed  
7 concealed handgun is prohibited, is amended to read as follows:

8 (4) Any part of a detention facility, prison, or jail, including  
9 without limitation a parking lot owned, maintained, or otherwise controlled  
10 by the ~~Department~~ Division of Correction or ~~Department~~ Division of Community  
11 Correction;

12  
13 SECTION 684. Arkansas Code § 6-18-203(c), concerning attendance in a  
14 district other than the district of residence, is amended to read as follows:

15 (c) When any employee of the ~~Department~~ Division of Correction lives  
16 on ~~department~~ division property or will live on ~~department~~ division property  
17 as the result of a transfer from a unit of the ~~department~~ division to another  
18 unit, the children or wards of the employee may complete their education in  
19 the school district in which they are enrolled at the time the parent or  
20 guardian is transferred.

21  
22 SECTION 685. Arkansas Code § 6-82-501(2), concerning the definition of  
23 "Department of Community Correction employee" under the laws governing the  
24 children of law enforcement officers, is amended to read as follows:

25 (2) "~~Department~~ Division of Community Correction employee" means  
26 any employee of the ~~Department~~ Division of Community Correction who suffers  
27 fatal injuries or wounds or becomes permanently and totally disabled as a  
28 result of injuries or wounds that occurred through contact with parolees,  
29 probationers, or center residents;

30  
31 SECTION 686. Arkansas Code § 6-82-501(6), concerning the definition of  
32 "state correction employee" under the laws governing the children of law  
33 enforcement officers, is amended to read as follows:

34 (6) "State correction employee" means any employee of the  
35 ~~Department~~ Division of Correction or the Corrections School System who  
36 becomes subject to injury through contact with inmates or parolees of the

1 ~~Department~~ Division of Correction;

2

3 SECTION 687. Arkansas Code § 6-82-501(9), concerning the definition of  
4 "state parks employee" under the laws governing scholarships to children of  
5 law enforcement officers and others, is amended to read as follows:

6 (9) "State parks employee" means any employee of the ~~State Parks~~  
7 ~~Division of the~~ Department of Parks, Heritage, and Tourism who is a  
8 commissioned law enforcement officer or emergency response employee while  
9 actively engaged in the performance of his or her duties; and

10

11 SECTION 688. Arkansas Code § 8-6-307(d), concerning exemptions for the  
12 transfer of funds, is amended to read as follows:

13 (d) The ~~Department of Corrections~~ Division of Correction exempt from  
14 the provisions of this section.

15

16 SECTION 689. Arkansas Code § 9-2-102 is amended to read as follows:

17 9-2-102. Name change – Use of new name.

18 Any person whose name may be so changed by judgment or decree of any of  
19 the circuit courts shall afterward be known and designated, sue and be sued,  
20 plead and be impleaded, by the name thus conferred, except that records of  
21 persons under the jurisdiction and supervision of the ~~Department~~ Division of  
22 Correction shall continue to reflect the name as committed to the  
23 ~~department's~~ division's jurisdiction and supervision by the various circuit  
24 courts of the State of Arkansas.

25

26 SECTION 690. Arkansas Code § 9-27-303(48)(A)(v)(b)(2) and (3),  
27 concerning the definition of "reasonable efforts" under the Arkansas Juvenile  
28 Code of 1989, are amended to read as follows:

29 (2) Monitor compliance with services  
30 offered by the ~~Department~~ Division of Correction to the extent permitted by  
31 federal law; and

32 (3) Offer visitation in accordance with  
33 the policies of the ~~Department~~ Division of Correction if visitation is  
34 appropriate and in the best interest of the child.

35

36 SECTION 691. Arkansas Code § 9-27-510 is amended to read as follows:

1 9-27-510. ~~Department~~ Division of Correction – Placement.

2 (a)(1) A juvenile who has received an adult sentence to the ~~Department~~  
3 Division of Correction shall not be transported to the ~~Department~~ Division of  
4 Correction until the juvenile is sixteen (16) years of age.

5 (2) If a juvenile receives a sentence to the ~~Department~~ Division  
6 of Correction ~~prior to~~ before the juvenile's sixteenth birthday, the juvenile  
7 shall be housed by the Division of Youth Services of the Department of Human  
8 Services until that date, except as provided by court order or parole  
9 decision made by the Parole Board.

10 (b) A juvenile sentenced in the criminal division of circuit court who  
11 is less than sixteen (16) years of age when sentenced shall be committed to  
12 the custody of the Division of Youth Services until his or her sixteenth  
13 birthday, at which time he or she shall be transferred to the ~~Department~~  
14 Division of Correction.

15 (c)(1)(A) Juveniles sentenced to the ~~Department~~ Division of Correction  
16 pursuant to extended juvenile jurisdiction are subject to parole as any other  
17 inmate within the ~~Department~~ Division of Correction.

18 (B) Juveniles adjudicated for capital murder, § 5-10-101,  
19 or murder in the first degree, § 5-10-102, are subject to parole.

20 (2) Juveniles will be given credit for time served in a juvenile  
21 detention or juvenile facility against any adult sentence.

22  
23 SECTION 692. Arkansas Code § 9-28-214(a), concerning the penalty for  
24 escape, is amended to read as follows:

25 (a) If charged and found guilty as an adult for first degree escape, §  
26 5-54-110, or second degree escape, § 5-54-111, a juvenile shall be given a  
27 mandatory sentence of not less than nine (9) months in an appropriate  
28 facility of the ~~Department~~ Division of Correction.

29  
30 SECTION 693. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 12-26-103,  
31 concerning the creation and duties of the Office of Criminal Detention  
32 Facilities Review Coordinator, is amended to read as follows:

33 (a) There is established the Office of Criminal Detention Facilities  
34 Review Coordinator within the Department of Corrections which shall consist  
35 of:

36

1 SECTION 694. Arkansas Code § 11-3-401(a)(2), concerning the prevention  
2 of lawful employment prohibited, is amended to read as follows:

3 (2) Any person guilty of violating this subsection shall be  
4 deemed guilty of a felony and upon conviction shall be punished by  
5 confinement in the Department of ~~Correction~~ Corrections for not less than one  
6 (1) year nor more than two (2) years.

7  
8 SECTION 695. Arkansas Code § 11-3-401(b)(3), concerning the prevention  
9 of lawful employment prohibited, is amended to read as follows:

10 (3) Any person guilty of violating this subsection shall be  
11 deemed guilty of a felony and upon conviction thereof shall be punished by  
12 confinement in the Department of ~~Correction~~ Corrections for not less than one  
13 (1) year nor more than two (2) years.

14  
15 SECTION 696. Arkansas Code § 11-9-110(a), resulting from Initiated Act  
16 4 of 1948 and concerning compensation nonassignable and payable to  
17 dependents, is amended to read as follows:

18 (a) The right to compensation shall not be assignable and shall not be  
19 subject to garnishment, attachment, levy, execution, or any other legal  
20 process, except for child support obligations and moneys retained by the  
21 ~~Department~~ Division of Correction under § 12-30-406(a)(1).

22  
23 SECTION 697. Arkansas Code § 11-9-812(a)(1), concerning the  
24 incarceration of an injured employee, is amended to read as follows:

25 (a)(1) When any person who receives workers' compensation benefits is  
26 incarcerated in an institution under the control of the ~~Department~~ Division  
27 of Correction, the inmate's spouse or, if no spouse, the inmate's minor  
28 dependent children, may petition the Workers' Compensation Commission to  
29 award to the spouse or minor dependent children the inmate's workers'  
30 compensation weekly disability benefits for the period of the claimant's  
31 incarceration.

32  
33 SECTION 698. Arkansas Code § 11-14-106(a)(3)(A)(v), concerning  
34 required drug or alcohol tests, is amended to read as follows:

35 (v) Work in direct contact with inmates in the  
36 custody of the ~~Department~~ Division of Correction; or

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SECTION 699. Arkansas Code § 12-1-102 is amended to read as follows:

12-1-102. Records to be posted on a public website.

(a) Relevant research studies and reports concerning the following topics that are generated by the research divisions of the ~~Department~~ Division of Correction, the ~~Department~~ Division of Community Correction, and the Parole Board or by third-party contractors on behalf of the ~~Department~~ Division of Correction, the ~~Department~~ Division of Community Correction, and the board, when applicable, shall be posted on the ~~Department~~ Division of Correction's, the ~~Department~~ Division of Community Correction's, or board's website:

- (1) Population projections;
- (2) Recidivism; and
- (3) Evaluation of the cost-benefit of evidence-based practices

of:

- (A) Adult prisons;
- (B) Community corrections facilities;
- (C) Probation; and
- (D) Parole.

(b) Data posted on the board's, ~~Department~~ Division of Correction's, or the ~~Department~~ Division of Community Correction's websites under this section may be removed from the board's, ~~Department~~ Division of Correction's, or the ~~Department~~ Division of Community Correction's websites after five (5) years.

SECTION 700. Arkansas Code § 12-12-315(a)(1)(E), concerning the notification of certain deaths, is amended to read as follows:

(E) The death occurs while the person is in a state mental institution or hospital and there is no previous medical history to explain the death, or while the person is in police custody or jail other than a jail operated by the ~~Department~~ Division of Correction;

SECTION 701. Arkansas Code § 12-12-315(b), concerning notification of deaths, is amended to read as follows:

(b) With regard to any death in a correctional facility, the county coroner and the State Medical Examiner shall be notified, and when previous

1 medical history does not exist to explain the death, the ~~Department~~ Division  
2 of Arkansas State Police shall be notified.

3  
4 SECTION 702. Arkansas Code § 12-12-904(a)(1)(B)(ii), concerning the  
5 failure to comply with registration and reporting requirements and refusal to  
6 cooperate with the assessment process, is amended to read as follows:

7 (ii) If a sex offender fails or refuses to provide  
8 any information necessary to update his or her registration file as required  
9 by § 12-12-906(b)(2), as soon as administratively feasible the ~~Department~~  
10 Division of Correction, the ~~Department~~ Division of Community Correction, the  
11 Arkansas State Hospital, or the Department of Human Services shall contact  
12 the local law enforcement agency having jurisdiction to report the violation  
13 of subdivision (a)(1)(B)(i) of this section.

14  
15 SECTION 703. Arkansas Code § 12-12-906(a)(1)(B) and (C), concerning  
16 the duty to register or verify registration and review of requirements with  
17 offenders, is amended to read as follows:

18 (B)(i) The ~~Department~~ Division of Correction shall ensure  
19 that a sex offender received for incarceration has completed the sex offender  
20 registration form.

21 (ii) If the ~~Department~~ Division of Correction cannot  
22 confirm that the sex offender has completed the sex offender registration  
23 form, the ~~Department~~ Division of Correction shall require the sex offender to  
24 complete the sex offender registration form upon intake, release, or  
25 discharge.

26 (C)(i) The ~~Department~~ Division of Community Correction  
27 shall ensure that a sex offender placed on probation or another form of  
28 community supervision has completed the sex offender registration form.

29 (ii) If the ~~Department~~ Division of Community  
30 Correction cannot confirm that the sex offender has completed the sex  
31 offender registration form, the ~~Department~~ Division of Community Correction  
32 shall require the sex offender to complete the sex offender registration form  
33 upon intake, release, or discharge.

34  
35 SECTION 704. Arkansas Code § 12-12-906(b)(2), concerning the duty to  
36 register or verify registration and review of requirements with offenders, is

1 amended to read as follows:

2 (2) Immediately prior to the release or discharge of a sex  
3 offender or immediately following a sex offender's escape or his or her  
4 absconding from supervision, the ~~Department~~ Division of Correction, the  
5 ~~Department~~ Division of Community Correction, the Arkansas State Hospital, or  
6 the Department of Human Services shall update the registration file of the  
7 sex offender who is to be released or discharged or who has escaped or has  
8 absconded from supervision.

9

10 SECTION 705. Arkansas Code § 12-12-906(c)(1)(A), concerning the duty  
11 to register or verify registration and review of requirements with offenders,  
12 is amended to read as follows:

13 (c)(1)(A) When registering a sex offender as provided in subsection  
14 (a) of this section, the sentencing court, the ~~Department~~ Division of  
15 Correction, the ~~Department~~ Division of Community Correction, the Arkansas  
16 State Hospital, the Department of Human Services, or the local law  
17 enforcement agency having jurisdiction shall:

18 (i) Inform the sex offender of the duty to submit to  
19 assessment and to register and obtain the information required for  
20 registration as described in § 12-12-908;

21 (ii) Inform the sex offender that if the sex  
22 offender changes residency within the state, the sex offender shall give the  
23 new address and place of employment, education, higher education, or training  
24 to the center in writing no later than ten (10) days before the sex offender  
25 establishes residency or is temporarily domiciled at the new address;

26 (iii)(a) Inform the sex offender that if the sex  
27 offender changes residency to another state or enters another state to work  
28 or attend school, the sex offender must also register in that state  
29 regardless of permanent residency.

30 (b) The sex offender shall register the new  
31 address and place of employment, education, higher education, or training  
32 with the center and with a designated law enforcement agency in the new state  
33 in person not later than three (3) business days after the sex offender  
34 establishes residence or is temporarily domiciled in the new state;

35 (iv) Obtain fingerprints, palm prints, and a  
36 photograph of the sex offender if these have not already been obtained in

1 connection with the offense that triggered registration;

2 (v) Obtain a deoxyribonucleic acid (DNA) sample if  
3 one has not already been provided;

4 (vi) Require the sex offender to complete the entire  
5 registration process, including, but not limited to, requiring the sex  
6 offender to read and sign a form stating that the duty of the sex offender to  
7 register under this subchapter has been explained;

8 (vii) Inform the sex offender that if the sex  
9 offender's address changes within the state or to another state due to an  
10 eviction, natural disaster, or any other unforeseen circumstance, the sex  
11 offender shall give the new address to the local law enforcement agency  
12 having jurisdiction in person no later than three (3) business days after the  
13 sex offender establishes residency;

14 (viii) Inform a sex offender who has been granted  
15 probation that failure to comply with the provisions of this subchapter may  
16 be grounds for revocation of the sex offender's probation; and

17 (ix) Inform a sex offender subject to lifetime  
18 registration under § 12-12-919 of the duty to:

19 (a) Verify registration and obtain the  
20 information required for registration verification as described in  
21 subsections (g) and (h) of this section; and

22 (b) Ensure that the information required for  
23 reregistration verification under subsections (g) and (h) of this section is  
24 provided to the local law enforcement agency having jurisdiction.

25  
26 SECTION 706. Arkansas Code § 12-12-906(c)(2), concerning the duty to  
27 register or verify registration and review of requirements with offenders, is  
28 amended to read as follows:

29 (2) When updating the registration file of a sex offender, the  
30 ~~Department~~ Division of Correction, the ~~Department~~ Division of Community  
31 Correction, the Arkansas State Hospital, or the Department of Human Services  
32 shall:

33 (A) Review with the sex offender the duty to register and  
34 obtain current information required for registration as described in § 12-12-  
35 908;

36 (B) Review with the sex offender the requirement that if

1 the sex offender changes address within the state, the sex offender shall  
2 give the new address to the local law enforcement agency having jurisdiction  
3 in person no later than ten (10) days before the sex offender establishes  
4 residency or is temporarily domiciled at the new address;

5 (C) Review with the sex offender the requirement that if  
6 the sex offender changes address to another state, the sex offender shall  
7 register the new address with the local law enforcement agency having  
8 jurisdiction in person and with a designated law enforcement agency in the  
9 new state in person not later than three (3) business days after the sex  
10 offender establishes residence or is temporarily domiciled in the new state  
11 if the new state has a registration requirement;

12 (D) Require the sex offender to read and sign a form  
13 stating that the duty of the sex offender to register under this subchapter  
14 has been reviewed;

15 (E) Inform the sex offender that if the sex offender's  
16 address changes within the state or to another state due to an eviction,  
17 natural disaster, or any other unforeseen circumstance, the sex offender  
18 shall give the new address to the local law enforcement agency having  
19 jurisdiction in person no later than three (3) business days after the sex  
20 offender establishes residency;

21 (F) Review with the sex offender the consequences of  
22 failure to provide any information required by subdivision (b)(2) of this  
23 section;

24 (G) Inform a sex offender subject to lifetime registration  
25 under § 12-12-919 of the duty to:

26 (i) Verify registration and report the information  
27 required for registration verification as described in subsections (g) and  
28 (h) of this section; and

29 (ii) Ensure that the information required for  
30 registration verification under subsections (g) and (h) of this section is  
31 provided in person to the local law enforcement agency having jurisdiction;  
32 and

33 (H) Review with a sex offender subject to lifetime  
34 registration under § 12-12-919 the consequences of failure to verify  
35 registration under § 12-12-904.

36

1 SECTION 707. Arkansas Code § 12-12-906(d), concerning the duty to  
2 register or verify registration and review of requirements with offenders, is  
3 amended to read as follows:

4 (d) When registering or updating the registration file of a sexually  
5 dangerous person, in addition to the requirements of subdivision (c)(1) or  
6 subdivision (c)(2) of this section, the sentencing court, the ~~Department~~  
7 Division of Correction, the ~~Department~~ Division of Community Correction, the  
8 Arkansas State Hospital, the Department of Human Services, or the local law  
9 enforcement agency having jurisdiction shall obtain documentation of any  
10 treatment received for the mental abnormality or personality disorder of the  
11 sexually dangerous person.  
12

13 SECTION 708. Arkansas Code § 12-12-906(g)(3)(M)(ii)(b), concerning the  
14 duty to register or verify registration and review of requirements with  
15 offenders, is amended to read as follows:

16 (b) Submit the fingerprints to the center and  
17 to the ~~Department~~ Division of Arkansas State Police.  
18

19 SECTION 709. Arkansas Code § 12-12-906(g)(3)(M)(iii)(b), concerning  
20 the duty to register or verify registration and review of requirements with  
21 offenders, is amended to read as follows:

22 (b) Submit the palm prints to the center and  
23 to the ~~Department~~ Division of Arkansas State Police;  
24

25 SECTION 710. Arkansas Code § 12-12-906(h)(3)(M)(ii)(b), concerning the  
26 duty to register or verify registration and review of requirements with  
27 offenders, is amended to read as follows:

28 (b) Submit the fingerprints to the center and  
29 to the ~~Department~~ Division of Arkansas State Police.  
30

31 SECTION 711. Arkansas Code § 12-12-906(h)(3)(M)(iii)(b), concerning  
32 the duty to register or verify registration and review of requirements with  
33 offenders, is amended to read as follows:

34 (b) Submit the palm prints to the center and  
35 to the ~~Department~~ Division of Arkansas State Police;  
36

1 SECTION 712. Arkansas Code § 12-12-907(a)(1), concerning reports to  
2 the Arkansas Crime Information Center and law enforcement agencies, is  
3 amended to read as follows:

4 (a)(1) Within three (3) days after registering or updating the  
5 registration file of a sex offender, the ~~Department~~ Division of Correction,  
6 the ~~Department~~ Division of Community Correction, the Department of Human  
7 Services, the sentencing court, or the local law enforcement agency having  
8 jurisdiction shall report, by written or electronic means, all information  
9 obtained from the sex offender and regarding the sex offender to the Arkansas  
10 Crime Information Center.

11  
12 SECTION 713. Arkansas Code § 12-12-907(b)(4), concerning reports to  
13 the Arkansas Crime Information Center and law enforcement agency, is amended  
14 to read as follows:

15 (4) The center shall have access to the offender tracking  
16 systems of the ~~Department~~ Division of Correction and the ~~Department~~ Division  
17 of Community Correction to confirm the location of registrants.

18  
19 SECTION 714. Arkansas Code § 12-12-908(a), concerning registration  
20 format requirements is amended to read as follows:

21 (a) The Director of the Arkansas Crime Information Center shall  
22 prepare the format for registration as required in subsection (b) of this  
23 section and shall provide instructions for registration to each organized  
24 full-time municipal police division, county sheriff's office, the ~~Department~~  
25 Division of Correction, the ~~Department~~ Division of Community Correction, the  
26 Department of Human Services, and the Administrative Office of the Courts.

27  
28 SECTION 715. Arkansas Code § 12-12-911(b)(1), concerning the sex and  
29 child offenders registration fund, is amended to read as follows:

30 (b)(1) This fund shall consist of special revenues collected pursuant  
31 to § 12-12-910, there to be used equally by the Arkansas Crime Information  
32 Center and the ~~Department~~ Division of Correction for the administration of  
33 this subchapter.

34  
35 SECTION 716. Arkansas Code § 12-12-913(d)(3), concerning the  
36 disclosure of registration records, is amended to read as follows:

1 (3) In conjunction with the notice provided under § 12-12-914,  
2 the ~~Department~~ Division of Correction and the Department of Human Services  
3 shall make available to a local law enforcement agency having jurisdiction  
4 all information that the ~~Department~~ Division of Correction and the Department  
5 of Human Services have concerning the sex offender, including information on  
6 risk factors in the sex offender's history.

7  
8 SECTION 717. Arkansas Code § 12-12-914(a)(1), concerning the notice of  
9 release to the Arkansas Crime Information Center, is amended to read as  
10 follows:

11 (a)(1) The ~~Department~~ Division of Correction shall provide notice by  
12 written or electronic means to the Arkansas Crime Information Center of the  
13 anticipated release from incarceration in a county or state penal institution  
14 of a person serving a sentence for a sex offense.

15  
16 SECTION 718. Arkansas Code § 12-12-914(d)(2), concerning the notice of  
17 release to the Arkansas Crime Information Center, is amended to read as  
18 follows:

19 (2) If notification cannot be made throughout the system  
20 established under § 12-12-1201 et seq., the ~~Department~~ Division of Correction  
21 shall provide the notification to the victim.

22  
23 SECTION 719. Arkansas Code § 12-12-915 is amended to read as follows:  
24 12-12-915. Authority – Rules.

25 (a) The ~~Department~~ Division of Correction, the ~~Department~~ Division of  
26 Community Correction, the Department of Human Services, the Administrative  
27 Office of the Courts, and the Arkansas Crime Information Center shall  
28 promulgate rules to establish procedures for:

29 (1) Notifying the sex offender of the obligation to register  
30 pursuant to this subchapter; and

31 (2) Registering the sex offender.

32 (b)(1) The ~~Department~~ Division of Community Correction shall monitor  
33 an adult sex offender under its supervisory authority who is subject to  
34 electronic monitoring under § 12-12-923.

35 (2) The Department of Human Services shall monitor an adult or  
36 juvenile sex offender under its supervisory authority who is subject to

1 electronic monitoring under § 12-12-923.

2 (c)(1) The ~~Department~~ Division of Community Correction shall  
3 promulgate rules to establish procedures for monitoring an adult sex offender  
4 under its supervisory authority who is subject to electronic monitoring under  
5 § 12-12-923.

6 (2) The Department of Human Services shall promulgate rules to  
7 establish procedures for monitoring an adult or juvenile sex offender under  
8 its supervisory authority who is subject to electronic monitoring under § 12-  
9 12-923.

10

11 SECTION 720. Arkansas Code § 12-12-917(b)(2)(A)(ii)(a), concerning the  
12 evaluation protocol for sexually dangerous persons and juveniles adjudicated  
13 delinquent, is amended to read as follows:

14 (ii)(a) Subject to subdivision (c)(1) of this  
15 section, the prosecuting attorney and any law enforcement agency shall  
16 furnish the file relating to the offender to Community Notification  
17 Assessment at the ~~Department~~ Division of Correction within thirty (30) days  
18 of an offender's adjudication of guilt.

19

20 SECTION 721. Arkansas Code § 12-12-917(f)(2) and (3), concerning the  
21 evaluation protocol for sexually dangerous persons and juveniles adjudicated  
22 delinquent, are amended to read as follows:

23 (2) The committee shall provide the Parole Board with copies of  
24 the offender fact sheet on inmates of the ~~Department~~ Division of Correction.

25 (3) The committee shall provide the ~~Department~~ Division of  
26 Community Correction with copies of the offender fact sheet on any sex  
27 offender under the ~~Department~~ Division of Community Correction's supervision.

28

29 SECTION 722. Arkansas Code § 12-12-917(g)(1), concerning the  
30 evaluation protocol for sexually dangerous persons and juveniles adjudicated  
31 delinquent, is amended to read as follows:

32 (g)(1) In cooperation with the committee, the ~~Department~~ Division of  
33 Correction shall promulgate rules and regulations to establish the review  
34 process for assessment determinations.

35

36 SECTION 723. Arkansas Code § 12-12-917(h)(2), concerning the

1 evaluation protocol for sexually dangerous persons and juveniles adjudicated  
2 delinquent, is amended to read as follows:

3 (2)(A) A local law enforcement agency having jurisdiction, the  
4 ~~Department~~ Division of Community Correction, or the Parole Board may request  
5 the committee to reassess a sex offender's assigned risk level at any time.

6 (B) In the request for reassessment, the local law  
7 enforcement agency having jurisdiction, the ~~Department~~ Division of Community  
8 Correction, or the Parole Board shall list the facts and circumstances that  
9 prompted the requested reassessment.

10

11 SECTION 724. Arkansas Code § 12-12-918(b)(1)(A), concerning  
12 classification as a sexually dangerous person, is amended to read as follows:

13 (A) The defendant may be sent for evaluation to a facility  
14 designated by the ~~Department~~ Division of Correction; or

15

16 SECTION 725. Arkansas Code § 12-12-918(b)(2), concerning  
17 classification as a sexually dangerous person, is amended to read as follows:

18 (2) The cost of the evaluation shall be paid by the ~~Department~~  
19 Division of Correction.

20

21 SECTION 726. Arkansas Code § 12-12-1109(c), concerning a DNA sample  
22 required upon adjudication of guilt, is amended to read as follows:

23 (c) All DNA samples taken pursuant to this section shall be taken in  
24 accordance with regulations promulgated by the State Crime Laboratory in  
25 consultation with the ~~Department~~ Division of Correction, the ~~Department~~  
26 Division of Community Correction, the Department of Human Services, and the  
27 Administrative Office of the Courts.

28

29 SECTION 727. Arkansas Code § 12-12-1110(e)(1), concerning procedures  
30 of withdrawal, collection, and transmission of DNA samples, is amended to  
31 read as follows:

32 (e)(1) Any person who refuses to provide a DNA sample required by this  
33 subchapter will receive no further sentence reduction for meritorious good  
34 time until such time as a sample is provided, and the ~~Department~~ Division of  
35 Correction shall notify the Parole Board regarding the refusal.

36

1 SECTION 728. Arkansas Code § 12-27-101 is amended to read as follows:  
2 12-27-101. Purposes and construction of the ~~Department~~ Division of  
3 Correction.

4 (a)(1) The purpose of this act is to establish a ~~Department~~ Division  
5 of Correction that shall assume the custody, control, and management of the  
6 state penitentiary, execute the orders of criminal courts of the State of  
7 Arkansas, and provide for the custody, treatment, rehabilitation, and  
8 restoration of adult offenders as useful law-abiding citizens within the  
9 community.

10 (2) The ~~department~~ division shall be under the supervision and  
11 control of the Board of Corrections.

12 (3) To accomplish the objectives and purposes of this act in an  
13 effective, coordinated, and uniform manner, the ~~department~~ division shall be  
14 responsible for the maintenance, supervision, and administration of adult  
15 detention and correctional services of the state as determined by the board.

16 (4) Institutions and services shall be diversified in program,  
17 construction, and staff to provide effectually and efficiently for the  
18 maximum custody, care, supervision, and treatment of those persons committed  
19 to the ~~department~~ division.

20 (b) This act shall be liberally construed so as to effectuate its  
21 purposes.

22  
23 SECTION 729. Arkansas Code § 12-27-102 is amended to read as follows:  
24 12-27-102. Enforcement of penalties – Report of crimes.

25 (a) All laws of this state prescribing penalties for violations  
26 concerned with or affecting the state penitentiary or inmates thereof shall  
27 be equally applicable to the ~~Department~~ Division of Correction and shall be  
28 enforced accordingly.

29 (b) In the event any crime shall be committed in any institution of  
30 the ~~department~~ division, it shall be the duty of the Director of the  
31 ~~Department~~ Division of Correction, or his or her designated employee, to  
32 report the crime to the county sheriff and prosecuting attorney of the county  
33 in which the institution is located in which the crime, or alleged crime,  
34 took place.

35  
36 SECTION 730. Arkansas Code § 12-27-103 is amended to read as follows:

1 12-27-103. ~~Department~~ Division of Correction – Creation – Powers and  
2 duties.

3 (a) There is established, under the supervision, control, and  
4 direction of the Board of Corrections, a ~~Department~~ Division of Correction.

5 (b) The ~~Department~~ Division of Correction shall have the following  
6 functions, powers, and duties, administered in accordance with the policies,  
7 rules, and regulations promulgated by the Board of Corrections:

8 (1) The ~~Department~~ Division of Correction shall have exclusive  
9 jurisdiction over the care, charge, custody, control, management,  
10 administration, and supervision of all persons and offenders committed to, or  
11 in the custody of, the state penitentiary;

12 (2) The ~~Department~~ Division of Correction shall ~~assume~~ maintain  
13 management and control over all properties, both real and personal,  
14 facilities, books, records, equipment, supplies, materials, contracts, funds,  
15 moneys, equities, and all other properties belonging to the state  
16 penitentiary, except those deemed by the Board of Corrections to be ~~more~~  
17 ~~appropriate for placement~~ placed in the ~~Department~~ Division of Community  
18 Correction. The ~~Department~~ Division of Correction shall administer said  
19 properties in accordance with the provisions of this act and other laws  
20 applicable to the administration of the state correctional system;

21 (3) The Department of Correction, as the Division of Correction  
22 was known as prior to July 1, 2019, ~~shall assume~~ assumed all obligations,  
23 contracts, indebtedness, liabilities, and other obligations of the state  
24 penitentiary system existing on March 1, 1968;

25 (4)(A) The Department of Correction, as the Division of  
26 Correction was known as prior to July 1, 2019, ~~shall have~~ has custody,  
27 management, and control over all institutions and facilities, and the inmates  
28 therein, ~~now~~ belonging to the state penitentiary or hereafter established by  
29 the Department of Correction, as the Division of Correction was known as  
30 prior to July 1, 2019, and known as the Division of Correction for the  
31 custodial correction and rehabilitation of persons committed to the  
32 ~~Department~~ Division of Correction for its care, except for those institutions  
33 established by or transferred to the ~~Department~~ Division of Community  
34 Correction.

35 (B) Legal custody of inmates transferred to the ~~Department~~  
36 Division of Community Correction shall remain with the ~~Department~~ Division of

1 Correction unless altered by court order;

2 (5) The ~~Department~~ Division of Correction shall establish and  
3 operate classification committees, diagnosis and treatment programs, and such  
4 other programs as may be desirable to fulfill the purposes of this act;

5 (6) The ~~Department~~ Division of Correction shall employ such  
6 officers, employees, and agents and shall secure such offices and quarters as  
7 are deemed necessary to discharge the functions of the ~~Department~~ Division of  
8 Correction;

9 (7) The ~~Department~~ Division of Correction shall receive all  
10 offenders committed to the ~~Department~~ Division of Correction for conviction  
11 of felonies or other offenses, the punishment of which is commitment to the  
12 penitentiary under the laws of this state, and shall be responsible for the  
13 care, custody, and correction of such persons pursuant to policies  
14 established by the Board of Corrections;

15 (8) The ~~Department~~ Division of Correction shall operate all  
16 farming, livestock, industries, and other income-producing facilities of the  
17 ~~Department~~ Division of Correction and shall sell the products of its  
18 industries and farms in the manner provided by law;

19 (9) The ~~Department~~ Division of Correction may establish and  
20 operate regional adult detention facilities, provided funds therefor have  
21 been authorized and appropriated by the General Assembly;

22 (10) The ~~Department~~ Division of Correction shall cooperate with  
23 municipalities and counties in this state in providing consulting services  
24 when requested with respect to detention and correctional facilities operated  
25 by the municipalities or counties;

26 (11) The ~~Department~~ Division of Correction shall cooperate with  
27 law enforcement agencies of this state, the United States, institutions of  
28 this state for the detention, custody, and care of delinquent and dependent  
29 juveniles, and with all agencies and departments of this state offering  
30 services or programs of welfare, rehabilitation, and other services for the  
31 benefit of persons committed to the ~~Department~~ Division of Correction;

32 (12) The ~~Department~~ Division of Correction may accept gifts,  
33 grants, and funds from public and private sources with prior approval of the  
34 Board of Corrections and administer the same in furtherance of the purposes  
35 of this act;

36 (13)(A) The ~~Department~~ Division of Correction shall have the

1 authority to issue warrants for the retaking of any person who, committed to  
2 its custody, unlawfully escapes therefrom.

3 (B) The warrant shall:

4 (i) Authorize all law enforcement officials of this  
5 state to take custody and return the person named therein to the custody of  
6 the ~~Department~~ Division of Correction; and

7 (ii) Authorize all law enforcement officials of this  
8 state, any other state, and the federal government to take custody and detain  
9 the person in any suitable detention facility while awaiting further transfer  
10 to the ~~Department~~ Division of Correction;

11 (14)(A)(i) Subject to the approval of the Governor, the  
12 ~~Department~~ Division of Correction may cooperate with and contract with the  
13 federal government, governmental agencies of Arkansas and other states,  
14 political subdivisions of Arkansas, political subdivisions of other states,  
15 counties, regional correctional facilities, and private contractors to  
16 provide and improve correctional operations and to keep custody of inmates  
17 transferred from the ~~Department~~ Division of Correction.

18 (ii) A facility owned or leased under this  
19 subdivision (b)(14) shall comply with all constitutional standards of the  
20 United States and the State of Arkansas.

21 (B) A county may contract for construction or operation or  
22 both with another entity to house a ~~Department~~ Division of Correction inmate  
23 under this subdivision (b)(14) for a period not to exceed twenty (20) years;

24 (15) The ~~Department~~ Division of Correction shall cooperate with  
25 the ~~Department~~ Division of Community Correction, the Parole Board, the  
26 Arkansas Sentencing Commission, judicial districts, municipalities, and  
27 counties in this state in providing guidance and services required to ensure  
28 a full range of correctional options for the state as a whole;

29 (16) The ~~Department~~ Division of Correction shall provide support  
30 to the ~~Department~~ Division of Community Correction as determined by the Board  
31 of Corrections;

32 (17) The ~~Department~~ Division of Correction shall assist the  
33 Board of Corrections in the furtherance of its goals by staffing the specific  
34 charges articulated for it through legislation and by the Board of  
35 Corrections; and

36 (18) The Department of ~~Correction~~ Corrections shall establish

1 programs of research, evaluation, statistics, audit, and planning, including  
2 studies and evaluation of the performance of various functions and activities  
3 of the department and studies affecting the treatment of offenders and  
4 information about other programs.

5  
6 SECTION 731. Arkansas Code § 12-27-104(d)(1)(B), concerning the  
7 members, records, and staff of the Board of Corrections, is amended to read  
8 as follows:

9 (B) However, a member shall receive a per diem stipend and  
10 reimbursement for expenses for both official meetings and related activities  
11 associated with attending to the business of the Board of Corrections, the  
12 ~~Department~~ Division of Correction, the ~~Department~~ Division of Community  
13 Correction, and the Corrections School System for up to an annual average of  
14 seven (7) days per month.

15  
16 SECTION 732. Arkansas Code § 12-27-104(d)(2), concerning the members,  
17 records, and staff of the Board of Corrections, is amended to read as  
18 follows:

19 (2) All expenses that may be reimbursed to members of the Board  
20 of Corrections and stipends as provided in § 25-16-901 et seq. shall be  
21 payable from the maintenance funds appropriated for the ~~Department~~ Division  
22 of Correction and the ~~Department~~ Division of Community Correction.

23  
24 SECTION 733. Arkansas Code § 12-27-104(e), concerning the members,  
25 records, and staff of the Board of Corrections, is amended to read as  
26 follows:

27 (e) The Governor shall appoint an advisory judicial group to  
28 facilitate coordination among the judicial system, the ~~Department~~ Division of  
29 Correction, and the ~~Department~~ Division of Community Correction to promote  
30 the effective and efficient use of correctional resources in furtherance of  
31 sentencing policy adopted by the General Assembly.

32  
33 SECTION 734. Arkansas Code § 12-27-104(j), concerning the members,  
34 records, and staff of the Board of Corrections, is amended to read as  
35 follows:

36 (j)(1) The Board of Corrections shall employ necessary staff to assist

1 with the range and diversity of ~~its~~ the charge of the Board of Corrections.

2 (2) In addition to Board of Corrections staff, the Board of  
3 Corrections may reassign staff from the ~~departments~~ divisions it governs for  
4 either short-term or long-term service to the Board of Corrections.

5  
6 SECTION 735. Arkansas Code § 12-27-105(b)(1)(A), concerning the powers  
7 and duties of the Board of Corrections, is amended to read as follows:

8 (1)(A) General supervisory power and control over the ~~Department~~  
9 Division of Correction and the ~~Department~~ Division of Community Correction  
10 and shall perform all functions with respect to the management and control of  
11 the adult correctional institutions and community correction options of this  
12 state contemplated by Arkansas Constitution, Amendment 33.

13  
14 SECTION 736. Arkansas Code § 12-27-105(b)(3) and (4), concerning the  
15 powers and duties of the Board of Corrections, are amended to read as  
16 follows:

17 (3) To review and approve budgets submitted by the ~~Department~~  
18 Division of Correction and the ~~Department~~ Division of Community Correction  
19 prior to submission for executive and legislative approval;

20 (4) To develop and approve policy and management decisions for  
21 the ~~Department~~ Division of Correction and the ~~Department~~ Division of  
22 Community Correction, evaluating their impact on corrections as a whole;

23  
24 SECTION 737. Arkansas Code § 12-27-105(b)(15), concerning the powers  
25 and duties of the Board of Corrections, is amended to read as follows:

26 (15) To prescribe the duties of all personnel of the ~~Department~~  
27 Division of Correction and the ~~Department~~ Division of Community Correction  
28 and the regulations governing the transfer of employees within each  
29 ~~department~~ division and between ~~departments~~ divisions;

30  
31 SECTION 738. Arkansas Code § 12-27-105(b)(17)(E), concerning the  
32 powers and duties of the Board of Corrections, is amended to read as follows:

33 (E) Economic sanction officers are to be authorized by the  
34 ~~Department~~ Division of Community Correction to perform these duties pursuant  
35 to policies and procedures adopted by the Board of Corrections and in accord  
36 with any state statutory accounting requirements; and

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SECTION 739. Arkansas Code § 12-27-107 is amended to read as follows:

12-27-107. Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of Correction.

(a) The Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of Correction, who shall be the executive, administrative, budgetary, and fiscal officer of the ~~Department~~ Division of Correction, shall be appointed by the Board of Corrections at a salary fixed by the Board of Corrections which shall not exceed the maximum salary for the position established by law.

(b) The director shall be qualified for the position by character, ability, education, training, and successful administrative experience in correctional or related fields.

(c) The director shall serve at the pleasure of the Board of Corrections.

(d) Subject to the rules, regulations, policies, and procedures prescribed by the Board of Corrections, the director shall:

(1) Administer the ~~Department~~ Division of Correction and supervise the administration of all institutions, facilities, and services under the jurisdiction of the ~~Department~~ Division of Correction;

(2) Employ such personnel as are required in the administration of the provisions of this act, provided that the employment of personnel shall be in accordance with the applicable laws and personnel regulations of the state;

(3) Institute programs for the training and development of personnel within the ~~Department~~ Division of Correction and have authority to suspend, discharge, or otherwise discipline personnel in accordance with policies prescribed by the Board of Corrections;

(4) Make an annual report to the Board of Corrections, which will be forwarded to the Governor and the General Assembly, on the work of the ~~Department~~ Division of Correction, including statistics and other data, income derived by the ~~Department~~ Division of Correction from agriculture, livestock, and other farming activities and from prison inmates' activities, a summary of expenditures of the ~~Department~~ Division of Correction, and progress reports regarding internal issues such as inmate discipline, utilization of programming, facilities and bed space utilization, upkeep issues, and construction needs;

(5) Cooperate with the ~~Department~~ Division of Community

1 Correction, the Parole Board, the Arkansas Sentencing Commission, judicial  
2 districts, counties, and municipalities to provide the guidance and services  
3 required to ensure a full range of correctional options for the state as a  
4 whole; and

5 (6)(A) Designate those employees of the ~~Department~~ Division of  
6 Correction who shall have the powers of peace officers in the enforcement of  
7 criminal laws to the extent they apply to employees, inmates, and persons on  
8 ~~Department~~ Division of Correction property, while participating in the search  
9 and capture of an inmate who has escaped custody, or while assisting law  
10 enforcement officers in the search and capture of any fugitive or escapee  
11 from another jurisdiction.

12 (B) The employees so designated have the authority to use  
13 blue rotating or flashing emergency lights on ~~Department~~ Division of  
14 Correction vehicles and exercise other law enforcement powers exercised by  
15 police and other law enforcement personnel.

16

17 SECTION 740. Arkansas Code § 12-27-108 is amended to read as follows:  
18 12-27-108. Authentication of records.

19 (a) For authentication of the records, process, and proceedings of the  
20 ~~Department~~ Division of Correction, the Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of  
21 Correction may adopt and keep an official seal for the use of his or her  
22 office, and the seal shall receive judicial notice in all of the courts of  
23 the state.

24 (b) All acts, orders, regulations, reports, and other records of the  
25 ~~department~~ division or copies thereof which are entitled to judicial notice  
26 shall be certified to by the director with the seal affixed thereto.

27

28 SECTION 741. Arkansas Code § 12-27-109 is amended to read as follows:  
29 12-27-109. Oaths of director and superintendents.

30 The Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of Correction and each of the  
31 superintendents of the institutions within the ~~Department~~ Division of  
32 Correction shall, before entering upon their respective duties, take and  
33 subscribe to and file in the office of the Secretary of State, an oath that  
34 he or she will support the United States Constitution and the Arkansas  
35 Constitution and faithfully perform the duties upon which he or she is about  
36 to enter.

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SECTION 742. Arkansas Code § 12-27-124 is amended to read as follows:

12-27-124. Purposes and construction of the ~~Department~~ Division of Community Correction.

(a)(1) The purpose of this act is to establish a ~~Department~~ Division of Community Correction that shall assume the management of all community correction facilities and services, execute the orders of the criminal courts of the State of Arkansas, and provide for the supervision, treatment, rehabilitation, and restoration of adult offenders as useful law-abiding citizens within the community.

(2) The ~~department~~ division shall be under the supervision and control of the Board of Corrections.

(3) To accomplish the objectives and purposes of this act in an effective, coordinated, and uniform manner, the ~~department~~ division shall be responsible for the administration of all community correction facilities, services, and means of supervision, including probation and parole or any type of post prison release or transfer.

(4) Facilities and services shall be diversified in program, construction, and staff to provide effectually and efficiently for the maximum care, supervision, and treatment of those persons accessing the ~~department~~ division.

(b) This act shall be liberally construed so as to effectuate its purposes.

SECTION 743. Arkansas Code § 12-27-125 is amended to read as follows:

12-27-125. ~~Department~~ Division of Community Correction – Creation – Powers and duties.

(a) There is established, under the supervision, control, and direction of the Board of Corrections, a ~~Department~~ Division of Community Correction.

(b) The ~~Department~~ Division of Community Correction shall have the following functions, powers, and duties, administered in accordance with the policies, rules, and regulations promulgated by the Board of Corrections:

(1) It shall assume management and control over all properties, both real and personal, facilities, books, records, equipment, supplies, materials, contracts, funds, moneys, equities, and all other properties

1 belonging to the Arkansas Adult Probation Commission [abolished], and all  
2 such properties ~~deemed appropriate for transfer~~ transferred from the  
3 Department of Correction, as the Division of Correction was known as prior to  
4 July 1, 2019, by the Board of Corrections;

5 (2)(A) It shall have management and control over all community  
6 correction services.

7 (B) It shall have management and control over all  
8 community correction facilities within the purview of the Board of  
9 Corrections existing on or created after July 1, 1993;

10 (3) It shall employ such officers, employees, and agents and  
11 shall secure such offices and quarters as deemed necessary to discharge the  
12 functions of the ~~Department~~ Division of Community Correction, and which are  
13 appropriately funded;

14 (4) It may establish and operate regional community correction  
15 facilities if funds for the regional community correction facilities have  
16 been authorized and appropriated by the General Assembly;

17 (5)(A) It may exercise all legally sanctioned supervision and  
18 appropriate care over all offenders referred with proper documentation from  
19 the circuit courts and all offenders transferred with proper documentation  
20 from the ~~Department~~ Division of Correction pursuant to policies established  
21 by the Board of Corrections and conditions set by the Parole Board.

22 (B) Legal custody remains with the referring court or the  
23 ~~Department~~ Division of Correction;

24 (6) It shall administer the provision of probation services for  
25 offenders processed through circuit courts;

26 (7) It shall administer the provision of parole services in  
27 coordination with the Parole Board and in cooperation with the ~~Department~~  
28 Division of Correction;

29 (8) It shall provide support services to the Parole Board or its  
30 designated representatives as determined by the Parole Board;

31 (9) It shall assist the Board of Corrections in the furtherance  
32 of its goals by staffing the specific charges articulated for it through  
33 legislation and by the Board of Corrections;

34 (10) It shall conduct statewide public education and training to  
35 foster the provision of correctional supervision and service in community  
36 settings;

1 (11) It shall provide technical assistance when necessary to any  
2 entity, program, division, or agency receiving assistance or clients through  
3 the ~~Department~~ Division of Community Correction;

4 (12) It shall facilitate the development of a comprehensive  
5 community correction plan through the provision of funding, criteria review,  
6 and ongoing evaluation to ensure the maintenance of quality in supervision  
7 and programming;

8 (13) It may accept gifts, grants, and funds from both public and  
9 private sources with prior approval of the Board of Corrections;

10 (14) It shall establish minimum standards for case loads,  
11 programs, facilities, and equipment and other aspects of the operation of  
12 community correction programs and facilities necessary for the provision of  
13 adequate and effective supervision and service;

14 (15) It shall establish minimum standards for the employment of  
15 community correction employees;

16 (16) It shall establish programs of research, evaluation,  
17 statistics, audit, and planning, including studies and evaluation of the  
18 performance of various functions and activities of the ~~Department of~~  
19 ~~Community Correction~~ Department of Corrections and studies affecting the  
20 treatment of offenders and information about other programs;

21 (17)(A) It may receive and disburse moneys ordered to be paid by  
22 offenders pursuant to statutory economic sanctions.

23 (B) It may receive fees to be levied by the courts or  
24 authorized by the Board of Corrections for participation in specified  
25 programs and to be paid by offenders on community correction.

26 (C) The payment of such sanctions and fees may be a  
27 condition of probation, parole, or post prison transfer or attached to  
28 admission and participation in a community correction program.

29 (D) The moneys collected shall be deposited into an  
30 earmarked account at the state level to be used solely for the continuation  
31 and expansion of community correction in this state.

32 (E) Economic sanction officers are to be authorized by the  
33 ~~Department~~ Division of Community Correction to perform these duties pursuant  
34 to policies and procedures adopted by the Board of Corrections and in accord  
35 with any state statutory accounting requirements;

36 (18) It may cooperate and contract with the federal government,

1 with governmental agencies of Arkansas and other states, with political  
2 subdivisions of Arkansas, and with private contractors to provide and improve  
3 community correction options;

4 (19) It may inspect and evaluate any community correction site  
5 and conduct audits of financial and service records at any reasonable time to  
6 determine compliance with the Board of Corrections' rules, regulations, and  
7 standards;

8 (20)(A) It shall maintain a full and complete record of each  
9 offender under its supervision.

10 (B)(i) To protect the integrity of a record described in  
11 subdivision (b)(20)(A) of this section and to ensure its proper use, it is  
12 unlawful to permit inspection of or disclose information contained in a  
13 record described in subdivision (b)(20)(A) of this section or to copy or  
14 issue a copy of any part of the record except:

15 (a) As authorized by administrative rule;

16 (b) By order of a court of competent  
17 jurisdiction; or

18 (c) Records posted on the ~~Department~~ Division  
19 of Community Correction's website as required by § 12-27-145.

20 (ii) The rules under subdivision (b)(20)(B)(i)(a)  
21 shall provide for adequate standards of security and confidentiality of a  
22 record described in subdivision (b)(20)(A) of this section;

23 (21) Subject to availability of funds, it shall employ officers,  
24 employees, and agents and secure sufficient offices for monitoring each sex  
25 offender on parole or probation who is required to register under the Sex  
26 Offender Registration Act of 1997, § 12-12-901 et seq., and who has been  
27 assessed as a risk Level 3 or Level 4 offender; and

28 (22)(A) It may issue an arrest warrant for the arrest of any  
29 person who, while in its custody, unlawfully escapes from the ~~Department~~  
30 Division of Community Correction.

31 (B) The arrest warrant shall authorize:

32 (i) All law enforcement officers of this state to  
33 take into custody and return the person named in the arrest warrant to the  
34 custody of the ~~Department~~ Division of Community Correction or the ~~Department~~  
35 Division of Correction; and

36 (ii) All law enforcement officers of this state, any

1 other state, or the federal government to take into custody and detain the  
2 person in a suitable detention facility while awaiting further transfer to  
3 the ~~Department~~ Division of Community Correction or the ~~Department~~ Division of  
4 Correction.

5  
6 SECTION 744. Arkansas Code § 12-27-126(a), concerning the Director of  
7 the Department of Community Correction, is amended to read as follows:

8 (a) The Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of Community Correction  
9 shall be appointed by the Board of Corrections at a salary fixed by the Board  
10 of Corrections, which shall not exceed the maximum salary for the position  
11 established by law.

12  
13 SECTION 745. Arkansas Code § 12-27-126(d)(1), concerning the Director  
14 of the Department of Community Correction, is amended to read as follows:

15 (1) Administer the ~~Department~~ Division of Community Correction  
16 and supervise the administration of all facilities, programs, and services  
17 under the ~~Department~~ Division of Community Correction's jurisdiction;

18  
19 SECTION 746. Arkansas Code § 12-27-126(d)(3)-(5), concerning the  
20 Director of the Department of Community Correction, are amended to read as  
21 follows:

22 (3) Institute programs for the training and development of  
23 personnel within the ~~Department~~ Division of Community Correction and have  
24 authority to suspend, discharge, or otherwise discipline personnel in  
25 accordance with policies prescribed by the Board of Corrections;

26 (4) Make an annual report to the Board of Corrections, which  
27 will be forwarded to the Governor and the General Assembly, on the work of  
28 the ~~Department~~ Division of Community Correction, including statistics and  
29 other data, income derived from fee collection, a summary of expenditures of  
30 the ~~Department~~ Division of Community Correction, and progress reports  
31 regarding internal issues such as offender success, programming development,  
32 bed space utilization, and future needs; and

33 (5) Cooperate with the ~~Department~~ Division of Correction, the  
34 Parole Board, the Arkansas Sentencing Commission, judicial districts,  
35 counties, and municipalities to provide the guidance and services required to  
36 ensure a full range of correctional and community correction options for the

1 state as a whole.

2

3 SECTION 747. Arkansas Code § 12-27-127(a) and (b), concerning  
4 transfers to the Department of Community Correction, are amended to read as  
5 follows:

6 (a) A commitment shall be treated as a commitment to the ~~Department~~  
7 Division of Correction and subject to regular transfer eligibility unless:

8 (1) The commitment specifies that the inmate is to be judicially  
9 transferred to the ~~Department~~ Division of Community Correction; or

10 (2) If the court indicates on the commitment that the ~~Department~~  
11 Division of Correction shall administratively determine the transfer of an  
12 inmate, the ~~Department~~ Division of Correction may administratively transfer a  
13 statutorily eligible inmate to the ~~Department~~ Division of Community  
14 Correction in accordance with rules promulgated by the Board of Corrections.

15 (b)(1) In accordance with rules and procedures promulgated by the  
16 Board of Corrections and the orders of the committing court, the Director of  
17 the ~~Department~~ Division of Community Correction shall assign a newly  
18 transferred inmate to an appropriate facility, placement, program, or status  
19 within the ~~Department~~ Division of Community Correction.

20 (2) The director may transfer an inmate from one facility,  
21 placement, program, or status to another facility, placement, program, or  
22 status consistent with the commitment, applicable law, and in accordance with  
23 treatment, training, and security needs.

24 (3)(A) An inmate may be administratively transferred back to the  
25 ~~Department~~ Division of Correction from the ~~Department~~ Division of Community  
26 Correction by the Parole Board following a hearing in which the inmate is  
27 found ineligible for placement in a ~~Department~~ Division of Community  
28 Correction facility as he or she fails to meet the criteria or standards  
29 established by law or policy adopted by the Board of Corrections or has been  
30 found guilty of a violation of the rules of the facility.

31 (B) Time served in a community correction facility or  
32 under supervision by the ~~Department~~ Division of Community Correction shall be  
33 credited against the sentence contained in the commitment to the ~~Department~~  
34 Division of Correction.

35

36 SECTION 748. Arkansas Code § 12-27-127(c)(1)(C), concerning transfers

1 to the Department of Community Correction, is amended to read as follows:

2 (C) Determined by the ~~Department~~ Division of Community  
3 Correction to have successfully completed its therapeutic program.

4  
5 SECTION 749. Arkansas Code § 12-27-127(c)(2)(A)(i), concerning  
6 transfers to the Department of Community Correction, is amended to read as  
7 follows:

8 (i) Aid the therapeutic rehabilitation of the  
9 inmates judicially or administratively transferred to the ~~Department~~ Division  
10 of Community Correction; and

11  
12 SECTION 750. Arkansas Code § 12-27-127(c)(3) and (4), concerning  
13 transfers to the Department of Community Correction, are amended to read as  
14 follows:

15 (3) This subsection does not grant the Parole Board or the  
16 ~~Department~~ Division of Community Correction the authority either to detain an  
17 inmate beyond the sentence imposed upon him or her by a transferring court or  
18 to shorten that sentence.

19 (4) An inmate may not be released from confinement under this  
20 section if the inmate was sentenced and judicially or administratively  
21 transferred to the ~~Department~~ Division of Community Correction at a time  
22 earlier than that which would otherwise be possible if the inmate was  
23 sentenced to the ~~Department~~ Division of Correction, regardless of any program  
24 completed by the inmate.

25  
26 SECTION 751. Arkansas Code § 12-27-127(d), concerning transfers to the  
27 Department of Community Correction, is amended to read as follows:

28 (d)(1) An inmate of the ~~Department~~ Division of Correction who is to be  
29 released on parole may be administratively transferred to the ~~Department~~  
30 Division of Community Correction when the inmate is within eighteen (18)  
31 months of his or her projected release date for the purpose of participating  
32 in a reentry program of at least six (6) months in length.

33 (2) Each inmate administratively transferred under this  
34 subsection shall be thoroughly screened and approved for participation by the  
35 director or his or her designee.

36 (3) In accordance with rules promulgated by the Board of

1 Corrections, upon receipt of a referral from the director or his or her  
2 designee, the Parole Board may release from incarceration an inmate who has  
3 been:

4 (A) Administratively transferred to the ~~Department~~  
5 Division of Community Correction; and

6 (B) Determined by the ~~Department~~ Division of Community  
7 Correction to have successfully completed its reentry program.

8 (4) An inmate who has been administratively transferred under  
9 this subsection shall be administratively transferred back to the ~~Department~~  
10 Division of Correction if he or she:

11 (A) Is denied parole; or

12 (B) Fails to complete or is removed from the reentry  
13 program.

14  
15 SECTION 752. Arkansas Code § 12-27-128 is amended to read as follows:

16 12-27-128. ~~Department~~ Division of Correction Nontax Revenue Receipts  
17 Fund.

18 (a) There is created in accordance with §§ 19-4-801 – 19-4-803, 19-4-  
19 804 [repealed], 19-4-805, 19-4-806, and the Revenue Classification Law, § 19-  
20 6-101 et seq. a cash fund entitled the ~~Department~~ Division of Correction  
21 Nontax Revenue Receipts Fund to consist of receipts for telephone calls from  
22 coinless telephones located on ~~Department~~ Division of Correction grounds, and  
23 from other nontax receipts not previously identified to a fund of deposit.

24 (b) Funds held in the ~~Department~~ Division of Correction Nontax Revenue  
25 Receipts Fund are to be administered and expended by the Director of the  
26 ~~Department~~ Division of Correction within guidelines established by the Board  
27 of Corrections for periodic transfers to other ~~department~~ division funds or  
28 for disbursements in support of ~~department~~ division operations or debt  
29 service.

30 (c) The ~~department~~ division will request cash fund appropriations in  
31 accordance with established law and procedures after a determination by the  
32 board of the usage of the ~~Department~~ Division of Correction Nontax Revenue  
33 Receipts Fund.

34  
35 SECTION 753. Arkansas Code § 12-27-129 is amended to read as follows:

36 12-27-129. Report on rehabilitation.

1 (a) The ~~Department~~ Division of Correction may report to the House  
2 Committee on State Agencies and Governmental Affairs and the Senate Committee  
3 on State Agencies and Governmental Affairs no later than December 1 of each  
4 year regarding its efforts in rehabilitating the inmate population.

5 (b)(1) The report may include the ~~department's~~ division's  
6 rehabilitative efforts regarding inmate education, specific job training,  
7 behavior modification, psychological treatment and assistance, and substance  
8 abuse programs.

9 (2) Further, the report is to include the amount of meritorious  
10 good time awarded inmates by the ~~department~~ division for the successful  
11 completion of the various rehabilitative programs.

12  
13 SECTION 754. Arkansas Code § 12-27-130 is amended to read as follows:  
14 12-27-130. Reimbursement of county.

15 Notwithstanding any other provision of law or ~~Department~~ Division of  
16 Correction's commitment which may exist to the contrary, the Board of  
17 Corrections shall not increase any reimbursement rate for payments made to  
18 any county for the purpose of reimbursing the expenses of the care and  
19 custody of state inmates without first seeking and receiving the approval of  
20 the Governor and the Chief Fiscal Officer of the State.

21  
22 SECTION 755. Arkansas Code § 12-27-131(a), concerning receipts for  
23 reimbursement for daily care of city or county prisoners, is amended to read  
24 as follows:

25 (a) Receipts from cities or counties reimbursed to the ~~Department~~  
26 Division of Correction for daily care of city or county prisoners shall be  
27 accounted for separately.

28  
29 SECTION 756. Arkansas Code § 12-27-131(c), concerning the receipts for  
30 reimbursement to counties and cities from the Department of Correction, is  
31 amended to read as follows:

32 (c) The operational portion of such receipts shall also be used for  
33 debt service unless approval is received from the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the  
34 Department of Finance and Administration for other usages.

35  
36 SECTION 757. Arkansas Code § 12-27-132 is amended to read as follows:

1 12-27-132. Award of pistol upon retirement or death.

2 When a ~~Department~~ Division of Community Correction parole or probation  
3 officer retires from service or dies while still employed with the ~~department~~  
4 division, in recognition of and appreciation for the service of the retiring  
5 or deceased parole or probation officer, the ~~department~~ division may award  
6 the pistol carried by the officer at the time of his or her death or  
7 retirement from service to:

8 (1) The parole or probation officer; or

9 (2) The parole or probation officer's spouse if the spouse is  
10 eligible under applicable state and federal laws to possess a firearm.

11  
12 SECTION 758. Arkansas Code § 12-27-134 is amended to read as follows:

13 12-27-134. Probation services.

14 (a) The ~~Department~~ Division of Community Correction shall administer,  
15 in cooperation with the circuit courts, the provision of probation services  
16 as prescribed by the circuit courts.

17 (b) The ~~department~~ division shall establish an acceptable procedure  
18 that ensures the selection of qualified applicants to meet the needs of the  
19 circuit courts and includes subject matter experts from the circuit courts.

20  
21 SECTION 759. Arkansas Code § 12-27-136 is amended to read as follows:

22 12-27-136. Services and equipment.

23 The ~~Department~~ Division of Correction and the ~~Department~~ Division of  
24 Community Correction may provide services, furnishings, equipment, and office  
25 space to assist the Parole Board in fulfilling the purposes for which the  
26 board was created by law.

27  
28 SECTION 760. Arkansas Code § 12-27-137 is amended to read as follows:

29 12-27-137. Confidentiality of emergency preparedness documents.

30 (a) The following sections of the ~~Department~~ Division of Correction's  
31 official Emergency Preparedness Manual are confidential and shall not be  
32 subject to disclosure under the Freedom of Information Act of 1967, § 25-19-  
33 101 et seq.:

34 (1) Command Post Checklist;

35 (2) Command Notifications;

36 (3) Internal Notifications;

- 1 (4) External Notifications;
- 2 (5) Recall Notifications;
- 3 (6) Family Notifications;
- 4 (7) Tactical Systems;
- 5 (8) Command Structure;
- 6 (9) Emergency Locations;
- 7 (10) Emergency Equipment;
- 8 (11) Emergency Deactivation;
- 9 (12) Emergency Plans;
- 10 (13) Work Stoppage Directive;
- 11 (14) Evacuation Diagrams; and
- 12 (15) Facility Maps, Utility Locations.

13 (b) Any document described in subsection (a) of this section shall  
14 become available for public viewing if it becomes part of a criminal  
15 investigation, at the time that investigation is concluded and it is not  
16 otherwise exempt by law.

17 (c) Any amendments or additions to the sections of the manual  
18 described in subsection (a) of this section shall be reviewed annually by the  
19 Charitable, Penal and Correctional Institutions Subcommittee of the  
20 Legislative Council.

21

22 SECTION 761. Arkansas Code § 12-27-140(a)(1), concerning the  
23 Department of Community Correction Annual Report, is amended to read as  
24 follows:

25 (a)(1) On July 31 of each year, the ~~Department~~ Division of Community  
26 Correction shall submit an annual report to the Legislative Council showing  
27 the number of persons sentenced or transferred to the ~~department~~ division  
28 during the fiscal year for each criminal offense classification.

29

30 SECTION 762. Arkansas Code § 12-27-140(c), concerning the Department  
31 of Community Correction Annual Report, is amended to read as follows:

32 (c) The ~~department~~ division shall cooperate with and upon request make  
33 presentations and provide various reports, to the extent the ~~department~~  
34 division's budget will allow, to the Legislative Council concerning  
35 ~~department~~ division policy and criteria on discretionary offender programs  
36 and services.

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SECTION 763. Arkansas Code § 12-27-142(a), concerning the Department of Correction and the Department of Community Correction medical services contract, is amended to read as follows:

(a) The ~~Department~~ Division of Correction and the ~~Department~~ Division of Community Correction may enter into professional services contracts for medical services for a contract period not to exceed ten (10) years.

SECTION 764. Arkansas Code § 12-27-143 is amended to read as follows:  
12-27-143. Award of service weapon upon retirement or death.

When a ~~Department~~ Division of Correction employee retires from service with at least twenty (20) years of service or dies while still employed with the ~~department~~ division, in recognition of and appreciation for the service of the retiring or deceased employee, the ~~department~~ division may award the service weapon carried by the employee at the time of his or her retirement from service or death to:

- (1) The employee; or
- (2) The employee's spouse if the spouse is eligible under applicable state and federal laws to possess a firearm.

SECTION 765. Arkansas Code § 12-27-144 is amended to read as follows:  
12-27-144. ~~Department~~ Division of Community Correction – Receipt of grant money for certain purposes.

(a) The ~~Department~~ Division of Community Correction may receive money from any source to be deposited into the Accountability Court Fund to be used for adult and juvenile specialty court programs as defined under § 16-10-139, based upon a formula to be developed by the Arkansas Judicial Council, reviewed by the Specialty Court Program Advisory Committee, and approved by the Legislative Council.

(b) The ~~department~~ division may promulgate rules to implement this section.

SECTION 766. Arkansas Code § 12-27-145 is amended to read as follows:  
12-27-145. Records to be posted on a public website – Definition.

(a) To the extent permitted by federal law, the ~~Department~~ Division of Correction shall post on the ~~Department~~ Division of Correction's website the

1 following information concerning an inmate:

2 (1) The offense and sentence for any conviction for which the  
3 inmate is incarcerated, including:

4 (A) Whether the inmate is subject to a suspended sentence,  
5 if known; and

6 (B) The terms of the suspended sentence, if applicable;

7 (2)(A)(i) Beginning July 1, 2015, the disciplinary record for  
8 each inmate.

9 (ii) As used in this subsection, "disciplinary  
10 record" means a list of each major disciplinary violation after July 1, 2015,  
11 for which the inmate has been found guilty.

12 (B) Additionally, the list and the date of major  
13 disciplinary violations for which the inmate was found guilty shall be  
14 displayed during the period the inmate is being considered for transfer to  
15 parole;

16 (3)(A) Risk assessment scores completed after April 1, 2015.

17 (B) Risk assessment scores under this subdivision (a)(3)  
18 shall include the name of the state agency that completed the risk  
19 assessment, the date the risk assessment was conducted, and the level of  
20 assessment.

21 (C) Information by the ~~Department~~ Division of Correction  
22 regarding how risk assessments are scored shall also be posted;

23 (4) Custody status and level;

24 (5) Any known aliases;

25 (6) A current photograph of the inmate;

26 (7) A complete felony conviction summary to the extent that  
27 information is available to the ~~Department~~ Division of Correction;

28 (8) To the extent the information is available to the ~~Department~~  
29 Division of Correction, if an order of protection, no contact order, or other  
30 order from an in-state or out-of-state court that prohibits contact or  
31 communication with another person is in place;

32 (9) Any programs completed by the inmate while in custody; and

33 (10) An inmate's parole eligibility date or date he or she is to  
34 be released from incarceration as well as a general explanation of how an  
35 inmate's parole eligibility date is calculated, including good time credits.

36 (b)(1) To the extent permitted by federal law, the ~~Department~~ Division

1 of Community Correction shall post on the ~~Department~~ Division of Community  
2 Correction's website the following information concerning a probationer,  
3 parolee, or other person under the supervision of the ~~Department~~ Division of  
4 Community Correction who has absconded or has had a warrant issued for his or  
5 her arrest for evading supervision:

6 (A) Any offense and sentence for which the probationer,  
7 parolee, or other person under the supervision of the ~~Department~~ Division of  
8 Community Correction is being supervised, including:

9 (i) Whether the probationer, parolee, or other  
10 person under the supervision of the ~~Department~~ Division of Community  
11 Correction is subject to a suspended sentence, if known; and

12 (ii) The terms of the suspended sentence, if  
13 applicable;

14 (B) A complete felony conviction summary to the extent  
15 that information is available to the ~~Department~~ Division of Community  
16 Correction;

17 (C)(i) Risk assessment scores completed after April 1,  
18 2015.

19 (ii) Risk assessment scores under this subdivision  
20 (b)(1)(C) shall include the name of the state agency that completed the risk  
21 assessment, the date the risk assessment was conducted, and the level of  
22 assessment.

23 (iii) Information by the ~~Department~~ Division of  
24 Community Correction regarding how risk assessments are scored shall also be  
25 posted;

26 (D) Any known aliases;

27 (E) A most recent photograph of the probationer, parolee,  
28 or other person under the supervision of the ~~Department~~ Division of Community  
29 Correction;

30 (F) To the extent the information is available to the  
31 ~~Department~~ Division of Community Correction, if an order of protection, no-  
32 contact order, or other order from an in-state or out-of-state court that  
33 prohibits contact or communication with another person is in place;

34 (G) All major disciplinary violations while the  
35 probationer, parolee, or other person under the supervision of the ~~Department~~  
36 Division of Community Correction was incarcerated and the date of the major

1 disciplinary violation disposition;

2 (H) Any programs completed by the probationer, parolee, or  
3 other person under the supervision of the ~~Department~~ Division of Community  
4 Correction while on supervision and the date of completion; and

5 (I) A list of previous revocation offenses while on  
6 probation or parole and date of revocation.

7 (2) The ~~Department~~ Division of Community Correction shall  
8 develop a plan to establish a method for a victim of a crime committed by a  
9 probationer, parolee, or other person under the supervision of the ~~Department~~  
10 Division of Community Correction to directly and easily access the  
11 information listed under this subsection.

12 (c)(1) When possible, court-generated records listed under this  
13 section shall be electronic copies of the actual court documents.

14 (2) All victim information included in the court-generated  
15 records under this subsection shall be redacted.

16

17 SECTION 767. Arkansas Code § 12-27-146 is amended to read as follows:

18 12-27-146. Tracking an inmate or person being supervised who is  
19 serving a suspended sentence.

20 (a) The ~~Department~~ Division of Community Correction shall track a  
21 person under its supervision who is serving a suspended sentence and notify  
22 the prosecuting attorney with jurisdiction over the person's suspended  
23 sentence if the ~~department~~ division knows that the person has not complied  
24 with the terms and conditions of the suspended sentence.

25 (b) A circuit court shall notify the ~~department~~ division of all  
26 suspended sentences to which the circuit court sentences a defendant,  
27 including the defendant's name, the terms and conditions of the suspended  
28 sentence, and the length of the suspended sentence.

29

30 SECTION 768. Arkansas Code § 12-27-147 is amended to read as follows:

31 12-27-147. Rulemaking and administrative directive reporting  
32 requirement.

33 (a) A rule implemented by the Board of Corrections, ~~Department~~  
34 Division of Correction, ~~Department~~ Division of Community Correction, or the  
35 Parole Board pertaining to this act shall be approved by the appropriate  
36 legislative committee before becoming effective.

1 (b) Any administrative directive or board policy pertaining to this  
2 act implemented by the Board of Corrections, ~~Department~~ Division of  
3 Correction, ~~Department~~ Division of Community Correction, or the Parole Board  
4 shall be reported to the Legislative Council.

5  
6 SECTION 769. Arkansas Code § 12-27-148(a), concerning the  
7 confidentiality of Department of Community Correction's emergency  
8 preparedness document, is amended to read as follows:

9 (a) The following sections of the ~~Department~~ Division of Community  
10 Correction's official Emergency Preparedness Manual are confidential and  
11 shall not be subject to disclosure under the Freedom of Information Act of  
12 1967, § 25-19-101 et seq.:

- 13 (1) Command Post Checklist;
- 14 (2) Command Notifications;
- 15 (3) Internal Notifications;
- 16 (4) External Notifications;
- 17 (5) Recall Notifications;
- 18 (6) Family Notifications;
- 19 (7) Tactical Systems;
- 20 (8) Command Structure;
- 21 (9) Emergency Locations;
- 22 (10) Emergency Equipment;
- 23 (11) Emergency Deactivation;
- 24 (12) Emergency Plans;
- 25 (13) Work Stoppage Directive;
- 26 (14) Evacuation Diagrams; and
- 27 (15) Facility Maps, Utility Locations.

28  
29 SECTION 770. Arkansas Code § 12-27-149 is amended to read as follows:  
30 12-27-149. ~~Department~~ Division of Community Correction – Sufficient  
31 staffing guidelines.

32 For the purposes of maintaining a sufficiently trained and specialized  
33 staff of probation and parole officers, the ~~Department~~ Division of Community  
34 Correction shall establish staffing guidelines using evidence-based practices  
35 to develop ratios between the number of high-risk, medium-risk, and low-risk  
36 probationers and parolees and the probation officers and parole officers

1 assigned to the high-risk, medium-risk, and low-risk probationers and  
2 parolees in order to maximize the effectiveness of the monitoring ability of  
3 the probation officers and parole officers.  
4

5 SECTION 771. Arkansas Code § 12-27-202(a)(4), concerning the  
6 legislative findings and intent under the Pay-for-Success Act, is amended to  
7 read as follows:

8 (4) It is in the best interests of Arkansas residents to  
9 encourage and enable the ~~Department~~ Division of Community Correction to  
10 obtain financing for certain intervention services to reduce the recidivism  
11 rate in Arkansas correctional facilities.  
12

13 SECTION 772. Arkansas Code § 12-27-202(b), concerning the legislative  
14 findings and intent under the Pay-for-Success Act, is amended to read as  
15 follows:

16 (b) The General Assembly intends for this subchapter to enable the  
17 ~~department~~ division to obtain private financing for intervention services on  
18 a pay-for-success basis to reduce the reincarceration rate in Arkansas  
19 correctional facilities.  
20

21 SECTION 773. Arkansas Code § 12-27-203(2), concerning the definition  
22 of "pay-for-success program" under the Pay-for-Success Act, is amended to  
23 read as follows:

24 (2) "Pay-for-success program" means a program in which the  
25 ~~Department~~ Division of Community Correction pays for intervention services  
26 only if certain performance targets are met, including without limitation a  
27 reduction in the reincarceration rate in Arkansas correctional facilities  
28 through intervention measures that focus on improving personal responsibility  
29 and decision making.  
30

31 SECTION 774. Arkansas Code § 12-27-204(a) and (b), concerning the  
32 Department of Community Correction pay-for-success programs, are amended to  
33 read as follows:

34 (a) The ~~Department~~ Division of Community Correction may enter into an  
35 agreement with entities, including without limitation licensed or accredited,  
36 as applicable, community-based providers specializing in behavioral health,

1 case management, and job placement services, and two-year or four-year public  
2 universities to create a pay-for-success program for incarcerated individuals  
3 or individuals on parole or probation that requires the ~~department~~ division  
4 to pay for the intervention services only if the performance targets stated  
5 in the agreement are achieved.

6 (b) Before entering into an agreement under subsection (a) of this  
7 section, the ~~department~~ division shall:

8 (1) Calculate the amount and timing of the payments that would  
9 be earned by the entity providing the intervention services during each year  
10 of the agreement if the performance targets are achieved; and

11 (2) Make a written determination that the agreement will result  
12 in specific performance improvements and budgetary savings if the performance  
13 targets are achieved.

14  
15 SECTION 775. Arkansas Code § 12-28-101 is amended to read as follows:  
16 12-28-101. Facilities.

17 (a)(1) The ~~Department~~ Division of Correction, with the approval of the  
18 Board of Corrections, shall provide appropriate incarceration facilities for  
19 women, youthful offenders, and other adult offenders committed to the  
20 ~~department~~ division by the courts of this state.

21 (2) The ~~department~~ division shall also provide education and  
22 other rehabilitation and treatment programs designed to prepare inmates  
23 committed to the ~~department~~ division for productive and law-abiding lives  
24 upon release from the ~~department~~ division.

25 (3) The ~~department~~ division may contract with state or private  
26 entities such as accredited colleges or universities to provide additional  
27 educational opportunities for inmates under the direction and authority of  
28 the board and the Corrections School System.

29 (b) Any facility built or occupied by the ~~department~~ division for use  
30 as a correctional facility shall be given a designated name of "unit" or  
31 "center" depending on its size, location, and purpose of usage.

32  
33 SECTION 776. Arkansas Code § 12-28-104 is amended to read as follows:  
34 12-28-104. Paroling authority.

35 (a) The Parole Board shall be the paroling authority for the units of  
36 the Department of ~~Correction~~ Corrections and shall make recommendations to

1 the Governor in cases from the criminal courts that, in the board's opinion,  
2 the defendant in the case should be pardoned.

3 (b) The board shall consider the work skills, education,  
4 rehabilitation, and treatment programs recommended to the inmate upon intake  
5 and determine whether the inmate took advantage of those opportunities while  
6 incarcerated in the department in making decisions regarding parole.

7

8 SECTION 777. Arkansas Code § 12-28-105 is amended to read as follows:  
9 12-28-105. Continuity of care for persons released.

10 (a)(1) Any person incarcerated by the ~~Department~~ Division of  
11 Correction may be permitted to remain within a treatment facility operated by  
12 the ~~department~~ division, if serious physical or mental disorders or  
13 disabilities exist, until release to a similar treatment setting outside of  
14 the ~~department~~ division can be accomplished.

15 (2) In no case should the continuation of housing extend beyond  
16 a seventy-two-hour period.

17 (b) The ~~department~~ division will adopt rules to govern the housing  
18 situations.

19

20 SECTION 778. Arkansas Code § 12-28-106 is amended to read as follows:  
21 12-28-106. Electric fencing.

22 (a)(1) The ~~Department~~ Division of Correction may design and install  
23 high-voltage electrified security fence systems at all existing and proposed  
24 medium and maximum security prisons.

25 (2) However, at the time of installation there shall be posted  
26 universal danger signs on all sides of the system clearly visible to inmates  
27 and the public displaying in English and Spanish the warning "deadly  
28 voltage".

29 (b) The installation of these fence systems shall be double, twelve-  
30 feet-high, security perimeter fences, with the exception of those locations  
31 where a building or wall constitutes a part of the security perimeter.

32 (c) At institutions where these fences have been installed, the  
33 ~~department~~ division shall provide perimeter patrol for the safety of the  
34 local community.

35

36 SECTION 779. Arkansas Code § 12-28-107(a), concerning training for

1 inmates, is amended to read as follows:

2 (a) As provided for in § 12-28-101, the ~~Department~~ Division of  
3 Correction shall provide education as well as training for inmates who want  
4 to acquire skills for employment upon release.

5

6 SECTION 780. Arkansas Code § 12-28-107(b)(1), concerning training for  
7 inmates, is amended to read as follows:

8 (b)(1) The ~~department~~ division shall identify high-demand vocations  
9 and careers and shall accordingly create training and skills programs to  
10 prepare inmates for gainful employment upon release.

11

12 SECTION 781. Arkansas Code § 12-28-602 is amended to read as follows:  
13 12-28-602. Definitions.

14 As used in this subchapter:

15 (1) "Board" means the Board of Corrections;

16 (2) "County backlog" means those inmates sentenced to the  
17 ~~Department~~ Division of Correction who are being housed in the county jails  
18 until space is available in a prison;

19 (3) "Prison" means a correctional facility operated by the  
20 ~~department~~ division under the supervision and direction of the board;

21 (4) "Prison system" means the prison facilities of the  
22 ~~department~~ division; and

23 (5) "Rated capacity" means the actual available bed space in the  
24 prison system as certified by the board, subject to applicable federal and  
25 state laws and the rules and regulations adopted pursuant to those laws.

26

27 SECTION 782. Arkansas Code § 12-28-604(a)(1), concerning the list of  
28 inmates eligible for early parole or discharge, is amended to read as  
29 follows:

30 (a)(1) When the Board of Corrections declares a prison overcrowding  
31 state of emergency due to exceeding ninety-eight percent (98%) of the rated  
32 capacity and notifies the Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of Correction  
33 of the emergency as authorized, the director shall certify to the board a  
34 list of those inmates who are Class I and Class II, and the director shall  
35 indicate which inmates he or she recommends for parole, transfer, or  
36 discharge.

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SECTION 783. Arkansas Code § 12-28-604(b)(1), concerning the list of inmates eligible for early parole or discharge, is amended to read as follows:

(b)(1) When the board declares a prison overcrowding state of emergency due to the county jail backlog exceeding five hundred (500) inmates and notifies the director of the emergency as authorized, the director shall certify to the board a list of those inmates who are in Class I or Class II status who have been incarcerated in a ~~department~~ division facility for a minimum of six (6) months and are serving a sentence for a nonviolent offense as established by the board, and the director shall indicate which inmates he or she recommends for parole, transfer, or discharge.

SECTION 784. Arkansas Code § 12-28-702(3), concerning legislative findings and determinations under the Arkansas Boot Camp Act, is amended to read as follows:

(3) The ~~Department~~ Division of Correction should be given the authority to establish boot camps which will provide a more affordable means of punishing certain inmates who are designated as eligible for this alternative punishment by the ~~department~~ division.

SECTION 785. Arkansas Code § 12-29-102 is amended to read as follows:

12-29-102. Inmates denied participation in furlough programs.

A person who is convicted of any of the following offenses shall be ineligible to participate in any meritorious furlough program conducted by or for the ~~Department~~ Division of Correction:

- (1) Capital murder, § 5-10-101;
- (2) Murder in the first degree, § 5-10-102;
- (3) Kidnapping, § 5-11-102;
- (4) Rape, § 5-14-103;
- (5) Any other offense concerning sexual offenses under § 5-14-101 et seq.;
- (6) An offense concerning sexual exploitation of children under the Arkansas Protection of Children Against Exploitation Act of 1979, § 5-27-301 et seq.;
- (7) An offense concerning use of children in sexual performances

1 under § 5-27-401 et seq.; or

2 (8) Stalking, § 5-71-229.

3

4 SECTION 786. Arkansas Code § 12-29-104 is amended to read as follows:

5 12-29-104. Contacts with persons outside the institution.

6 Under rules prescribed by the ~~Department~~ Division of Correction, heads  
7 of the institutions of the ~~department~~ division may authorize:

8 (1) Visits and correspondence, under reasonable conditions,  
9 between inmates and approved friends, relatives, and others;

10 (2) Temporary release of an inmate for such occasions as the  
11 serious illness or death of a member of the inmate's family; or

12 (3) An interview of the inmate by a prospective employer.

13

14 SECTION 787. Arkansas Code § 12-29-106(a)(1), concerning mail to and  
15 from inmates, is amended to read as follows:

16 (a)(1) A person without the consent of the Director of the ~~Department~~  
17 Division of Correction shall not bring into or carry out of a prison any  
18 letter or writing to or from any inmate.

19

20 SECTION 788. Arkansas Code § 12-29-110 is amended to read as follows:

21 12-29-110. Selling or trading position, working condition, or  
22 promotion – Penalty.

23 (a) It is unlawful for any inmate or employee of the ~~Department~~  
24 Division of Correction or any other person to sell, barter, or trade, or to  
25 promise or offer to sell, barter, or trade any favored job or position,  
26 working condition, or any promotion or demotion in any job or position at the  
27 ~~department~~ division and to:

28 (1) Accept or receive any money, consideration, or thing of  
29 value therefor;

30 (2) Make or accept any loan or money as inducement thereof; or

31 (3) Accept or receive any favored condition or job or position  
32 at the ~~department~~ division either directly or indirectly as a result thereof.

33 (b)(1) A violation of this section is an unclassified felony  
34 punishable by imprisonment for not less than one (1) year nor more than five  
35 (5) years.

36 (2) If the person convicted under this section is an inmate in

1 the ~~department~~ division, the sentence shall commence to run from the  
2 expiration of the sentence under which the person is serving at the time of  
3 the violation of this section.

4  
5 SECTION 789. Arkansas Code § 12-29-111 is amended to read as follows:

6 12-29-111. Transport of inmate required for legal proceeding.

7 (a) If an inmate in the care and custody of the ~~Department~~ Division of  
8 Correction or the ~~Department~~ Division of Community Correction is required to  
9 be present during a criminal proceeding or a civil proceeding that arises  
10 from a criminal charge or conviction of any court in this state, the county  
11 sheriff of the county in which the criminal proceeding or civil proceeding  
12 takes place shall take custody of the inmate at the institution where the  
13 inmate is confined, transport the inmate to the appropriate county, and make  
14 him or her available to the court.

15 (b) At the conclusion of the criminal proceeding or civil proceeding,  
16 the county sheriff shall transport the inmate back to the unit of the  
17 ~~Department~~ Division of Correction or ~~Department~~ Division of Community  
18 Correction from which the inmate was received and shall return custody of the  
19 inmate to the ~~Department~~ Division of Correction or ~~Department~~ Division of  
20 Community Correction officials.

21 (c)(1) The county sheriff's office is responsible for the custody,  
22 sustenance, and safety of the inmate from the time the inmate is placed into  
23 its custody until the time custody of the inmate is returned to the  
24 ~~Department~~ Division of Correction or the ~~Department~~ Division of Community  
25 Correction.

26 (2) The county in which the legal proceeding is held is  
27 responsible for all expenses relating to the transportation and care of the  
28 inmate.

29 (d) While transporting an inmate under this section, a county sheriff  
30 has the full authority of his or her office in any county of this state in  
31 matters relating to the transportation.

32 (e) This section does not apply to the transportation and care costs  
33 for court appearances arising from charges brought by the ~~Department~~ Division  
34 of Correction against the inmate for offenses committed while the inmate is  
35 under the custody and care of the ~~Department~~ Division of Correction.

36 (f)(1) When an inmate in the care and custody of the ~~Department~~

1 Division of Correction or the ~~Department~~ Division of Community Correction is  
2 required to be present for appearances in a civil proceeding that does not  
3 arise from a criminal charge or conviction, the court requiring the inmate's  
4 presence may assess costs against one (1) or more of the parties to the  
5 proceeding to be paid to the ~~Department~~ Division of Correction or the  
6 ~~Department~~ Division of Community Correction to compensate the actual cost of  
7 transporting the inmate and to compensate other costs assessed by the court.

8 (2) Costs under this subsection shall not be assessed against  
9 the Department of Human Services if the Department of Human Services is a  
10 party to the proceeding.

11  
12 SECTION 790. Arkansas Code § 12-29-112(a), concerning the discharge or  
13 release of a prisoner, is amended to read as follows:

14 (a) At least one hundred twenty (120) days before an inmate's  
15 anticipated release date, the ~~Department~~ Division of Correction, in  
16 collaboration with the inmate and the ~~Department~~ Division of Community  
17 Correction and the Parole Board, shall complete a prerelease assessment and  
18 reentry plan, which may include a travel subsidy and transportation to the  
19 closest commercial transportation pick-up point.

20  
21 SECTION 791. Arkansas Code § 12-29-114 is amended to read as follows:

22 12-29-114. Notice of escape to victim or victim's next of kin.

23 (a)(1) Whenever an inmate serving a sentence for the commission of a  
24 crime escapes from the custody of the ~~Department~~ Division of Correction, it  
25 shall be the responsibility of the ~~department~~ division to immediately notify  
26 the victim of the crime or the victim's next of kin of the inmate's escape.

27 (2) However, the victim of the crime or the victim's next of kin  
28 will not be notified by the ~~department~~ division unless a request for the  
29 notification has previously been delivered in writing to the ~~department~~  
30 division.

31 (b)(1) When notice of an escape is given by the ~~department~~ division,  
32 it shall be conveyed by telephone whenever possible and otherwise in writing  
33 to the last known address of the victim or the victim's next of kin.

34 (2) It shall be the responsibility of the victim or the victim's  
35 next of kin to notify the ~~department~~ division in writing of any future  
36 changes in the victim's or victim's next of kin address and telephone number.

1 (c) It shall be the responsibility of the prosecuting attorney of the  
2 county from which the inmate was committed to notify the victim or the  
3 victim's next of kin that an address and telephone number may be provided to  
4 the ~~department~~ division, and the procedure by which to supply information,  
5 for the purpose of notification should the inmate escape.

6  
7 SECTION 792. Arkansas Code § 12-29-115 is amended to read as follows:  
8 12-29-115. Combination to escape – Authority of guards.

9 (a) The officers and guards of the ~~Department~~ Division of Correction  
10 shall use all lawful and suitable means to defend themselves, secure the  
11 persons of offenders, and prevent attempted violence and escape whenever two  
12 (2) or more inmates shall combine for the following purposes or whenever one  
13 (1) or more inmates shall:

14 (1) Offer violence to any officer, guard, or inmate;

15 (2) Do or attempt to do any injury to any building, workshop, or  
16 appurtenance thereto;

17 (3) Attempt to escape; or

18 (4) Resist any lawful demand.

19 (b) If any of the officers or guards employed in the ~~department~~  
20 division shall, in the attempt to prevent the escape of any inmate, any  
21 attempt to retake any inmate who may have escaped, or in the attempt to  
22 suppress any riot, revolt, or insurrection, take the life of any inmate, the  
23 officer or guard shall not be held responsible therefor unless it is done  
24 unnecessarily or wantonly.

25  
26 SECTION 793. Arkansas Code § 12-29-201(a)-(f), concerning good time  
27 for inmates, are amended to read as follows:

28 (a) An inmate may be entitled to meritorious good time reducing his or  
29 her transfer eligibility date up to thirty (30) days for each month  
30 incarcerated after imposition of sentence in one (1) of the units,  
31 facilities, and centers maintained by the ~~Department~~ Division of Correction  
32 or the ~~Department~~ Division of Community Correction.

33 (b) An inmate transferred or paroled to the supervision of the  
34 ~~Department~~ Division of Community Correction under § 16-93-615 may receive  
35 meritorious good time reducing his or her time of transfer or parole  
36 supervision up to thirty (30) days for each month he or she is under the

1 supervision of the ~~Department~~ Division of Community Correction.

2 (c) Meritorious good time shall be allocated under rules and  
3 regulations promulgated by the Board of Corrections and administered by the  
4 respective ~~Department~~ Division of Correction or ~~Department~~ Division of  
5 Community Correction staff subject to the provisions of this subchapter for  
6 good discipline, behavior, work practices, job responsibilities, and  
7 involvement in rehabilitative activities while in the custody or under the  
8 supervision of the ~~Department~~ Division of Correction or the ~~Department~~  
9 Division of Community Correction.

10 (d) Meritorious good time will not be applied to reduce the length of  
11 a sentence.

12 (e)(1) Meritorious good time shall apply to an inmate's transfer  
13 eligibility date from the ~~Department~~ Division of Correction or a community  
14 correction facility.

15 (2) Meritorious good time shall under no circumstances reduce an  
16 inmate's time served in prison by more than one-half ( $\frac{1}{2}$ ) of the percentage  
17 required by law for transfer eligibility.

18 (3) Meritorious good time shall under no circumstances reduce an  
19 inmate's confinement in a community correction facility by more than one-half  
20 ( $\frac{1}{2}$ ).

21 (f)(1) The ~~Department~~ Division of Correction or the ~~Department~~  
22 Division of Community Correction shall determine a date on which the inmate  
23 who has acquired the maximum amount of meritorious good time necessary is to  
24 be administratively transferred to a less restrictive placement or  
25 supervision level within the ~~Department~~ Division of Community Correction.

26 (2) This date will be determined in accordance with the policies  
27 developed by the Arkansas Sentencing Commission within the parameters allowed  
28 by law.

29  
30 SECTION 794. Arkansas Code § 12-29-204 is amended to read as follows:

31 12-29-204. Statutory good time – Maximum reduction.

32 No inmate sentenced to the ~~Department~~ Division of Correction shall ever  
33 receive a reduction under this subchapter, or this subchapter and another  
34 subchapter jointly, of more than thirty (30) days for each month served  
35 except for the additional days of meritorious good time awards authorized in  
36 § 12-29-202(d).

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SECTION 795. Arkansas Code § 12-29-205(a)(1), concerning good time earned by prisoners pending transfer, is amended to read as follows:

(a)(1) Any person who is sentenced by a circuit court to the ~~Department~~ Division of Correction or the ~~Department~~ Division of Community Correction and is awaiting transfer to the ~~Department~~ Division of Correction or ~~Department~~ Division of Community Correction may earn meritorious good time in accordance with law and regulations as adopted by the Board of Corrections.

SECTION 796. Arkansas Code § 12-29-205(a)(3), concerning good time earned by prisoners pending transfer, is amended to read as follows:

(3) Meritorious good time will be calculated upon reception within the respective ~~department~~ division.

SECTION 797. Arkansas Code § 12-29-301(a) and (b), concerning the creation of the Corrections School System, are amended to read as follows:

(a) Properties owned by the State of Arkansas and occupied by the various units of the ~~Department~~ Division of Correction and the ~~Department~~ Division of Community Correction are by this subchapter designated as a qualified school district to be known as the "Corrections School System".

(b) The system is created for the purpose of providing elementary, secondary, and vocational and technical education to qualified persons incarcerated in facilities of the ~~Department~~ Division of Correction and the ~~Department~~ Division of Community Correction or to qualified persons supervised by the ~~Department~~ Division of Community Correction, including those on probation and parole or any type of post prison release or transfer who are not high school graduates, irrespective of age.

SECTION 798. Arkansas Code § 12-29-303 is amended to read as follows:

12-29-303. Privileges of students – Limitations.

A school established under this subchapter and a person incarcerated who attends the school shall be entitled to certain educational privileges provided generally to common public schools and adult education programs administered by the State Board of Education to students who attend the common public schools and adult education programs under the laws of the

1 State of Arkansas, provided the privileges do not conflict with the rules and  
2 policies of the State Board of Education, the ~~Department~~ Division of  
3 Correction, and the ~~Department~~ Division of Community Correction or the laws  
4 of the state respecting the establishment and operation of the ~~Department~~  
5 Division of Correction and the ~~Department~~ Division of Community Correction.  
6

7 SECTION 799. Arkansas Code § 12-29-304 is amended to read as follows:  
8 12-29-304. Costs and funding.

9 (a) The cost of implementing and operating the Corrections School  
10 System shall be borne by the state and shall be paid from funds appropriated  
11 by the General Assembly from the general revenues of the state to the  
12 ~~Department~~ Division of Correction, the ~~Department~~ Division of Community  
13 Correction, and the ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and  
14 Secondary Education, together with any federal funds that may be available  
15 for that purpose and from any funds generated from the operations of the  
16 ~~Department~~ Division of Correction and the ~~Department~~ Division of Community  
17 Correction, in the following manner:

18 (1) The cost of facilities, equipment, and current operation in  
19 excess of the amount of grants and aids received from the ~~Department of~~  
20 Education Division of Elementary and Secondary Education shall be borne by  
21 the ~~Department~~ Division of Correction and the ~~Department~~ Division of  
22 Community Correction as approved by the Board of Corrections; and

23 (2)(A) The system, as other school districts in the state, shall  
24 share in the distribution of grants and aids from the ~~Department of Education~~  
25 Division of Elementary and Secondary Education.

26 (B) However, in no case shall the moneys from the Public  
27 School Fund to the system be in excess of the line item appropriation  
28 provided to the system in the fund.

29 (b)(1) Recognizing that the primary roles, duties, and  
30 responsibilities of the ~~Department~~ Division of Correction and the ~~Department~~  
31 Division of Community Correction are to serve as penal and correctional  
32 institutions, the system shall be exempt from and shall not be penalized in  
33 any manner for not complying with:

34 (A) All of the following:

35 (i) The Quality Education Act of 2003, § 6-15-201 et  
36 seq.;

1 (ii) The Arkansas Comprehensive Testing, Assessment,  
2 and Accountability Program Act, § 6-15-401 et seq.;

3 (iii) Sections 6-15-901, 6-15-902, 6-15-2001 – 6-15-  
4 2008, 6-15-2101 – 6-15-2107, 6-15-2201, 6-15-2301, and 6-16-1201 – 6-16-1206;

5 (iv) The Arkansas Fiscal Assessment and  
6 Accountability Program, § 6-20-1901 et seq.; and

7 (v) The Arkansas Educational Financial Accounting  
8 and Reporting Act of 2004, § 6-20-2201 et seq.;

9 (B) Any state laws or rules adopted to comply with the  
10 federal Elementary and Secondary Education Act as reauthorized under the No  
11 Child Left Behind Act of 2001, 20 U.S.C. § 6301 et seq., as in existence on  
12 January 1, 2005; and

13 (C) Any rule of the State Board of Education related to  
14 the provisions listed in this subdivision (b)(1).

15 (2) The system's exemption from or noncompliance with the  
16 provisions under this subsection shall not affect the system's, the  
17 ~~Department~~ Division of Correction's, or the ~~Department~~ Division of Community  
18 Correction's eligibility to apply for or receive state grants or aids for  
19 public school districts as authorized in this subchapter and related rules.

20  
21 SECTION 800. Arkansas Code § 12-29-306 is amended to read as follows:  
22 12-29-306. Riverside Vocational and Technical School – Legislative  
23 intent.

24 (a) This section and §§ 12-29-307 – 12-29-310 are intended to create  
25 an additional state vocational and technical school to provide vocational and  
26 technical education and training opportunities to qualified persons  
27 incarcerated in facilities of the ~~Department~~ Division of Correction and the  
28 ~~Department~~ Division of Community Correction or to qualified persons  
29 supervised by the ~~Department~~ Division of Community Correction, including  
30 those on probation and parole or any type of post prison release or transfer.

31 (b) This section and §§ 12-29-307 – 12-29-310 are not intended to  
32 modify or repeal any of the laws of this state pertaining to vocational and  
33 technical schools or vocational and technical education.

34  
35 SECTION 801. Arkansas Code § 12-29-307 is amended to read as follows:  
36 12-29-307. Riverside Vocational and Technical School – Establishment.

1           There is established a state vocational and technical school, to be  
2 known as the "Riverside Vocational and Technical School", to be operated by  
3 ~~the Career Education and Workforce Development Board within the Department~~  
4 Division of Correction and the ~~Department~~ Division of Community Correction at  
5 such facilities of the ~~Department~~ Division of Correction and the ~~Department~~  
6 Division of Community Correction as may be designated by the ~~Department of~~  
7 ~~Career Education in cooperation and agreement with the~~ Board of Corrections.  
8

9           SECTION 802. Arkansas Code § 12-29-310(a), concerning the cost of  
10 implementation and operation of the Riverside Vocational and Technical  
11 Schools, is amended to read as follows:

12           (a) The cost of implementing and operating the Riverside Vocational  
13 and Technical School at facilities of the ~~Department~~ Division of Correction  
14 and the ~~Department~~ Division of Community Correction as authorized by this  
15 section and §§ 12-29-306 – 12-29-309 shall be borne by the state and shall be  
16 paid from funds appropriated by the General Assembly to the school, ~~the~~  
17 ~~Department of Career Education, and to the Department~~ Division of Correction  
18 and the ~~Department~~ Division of Community Correction, together with any  
19 federal funds that may be available for this purpose in the following manner:

20           (1) The cost of facilities and equipment in excess of the amount  
21 of moneys provided by the school ~~and the Department of Career Education~~ shall  
22 be borne by the ~~Department~~ Division of Correction and the ~~Department~~ Division  
23 of Community Correction as approved by the Board of Corrections; and

24           (2)(A) This section and §§ 12-29-306 – 12-29-309 contemplate  
25 that the ~~Department~~ Division of Correction and the ~~Department~~ Division of  
26 Community Correction will provide facilities for the vocational and technical  
27 education programs operated by the school.

28           (B) However, nothing in this section and §§ 12-29-306 –  
29 12-29-309 shall prohibit the Career Education and Workforce Development Board  
30 from providing facilities or sharing in the cost of facilities and from  
31 providing or sharing in the cost of repairing, maintenance, and upkeep of the  
32 buildings and facilities with the ~~Department~~ Division of Correction and the  
33 ~~Department~~ Division of Community Correction as funds are provided by the  
34 General Assembly, or are otherwise available for these purposes.  
35

36           SECTION 803. Arkansas Code § 12-29-402(a), concerning prisoner

1 physical examination and assignment to labor, is amended to read as follows:

2 (a) All prisoners committed to the ~~Department~~ Division of Correction  
3 shall be given a physical examination initially upon arrival and then as  
4 often as determined by medical staff of the ~~department~~ division.

5  
6 SECTION 804. Arkansas Code § 12-29-403 is amended to read as follows:

7 12-29-403. Inmates with a disability – Duty of physician.

8 (a)(1) Each new inmate committed to the ~~Department~~ Division of  
9 Correction shall be given a medical examination during the intake process.

10 (2)(A) During the medical examination required under subdivision  
11 (a)(1) of this section, the medical provider shall determine what  
12 restrictions, if any, shall be placed upon the inmate's work assignments.

13 (B) Restrictions placed upon an inmate's work assignments  
14 under subdivision (a)(2)(A) of this section shall be updated as medically  
15 necessary.

16 (b) The ~~department~~ division shall not assign an inmate to a work  
17 assignment that conflicts with a restriction determined by the medical  
18 provider for the ~~department~~ division under subdivision (a)(2) of this  
19 section.

20 (c) Whenever the medical provider updates the restrictions under  
21 subdivision (a)(2) of this section, the ~~department~~ division shall adjust the  
22 inmate's work assignments as necessary to comply with the updated  
23 restrictions.

24  
25 SECTION 805. Arkansas Code § 12-29-404(b), concerning medical parole  
26 for terminal illness or permanent incapacitation, is amended to read as  
27 follows:

28 (b) The Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of Correction or the  
29 Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of Community Correction shall communicate  
30 to the Parole Board when, in the independent opinions of either a ~~Department~~  
31 Division of Correction physician or ~~Department~~ Division of Community  
32 Correction physician, and a consultant physician in Arkansas, an inmate is  
33 either terminally ill or permanently incapacitated and should be considered  
34 for transfer to parole supervision.

35  
36 SECTION 806. Arkansas Code § 12-29-405(a), concerning inmates with

1 mental illness, is amended to read as follows:

2 (a) The ~~Department~~ Division of Correction authorized to develop in-  
3 house due process procedures as approved by the Board of Corrections in  
4 accordance with United States Supreme Court guidelines for the voluntary or  
5 involuntary treatment of inmates with mental illness at the facilities and  
6 programs of the Mental Health Services Section ~~of the Division of Health~~  
7 ~~Treatment Services~~ of the ~~Department~~ Division of Correction.

8

9 SECTION 807. Arkansas Code § 12-29-405(b)(2), concerning inmates with  
10 mental illness, is amended to read as follows:

11 (2) If an inmate's sentence expires while in treatment, the  
12 ~~department~~ division shall release the inmate or pursue involuntary admission  
13 under the appropriate procedures prescribed by existing laws governing the  
14 involuntary treatment of individuals with mental illness.

15

16 SECTION 808. Arkansas Code § 12-29-406 is amended to read as follows:  
17 12-29-406. Treatment for deviant sexual behavior.

18 (a) The purpose of this section is to enable the ~~Department~~ Division  
19 of Correction to establish a core program that will utilize services of  
20 medical and mental health providers in the community to provide intensive  
21 treatment of inmates with paraphilia, commonly known as sexual deviations,  
22 during their incarceration to increase their chance of returning to society  
23 successfully upon their release.

24 (b)(1) The Mental Health Services Section ~~of the Division of Health~~  
25 ~~Treatment Services~~ of the ~~Department~~ Division of ~~Corrections~~ Correction is  
26 authorized to establish and maintain a program for intensive treatment for  
27 control of deviant sexual behavior of inmates in a specialized treatment  
28 setting and to cooperate with the medical services provider in screening for  
29 sexually transmitted diseases as part of this program.

30 (2) The ~~department~~ division may develop the program in such a  
31 manner as to utilize outside professionals from the medical and mental health  
32 fields to provide both teaching and training opportunities.

33 (c) The section shall adopt, promulgate, and enforce such rules,  
34 regulations, policies, and standards as may be necessary to carry out the  
35 intent and purposes of this section.

36

1 SECTION 809. Arkansas Code § 12-29-407(a), concerning suspension of  
2 inmate Medicaid, is amended to read as follows:

3 (a) When an individual who is enrolled in a Medicaid program or the  
4 Health Care Independence Program is incarcerated to the custody of the  
5 ~~Department~~ Division of Correction, the ~~Department~~ Division of Community  
6 Correction, or detained in a county jail, city jail, juvenile detention  
7 facility, or other Division of Youth Services commitment, the Department of  
8 Human Services shall suspend, to the degree feasible, the individual's  
9 coverage during the period of incarceration for up to twelve (12) months from  
10 the initial approval or renewal, unless prohibited by law.

11  
12 SECTION 810. Arkansas Code § 12-29-506(b), concerning the duties of  
13 Attorney General, is amended to read as follows:

14 (b) However, the Attorney General may refer to the prosecuting  
15 attorney of the county from which the inmate in the ~~Department~~ Division of  
16 Correction or the person residing in a ~~Department~~ Division of Community  
17 Correction facility was sentenced, or to the prosecuting attorney of the  
18 county in which any property or estate of the inmate or person is located, to  
19 investigate or assist in legal proceedings to obtain the reimbursements for  
20 the cost of care of the inmate or person, as authorized in this subchapter.

21  
22 SECTION 811. Arkansas Code § 12-29-507(a), concerning the deposit of  
23 recovered moneys by the Department of Correction, is amended to read as  
24 follows:

25 (a)(1) All moneys recovered for the cost of care of prisoners in a  
26 facility of the ~~Department~~ Division of Correction or the ~~Department~~ Division  
27 of Community Correction under this subchapter shall be deposited into the  
28 State Treasury.

29 (2) The Treasurer of State shall credit the moneys to the  
30 appropriate fund established by law from which appropriations to the  
31 ~~Department~~ Division of Correction or the ~~Department~~ Division of Community  
32 Correction are made for inmate care and custody at the ~~Department~~ Division of  
33 Correction or the ~~Department~~ Division of Community Correction.

34  
35 SECTION 812. Arkansas Code § 12-30-101(g), concerning bartering  
36 products of institutions, is amended to read as follows:

1 (g) The board may make reasonable rules and regulations governing the  
2 ~~Department~~ Division of Correction in the administration of contracts,  
3 compacts, or agreements made under the provisions of this section.  
4

5 SECTION 813. Arkansas Code § 12-30-102(e), concerning the buying and  
6 selling products of institutions, is amended to read as follows:

7 (e) The board may make reasonable rules and regulations governing the  
8 ~~Department~~ Division of Correction in the administration of contracts,  
9 compacts, or agreements made under the provisions of this section.  
10

11 SECTION 814. Arkansas Code § 12-30-103(a), concerning the workcraft  
12 program, is amended to read as follows:

13 (a) The ~~Department~~ Division of Correction and the ~~Department~~ Division  
14 of Community Correction are authorized to operate a workcraft program that  
15 offers instruction and training for their inmates, thereby helping prepare  
16 them for employment after incarceration.  
17

18 SECTION 815. Arkansas Code § 12-30-104(a)(1), concerning sale of  
19 workcraft items, is amended to read as follows:

20 (a)(1) The sale of items produced in the ~~Department~~ Division of  
21 Correction or the ~~Department~~ Division of Correction workcraft programs may be  
22 through one (1) or more retail outlets operated by the ~~Department~~ Division of  
23 Correction or the ~~Department~~ Division of Community Correction.  
24

25 SECTION 816. Arkansas Code § 12-30-105(a), concerning the marketing  
26 contracts of the Department of Correction, is amended to read as follows:

27 (a)(1) The ~~Department~~ Division of Correction may enter into marketing  
28 contracts with dealers, retailers, distributors, and manufacturer  
29 representatives permitting them to market and sell all products and services  
30 produced by the ~~department~~ division industry program in accordance with  
31 existing laws and state purchasing regulations.

32 (2) The Industry Division of the ~~department~~ division will be  
33 responsible for all billing of purchased products and services to ensure that  
34 only customers authorized by law are making said purchases.  
35

36 SECTION 817. Arkansas Code § 12-30-203 is amended to read as follows:

1 12-30-203. Establishment of prison industries.

2 The Board of Corrections may purchase, in the manner provided by law,  
3 equipment, raw materials, and supplies and engage supervisory personnel  
4 necessary to establish and maintain for this state, at the ~~Department~~  
5 Division of Correction or institution under control of the board, industries  
6 for the utilization of services of prisoners in the manufacture or production  
7 of articles or products as may be needed for the construction, operation,  
8 maintenance, or use of any office, department, division, institution, or  
9 agency supported, in whole or in part, by this state and the political  
10 subdivisions of this state.

11  
12 SECTION 818. Arkansas Code § 12-30-204 is amended to read as follows:

13 12-30-204. Purchase of goods by state and local agencies.

14 (a)(1) All offices, departments, divisions, institutions, and agencies  
15 of this state which are supported in whole or in part by this state, and all  
16 political subdivisions of this state, may purchase, at the discretion of the  
17 office, department, division, institution, or agency, from the Board of  
18 Corrections any products required by the offices, departments, divisions,  
19 institutions, agencies, or political subdivisions of this state produced or  
20 manufactured by the ~~Department~~ Division of Correction utilizing prison labor  
21 as provided for by this subchapter.

22 (2)(A)(i) The Revenue Division of the Department of Finance and  
23 Administration may request that the board propose the purchase of license  
24 plates which are necessary as evidence of registration of motor vehicles and  
25 trailers to be issued by the ~~division's~~ Revenue Division of the Department of  
26 Finance and Administration's revenue offices.

27 (ii) The license plates would be produced or  
28 manufactured by the ~~Department~~ Division of Correction utilizing prison labor.

29 (B) The provisions of this subdivision (a)(2) shall be  
30 applicable beginning with the contracts for purchase or any purchases of  
31 license plates which are required after the expiration of any contracts for  
32 the purchase or manufacture of license plates that are in effect.

33 (b) Such offices, departments, divisions, institutions, and agencies  
34 shall not be required to submit an invitation for bid to the board for all  
35 products known to be produced or manufactured by the ~~Department~~ Division of  
36 Correction utilizing prison labor as provided for by this subchapter.

1 (c)(1) The ~~Department~~ Division of Correction may enter into an  
2 agreement with the Old State House Commission to utilize inmate labor in the  
3 production or manufacture of items for resale by the Old State House Museum.

4 (2) Except as provided in subdivision (c)(3) of this section,  
5 the proceeds from the sales of the items produced or manufactured under  
6 subdivision (c)(1) of this section shall be used by the Old State House  
7 Museum to:

8 (A) Develop exhibits and programs about the history of the  
9 ~~Department~~ Division of Correction; or

10 (B) Maintain the Old State House Museum's collection of  
11 the ~~Department~~ Division of Correction artifacts.

12 (3) The ~~Department~~ Division of Correction and the commission may  
13 by rule modify the use of the proceeds from the sale of items produced or  
14 manufactured under subdivision (c)(1) of this section.

15 (d) All purchases made pursuant to this section shall be made through  
16 the ~~Department~~ Division of Correction's purchasing ~~department~~ division, upon  
17 requisition by the proper authority of the office, ~~department,~~ division,  
18 institution, agency, or political subdivision of this state requiring the  
19 articles or products.

20  
21 SECTION 819. Arkansas Code § 12-30-205 is amended to read as follows:

22 12-30-205. Purchase of goods by nonprofit organizations and other  
23 individuals.

24 (a) A nonprofit organization may purchase goods produced by the  
25 ~~Department~~ Division of Correction's Industry Division as provided for by this  
26 subchapter upon the condition that the goods may not be resold for profit.

27 (b)(1) Goods produced by the division as provided for by this  
28 subchapter, excluding furniture and seating, may also be purchased by:

29 (A) Current employees and retirees of the ~~Department~~  
30 Division of Correction;

31 (B)(i) All employees of the public offices, departments,  
32 divisions, institutions, school districts, and agencies of this state.

33 (ii) Subdivision (b)(1)(B)(i) of this section shall  
34 not include members of the General Assembly; and

35 (C) Current and former members of the Board of  
36 Corrections.

1 (2) Goods purchased by an individual under subdivision (b)(1) of  
2 this section shall be for personal use only and not for resale.

3 (c) Goods or products that are produced, assembled, or packaged in  
4 whole or in part by the ~~Department~~ Division of Correction utilizing prison  
5 labor may be sold to inmates of the ~~Department~~ Division of Correction,  
6 ~~Department~~ Division of Community Correction, or a local correctional  
7 facility.

8  
9 SECTION 820. Arkansas Code § 12-30-206(b), concerning prices for items  
10 furnished to inmates, is amended to read as follows:

11 (b) The prices shall be uniform and nondiscriminating to all and shall  
12 not exceed the wholesale market prices with the exception of goods or items  
13 produced, assembled, or packaged in whole or in part specifically for sale or  
14 resale to inmates of the ~~Department~~ Division of Correction, ~~Department~~  
15 Division of Community Correction, or a local correctional facility.

16  
17 SECTION 821. Arkansas Code § 12-30-210(a), concerning the annual  
18 statement of the Director of the Department of Correction, is amended to read  
19 as follows:

20 (a) The Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of Correction and the  
21 manager or authorities, by whatever name known, having charge of the penal  
22 institutions of this state, shall annually make a full detailed statement of:

23 (1) All materials, machinery, or other property procured, and  
24 the cost thereof, and the expenditures made during the last preceding year  
25 for manufacturing purposes, together with a statement of all materials then  
26 on hand to be manufactured, or in process of manufacture, or manufactured;

27 (2) All machinery, fixtures, or other appurtenances for the  
28 purpose of carrying on the labor of the prisoners; and

29 (3) The earnings realized during the last preceding year as the  
30 proceeds of the labor of the prisoners at the ~~Department~~ Division of  
31 Correction or penal institutions of this state.

32  
33 SECTION 822. Arkansas Code § 12-30-215 is amended to read as follows:

34 12-30-215. Purchase for construction or operation of prison.

35 Any contractor or subcontractor who has entered into a contract with or  
36 for the benefit of a state board, state agency, or state-supported

1 institution of higher education for constructing, equipping, or operating, in  
2 whole or in part, any facility of the board, agency, or institution may  
3 purchase goods produced by the ~~Department~~ Division of Correction and the  
4 ~~Department~~ Division of Community Correction for use in the performance of the  
5 contract.

6  
7 SECTION 823. Arkansas Code § 12-30-301 is amended to read as follows:  
8 12-30-301. Farming and livestock activities.

9 (a) The ~~Department~~ Division of Correction shall make maximum  
10 utilization of the farm lands of the various institutions of the ~~department~~  
11 division through the use of modern agricultural machinery, equipment, and  
12 technology in producing crops and livestock for use in feeding prisoners and  
13 for sale on the market to produce income for the maintenance and operation of  
14 the institutions of the ~~department~~ division.

15 (b) The Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of Correction, with the  
16 approval of the Board of Corrections, shall promulgate necessary rules and  
17 regulations for the operation of the farming and livestock activities of the  
18 various institutions of the ~~department~~ division, the employment of personnel,  
19 the assignment of inmate labor, and other activities as may be reasonably  
20 necessary to accomplish the purposes as provided in this section.

21  
22 SECTION 824. Arkansas Code § 12-30-303 is amended to read as follows:  
23 12-30-303. Cooperation of Cooperative Extension Service.

24 It shall be the duty of the University of Arkansas Cooperative  
25 Extension Service to cooperate with the Director of the ~~Department~~ Division  
26 of Correction to the end that proper crops may be planted to the best  
27 advantage and proper methods of soil treatment may be utilized and proper  
28 methods of canning and preserving may be used to the best advantage.

29  
30 SECTION 825. Arkansas Code § 12-30-305(a), concerning sales by the  
31 Director of the Department of Correction, is amended to read as follows:

32 (a) The Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of Correction, by and with  
33 the consent and approval of the Board of Corrections, shall make all sales of  
34 commodities and articles produced and offered for sale by the various penal  
35 institutions under his or her supervision.

36

1 SECTION 826. Arkansas Code § 12-30-306 is amended to read as follows:

2 12-30-306. Purchases, expenditures, and sales – Compliance with laws.

3 (a) All purchases for or in behalf of the ~~Department~~ Division of  
4 Correction and its various institutions shall be in strict compliance with  
5 the state purchasing laws and applicable rules and regulations promulgated  
6 thereunder.

7 (b) All expenditures of funds appropriated for the ~~department~~ division  
8 shall be in accordance with the General Accounting and Budgetary Procedures  
9 Law, § 19-4-101 et seq., and other applicable fiscal laws of this state  
10 governing expenditure of state funds.

11 (c) All sales of farm products, livestock, or other products produced  
12 in connection with the agriculture and livestock activities at the respective  
13 institutions of the ~~department~~ division shall be in accordance with the  
14 applicable laws of this state governing the advertising for bids and awarding  
15 of contracts for the sales.

16  
17 SECTION 827. Arkansas Code § 12-30-307(a) and (b), concerning the  
18 payment for food used by the Department of Correction, are amended to read as  
19 follows:

20 (a) The ~~Department~~ Division of Correction may make payment from the  
21 ~~Department~~ Division of Correction Inmate Care and Custody Fund Account to the  
22 ~~Department~~ Division of Correction Farm Fund in an amount not to exceed fifty  
23 cents (50¢) on each dollar's worth of food produced on the ~~department~~  
24 division farm for consumption in the Inmate Care and Custody Program.

25 (b) The ~~department~~ division shall keep appropriate records reflecting  
26 farm production and the value of farm-produced products utilized in the  
27 Inmate Care and Custody Program and shall keep records of current market  
28 values in support of any such payments.

29  
30 SECTION 828. Arkansas Code § 12-30-401 is amended to read as follows:

31 12-30-401. Work and rehabilitative programs – Work-release programs.

32 (a) All inmates committed to the ~~Department~~ Division of Correction for  
33 institutional care shall be required to participate in the various work  
34 programs to which assigned and may be afforded vocational training and  
35 rehabilitative opportunities in accordance with rules, regulations, and  
36 procedures therefor as promulgated by the Director of the ~~Department~~ Division

1 of Correction with the approval of the Board of Corrections.

2 (b) The ~~department~~ division may institute "work-release" programs  
3 under which the inmates selected to participate in the programs may be  
4 gainfully employed or attend school outside of the units maintained by the  
5 ~~department~~ division, under rules and regulations promulgated by the director  
6 with the approval of the board.

7  
8 SECTION 829. Arkansas Code § 12-30-402(a), concerning the  
9 establishment of new work-release centers, is amended to read as follows:

10 (a) The Community Correction Revolving Fund may borrow from the Budget  
11 Stabilization Trust Fund for the establishment of new work-release centers  
12 for the ~~Department~~ Division of Correction.

13  
14 SECTION 830. Arkansas Code § 12-30-404(a), concerning inmates excepted  
15 from the work-release program, is amended to read as follows:

16 (a) No person shall be allowed to participate in any work-release  
17 program conducted by or for the ~~Department~~ Division of Correction if  
18 convicted of:

- 19 (1) A capital offense;  
20 (2) Murder in the first degree, § 5-10-102;  
21 (3) Rape, § 5-14-103;  
22 (4) Kidnapping, § 5-11-102; or  
23 (5) Aggravated robbery a second or subsequent time, § 5-12-103.

24  
25 SECTION 831. Arkansas Code § 12-30-405 is amended to read as follows:  
26 12-30-405. Contracts for inmate labor.

27 The ~~Department~~ Division of Correction may make contractual arrangements  
28 for use of inmate labor by the following prioritized list:

- 29 (1) Other state departments, divisions, and agencies;  
30 (2) Counties, cities, and school districts; and  
31 (3) Civic organizations, other nonprofit organizations, and  
32 private citizens, including, but not limited to, those responsible for the  
33 preservation of natural resources or other public works.

34  
35 SECTION 832. Arkansas Code § 12-30-407(a)(1)(A), concerning the  
36 housing of inmates in the work-release program, is amended to read as

1 follows:

2 (a)(1)(A) The Board of Corrections may promulgate rules to allow the  
3 proper classification of inmates to be released to the county sheriffs of  
4 approved jail facilities or chiefs of police or other authorized law  
5 enforcement officers of city-operated approved jail facilities or community  
6 correction centers outside the ~~Department~~ Division of Correction.

7

8 SECTION 833. Arkansas Code § 12-30-407(a)(2)(A)(ii), concerning the  
9 housing of inmates in the work-release program, is amended to read as  
10 follows:

11 (ii) The ~~Department~~ Division of Correction shall  
12 review the requests and shall submit a list of inmates with appropriate  
13 skills or backgrounds for the particular job needs of the approved jail  
14 facility, political subdivision, or nonprofit organization with a chapter,  
15 committee, or other governing body that is based in the county that is being  
16 provided assistance by a political subdivision, in accordance with the  
17 ~~Department~~ Division of Correction's classification of inmates' skills and  
18 backgrounds.

19

20 SECTION 834. Arkansas Code § 12-30-407(a)(3)(B), concerning the  
21 housing of inmates in the work-release program, is amended to read as  
22 follows:

23 (B) Notification of the victim or victim's family shall be  
24 done by mail to the last known address supplied to the ~~Department~~ Division of  
25 Correction in accordance with ~~Department~~ Division of Correction policies.

26

27 SECTION 835. Arkansas Code § 12-30-407(a)(4)(A), concerning the  
28 housing of inmates in the work-release program, is amended to read as  
29 follows:

30 (4)(A) Inmates released under this section shall be entitled to  
31 credit on their sentences under the meritorious classification system of the  
32 ~~Department~~ Division of Correction.

33

34 SECTION 836. Arkansas Code § 12-30-502(a), concerning transportation  
35 and sale of goods produced by inmates, is amended to read as follows:

36 (a) Goods produced in whole or in part by inmates of the ~~Department~~

1 Division of Correction or the ~~Department~~ Division of Community Correction  
2 participating in private sector prison industry enhancement programs may be  
3 transported and sold in the same manner as goods produced by free persons,  
4 provided that the inmates participating in the private sector prison industry  
5 enhancement programs are paid at least the minimum wage prescribed by state  
6 law.

7  
8 SECTION 837. Arkansas Code § 12-41-105(c), concerning commissions from  
9 prisoner telephone service profits and prisoner commissary services, is  
10 amended to read as follows:

11 (c) This section does not apply to funds derived from prisoner  
12 telephone services or prisoner commissary services provided in ~~Department~~  
13 Division of Correction facilities or ~~Department~~ Division of Community  
14 Correction facilities or in municipally owned detention facilities or in  
15 county detention facilities in counties with a population of one hundred  
16 seventy-five thousand (175,000) or more according to the latest federal  
17 decennial census.

18  
19 SECTION 838. Arkansas Code § 12-41-107(a)(2), concerning the  
20 definition of "local correctional facility" and the medical services billing  
21 to a local correctional facility, is amended to read as follows:

22 (2) "Local correctional facility" means a county jail, a city  
23 jail, regional jail, criminal justice center, or county house of correction  
24 that is not operated by the ~~Department~~ Division of Correction, the ~~Department~~  
25 Division of Community Correction, or a federal correctional agency; and

26  
27 SECTION 839. Arkansas Code § 12-41-716 is amended to read as follows:  
28 12-41-716. Use of board jail fund for supervision and transportation  
29 of inmates.

30 In addition to any other purposes for which funds in a county jail  
31 board jail fund, municipal jail board jail fund, or public instrumentality  
32 jail board jail fund may be used, the funds may be used for the  
33 transportation and supervision of inmates assigned to outside work projects  
34 or for transporting inmates to a ~~Department~~ Division of Correction facility,  
35 as determined by the board.

36

1 SECTION 840. Arkansas Code § 12-50-105(a), concerning regional  
2 correctional commissions, is amended to read as follows:

3 (a) Political subdivisions may individually, or in combination with  
4 each other, contract with the state through the ~~Department~~ Division of  
5 Correction or with prison contractors for the financing, acquisition,  
6 construction, and operation of facilities for the housing of inmates.

7  
8 SECTION 841. Arkansas Code § 12-50-106(a) and (b), concerning  
9 contracts for correctional facilities, are amended to read as follows:

10 (a) The ~~Department~~ Division of Correction, any regional corrections  
11 commission, and any political subdivision are authorized to enter into  
12 contracts with each other and with prison contractors for the financing,  
13 acquiring, constructing, and operating of facilities.

14 (b) Any contract for the financing, acquiring, constructing, or  
15 operating of facilities between the ~~department~~ division and a prison  
16 contractor shall be approved by the Board of Corrections, subject to the  
17 advice and consent of the Legislative Council.

18  
19 SECTION 842. Arkansas Code § 12-50-109(a)(1)(A), concerning contracts  
20 with the Arkansas Development Finance Authority, is amended to read as  
21 follows:

22 (A) All revenues derived from payments to be made by the  
23 ~~Department~~ Division of Correction for the housing of prisoners;

24  
25 SECTION 843. Arkansas Code § 12-50-111(a)(1), concerning private  
26 correctional facilities, is amended to read as follows:

27 (a)(1) No private correctional facility in which inmates committed to  
28 the ~~Department~~ Division of Correction, out-of-state inmates, or federal  
29 inmates are to be housed shall be constructed nor shall any facility be  
30 renovated for the purpose of creating a private correctional facility in  
31 which inmates committed to the ~~Department~~ Division of Correction, out-of-  
32 state inmates, or federal inmates are to be housed within the state without  
33 review and approval by the Board of Corrections and review and approval by  
34 the Legislative Council.

35  
36 SECTION 844. Arkansas Code § 12-51-104(a)(1), concerning the Arkansas

1 State Council for the Interstate Commission for Adult Offender Supervision,  
2 is amended to read as follows:

3 (1) One (1) nonelected person, chosen from a list of five (5)  
4 names submitted by the Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of Community  
5 Correction, who will act as the representative of the legislative branch of  
6 government, to be appointed by the President Pro Tempore of the Senate;

7  
8 SECTION 845. Arkansas Code § 12-51-104(a)(5), concerning the Arkansas  
9 State Council for the Interstate Commission for Adult Offender Supervision,  
10 is amended to read as follows:

11 (5) The Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of Community  
12 Correction or his or her designee who, in addition to serving as a member of  
13 the council, shall be appointed by the Governor as the compact administrator  
14 for the state.

15  
16 SECTION 846. Arkansas Code § 14-22-106(16), concerning purchases  
17 exempt from soliciting bids, is amended to read as follows:

18 (16) All goods and services that are regularly provided to state  
19 agencies and county government by the ~~Department~~ Division of Correction's  
20 various penal industries;

21  
22 SECTION 847. Arkansas Code § 14-284-304(7), concerning the power and  
23 duties of the Rural Fire Protection Service of the Arkansas Forestry  
24 Commission, is amended to read as follows:

25 (7) To contract with public and private sources, including the  
26 ~~Department~~ Division of Correction, for providing mechanical, painting, body  
27 work, or other repair services relative to the conversion, painting, and  
28 adaptation of vehicles being converted into fire protection vehicles, and to  
29 reimburse for the cost of the services;

30  
31 SECTION 848. Arkansas Code § 15-5-213(b), concerning the Correction  
32 Facilities Construction Fund, is amended to read as follows:

33 (b) The fund shall receive moneys payable from the Treasurer of State  
34 in accordance with § 15-5-422. All moneys deposited into the fund and all  
35 income, interest, and earnings therefrom are declared to be cash funds  
36 restricted in their use and dedicated and are to be used solely for

1 acquisition and construction of regional correction facilities for use by the  
2 ~~Department~~ Division of Correction, specifically including a regional  
3 correction facility in Chicot County, which facility will be leased to and  
4 utilized by the ~~department~~ division.

5  
6 SECTION 849. Arkansas Code § 15-5-213(e)(1)(A), concerning the  
7 Correction Facilities Construction Fund, is amended to read as follows:

8 (A) Moneys payable from funds in the ~~department~~ division  
9 as established in § 12-27-128;

10  
11 SECTION 850. Arkansas Code § 15-5-213(e)(1)(C), concerning the  
12 Correction Facilities Construction Fund, is amended to read as follows:

13 (C) Such cash funds of the ~~department~~ division as are  
14 deemed necessary by the Chief Fiscal Officer of the State for the purposes  
15 established herein.

16  
17 SECTION 851. Arkansas Code § 15-5-213(e)(2), concerning the Correction  
18 Facilities Construction Fund, is amended to read as follows:

19 (2) All moneys deposited into the Correction Facilities  
20 Privatization Account and all income, interest, and earnings therefrom are  
21 declared to be cash funds restricted in their use and dedicated to be used  
22 solely for acquisition, construction, and rehabilitation of correction  
23 facilities for the use and benefit of the ~~department~~ division or for payments  
24 to private contractors for the use of correction facilities by the ~~department~~  
25 division.

26  
27 SECTION 852. Arkansas Code § 16-13-1903(a)(2)(B) and (C), concerning  
28 the Eleventh Judicial District, are amended to read as follows:

29 (B) Presiding over all matters involving acts committed by  
30 inmates of the ~~Department~~ Division of Correction over which the Eleventh  
31 Judicial District-West has jurisdiction; and

32 (C) Hearing all civil actions filed by inmates of the  
33 ~~Department~~ Division of Correction over which the Eleventh Judicial District-  
34 West has jurisdiction.

35  
36 SECTION 853. Arkansas Code § 16-21-106(a)(1)(L), concerning assistance

1 to victims and witnesses of crimes, is amended to read as follows:

2 (L) Notice of the right to receive information from the  
3 Department of ~~Correction~~ Corrections, Arkansas State Hospital, and any other  
4 facility to which the defendant is committed by the court.

5  
6 SECTION 854. Arkansas Code § 16-43-214 is amended to read as follows:

7 16-43-214. Prisoner from ~~Department~~ Division of Correction as witness.

8 (a) Upon presentation by the prosecuting attorney or interested  
9 defense counsel of a petition duly verified and for good cause, any circuit  
10 court having jurisdiction of any criminal offense involving a felony pending  
11 for trial in that court may have jurisdiction and authority to provide by  
12 proper order for the presence in court, and for the trial and as a witness,  
13 of any person incarcerated in the ~~Department~~ Division of Correction whose  
14 testimony would be material either for the State of Arkansas or for the  
15 defendant in the action.

16 (b) Upon the granting of a petition by the circuit court pursuant to  
17 subsection (a) of this section and upon presentation to the authorized  
18 officials of the ~~Department~~ Division of Correction of a signed order or  
19 certified copy thereof by the circuit clerk of such court, the officials  
20 having custody of the prisoner are authorized and directed to transport or  
21 cause to be transported the prisoner by such means and methods as they deem  
22 proper, at the time and place as directed by the order of the circuit court.

23 (c) The custody of a prisoner sought to be used as a witness shall at  
24 all times remain in the authorized officials of the ~~Department~~ Division of  
25 Correction, subject to the order and direction of the circuit court.  
26 Immediately upon the completion of the testimony by the prisoner in court or  
27 upon the completion of the trial requiring his or her presence, the prisoner  
28 shall be immediately returned to the ~~Department~~ Division of Correction by the  
29 official having his or her custody.

30  
31 SECTION 855. Arkansas Code § 16-46-106(d), concerning access to  
32 medical records, is amended to read as follows:

33 (d) This section does not apply to the ~~Department~~ Division of  
34 Correction.

35  
36 SECTION 856. Arkansas Code § 16-68-601 is amended to read as follows:

1 16-68-601. Amount of fees and costs.

2 (a) If an incarcerated person, defined for purposes of this subchapter  
3 as a person who has been convicted of a crime and is imprisoned for that  
4 crime or is being held in custody for trial or sentencing, files a civil  
5 action, the court shall order the incarcerated person to pay, as a partial  
6 payment of any court filing fees and court costs required by law, a first-  
7 time payment of twenty percent (20%) of the preceding six (6) months' income  
8 from the incarcerated person's inmate account as administered by the  
9 ~~Department~~ Division of Correction or the ~~Department~~ Division of Community  
10 Correction.

11 (b) The ~~Department~~ Division of Correction or the ~~Department~~ Division  
12 of Community Correction shall withdraw these moneys maintained in the account  
13 for payment of the filing fees and court costs and shall forward these moneys  
14 collected at such times as the moneys exceed ten dollars (\$10.00) to the  
15 appropriate court clerk or clerks until the actual court fees are paid in  
16 full.

17  
18 SECTION 857. Arkansas Code § 16-80-104(a), concerning a comprehensive  
19 mental health evaluation for a minor convicted of capital murder or murder in  
20 the first degree, is amended to read as follows:

21 (a) If a comprehensive mental health evaluation is not performed at  
22 the request of the minor convicted of capital murder, § 5-10-101, or murder  
23 in the first degree, § 5-10-102, before his or her trial or before he or she  
24 is sentenced, the circuit court shall ensure that a comprehensive mental  
25 health evaluation is conducted on the minor by an adolescent mental health  
26 professional licensed in the state before the minor's entry into the  
27 ~~Department~~ Division of Correction for a sentence of life imprisonment.

28  
29 SECTION 858. Arkansas Code § 16-80-104(c)(2), concerning a  
30 comprehensive mental health evaluation for a minor convicted of capital  
31 murder or murder in the first degree, is amended to read as follows:

32 (2) Shall be included in any documentation or inmate file kept  
33 by the ~~Department~~ Division of Correction or, if the minor is eventually  
34 supervised on parole, the ~~Department~~ Division of Community Correction.

35  
36 SECTION 859. Arkansas Code § 16-90-104 is amended to read as follows:

1 16-90-104. Commitment of women for felony.  
2 Women who are convicted of or who plead guilty to the commission of  
3 felonies may be committed to the Department of ~~Correction~~ Corrections by any  
4 court of criminal jurisdiction.

5  
6 SECTION 860. Arkansas Code § 16-90-118 is amended to read as follows:  
7 16-90-118. Duty of court to report to ~~Department~~ Division of  
8 Correction.

9 (a) Whenever any person is sentenced to the ~~Department~~ Division of  
10 Correction, it shall be the duty of the court before which he or she has been  
11 convicted to cause to be made and transmitted to the agent of the ~~department~~  
12 division a short report of the circumstances attending the offense,  
13 particularly those which tended to aggravate or extenuate the offense.

14 (b) The agent shall file and preserve the report.  
15

16 SECTION 861. Arkansas Code § 16-90-120(a), concerning a felony  
17 committed with a firearm, is amended to read as follows:

18 (a) Any person convicted of any offense that is classified by the laws  
19 of this state as a felony who employed any firearm of any character as a  
20 means of committing or escaping from the felony, in the discretion of the  
21 sentencing court, may be subjected to an additional period of confinement in  
22 the ~~Department~~ Division of Correction for a period not to exceed fifteen (15)  
23 years.  
24

25 SECTION 862. Arkansas Code § 16-90-121 is amended to read as follows:  
26 16-90-121. Second or subsequent felony with firearm.

27 Any person who is found guilty of or pleads guilty or nolo contendere  
28 to a second or subsequent felony involving the use of a firearm shall be  
29 sentenced to a minimum term of imprisonment of ten (10) years in the  
30 ~~Department~~ Division of Correction without eligibility of parole or community  
31 correction transfer but subject to reduction by meritorious good-time credit.  
32

33 SECTION 863. Arkansas Code § 16-90-122(a)(2), concerning the post-  
34 conviction release of nonviolent offenders, is amended to read as follows:

35 (2) Been sentenced to a term of imprisonment and committed to  
36 the ~~Department~~ Division of Correction or the ~~Department~~ Division of Community

1 Correction and is awaiting transfer to the ~~Department~~ Division of Correction  
2 or the ~~Department~~ Division of Community Correction.

3  
4 SECTION 864. Arkansas Code § 16-90-122(c)(1), concerning the post-  
5 conviction release of nonviolent offenders, is amended to read as follows:

6 (c)(1) The circuit judge may authorize the release under the terms and  
7 conditions that he or she determines are necessary to protect the public and  
8 to ensure the offender's return to custody upon notice that bed space is  
9 available at the ~~Department~~ Division of Correction or the ~~Department~~ Division  
10 of Community Correction.

11  
12 SECTION 865. Arkansas Code § 16-90-802(d)(9)(B)(ii)(a), concerning the  
13 Arkansas Sentencing Commission, is amended to read as follows:

14 (a) Sentences to the ~~Department~~ Division of  
15 Correction and ~~Department~~ Division of Community Correction;

16  
17 SECTION 866. Arkansas Code § 16-90-802(f) and (g), concerning the  
18 Arkansas Sentencing Commission, are amended to read as follows:

19 (f)(1) The commission shall employ ~~an executive~~ a director from  
20 candidates presented to it by the Chair of the Arkansas Sentencing Commission  
21 in consultation with the Secretary of the Department of Corrections.

22 (2) The ~~Executive~~ Director of the Arkansas Sentencing Commission  
23 shall have appropriate training and experience to assist the commission in  
24 the performance of its duties.

25 (3) The ~~executive~~ director shall be responsible for compiling  
26 the work of the commission and drafting suggested legislation incorporating  
27 the commission's findings for submission to the General Assembly.

28 (g)(1) ~~Subject to the approval of the Chair of the Arkansas Sentencing~~  
29 ~~Commission, the executive director~~ The secretary shall employ such other  
30 staff and shall contract for services as are necessary to assist the  
31 commission in the performance of its duties, and as funds permit.

32 (2) The ~~executive director~~ secretary shall ensure that  
33 appropriate budgetary measures are taken to employ enough staff or contract  
34 for expert services and to purchase the technology needed to compile and  
35 process sentencing data from all judicial districts in a timely manner.

36

1 SECTION 867. Arkansas Code § 16-90-1109(a)(1), concerning information  
2 related to confinement or commitment, is amended to read as follows:

3 (a)(1) Upon request of the victim, the ~~Department~~ Division of  
4 Correction, the Arkansas State Hospital, a local or regional hospital, local  
5 or regional mental health facility, or any other facility to which the  
6 defendant is committed by the court shall:

7 (A) Promptly inform the victim, through the use of the  
8 victim notification system under § 12-12-1201 et seq. or other method of  
9 personal communication, of the estimated date of the defendant's release from  
10 confinement from a court-ordered commitment under § 5-2-301 et seq., if  
11 reasonably ascertainable;

12 (B) Inform the victim at least thirty (30) days before  
13 release of the defendant on furlough or to a work release, halfway house, or  
14 other community program, if applicable;

15 (C) Inform the victim as soon as possible but preferably  
16 at least thirty (30) days before release of the defendant from a local or  
17 regional hospital or local or regional mental health facility, if applicable;  
18 and

19 (D) Promptly inform the victim of the occurrence of any of  
20 the following events concerning the defendant:

21 (i) An escape from a correctional or mental health  
22 facility or community program;

23 (ii) A recapture;

24 (iii) A decision of the Governor to commute the  
25 sentence or to pardon;

26 (iv) A release from confinement and any conditions  
27 attached to the release;

28 (v) A discharge or conditional release or  
29 modification of a previously ordered conditional release from a court-ordered  
30 commitment under § 5-2-315; or

31 (vi) The defendant's death.  
32

33 SECTION 868. Arkansas Code § 16-90-1404(1)(B), concerning the  
34 definition of "completion of a person's sentence" under the Comprehensive  
35 Criminal Record Sealing Act of 2013, is amended to read as follows:

36 (B) Served any time in county or regional jail, a

1 ~~Department~~ Division of Community Correction facility, or a ~~Department~~  
2 Division of Correction facility in full; and

3  
4 SECTION 869. Arkansas Code § 16-90-1408(a)(6), concerning felony  
5 convictions ineligible for sealing, is amended to read as follows:

6 (6) A felony for which a person served any portion of his or her  
7 sentence as an inmate in the ~~Department~~ Division of Correction.

8  
9 SECTION 870. Arkansas Code § 16-90-201 is amended to read as follows:  
10 16-90-201. Punishment for second or subsequent convictions generally.

11 Any person convicted of an offense which is punishable by imprisonment  
12 in the ~~Department~~ Division of Correction who shall subsequently be convicted  
13 for another offense shall be punished as follows:

14 (1) If the second offense is such that, upon a first conviction,  
15 the offender could be punished by imprisonment for a term less than his or  
16 her natural life, then the sentence to imprisonment shall be for a  
17 determinate term not less than one (1) year more than the minimum sentence  
18 provided by law for a first conviction of the offense for which the defendant  
19 is being tried, and not more than the maximum sentence provided by law for  
20 this offense, unless the maximum sentence is less than the minimum sentence  
21 plus one (1) year, in which case the longer term shall govern;

22 (2) If the third offense is such that, upon a first conviction,  
23 the offender could be punished by imprisonment for a term less than his or  
24 her natural life, then the person shall be sentenced to imprisonment for a  
25 determinate term not less than three (3) years more than the minimum sentence  
26 provided by law for a first conviction of the offense for which the defendant  
27 is being tried, and not more than the maximum sentence provided by law for  
28 the offense, unless the maximum sentence is less than the minimum sentence  
29 plus three (3) years, in which case the longer term shall govern; and

30 (3)(A) If the fourth or subsequent offense is such that, upon a  
31 first conviction, the offender could be punished by imprisonment for a term  
32 less than his or her natural life, then the person shall be sentenced to  
33 imprisonment for the fourth or subsequent offense for a determinate term not  
34 less than the maximum sentence provided by law for a first conviction of the  
35 offense for which the defendant is being tried, and not more than one and  
36 one-half (1½) times the maximum sentence provided by law for a first

1 conviction.

2 (B) However, any person convicted of a fourth or  
3 subsequent offense shall be sentenced to imprisonment for no less than five  
4 (5) years.

5  
6 SECTION 871. Arkansas Code § 16-90-202(a), concerning punishment for a  
7 third conviction for certain offenses, is amended to read as follows:

8 (a) When any person shall be convicted of murder, rape, carnal abuse,  
9 or kidnapping and it shall be shown that the person has been twice previously  
10 convicted of any of the above-mentioned crimes in this state or any other  
11 state, upon the third conviction the person shall be deemed an habitual  
12 criminal and shall be sentenced to life imprisonment in the ~~Department~~  
13 Division of Correction.

14

15 SECTION 872. Arkansas Code § 16-90-401 is amended to read as follows:  
16 16-90-401. Delivery of copy of judgment to county sheriff.

17 Where a judgment of confinement, either in the ~~Department~~ Division of  
18 Correction or county jail, is pronounced, a certified copy of the judgment  
19 must be furnished forthwith to the county sheriff, who shall thereupon  
20 execute it, and no other warrant or authority is necessary to its execution.

21

22 SECTION 873. Arkansas Code § 16-90-402 is amended to read as follows:  
23 16-90-402. Delivery of defendant and copy of judgment to proper  
24 officials.

25 (a)(1) In executing a judgment of confinement, the county sheriff  
26 shall deliver the defendant with a certified standardized copy of the  
27 sentencing order to the ~~Department~~ Division of Correction, ~~Department~~  
28 Division of Community Correction, or to another detention facility, as  
29 indicated in the sentencing order.

30 (2) If electronic filing of court records has been implemented  
31 by the circuit clerk in the county where the defendant's conviction occurred,  
32 the standardized copy of the sentencing order may be electronically  
33 transmitted by the circuit clerk to the ~~Department~~ Division of Correction,  
34 the ~~Department~~ Division of Community Correction, or to another detention  
35 facility, as indicated in the sentencing order.

36 (b) The standardized copy of the sentencing order shall be developed

1 by representatives from the ~~Department~~ Division of Correction, the  
2 Administrative Office of the Courts, the Arkansas Sentencing Commission, and  
3 the Prosecutor Coordinator's office.  
4

5 SECTION 874. Arkansas Code § 16-90-403 is amended to read as follows:

6 16-90-403. Power of county sheriff to prevent escape, etc.

7 In conveying the defendant to the ~~Department~~ Division of Correction,  
8 the county sheriff shall have all the powers of preventing an escape, of  
9 resisting an effort to rescue the defendant, of recapturing the defendant,  
10 and of summoning persons to his or her aid that the county sheriff would have  
11 in executing a warrant of arrest in his or her county.  
12

13 SECTION 875. Arkansas Code § 16-90-503 is amended to read as follows:

14 16-90-503. Certification of execution.

15 (a) The Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of Correction shall  
16 certify the fact of the execution of the condemned felon to the clerk of the  
17 court by which the sentence was pronounced, who shall file the certificate  
18 with the papers of the case and enter it upon the records of the case.

19 (b) If the office of director is abolished, the duties devolving on  
20 him or her shall be performed by any other person selected by any board or  
21 commission having charge of the ~~Department~~ Division of Correction.  
22

23 SECTION 876. Arkansas Code § 16-90-801(c)(2), concerning the statement  
24 of sentencing policy, is amended to read as follows:

25 (2) Commitment to the ~~Department~~ Division of Correction is the  
26 most severe sanction and due to the finite capacity of the ~~department's~~  
27 division's facilities, it should be reserved for those convicted of the most  
28 serious offenses, those who have longer criminal histories, and those who  
29 have repeatedly failed to comply with conditions imposed under less  
30 restrictive sanctions.  
31

32 SECTION 877. Arkansas Code § 16-91-111 is amended to read as follows:

33 16-91-111. Appeal after confinement.

34 (a) If a judgment of confinement in the ~~Department~~ Division of  
35 Correction has been executed before the certificate of appeal was delivered  
36 to the county sheriff whose duty it was to execute the judgment, the

1 defendant shall remain in the ~~department~~ division during the pendency of the  
2 appeal unless discharged by the expiration of his or her term of confinement  
3 or by pardon.

4 (b) Upon a reversal, if a new trial is ordered, the defendant shall be  
5 removed from the ~~department~~ division to the county jail from which he or she  
6 was brought by the county sheriff of the county.

7  
8 SECTION 878. Arkansas Code § 16-92-109 is amended to read as follows:

9 16-92-109. Costs and fees – Reimbursement to counties – Definition.

10 (a)(1) As used in this section, “costs incurred by the county” means  
11 all costs incurred by the county in bringing to trial or trials any person or  
12 persons charged with a felony offense, with a crime committed in furtherance  
13 of, or in connection with, an escape from the ~~Department~~ Division of  
14 Correction, or with escape from the ~~Department~~ Division of Correction.

15 (2) Costs shall include, but shall not be limited to, salaries  
16 and expenses, except normal salaries and expenses incurred by the prosecuting  
17 attorney in investigation and prosecution, by the county sheriff in  
18 investigation and custody, and by the public defender or court-appointed  
19 attorney or attorneys in investigation and defense, as well as all other  
20 costs, including the expenses involved in the trial itself.

21 (3) Expenses shall also include extraordinary expenses for such  
22 services as witness fees and expenses, court-appointed expert witnesses,  
23 reporter fees, costs of preparing transcripts, necessary courtroom security  
24 reasonably required to protect the court and participants, and other direct  
25 trial costs.

26 (4) Trial shall be deemed to include all pretrial hearings and  
27 post-conviction proceedings, if any.

28 (b) Whenever a trial is held in which a crime committed in furtherance  
29 of, or in connection with, an escape from the ~~Department~~ Division of  
30 Correction is charged or whenever a trial is held for escape from the custody  
31 of the ~~Department~~ Division of Correction, the county or counties responsible  
32 for the trial or trials of the person or persons charged may apply to the  
33 ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration for  
34 reimbursement of the total costs incurred by the county or counties in each  
35 case.

36 (c)(1) The county responsible for the costs of the felony proceedings

1 or trial on charges of escape or in connection with escape from the  
2 ~~Department~~ Division of Correction, shall prepare a statement of all costs  
3 incurred in connection with the proceedings, which shall be certified by the  
4 presiding judge of the circuit court or courts.

5 (2) The statement of costs incurred by the county or counties  
6 shall be sent to the ~~director~~ secretary together with the county's  
7 application for reimbursement.

8 (d)(1) The ~~director~~ secretary shall audit and examine all statements  
9 of costs incurred by the county received by him or her in accordance with  
10 this section and shall determine whether the costs included in the statements  
11 comply with the provisions of this section.

12 (2) The ~~director~~ secretary shall cause the amount of such costs  
13 as he or she determines comply with this section to be paid to the county or  
14 counties from the Trial Expense Assistance Fund, which is established by this  
15 section on the books of the Treasurer of State, the ~~director~~ secretary, and  
16 the Auditor of State, which shall consist of moneys transferred to the Trial  
17 Expense Assistance Fund, as costs are incurred, from the Miscellaneous  
18 Revolving Fund.

19 (e) The ~~director~~ secretary may make disbursements from the Trial  
20 Expense Assistance Fund to pay court-awarded attorney's fees and costs to  
21 court-appointed attorneys for indigent defendants.

22  
23 SECTION 879. Arkansas Code § 16-92-112(a), concerning the liability of  
24 the state for costs and fees, is amended to read as follows:

25 (a) The costs in all state prosecutions for any offenses which may be  
26 committed in or in respect of the ~~Department~~ Division of Correction shall be  
27 paid out of the State Treasury.

28  
29 SECTION 880. Arkansas Code § 16-93-101(3)(D)(i) and (ii), concerning  
30 the definition of "detriment to the community" under the laws governing  
31 probation and parole, are amended to read as follows:

32 (i) Demonstrated a documented lack of respect for  
33 authority towards law enforcement or prison officials while in the custody of  
34 the ~~Department~~ Division of Correction, the ~~Department~~ Division of Community  
35 Correction, or a law enforcement agency; or

36 (ii) Accrued multiple disciplinary violations while

1 in the custody of the ~~Department~~ Division of Correction, the ~~Department~~  
2 Division of Community Correction, or a law enforcement agency, including at  
3 least one (1) disciplinary violation involving violence or sexual assault  
4 while in the custody of the ~~Department~~ Division of Correction, the ~~Department~~  
5 Division of Community Correction, or a law enforcement agency;

6  
7 SECTION 881. Arkansas Code § 16-93-101(6), concerning the definition  
8 of "jacket review" under the laws governing probation and parole, is amended  
9 to read as follows:

10 (6) "Jacket review" means the review of the file of a transfer-  
11 eligible inmate located at any correctional facility in the state by an  
12 individual staff member or team of staff members of the ~~Department~~ Division  
13 of Community Correction for purposes of preparing the inmate's application  
14 for parole consideration by the Parole Board;

15  
16 SECTION 882. Arkansas Code § 16-93-101(7), concerning the definition  
17 of "parole" under the laws governing probation and parole, is amended to read  
18 as follows:

19 (7) "Parole" means the release of the prisoner into the  
20 community by the board prior to the expiration of his or her term, subject to  
21 conditions imposed by the board and to the supervision of the ~~Department~~  
22 Division of Community Correction. When a court or other authority has filed a  
23 warrant against the prisoner, the board may release him or her on parole to  
24 answer the warrant of the court or authority;

25  
26 SECTION 883. Arkansas Code § 16-93-101(8), concerning the definition  
27 of "probation" under the laws governing probation and parole, is amended to  
28 read as follows:

29 (8) "Probation" means a procedure under which a defendant, found  
30 guilty upon verdict or plea, is released by the court without imprisonment,  
31 subject to conditions imposed by the court and subject to the supervision of  
32 the ~~Department~~ Division of Community Correction, but only if the supervision  
33 is requested in writing by the court;

34  
35 SECTION 884. Arkansas Code § 16-93-101(9), concerning the definition  
36 of "recidivism" under the laws governing probation and parole, is amended to

1 read as follows:

2 (9) "Recidivism" means the return to incarceration in a  
3 ~~Department~~ Division of Correction or ~~Department~~ Division of Community  
4 Correction community correctional facility other than a technical violator  
5 program within a three-year period;

6  
7 SECTION 885. Arkansas Code § 16-93-101(11)(A), concerning the  
8 definition of "serious conditions violation" under the laws governing  
9 probation and parole, is amended to read as follows:

10 (A) An act involving a violent misdemeanor that provides  
11 the prosecuting attorney with the option to revoke the probationer's  
12 probation or parolee's parole, or allow the ~~Department~~ Division of Community  
13 Correction to utilize the sanctions provided under this chapter;

14  
15 SECTION 886. Arkansas Code § 16-93-107(a) and (b), concerning the  
16 Medicaid eligibility of a parolee or a probationer, are amended to read as  
17 follows:

18 (a) The ~~Department~~ Division of Correction shall screen inmates nearing  
19 release from incarceration and the ~~Department~~ Division of Community  
20 Correction shall screen parolees and probationers under supervision for  
21 Medicaid eligibility.

22 (b) If an inmate nearing release from incarceration, parolee, or  
23 probationer receives medical services, including substance abuse and mental  
24 health treatment, that meet criteria for Medicaid coverage, the parole  
25 officer, probation officer, or ~~Department~~ Division of Correction official or  
26 ~~Department~~ Division of Community Correction official may apply for Medicaid  
27 coverage for the inmate nearing release from incarceration, parolee, or  
28 probationer under this section.

29  
30 SECTION 887. Arkansas Code § 16-93-107(c)(2), concerning the Medicaid  
31 eligibility of a parolee or a probationer, is amended to read as follows:

32 (2) However, the parole officer, probation officer, or  
33 ~~Department~~ Division of Correction official or ~~Department~~ Division of  
34 Community Correction official shall be the authorized representative for  
35 purposes of establishing and maintaining Medicaid eligibility under this  
36 subsection if:

1 (A) The inmate nearing release from incarceration,  
2 parolee, or probationer does not designate an authorized representative  
3 within three (3) business days after request; or

4 (B) The authorized representative designated under  
5 subdivision (c)(1) of this section does not file a Medicaid application  
6 within three (3) business days after appointment and request.

7  
8 SECTION 888. Arkansas Code § 16-93-107(e)(1), concerning the Medicaid  
9 eligibility of a parolee or a probationer, is amended to read as follows:

10 (e)(1) The parole officer, probation officer, or ~~Department~~ Division  
11 of Correction official or ~~Department~~ Division of Community Correction  
12 official or the designee of the parole officer, probation officer, or  
13 ~~Department~~ Division of Correction official or ~~Department~~ Division of  
14 Community Correction official may access information necessary to determine  
15 if a Medicaid application has been filed on behalf of the inmate nearing  
16 release from incarceration, parolee, or probationer.

17  
18 SECTION 889. Arkansas Code § 16-93-109 is amended to read as follows:

19 16-93-109. Medicaid reimbursement for essential healthcare services.

20 Unless otherwise prohibited by law, the Department of Human Services  
21 shall cooperate with the ~~Department~~ Division of Correction and the ~~Department~~  
22 Division of Community Correction to establish protocols for utilizing  
23 Medicaid to reimburse the ~~Department~~ Division of Correction, ~~Department~~  
24 Division of Community Correction, Division of Aging, Adult, and Behavioral  
25 Health Services of the Department of Human Services, Division of Youth  
26 Services of the Department of Human Services, a healthcare provider, or a  
27 third party for essential healthcare services, including mental health and  
28 substance abuse treatment.

29  
30 SECTION 890. Arkansas Code § 16-93-207(a)(1)(B), concerning the  
31 applications for pardon, commutation of sentence, and remission of fines and  
32 forfeitures, is amended to read as follows:

33 (B) The Governor shall also direct the ~~Department~~ Division  
34 of Correction to send notice of his or her intention to the judge, the  
35 prosecuting attorney, and the county sheriff of the county in which the  
36 applicant was convicted and, if applicable, to the victim or the victim's

1 next of kin.

2

3 SECTION 891. Arkansas Code § 16-93-208 is amended to read as follows:  
4 16-93-208. Services and equipment.

5 The ~~Department~~ Division of Correction and the ~~Department~~ Division of  
6 Community Correction may provide services, furnishings, equipment, and office  
7 space to assist the Parole Board in fulfilling the purposes for which the  
8 board was created by law.

9

10 SECTION 892. Arkansas Code § 16-93-211(a)(1)(A), concerning early  
11 release to transitional housing facilities, is amended to read as follows:

12 (A) Transferred or paroled from the ~~Department~~ Division of  
13 Correction by the Parole Board;

14

15 SECTION 893. Arkansas Code § 16-93-211(a)(1)(C), concerning early  
16 release to transitional housing facilities, is amended to read as follows:

17 (C) Administratively transferred from the ~~Department~~  
18 Division of Correction to the ~~Department~~ Division of Community Correction for  
19 participation in a reentry program.

20

21 SECTION 894. Arkansas Code § 16-93-211(e), concerning early release to  
22 transitional housing facilities, is amended to read as follows:

23 (e) An offender placed in transitional housing by the board will be  
24 supervised by officers of the ~~Department~~ Division of Community Correction.

25

26 SECTION 895. Arkansas Code § 16-93-213(a)(2), concerning Parole Board  
27 records posted to a website, is amended to read as follows:

28 (2) The ~~Department~~ Division of Correction identification number  
29 of the inmate;

30

31 SECTION 896. Arkansas Code § 16-93-213(a)(6), concerning Parole Board  
32 records posted to a website, is amended to read as follows:

33 (6) A link to information required to be posted about the inmate  
34 by the ~~Department~~ Division of Correction under § 12-27-145.

35

36 SECTION 897. Arkansas Code § 16-93-308(b)(2), concerning the

1 revocation of probation, is amended to read as follows:

2 (2) If a defendant on probation is arrested by a probation  
3 officer employed by the ~~Department~~ Division of Community Correction for a  
4 violation of the defendant's probation and taken to a county jail for a  
5 reason listed under subdivision (b)(1)(B) of this section, the state shall  
6 reimburse the county for the costs of incarceration at the prevailing rate of  
7 reimbursement.

8

9 SECTION 898. Arkansas Code § 16-93-308(c)(1), concerning the  
10 revocation of probation, is amended to read as follows:

11 (c)(1) A defendant arrested for violation of suspension of sentence or  
12 probation shall be taken immediately before the court that suspended  
13 imposition of sentence or, if the defendant was placed on probation, before  
14 the court supervising the probation, or, if the defendant is subject to  
15 administrative probation sanction under § 16-93-306(d), to the appropriate  
16 authority in the ~~Department~~ Division of Community Correction if practicable  
17 or, if transport to an appropriate authority of the ~~Department~~ Division of  
18 Community Correction is not practicable, then to the county jail.

19

20 SECTION 899. Arkansas Code § 16-93-308(h)(1), concerning the  
21 revocation of probation, is amended to read as follows:

22 (h)(1) A court shall not revoke a suspension of sentence or probation  
23 because of a person's inability to achieve a high school diploma, high school  
24 equivalency diploma approved by the ~~Department of Career Education~~ Adult  
25 Education Section of the Division of Workforce Services, or gainful  
26 employment.

27

28 SECTION 900. Arkansas Code § 16-93-308(h)(2)(A), concerning the  
29 revocation of probation, is amended to read as follows:

30 (2)(A) However, the court may revoke a suspension of sentence or  
31 probation if the person fails to make a good faith effort to achieve a high  
32 school diploma, high school equivalency diploma approved by the ~~Department of~~  
33 ~~Career Education~~ Adult Education Section of the Division of Workforce  
34 Services, or gainful employment.

35

36 SECTION 901. Arkansas Code § 16-93-308(h)(2)(B)(i), concerning the

1 revocation of probation, is amended to read as follows:

2 (i) Has been enrolled in a program of instruction  
3 leading to a high school diploma or a high school equivalency diploma  
4 approved by the ~~Department of Career Education~~ Adult Education Section of the  
5 Division of Workforce Services and is attending a school or an adult  
6 education course; or

7

8 SECTION 902. Arkansas Code § 16-93-308(i)(1)(B), concerning the  
9 revocation of probation, is amended to read as follows:

10 (B)(i) A defendant on probation is subject to having his  
11 or her probation revoked and being sentenced to the ~~Department~~ Division of  
12 Correction or the ~~Department~~ Division of Community Correction for a  
13 subsequent violation of his or her probation if the defendant has been  
14 confined six (6) times under § 16-93-306(d).

15 (ii) After a defendant on probation has been  
16 confined two (2) times under either § 16-93-306(d) or § 16-93-309(a)(4) for  
17 any combination of a technical conditions violation or serious conditions  
18 violation for any period of time, the defendant on probation is subject to  
19 having his or her probation revoked and being sentenced to the ~~Department~~  
20 Division of Correction or the ~~Department~~ Division of Community Correction for  
21 a subsequent violation of his or her probation.

22

23 SECTION 903. Arkansas Code § 16-93-308(i)(2)(A), concerning the  
24 revocation of probation, is amended to read as follows:

25 (2)(A) A defendant is subject to having his or her probation  
26 revoked under this section for a technical conditions violation or a serious  
27 conditions violation without having been sanctioned for a period of  
28 confinement set out under § 16-93-306(d) or § 16-93-309(a)(4) if upon the  
29 filing of a petition in the court with jurisdiction the ~~Department~~ Division  
30 of Community Correction or the prosecuting attorney proves by a preponderance  
31 of the evidence that the defendant is engaging in or has engaged in behavior  
32 that poses a threat to the community.

33

34 SECTION 904. Arkansas Code § 16-93-309(b)(1), concerning probation,  
35 revocation hearings, sentence alternatives, and sanctions, is amended to read  
36 as follows:

1 (b)(1) A period of confinement under subdivision (a)(4) of this  
2 section may be reduced by the ~~Department~~ Division of Correction or the  
3 ~~Department~~ Division of Community Correction for good behavior and successful  
4 program completion.

5  
6 SECTION 905. Arkansas Code § 16-93-309(d)(2), concerning probation,  
7 revocation hearings, sentence alternatives, and sanctions, is amended to read  
8 as follows:

9 (2) Sentence the defendant to incarceration in the ~~Department~~  
10 Division of Correction.

11  
12 SECTION 906. Arkansas Code § 16-93-310(b), concerning probation,  
13 revocation and community correction programs, is amended to read as follows:

14 (b) Upon revocation, the court of jurisdiction shall determine whether  
15 the offender shall remain under the jurisdiction of the court and be assigned  
16 to a more restrictive community correction program, facility, or institution  
17 for a period of time or committed to the ~~Department~~ Division of Community  
18 Correction.

19  
20 SECTION 907. Arkansas Code § 16-93-310(c), concerning probation,  
21 revocation and community correction programs, is amended to read as follows:

22 (c)(1) If committed to the ~~Department~~ Division of Correction, the  
23 court shall specify if the commitment is for judicial transfer of the  
24 offender to the ~~Department~~ Division of Community Correction or is a regular  
25 commitment.

26 (2)(A) The court shall commit the eligible offender to the  
27 custody of the ~~Department~~ Division of Correction under this subchapter for  
28 judicial transfer to the ~~Department~~ Division of Community Correction subject  
29 to the following:

30 (i) That the sentence imposed provides that the  
31 offender shall serve no more than three (3) years of confinement, with credit  
32 for meritorious good time, with initial placement in a ~~Department~~ Division of  
33 Community Correction facility; and

34 (ii) That the initial placement in the ~~Department~~  
35 Division of Community Correction is conditioned upon the offender's  
36 continuing eligibility for ~~Department~~ Division of Community Correction

1 placement and the offender's compliance with all applicable rules established  
2 by the Board of Corrections for community correction programs.

3 (B) Post-prison supervision shall accompany and follow  
4 community correction programming when appropriate.

5  
6 SECTION 908. Arkansas Code § 16-93-601(c), concerning felonies  
7 committed prior to April 1, 1977, is amended to read as follows:

8 (c) Sentence of Years. An individual sentenced to a term of years in  
9 the Department of Correction or the Division of Correction after February 11,  
10 1976, and before April 1, 1977, is eligible for release on parole after he or  
11 she serves the following terms:

12 (1) An individual sentenced to a term of years for other than a  
13 Class Y felony who is confined in the department or division for the second  
14 time is eligible for release on parole after he or she serves one-third (1/3)  
15 of the time for which sentenced, with credit for good-time allowances, or  
16 one-third (1/3) of the time to which sentence is commuted by executive  
17 clemency, with credit for good-time allowances. However, a judge may require  
18 one-half ( $\frac{1}{2}$ ) of the sentence as imposed, or one-half ( $\frac{1}{2}$ ) of the sentence as  
19 commuted by executive clemency, to be served, with credit for good-time  
20 allowances; and

21 (2) An individual sentenced to a term of years who is confined  
22 in the department or division and who pleads guilty to or is convicted of a  
23 Class Y felony or who has previously been confined in the department or  
24 division two (2) or more times is eligible for release on parole after he or  
25 she serves one-half ( $\frac{1}{2}$ ) of the time to which the sentence is commuted by  
26 executive clemency, with credit for good-time allowances.

27  
28 SECTION 909. Arkansas Code § 16-93-607(d), concerning parole  
29 eligibility and felonies committed on or after April 1, 1983, but before  
30 January 1, 1994, is amended to read as follows:

31 (d) Any person under twenty-one (21) years of age who is first  
32 convicted of a felony and committed to the first offender penal institution  
33 or to the Department of Correction, as the Division of Correction was known  
34 as prior to July 1, 2019, now known as the Division of Correction, for a term  
35 of years is eligible for parole at any time unless a minimum time to be  
36 served is imposed consisting of not more than one-third (1/3) of the total

1 time sentenced. In the event the individual is sentenced to a minimum time to  
2 be served, he or she is eligible for release on parole after serving the  
3 minimum time prescribed, with credit for good-time allowances, and for  
4 commutation by the exercise of executive clemency.

5  
6 SECTION 910. Arkansas Code § 16-93-607(e), concerning parole  
7 eligibility and felonies committed on or after April 1, 1983, but before  
8 January 1, 1994, is amended to read as follows:

9 (e)(1) When any convicted felon, while on parole, is convicted of  
10 another felony, the felon is to be committed to the ~~department~~ Division of  
11 Correction to serve the remainder of his or her original sentence, including  
12 any portion suspended, with credit for good-time allowances. Upon conviction  
13 for the subsequent felony, the court shall require the sentence for the  
14 subsequent felony to be served consecutively with the sentence for the  
15 previous felony.

16 (2) Any person found guilty of a felony and placed on probation  
17 or suspended sentence therefor who is subsequently found guilty of another  
18 felony committed while on probation or suspended sentence is to be committed  
19 to the ~~department~~ division to serve the remainder of his or her suspended  
20 sentence plus the sentence imposed for the subsequent felony. The sentence  
21 imposed for the subsequent felony is to be served consecutively with the  
22 remainder of the suspended sentence.

23  
24 SECTION 911. Arkansas Code § 16-93-610(a), concerning the computation  
25 of sentence, is amended to read as follows:

26 (a) Time served is deemed to begin on the day sentence is imposed, not  
27 on the day a prisoner is received by the Department of ~~Correction~~  
28 Corrections. It shall continue only during the time in which a prisoner is  
29 actually confined in a county jail or other local place of lawful confinement  
30 or while under the custody and supervision of the department.

31  
32 SECTION 912. Arkansas Code § 16-93-612(a), concerning parole  
33 eligibility and the date of offense, is amended to read as follows:

34 (a) A person's parole eligibility shall be determined by the laws in  
35 effect at the time of the offense for which he or she is sentenced to the  
36 ~~Department~~ Division of Correction.

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SECTION 913. Arkansas Code § 16-93-612(e)(4), concerning parole eligibility and the date of offense, is amended to read as follows:

(4) If the felony was committed by a person who was a minor at the time of the offense, he or she was committed to the Department of Correction, or to the Division of Correction, and the offense occurred before, on, or after March 20, 2017, § 16-93-621 governs that person's parole eligibility.

SECTION 914. Arkansas Code § 16-93-614(c)(2), concerning parole eligibility for offenses committed after January 1, 1994, is amended to read as follows:

(2)(A)(i)(a) An offender convicted of a target offense under the Community Correction Act, § 16-93-1201 et seq., may be committed to the ~~Department~~ Division of Correction and judicially transferred to the ~~Department~~ Division of Community Correction by specific provision in the commitment that the trial court order such a transfer.

(b) No other offender is eligible for transfer to a ~~Department~~ Division of Community Correction facility.

(ii) A copy of the commitment shall be forwarded immediately to the ~~Department~~ Division of Correction and to the ~~Department~~ Division of Community Correction.

(iii) In the event that an offender is sentenced to the ~~Department~~ Division of Correction without judicial transfer on one (1) sentence and concurrently sentenced to the ~~Department~~ Division of Correction with judicial transfer on another sentence, the offender shall remain in the ~~Department~~ Division of Correction, and the sentence with judicial transfer may be discharged in the same manner as that of an offender transferred back to the ~~Department~~ Division of Correction.

(B) The ~~Department~~ Division of Community Correction shall take over supervision of the offender in accordance with the order of the court.

(C) The ~~Department~~ Division of Community Correction shall provide for the appropriate disposition of the offender as expeditiously as practicable under rules and regulations developed by the Board of Corrections.

1 (D) The offender shall not be transported to the  
2 ~~Department~~ Division of Correction on the initial placement in a ~~Department~~  
3 Division of Community Correction facility pursuant to a judicial transfer.

4 (E) An offender who is transferred back to the ~~Department~~  
5 Division of Correction for disciplinary reasons may be considered for  
6 transfer to ~~Department~~ Division of Community Correction supervision after  
7 earning good-time credit equal to one-half ( $\frac{1}{2}$ ) of the remainder of his or her  
8 sentence.

9 (F) An offender who is sentenced after July 31, 2007, and  
10 who is transferred back to the ~~Department~~ Division of Correction for  
11 administrative reasons is eligible for transfer to ~~Department~~ Division of  
12 Community Correction supervision in the same manner as an offender who is  
13 sentenced to the ~~Department~~ Division of Correction without a judicial  
14 transfer to the ~~Department~~ Division of Community Correction; and  
15

16 SECTION 915. Arkansas Code § 16-93-616(a), concerning parole  
17 eligibility procedures for offenses committed after January 1, 1994 and the  
18 computation of a sentence, is amended to read as follows:

19 (a)(1) Time served for a sentence shall be deemed to begin on the day  
20 sentence is imposed, not on the day a prisoner is received by the ~~Department~~  
21 Division of Correction.

22 (2) Time served shall continue only during the time in which an  
23 individual is actually confined in a county jail or other local place of  
24 lawful confinement or while under the custody and supervision of the  
25 ~~department~~ division.

26 (3) Once sentenced to the ~~department~~ division, the ~~department~~  
27 division shall retain legal custody of the inmate for the duration of the  
28 original sentence.  
29

30 SECTION 916. Arkansas Code § 16-93-617(b) and (c), concerning parole  
31 eligibility procedures for offenses committed after January 1, 1994 and  
32 revocation of transfer, is amended to read as follows:

33 (b)(1) In the event an offender transferred under this section and §§  
34 16-93-614 – 16-93-616, or § 16-93-618 is found to be or becomes ineligible  
35 for transfer into a ~~Department~~ Division of Community Correction facility, he  
36 or she shall be transported to ~~Department~~ Division of Correction to serve the

1 remainder of his or her sentence.

2 (2) Notice of the ineligibility and the reasons therefor shall  
3 be provided to the offender, and a hearing may be requested before the board  
4 if the offender contests the factual basis of the ineligibility. Otherwise,  
5 the board may administratively approve the transfer to the ~~Department~~  
6 Division of Correction.

7 (c) An offender who is judicially transferred to a ~~Department~~ Division  
8 of Community Correction facility and subsequently transferred back to the  
9 ~~Department~~ Division of Correction by the board for disciplinary or  
10 administrative reasons may not become eligible for any further transfer under  
11 § 16-93-614(c)(2)(E) and (F).

12

13 SECTION 917. Arkansas Code § 16-93-621(a)(1) and (2)(A), concerning  
14 parole eligibility for a person who was a minor at the time of committing  
15 offense, is amended to read as follows:

16 16-93-621. Parole eligibility – A person who was a minor at the time  
17 of committing an offense that was committed before, on, or after March 20,  
18 2017.

19 (a)(1) A minor who was convicted and sentenced to the Department of  
20 Correction or Division of Correction for an offense committed before he or  
21 she was eighteen (18) years of age and in which the death of another person  
22 did not occur is eligible for release on parole no later than after twenty  
23 (20) years of incarceration, including any applicable sentencing  
24 enhancements, and including an instance in which multiple sentences are to be  
25 served consecutively or concurrently, unless by law the minor is eligible for  
26 earlier parole eligibility.

27 (2)(A) A minor who was convicted and sentenced to the ~~department~~  
28 Department of Correction or Division of Correction for an offense committed  
29 before he or she was eighteen (18) years of age, in which the death of  
30 another person occurred, and that was committed before, on, or after March  
31 20, 2017, is eligible for release on parole no later than after twenty-five  
32 (25) years of incarceration if he or she was convicted of murder in the first  
33 degree, § 5-10-102, or no later than after thirty (30) years of incarceration  
34 if he or she was convicted of capital murder, § 5-10-101, including any  
35 applicable sentencing enhancements, unless by law the minor is eligible for  
36 earlier parole eligibility.

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SECTION 918. Arkansas Code § 16-93-701(a)(1), concerning Parole Board authority to grant parole, is amended to read as follows:

(a)(1) The Parole Board may release on parole any eligible inmate who is confined in any correctional institution administered by the ~~Department~~ Division of Correction or the ~~Department~~ Division of Community Correction, when in the board's opinion there is a reasonable probability that the inmate can be released without detriment to the community or himself or herself and is able and willing to fulfill the obligations of a law-abiding citizen.

SECTION 919. Arkansas Code § 16-93-703(a), concerning Parole Board place of hearing and procedures, is amended to read as follows:

(a) The Parole Board shall not schedule parole hearings at which victims or relatives of victims of crime are invited to appear at a facility wherein inmates are housed other than the Central Administration Building of the ~~Department~~ Division of Correction at Pine Bluff.

SECTION 920. Arkansas Code § 16-93-705(a)(1)(A)(ii), concerning revocation of parole, is amended to read as follows:

(ii) The ~~Department~~ Division of Community Correction shall provide the information necessary for the board to issue a warrant under subdivision (a)(1)(A)(i) of this section.

SECTION 921. Arkansas Code § 16-93-705(a)(1)(B)(ii), concerning revocation of parole, is amended to read as follows:

(ii) The ~~Department~~ Division of Community Correction shall provide the information necessary for the board to issue a warrant under subdivision (a)(1)(B)(i) of this section.

SECTION 922. Arkansas Code § 16-93-705(b)(5) and (6), concerning revocation of parole, are amended to read as follows:

(5) If the parole revocation judge finds that there is reasonable cause to believe that the parolee has violated a condition of parole, the parole revocation judge may order the parolee returned to the nearest facility of the ~~Department~~ Division of Correction or ~~Department~~ Division of Community Correction where the parolee shall be placed in custody

1 for a parole revocation hearing before the board.

2 (6) If the parole revocation judge finds that there is  
3 reasonable cause to believe that the parolee has violated a condition of  
4 parole, the parole revocation judge may return the parolee to parole  
5 supervision rather than to the custody of the ~~Department~~ Division of  
6 Correction and may impose additional supervision conditions in response to  
7 the violating conduct.

8

9 SECTION 923. Arkansas Code § 16-93-705(f), concerning revocation of  
10 parole, are amended to read as follows:

11 (f) A preliminary hearing under subsection (b) of this section and a  
12 parole revocation hearing under subsection (c) of this section shall not be  
13 necessary if the parole revocation is based on the parolee's conviction,  
14 guilty plea, or plea of nolo contendere to a felony offense for which he or  
15 she is sentenced to the ~~Department~~ Division of Correction or to any other  
16 state or federal correctional institution.

17

18 SECTION 924. Arkansas Code § 16-93-706(b), concerning the revocation  
19 of parole and the subpoena of witnesses and documents, is amended to read as  
20 follows:

21 (b) The fees and mileage expenses as prescribed by law for witnesses  
22 in civil cases shall be paid by the ~~Department~~ Division of Correction.

23

24 SECTION 925. Arkansas Code § 16-93-709 is amended to read as follows:  
25 16-93-709. Sex offender may not reside with minors.

26 (a) Whenever an inmate in a facility of the ~~Department~~ Division of  
27 Correction who has been found guilty of or has pleaded guilty or nolo  
28 contendere to any sexual offense defined in § 5-14-101 et seq., or incest as  
29 defined by § 5-26-202, and the sexual offense or incest was perpetrated  
30 against a minor, becomes eligible for parole and makes application for  
31 release on parole, the Parole Board shall prohibit, as a condition of  
32 granting the parole, the parolee from residing upon parole in a residence  
33 with any minor, unless the board makes a specific finding that the inmate  
34 poses no danger to the minors residing in the residence.

35 (b) If the board, upon a hearing under § 16-93-705, finds, by a  
36 preponderance of the evidence, that the parolee has failed to comply with

1 this condition of parole, the parole may be revoked and the parolee returned  
2 to the custody of the ~~department~~ division.

3  
4 SECTION 926. Arkansas Code § 16-93-710(a), concerning parole for  
5 inmates who have served their term of imprisonment in a county jail prior to  
6 being processed into the Department of Correction, is amended to read as  
7 follows:

8 (a)(1) Subject to conditions set by the Parole Board, an offender  
9 convicted of a felony and sentenced to a term of imprisonment of two (2)  
10 years or less in the ~~Department~~ Division of Correction, and who has served  
11 his or her term of imprisonment in a county jail prior to being processed  
12 into the ~~Department~~ Division of Correction, may be paroled from the  
13 ~~Department~~ Division of Correction county jail backup facility directly to the  
14 ~~Department~~ Division of Community Correction under parole supervision, and  
15 upon eligibility determination, processed for release by the board.

16 (2) Transfer release proceedings or a preliminary review under  
17 this subchapter shall begin no later than six (6) months prior to a person's  
18 transfer eligibility date, and the board shall authorize jacket review  
19 procedures at all institutions holding parole-eligible inmates to prepare  
20 parole applications to comply with this time frame.

21 (3) The jacket review will be conducted by staff either from the  
22 ~~Department~~ Division of Community Correction or by ~~Department~~ Division of  
23 Correction.

24  
25 SECTION 927. Arkansas Code § 16-93-712(b)(1), concerning Parole Board  
26 supervision of a parolee, is amended to read as follows:

27 (1) Investigate each case referred to him or her by the Chair of  
28 the Parole Board, the ~~Department~~ Division of Community Correction, or the  
29 prosecuting attorney;

30  
31 SECTION 928. Arkansas Code § 16-93-712(c), concerning Parole Board  
32 supervision of a parolee, is amended to read as follows:

33 (c)(1) The ~~Department~~ Division of Community Correction shall allocate  
34 resources, including the assignment of parole officers, to focus on moderate-  
35 risk and high-risk offenders as determined by the validated risk-needs  
36 assessment provided in subdivision (b)(6) of this section.

1           (2) The ~~Department~~ Division of Community Correction shall  
2 require each public and private treatment and service provider that receives  
3 state funds for the treatment of or service for parolees to use evidence-  
4 based programs and practices.

5  
6           SECTION 929. Arkansas Code § 16-93-712(d)(1) and (2), concerning  
7 Parole Board supervision of a parolee, are amended to read as follows:

8           (d)(1) The ~~Department~~ Division of Community Correction shall have the  
9 authority to sanction a parolee administratively without engaging the  
10 revocation process under § 16-93-705.

11           (2)(A)(i) The ~~Department~~ Division of Community Correction shall  
12 develop an intermediate sanctions procedure and grid to guide a parole  
13 officer in determining the appropriate response to a violation of conditions  
14 of supervision.

15                               (ii) The intermediate sanctions procedure shall  
16 include a requirement that the parole officer consider multiple factors when  
17 determining the sanction to be imposed, including previous violations and  
18 sanctions and the severity of the current and prior violation.

19           (B) Intermediate sanctions administered by the ~~Department~~  
20 Division of Community Correction are required to conform to the sanctioning  
21 grid.

22  
23           SECTION 930. Arkansas Code § 16-93-712(d)(3)(E)(i), concerning Parole  
24 Board supervision of parolee, is amended to read as follows:

25           (E)(i) Incarceration in a county jail for no more than  
26 seven (7) days or incarceration in a ~~Department~~ Division of Community  
27 Correction facility or ~~Department~~ Division of Correction facility for no more  
28 than one hundred eighty (180) days.

29  
30           SECTION 931. Arkansas Code § 16-93-712(d)(3)(E)(ii)(b)-(d), concerning  
31 Parole Board supervision of parolee, are amended to read as follows:

32                               (b) A parolee shall accumulate no more than  
33 twenty-one (21) days' incarceration in a county jail or no more than three  
34 hundred sixty (360) days' incarceration in a ~~Department~~ Division of Community  
35 Correction facility or ~~Department~~ Division of Correction facility as an  
36 intermediate sanction before the parole officer recommends a violation of the

1 person's parole under § 16-93-706.

2 (c) A parolee is subject to a period of  
3 incarceration of:

4 (1) Up to ninety (90) days in a  
5 ~~Department~~ Division of Community Correction facility or ~~Department~~ Division  
6 of Correction facility for a technical conditions violation; and

7 (2) Exactly one hundred eighty (180)  
8 days in a ~~Department~~ Division of Community Correction or ~~Department~~ Division  
9 of Correction facility for a serious conditions violation.

10 (d) A parolee may not be incarcerated more  
11 than two (2) times as a parole sanction in a ~~Department~~ Division of Community  
12 Correction facility or ~~Department~~ Division of Correction facility.

13  
14 SECTION 932. Arkansas Code § 16-93-712(f)(1), concerning Parole Board  
15 supervision of a parolee, is amended to read as follows:

16 (1) May be reduced by the ~~Department~~ Division of Correction or  
17 the ~~Department~~ Division of Community Correction for good behavior and  
18 successful program completion; and

19  
20 SECTION 933. Arkansas Code § 16-93-715(a)(2)(A), concerning parole  
21 violations, technical conditions, violations, and serious conditions is  
22 amended to read as follows:

23 (2)(A) A period of confinement under subdivision (a)(1) of this  
24 section may be reduced by the ~~Department~~ Division of Correction or the  
25 ~~Department~~ Division of Community Correction for good behavior and successful  
26 program completion.

27  
28 SECTION 934. Arkansas Code § 16-93-715(b)(2), concerning parole  
29 violations, technical conditions, violations, and serious conditions is  
30 amended to read as follows:

31 (2)(A) A parolee is subject to having his or her parole revoked  
32 and being returned to the ~~Department~~ Division of Correction or the ~~Department~~  
33 Division of Community Correction for the next violation of his or her parole  
34 if the parolee has been confined six (6) times under § 16-93-712(d).

35 (B) After a parolee has been confined two (2) times under  
36 subdivision (a)(1) of this section for any combination of a technical

1 conditions violation or serious conditions violation for any period of time,  
2 the parolee is subject to having his or her parole revoked and being returned  
3 to the ~~Department~~ Division of Correction or the ~~Department~~ Division of  
4 Community Correction for the next violation of his or her parole.

5 (C) A parolee is subject to having his or her parole  
6 revoked and being returned to the ~~Department~~ Division of Correction or the  
7 ~~Department~~ Division of Community Correction under this section without having  
8 been sanctioned for a period of confinement set out under § 16-93-712(d) or  
9 subdivision (a)(1) of this section if the Parole Board determines by a  
10 preponderance of the evidence that the parolee is engaging in or has engaged  
11 in behavior that poses a threat to the community.

12  
13 SECTION 935. Arkansas Code § 16-93-715(e), concerning parole  
14 violations, technical conditions, violations, and serious conditions is  
15 amended to read as follows:

16 (e) Noncompliance with ~~Department~~ Division of Correction or ~~Department~~  
17 Division of Community Correction program requirements or violent or sexual  
18 behavior while confined for a technical conditions violation or serious  
19 conditions violation under this section may result in revocation of the  
20 parolee's parole for a period of time exceeding the limitations of  
21 subdivision (a)(1) of this section, up to and including the time remaining on  
22 the person's original sentence.

23  
24 SECTION 936. Arkansas Code § 16-93-1202(4)-(8), concerning definitions  
25 under the laws concerning community corrections, are amended to read as  
26 follows:

27 (4) "~~Department~~ Division of Community Correction" means the  
28 administrative structure in place to oversee the development and operation of  
29 community correction facilities, programs, and services, including probation  
30 and parole supervision;

31 (5) "~~Department~~ Division of Correction" means the administrative  
32 structure in place to oversee the daily operation of secure prison  
33 facilities;

34 (6) "Eligibility" or "eligible offender" means any person  
35 convicted of a felony who is by law eligible for such sentence or who is  
36 otherwise under the supervision of the ~~Department~~ Division of Community

1 Correction and who falls within the population targeted by the General  
2 Assembly for inclusion in community correction facilities and who has not  
3 been subject to a disciplinary violation for a violent act or for sexual  
4 misconduct while in the custody of a jail or correctional facility and does  
5 not have a current or previous conviction for a violent or sexual offense  
6 listed under subdivision (10)(A)(iii) of this section;

7 (7) "Incarceration" means commitment to the ~~Department~~ Division  
8 of Correction;

9 (8) "Supervision" means direct supervision at varying levels of  
10 intensity by either probation officers, in the case of sentences to probation  
11 with a condition of community correction, or parole and post prison  
12 supervision officers, in the case of offenders eligible for release on parole  
13 or offenders transferred to community correction or community supervision  
14 from the ~~Department~~ Division of Correction;

15  
16 SECTION 937. Arkansas Code § 16-93-1202(10)(C), concerning definition  
17 of "target group" under the laws concerning community corrections, is amended  
18 to read as follows:

19 (C) Final determination of eligibility for placement in  
20 any community correction center or program is the responsibility of the  
21 ~~Department~~ Division of Community Correction;

22  
23 SECTION 938. Arkansas Code § 16-93-1202(12), concerning definition of  
24 "transfer date" under the laws concerning community corrections, is amended  
25 to read as follows:

26 (12)(A) "Transfer date" means the earliest date on which an  
27 offender is eligible for transfer from the ~~Department~~ Division of Correction  
28 to the ~~Department~~ Division of Community Correction.

29 (B) The date may be extended based on disciplinary  
30 behavior while under the custody of the ~~Department~~ Division of Correction;  
31 and

32  
33 SECTION 939. Arkansas Code § 16-93-1202(13), concerning definition of  
34 "trial court" under the laws concerning community corrections, is amended to  
35 read as follows:

36 (13) "Trial court" means any court of this state having

1 jurisdiction of an eligible offender and the power to sentence the eligible  
2 offender to the included options, subject to eligibility determination by the  
3 ~~Department~~ Division of Community Correction.

4  
5 SECTION 940. Arkansas Code § 16-93-1203(1), concerning power and  
6 duties of the Board of Corrections, is amended to read as follows:

7 (1) Establish community correction programs to which eligible  
8 offenders may be assigned as a condition of probation, sentenced to by the  
9 trial court pursuant to this subchapter, paroled to upon release from  
10 incarceration, or transferred to after incarceration in the ~~Department~~  
11 Division of Correction;

12  
13 SECTION 941. Arkansas Code § 16-93-1203(6), concerning power and  
14 duties of the Board of Corrections, is amended to read as follows:

15 (6) Direct the departments, divisions, and other entities  
16 involved in the implementation of community correction options in a manner  
17 that will promote the safety and welfare of the people of this state;

18  
19 SECTION 942. Arkansas Code § 16-93-1207(a)(1)(A) and (B), concerning  
20 order of commitment by the court, are amended to read as follows:

21 (A) Committed to the ~~Department~~ Division of Correction;

22 (B) Committed to the ~~Department~~ Division of Correction  
23 with judicial transfer to the ~~Department~~ Division of Community Correction;

24  
25 SECTION 943. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 16-93-  
26 1207(b)(1), concerning order of commitment by the court, is amended to read  
27 as follows:

28 (b)(1) Upon the successful completion of probation or a commitment to  
29 the ~~Department~~ Division of Correction with judicial transfer to the  
30 ~~Department~~ Division of Community Correction or a commitment to a county jail  
31 for one (1) of the offenses targeted by the General Assembly for community  
32 correction placement, the court may direct that the record of the offender be  
33 sealed with regards to the offense of which the offender was either convicted  
34 or placed on probation under the condition that the offender has no more than  
35 one (1) previous felony conviction and that the previous felony was other  
36 than a conviction for:

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SECTION 944. Arkansas Code § 16-93-1208 is amended to read as follows:  
16-93-1208. Post commitment transfer.

(a)(1)(A) Upon commitment of an eligible offender to the ~~Department~~  
Division of Correction, the ~~Department~~ Division of Correction will transfer  
the eligible offender to a community correction program, when he or she  
reaches his or her transfer date, in accordance with the rules and  
regulations promulgated by the Board of Corrections and conditions set by the  
Parole Board.

(B) Legal custody of inmates transferred to the ~~Department~~  
Division of Community Correction shall remain with the ~~Department~~ Division of  
Correction unless altered by court order.

(2) A person eligible for release from incarceration on parole  
may be placed in community correction programming while under parole  
supervision upon the recommendation of the condition by the releasing  
authority.

(b)(1) The Board of Corrections and the ~~Department~~ Division of  
Correction are authorized to release medical and psychological data in their  
possession to a community correction service provider concerning an eligible  
offender transferred to that community correction program.

(2) The community correction service provider shall use any  
medical or psychological data received from the ~~Department~~ Division of  
Correction and the Board of Corrections in compliance with rules concerning  
the use of that data as adopted by the Board of Corrections.

SECTION 945. Arkansas Code § 16-93-1209 is amended to read as follows:  
16-93-1209. Liability.

The ~~Department~~ Division of Correction, the Board of Corrections, the  
~~Department~~ Division of Community Correction, the Parole Board, and all  
governmental agencies and units utilizing eligible offenders in community  
correction programs as defined in this subchapter are immune from liability  
and suit for damages, and no tort action shall lie against the ~~Department~~  
Division of Correction, the Board of Corrections, the ~~Department~~ Division of  
Community Correction, the Parole Board, and any governmental agency or unit  
or any of their employees because of any acts of eligible offenders utilized  
under the provisions of this subchapter.

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2 SECTION 946. Arkansas Code § 16-93-1602(3)(A), concerning the  
3 definition of "transitional housing" under the laws concerning traditional  
4 housing facilities, is amended to read as follows:

5 (3)(A) "Transitional housing" means a program that provides  
6 housing for one (1) or more offenders who either have been transferred or  
7 paroled from the ~~Department~~ Division of Correction by the Parole Board or  
8 placed on probation by a circuit court or district court.

9  
10 SECTION 947. Arkansas Code § 16-95-105 is amended to read as follows:

11 16-95-105. Escape – Penalty.

12 Any prisoner who shall escape from custody while in another state or  
13 jurisdiction pursuant to the Agreement on Detainers shall be guilty of a  
14 felony and upon conviction shall be sentenced to a term of not less than  
15 three (3) years nor more than five (5) years in the ~~Department~~ Division of  
16 Correction.

17  
18 SECTION 948. Arkansas Code § 16-98-303(a)(5), concerning authorization  
19 of drug court programs, is amended to read as follows:

20 (5) As determined by the ~~Department~~ Division of Community  
21 Correction, an adult drug court program established under this section shall  
22 target high-risk offenders and medium-risk offenders.

23  
24 SECTION 949. Arkansas Code § 16-98-303(b)(1) and (2), concerning  
25 authorization of drug court programs, are amended to read as follows:

26 (b)(1) A drug court program shall incorporate services from the  
27 ~~Department~~ Division of Community Correction, the Department of Human  
28 Services, and the Administrative Office of the Courts.

29 (2) Subject to an appropriation, funding, and position  
30 authorization, both programmatic and administrative, and subject to the  
31 requirements of eligibility as defined in § 16-93-1202, the ~~Department~~  
32 Division of Community Correction:

33 (A) Shall:

34 (i) Establish standards regarding the classification  
35 of a drug court program participant as a high-risk offender or medium-risk  
36 offender;

1 (ii) Provide positions for persons to serve as  
2 probation officers, drug counselors, and administrative assistants;

3 (iii) Provide for drug testing for drug court  
4 program participants;

5 (iv) Provide for intensive outpatient treatment for  
6 drug court program participants;

7 (v) Provide for intensive short-term and long-term  
8 residential treatment for drug court program participants; and

9 (vi) Develop clinical assessment capacity, including  
10 drug testing, to identify a drug court program participant with a substance  
11 addiction and develop a treatment protocol that improves the drug court  
12 program participant's likelihood of success; and

13 (B) May:

14 (i) Provide for continuous alcohol monitoring for  
15 drug court program participants, including a minimum period of one hundred  
16 twenty (120) days; and

17 (ii) Develop clinical assessment capacity, including  
18 continuous alcohol monitoring, to identify a drug court program participant  
19 with a substance addiction and develop a treatment protocol that improves the  
20 drug court program participant's likelihood of success.

21  
22 SECTION 950. Arkansas Code § 16-98-303(b)(4)(E)(iii), concerning  
23 authorization of drug court programs, are amended to read as follows:

24 (iii) Existing drug treatment programs currently in  
25 place and operating through the courts, the county jail, or the ~~Department~~  
26 Division of Correction; and

27  
28 SECTION 951. Arkansas Code § 16-98-303(e)(2)-(4), concerning the  
29 authorization of drug court programs, are amended to read as follows:

30 (2) ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary  
31 Education;

32 (3) ~~Department of Career Education~~ Adult Education Section of  
33 the Division of Workforce Services;

34 (4) ~~Department~~ Division of Community Correction; and

35  
36 SECTION 952. Arkansas Code § 16-98-303(f)(2), concerning authorization

1 of drug court programs, are amended to read as follows:

2 (2) Serve as a coordinator between drug court judges, the  
3 ~~Department~~ Division of Community Correction, the Division of Aging, Adult,  
4 and Behavioral Health Services of the Department of Human Services, private  
5 treatment provider representatives, and public health advocates;

6

7 SECTION 953. Arkansas Code § 16-99-101 is amended to read as follows:  
8 16-99-101. Purpose and intent.

9 (a) Both state and local agencies that implement criminal justice  
10 practices resulting in outcomes that reduce commitments to the ~~Department~~  
11 Division of Correction should be rewarded.

12 (b) If a state agency, county, or judicial district has implemented  
13 proven risk-reduction strategies that reduce the number of offenders  
14 returning to the ~~Department~~ Division of Correction with no resultant increase  
15 in the crime rate; then, in order to reward the state agency, county, or  
16 judicial district and as an incentive to encourage similar practices  
17 elsewhere, the state agency, county, or judicial district should receive a  
18 monetary reward to continue those practices.

19 (c) The award would represent a portion of the monetary savings from  
20 the costs that would have been incurred had the state agency, county, or  
21 judicial district not reduced its impact on the ~~Department~~ Division of  
22 Correction.

23 (d) The goal of this subchapter is to align state and local fiscal  
24 incentives by rewarding the ~~Department~~ Division of Community Correction,  
25 county governments, and judicial districts for each entity's role in reducing  
26 its impact on the ~~Department~~ Division of Correction.

27

28 SECTION 954. Arkansas Code § 16-99-102 is amended to read as follows:  
29 16-99-102. Program authorized – Administration.

30 (a) Costs averted due to a reduction in commitments to the ~~Department~~  
31 Division of Correction or a reduction in the period of time served in the  
32 ~~Department~~ Division of Correction, to the extent possible, shall be  
33 reinvested into those state agencies, counties, or judicial districts as an  
34 incentive to further the crime and recidivism reduction strategies being  
35 employed.

36 (b) The ~~Department~~ Division of Community Correction shall be the

1 recipient of incentive funds upon meeting the requirements set out in this  
2 subchapter.

3 (c)(1) Counties, multicounty partnerships, and judicial districts  
4 shall be eligible to apply for participation in the performance incentive  
5 funding program set out in this subchapter on the reduction in the ~~Department~~  
6 Division of Correction's population.

7 (2) Participation in the program will be determined through a  
8 competitive grant process.

9 (d) The Board of Corrections shall have the authority to manage the  
10 program and administer the grant funds to appropriate applicants and the  
11 ~~Department~~ Division of Community Correction.

12 (e)(1) Subject to the available funding, the ~~Department~~ Division of  
13 Community Correction shall manage and administer grant funds to itself and  
14 counties, multicounty partnerships, and judicial districts in order to  
15 implement the policies and programs authorized by this program.

16 (2) These shall be one-time-only grants not contingent on  
17 measured performance.

18 (3) All future funding under this section shall be tied to  
19 measured performance.

20

21 SECTION 955. Arkansas Code § 16-99-103(a)(1), concerning an  
22 application for parole revocation, is amended to read as follows:

23 (a)(1) The ~~Department~~ Division of Community Correction shall receive  
24 additional funding for committing to a reduction in the number of probation  
25 revocations that result from a technical violation or a new crime.

26

27 SECTION 956. Arkansas Code § 16-99-103(a)(4) and (5), concerning an  
28 application for parole revocation, are amended to read as follows:

29 (4) Each year the ~~Department~~ Division of Community Correction  
30 shall receive additional funds for reducing the net impact of revocations on  
31 the ~~Department~~ Division of Correction.

32 (5) The ~~Department~~ Division of Community Correction shall  
33 promulgate rules and regulations for the distribution and use of incentive  
34 funds that it receives, requiring that:

35 (A) No less than one-third (1/3) of the funds received  
36 each year are distributed to the individual probation or parole areas

1 responsible for the revocation reductions while maintaining or improving  
2 public safety; and

3 (B) All of the funds received by the ~~Department~~ Division  
4 of Community Correction are invested in programs and practices designed to  
5 reduce recidivism.

6  
7 SECTION 957. Arkansas Code § 16-99-103(b)(1), concerning an  
8 application for parole revocation, is amended to read as follows:

9 (b)(1) A competitive grant process will distribute grants to five (5)  
10 individual counties, multicounty partnerships, or judicial districts that  
11 meet criteria established to improve public safety and reduce their net  
12 impact on the ~~Department~~ Division of Correction.

13  
14 SECTION 958. Arkansas Code § 16-99-103(b)(4)-(6), concerning an  
15 application for parole revocation, are amended to read as follows:

16 (4) Four (4) of the five (5) grants shall be awarded to the  
17 counties, multicounty partnerships, or judicial districts with the largest  
18 number of annual ~~Department~~ Division of Correction commitments that meet the  
19 program criteria and submit acceptable applications.

20 (5) One (1) grant shall be awarded to a county, multicounty  
21 partnership, or judicial district representing a rural region of the state,  
22 notwithstanding the number of ~~Department~~ Division of Correction commitments  
23 from the applicant so long as the program criteria are met and the  
24 application is acceptable.

25 (6) Each year, the grant recipient shall receive additional  
26 funds equal to one-half ( $\frac{1}{2}$ ) of the averted costs for reducing the net impact  
27 of its sentences on the ~~Department~~ Division of Correction.

28  
29 SECTION 959. Arkansas Code § 16-99-104(2), concerning the  
30 implementation of rules by the Board of Corrections, is amended to read as  
31 follows:

32 (2) Calculate and determine the baseline for the ~~Department~~  
33 Division of Community Correction's revocation rate and for the ~~Department~~  
34 Division of Correction's commitments' length of stay for evaluation purposes;  
35 and

36

1 SECTION 960. Arkansas Code § 16-99-105(a)(1), concerning reporting and  
2 data collection by the Department of Community Correction, is amended to read  
3 as follows:

4 (a)(1) The ~~Department~~ Division of Community Correction shall provide  
5 data and information as requested by the Board of Corrections.  
6

7 SECTION 961. Arkansas Code § 16-99-105(a)(2)(A), concerning reporting  
8 and data collection by the Department of Community Correction, is amended to  
9 read as follows:

10 (A) The total number of probationers from each of  
11 ~~Department~~ Division of Community Correction's individual probation or parole  
12 areas for the current year and previous years, as available;  
13

14 SECTION 962. Arkansas Code § 16-99-105(a)(2)(C), concerning reporting  
15 and data collection by the Department of Community Correction, is amended to  
16 read as follows:

17 (C) The total number of new felony convictions and the  
18 rate of new felony convictions from each of the ~~Department~~ Division of  
19 Community Correction's individual probation or parole areas for the current  
20 year and previous years, as available;  
21

22 SECTION 963. Arkansas Code § 16-99-105(a)(2)(E), concerning reporting  
23 and data collection by the Department of Community Correction, is amended to  
24 read as follows:

25 (E) The evidence-based programs established or enhanced by  
26 the ~~Department~~ Division of Community Correction as part of its effort to  
27 reduce revocations and improve public safety and any subsequent evidence-  
28 based programs that contribute to the outcomes of the performance incentive  
29 funding program under this subchapter.  
30

31 SECTION 964. Arkansas Code § 16-99-105(d)(2) and (3), concerning  
32 reporting and data collection by the Department of Community Correction, are  
33 amended to read as follows:

34 (2) This analysis shall include without limitation the effect,  
35 compared to baseline, on net ~~Department~~ Division of Correction bed usage by  
36 the ~~Department~~ Division of Community Correction and by all county grantees,

1 as well as ~~Department~~ Division of Correction admissions and lengths-of-stay,  
2 moneys paid out, revocation rates and new crime conviction rates for the  
3 ~~Department~~ Division of Community Correction, and guidelines compliance for  
4 participating counties.

5 (3) The board shall provide analyses on an area-by-area basis  
6 for the ~~Department~~ Division of Community Correction performance incentive  
7 funding program and on a county-by-county, multicounty-partnership, or  
8 judicial-district basis for the local performance-incentive funding program.

9

10 SECTION 965. Arkansas Code § 16-106-201(2), concerning the definition  
11 of "inmate" under the rules governing actions against the state, is amended  
12 to read as follows:

13 (2) "Inmate" or "inmate in a penal institution" includes, but is  
14 not limited to, a person in the custody or under the supervision of the  
15 ~~Department~~ Division of Correction, the ~~Department~~ Division of Community  
16 Correction, or the United States Bureau of Prisons; and

17

18 SECTION 966. Arkansas Code § 16-106-202(a), concerning premature,  
19 frivolous, or malicious lawsuits, is amended to read as follows:

20 (a) A civil action or claim initiated against the state, the Board of  
21 Corrections, the ~~Department~~ Division of Correction, the ~~Department~~ Division  
22 of Community Correction, another state agency, or a political subdivision, or  
23 an original action in an appellate court, or an appeal of an action, whether  
24 or not the plaintiff was represented in court, by an inmate in a penal  
25 institution or an incarcerated person appearing pro se may be:

26 (1) Dismissed without prejudice by the court on its own motion  
27 or on a motion of the defendant, if all administrative remedies available to  
28 the inmate have not been exhausted; or

29 (2) Dismissed with prejudice by the court on a motion of the  
30 defendant if the court is satisfied that the action is frivolous or  
31 malicious.

32

33 SECTION 967. Arkansas Code § 16-106-203(1), concerning sanctions for  
34 causes of actions that are frivolous or malicious, is amended to read as  
35 follows:

36 (1) Award attorney's fees and actual costs incurred by the

1 state, the ~~Department~~ Division of Correction, or the ~~Department~~ Division of  
2 Community Correction, another state agency, a political subdivision, the  
3 Attorney General's office, or the defendant, not to exceed two thousand five  
4 hundred dollars (\$2,500) per frivolous cause of action;

5  
6 SECTION 968. Arkansas Code § 16-106-203(3) and (4), concerning  
7 sanctions for causes of actions that are frivolous or malicious, are amended  
8 to read as follows:

9 (3) Order the ~~Department~~ Division of Correction to revoke up to  
10 thirty (30) days' earned good-time credits accrued, under § 12-29-201 et  
11 seq.;

12 (4) Order the ~~Department~~ Division of Correction to revoke  
13 permission to have nonessential personal property of the inmate, including,  
14 but not limited to, televisions, radios, stereos, or tape recorders. If  
15 permission is revoked, the ~~Department~~ Division of Correction shall take  
16 appropriate precautions to protect the property during the period of the  
17 revocation; or

18  
19 SECTION 969. Arkansas Code § 16-106-204(a), concerning fees and costs  
20 as a judgment against the inmate, is amended to read as follows:

21 (a) Any award of attorney's fees or costs, or the imposition of a  
22 sanction shall serve as a judgment against the inmate, and the ~~Department~~  
23 Division of Correction is authorized to take up to fifty percent (50%) of the  
24 inmate's account per month until paid.

25  
26 SECTION 970. Arkansas Code § 16-123-407 is amended to read as follows:  
27 16-123-407. Exemptions.

28 The ~~Department~~ Division of Correction, the ~~Department~~ Division of  
29 Community Correction, a county jail, and a detention facility are exempt from  
30 this subchapter.

31  
32 SECTION 971. Arkansas Code § 17-82-104(d)(1), concerning unlawful  
33 practice of dentistry is amended to read as follows:

34 (d)(1) A registered licensed dental hygienist working at a ~~Department~~  
35 Division of Correction or ~~Department~~ Division of Community Correction  
36 facility may work under the general supervision of a licensed dentist.

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SECTION 972. Arkansas Code § 17-82-301(c), concerning penalty for practice of unlawful dentistry, is amended to read as follows:

(c) Any person who violates any provision of subsection (a) of this section shall be guilty of a Class D felony and shall be subject to imprisonment not to exceed six (6) years in the ~~Department~~ Division of Correction or a fine of up to ten thousand dollars (\$10,000), or both. Each unauthorized act constitutes a separate offense.

SECTION 973. Arkansas Code § 17-101-308(a)(4)(A), concerning the denial, suspension or revocation of a certificate for veterinary technicians, is amended to read as follows:

(4)(A) Any offense punishable by incarceration in the ~~Department~~ Division of Correction or federal prison.

SECTION 974. Arkansas Code § 19-4-803(a)(5), resulting from Initiated Act 1 of 2000 and concerning exemptions under the accounting and budgetary procedures regarding the expenditure of cash funds, is amended to read as follows:

(5) The Benefit Fund of the ~~Department~~ Division of Workforce Services;

SECTION 975. Arkansas Code § 19-4-803(b), resulting from Initiated Act 1 of 2000 and concerning exemptions, is amended to read as follows:

(b) The ~~Department~~ Division of Correction Plasma Center is exempt from provisions of this subchapter.

SECTION 976. Arkansas Code § 19-4-1602(a)(20), concerning payroll deductions, is amended to read as follows:

(20) ~~Department~~ Division Correction Bus Pool dues, when requested in writing by those employees;

SECTION 977. Arkansas Code § 19-5-302(1), concerning the State General Government Fund, is amended to read as follows:

(1) ~~Department~~ Division of Correction Inmate Care and Custody Fund Account.

1 (A) The ~~Department~~ Division of Correction Inmate Care and  
2 Custody Fund Account shall be used for the maintenance, operation, and  
3 improvement of the ~~Department~~ Division of Correction required in carrying out  
4 those powers, functions, and duties relating to nonfarm or crop-producing  
5 programs as established by law.

6 (B) The ~~Department~~ Division of Correction Inmate Care and  
7 Custody Fund Account shall consist of:

8 (i) Those general revenues as may be provided by  
9 law;

10 (ii) Nonrevenue income derived from services  
11 provided by the inmate care and custody program;

12 (iii) Excess farm profits as may be provided by law;  
13 and

14 (iv) Any other funds provided by law, including  
15 federal reimbursements received for eligible expenditures by the various  
16 programs of the ~~Department~~ Division of Correction from appropriations made  
17 payable from the ~~Department~~ Division of Correction Inmate Care and Custody  
18 Fund Account;

19  
20 SECTION 978. Arkansas Code § 19-5-302(2), concerning the State General  
21 Government Fund, is amended to read as follows:

22 (2) ~~State Military Department~~ Department of the Military Fund  
23 Account.

24 (A) The ~~State Military Department~~ Department of the  
25 Military Fund Account shall be used for the maintenance, operation, and  
26 improvement of the ~~State Military Department~~ Department of the Military  
27 required in carrying out the powers, functions, and duties as set out in the  
28 Military Code of Arkansas, § 12-60-101 et seq., or other duties imposed by  
29 law upon the State Militia, ~~State Military Department~~ Department of the  
30 Military, and the Arkansas Wing of the Civil Air Patrol, which was separated  
31 from the Department of Public Safety [abolished] by Acts 1981, No. 45, §§ 4  
32 and 5.

33 (B) The ~~State Military Department~~ Department of the  
34 Military Fund Account shall consist of:

35 (i) Those general revenues as may be provided by  
36 law;

1 (ii) Nonrevenue income derived from services  
2 provided by the ~~State Military Department~~ Department of the Military; and

3 (iii) Any other funds as may be provided by law.

4 (C) Federal reimbursement funds received on account of  
5 eligible expenditures by the State Militia or the ~~State Military Department~~  
6 Department of the Military shall be deposited into the Special Military Fund  
7 established on the books of the Treasurer of State, the Auditor of State, and  
8 the Chief Fiscal Officer of the State, there to be used as may be provided by  
9 law;

10  
11 SECTION 979. Arkansas Code § 19-5-302(3), concerning the State General  
12 Government Fund and the Parks and Tourism Fund Account, is amended to read as  
13 follows:

14 (3) Parks and Tourism Fund Account.

15 (A) The Parks and Tourism Fund Account shall be used for the  
16 maintenance, operation, and improvement required by the Department of Parks,  
17 Heritage, and Tourism as created by § ~~25-13-101~~ 25-43-1301, or other duties  
18 imposed by law upon the ~~Department of Parks and Tourism~~ State Parks Division  
19 and the Tourism Division, the State Parks, Recreation, and Travel Commission,  
20 ~~the Prairie Grove Battlefield State Park Advisory Commission~~, or upon any  
21 state park of Arkansas.

22 (B) The Parks and Tourism Fund Account shall consist of:

23 (i) Those general revenues as may be provided by law;

24 (ii) Nonrevenue income derived from services provided by  
25 the various divisions of the ~~Department of Parks and Tourism~~ State Parks  
26 Division and the Tourism Division; and

27 (iii) Any other funds that may be provided by law.

28 (C) Funds received by the various state parks under the  
29 direction of the Department of Parks, Heritage, and Tourism which are not  
30 required to be deposited into the State Treasury shall be deposited into  
31 banks, there to be disbursed as may be appropriated by the General Assembly  
32 or to be used as may be otherwise provided by law;

33  
34 SECTION 980. Arkansas Code § 19-5-302(4), concerning the Arkansas  
35 Department of Environmental Quality Fund Account of the State General  
36 Government Fund, is amended to read as follows:

1                   (4) ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of Environmental Quality Fund  
2 Account.

3                   (A) The ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of Environmental  
4 Quality Fund Account shall be used for the maintenance, operation, and  
5 improvement required by the ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of Environmental  
6 Quality in carrying out the powers, functions, and duties as set out in Title  
7 8, Chapters 1-10, or other duties imposed by law ~~upon the Arkansas Pollution~~  
8 ~~Control and Ecology Commission which were transferred to the Arkansas~~  
9 ~~Department of Environmental Quality under the provisions of § 25-14-101.~~

10                   (B) The ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of Environmental Quality  
11 Fund Account shall consist of:

12                   (i) Those general revenues as may be provided by law;

13                   (ii) Such funds received from the Arkansas State Game and  
14 Fish Commission and from the Oil and Gas Commission as may be provided by  
15 law;

16                   (iii) Nonrevenue income derived from services provided by  
17 the ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of Environmental Quality; and

18                   (iv) Any other funds provided by law;

19  
20                   SECTION 981. Arkansas Code § 19-5-302(7), concerning the State General  
21 Government Fund, is amended to read as follows:

22                   (7) Department of Labor and Licensing Fund Account.

23                   (A) The Department of Labor and Licensing Fund Account  
24 shall be used for the maintenance, operation, and improvement required by the  
25 Department of Labor and Licensing in carrying out those powers, functions,  
26 and duties imposed by law upon the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of  
27 Labor and Licensing or the Department of Labor and Licensing, or upon the  
28 State Mine Inspector as set out in § 11-7-201 et seq., or any other duties  
29 that may be imposed by law upon the Department of Labor and Licensing which  
30 was transferred to the Department of Labor and Licensing by § 25-12-101.

31                   (B) The Department of Labor and Licensing Fund Account shall  
32 consist of:

33                   (i) Those general revenues as may be provided by law; and

34                   (ii) Any other funds as may be provided by law, including  
35 federal reimbursement received on account of eligible expenditures by the  
36 various programs of the Department of Labor and Licensing operating from and

1 having appropriations made payable from the Department of Labor and Licensing  
2 Fund Account;

3

4 SECTION 982. Arkansas Code § 19-5-302(10), concerning the State  
5 General Government Fund and the Department of Arkansas Heritage Fund Account,  
6 is amended to read as follows:

7 (10) ~~Department~~ Division of Arkansas Heritage Fund Account. The  
8 ~~Department~~ Division of Arkansas Heritage Fund Account shall consist of those  
9 general revenues as provided by law for the ~~Department~~ Division of Arkansas  
10 Heritage and shall be used for the maintenance, operation, and improvement of  
11 the ~~Department~~ Division of Arkansas Heritage;

12

13 SECTION 983. Arkansas Code § 19-5-302(12), concerning the State  
14 General Government Fund, is amended to read as follows:

15 (12) ~~Department~~ Division of Community Correction Fund Account.

16 (A) The ~~Department~~ Division of Community Correction Fund  
17 Account shall be used for the maintenance, operation, and improvement of the  
18 ~~Department~~ Division of Community Correction required in carrying out those  
19 powers, functions, and duties as established by law.

20 (B) The ~~Department~~ Division of Community Correction Fund  
21 Account shall consist of:

22 (i) Those general revenues as may be provided by  
23 law;

24 (ii) Nonrevenue income derived from services  
25 provided by the probation, parole, and community correction program; and

26 (iii) Any other funds provided by law, including  
27 federal reimbursements received for eligible expenditures by the various  
28 programs of the ~~Department~~ Division of Correction from appropriations made  
29 payable from the ~~Department~~ Division of Community Correction Fund Account;

30

31 SECTION 984. Arkansas Code § 19-5-302(14), concerning the State  
32 General Government Fund, is amended to read as follows:

33 (14) ~~Arkansas Agriculture Department~~ Department of Agriculture  
34 Fund Account.

35 (A) The ~~Arkansas Agriculture Department~~ Department of  
36 Agriculture Fund Account shall be used for the maintenance, operation, and

1 improvement required by the ~~Arkansas Agriculture Department~~ Department of  
2 Agriculture in carrying out those powers, functions, and duties imposed by  
3 law upon the Secretary of the ~~Arkansas Agriculture Department~~ Department of  
4 Agriculture as set out in Title 25, Chapter 38, or any other duties that may  
5 be imposed by law upon the ~~Arkansas Agriculture Department~~ Department of  
6 Agriculture which were transferred to the ~~Arkansas Agriculture Department~~  
7 Department of Agriculture under the provisions of §§ ~~25-38-204 and~~ 25-38-206  
8 and 25-38-211.

9 (B) The ~~Arkansas Agriculture Department~~ Department of  
10 Agriculture Fund Account shall consist of:

11 (i) Those general revenues as may be provided by  
12 law;

13 (ii) Nonrevenue income derived from services  
14 provided by the various divisions of the ~~Arkansas Agriculture Department~~  
15 Department of Agriculture;

16 (iii) Federal reimbursement received on account of  
17 eligible expenditures by the various programs of the ~~Arkansas Agriculture~~  
18 ~~Department~~ Department of Agriculture operating from and having appropriations  
19 made payable from the ~~Arkansas Agriculture Department~~ Department of  
20 Agriculture Fund Account; and

21 (iv) Any other funds as may be provided by law.  
22

23 SECTION 985. Arkansas Code § 19-5-503 is amended to read as follows:  
24 19-5-503. Work release centers.

25 The Community Correction Revolving Fund is authorized to borrow from  
26 the Budget Stabilization Trust Fund for the establishment of new work release  
27 centers for the ~~Department~~ Division of Correction. These loans shall be  
28 repaid by the end of the fiscal year in which the loans are made.  
29

30 SECTION 986. Arkansas Code § 19-5-905(a)(11)(A) and (B), concerning  
31 the Securities Reserve Fund, are amended to read as follows:

32 (A) The ~~Department~~ Division of Correction Farm Fund under  
33 § 19-5-501(b)(1);

34 (B) The ~~State Military Department~~ Department of the  
35 Military Fund Account under § 19-5-501(b)(3);  
36

1 SECTION 987. Arkansas Code § 19-5-1045(b) and (c), concerning the  
2 County Jail Reimbursement Fund, are amended to read as follows:

3 (b) The fund shall be used by the ~~Department~~ Division of Correction  
4 for reimbursing counties housing prisoners sentenced to the ~~Department~~  
5 Division of Correction.

6 (c) The fund shall be used by the ~~Department~~ Division of Community  
7 Correction for reimbursing counties that are housing prisoners:

8 (1) Sentenced to the ~~Department~~ Division of Community  
9 Correction;

10 (2) Placed on probation if the probation is accompanied by  
11 incarceration in the ~~Department~~ Division of Community Correction; or

12 (3) Confined in a county jail under any prerelease program or  
13 sanction imposed in response to a violation of a supervised condition.  
14

15 SECTION 988. Arkansas Code § 19-6-301(31), concerning special revenues  
16 enumerated, is amended to read as follows:

17 (31) Fees recovered from ex-offenders on probation or parole  
18 from a facility of the ~~Department~~ Division of Community Correction, as  
19 enacted by Acts 1981, No. 70, and all laws amendatory thereto, § 16-93-104;  
20

21 SECTION 989. Arkansas Code § 19-6-301(42) and (43), concerning special  
22 revenues enumerated, are amended to read as follows:

23 (42) That portion not declared to be "pledged revenues" for debt  
24 service on any certificates of indebtedness issued under Acts 1983, No. 458,  
25 §§ 22-3-1201 – 22-3-1214, 22-3-1215 [repealed], and 22-3-1216 – 22-3-1219,  
26 and that portion not declared cash funds paid to the Arkansas Development  
27 Finance Authority for deposit into the Correction Facilities Privatization  
28 Account of the Correction Facilities Construction Fund, § 22-3-1210(c)(1)(A),  
29 of the ~~Department~~ Division of Correction's income from its farm operations,  
30 including sale of farm products and livestock, rental of farm properties, and  
31 payments from agencies of the state or federal government in connection with  
32 the farm operations, as enacted by Acts 1968 (1st Ex. Sess.), No. 50, and all  
33 laws amendatory thereto, §§ 12-27-101 – 12-27-105, 12-27-107 – 12-27-109, 12-  
34 27-112, 12-27-113, 12-27-115, 12-27-118, 12-27-120, 12-28-102, 12-29-101,  
35 former 12-29-102, 12-29-103, 12-29-104, 12-29-107, 12-29-112, 12-29-401, 12-  
36 30-301, 12-30-306, 12-30-401, 12-30-403, 12-30-405 – 12-30-407, 12-30-408

1 [repealed], 16-93-101, 16-93-102, former 16-93-201, 16-93-202 – 16-93-204,  
2 16-93-601, 16-93-610, 16-93-701, 16-93-705, and 25-8-106;

3 (43) That portion not declared to be “pledged revenues” for debt  
4 service on any certificates of indebtedness issued under Acts 1983, No. 458,  
5 §§ 22-3-1201 – 22-3-1214, 22-3-1215 [repealed], 22-3-1216 – 22-3-1219, of the  
6 ~~Department~~ Division of Correction’s sales, or dispositions of articles and  
7 products manufactured or produced by prison labor, as enacted by Acts 1967,  
8 No. 473, known as the “Prison-Made Goods Act of 1967”, § 12-30-201 et seq.;

9  
10 SECTION 990. Arkansas Code § 19-6-301(104), concerning special  
11 revenues enumerated, is amended to read as follows:

12 (104) All ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of Environmental Quality  
13 fees, unless otherwise provided by law, § 8-1-105, landfill operator license  
14 fees, § 8-6-909, and that portion of new tire waste tire fees, § 8-9-404;

15  
16 SECTION 991. Arkansas Code § 19-6-403 is amended to read as follows:

17 19-6-403. ~~Department~~ Division of Correction Farm Fund.

18 The ~~Department~~ Division of Correction Farm Fund shall consist of those  
19 revenues as specified in § 19-6-301(42), there to be used for the  
20 maintenance, operation, and improvement of the ~~Department~~ Division  
21 of Correction’s farming operations. Any surplus accruing in the fund shall,  
22 upon determination of that surplus, be transferred to the ~~Department~~ Division  
23 of Correction Inmate Care and Custody Fund Account.

24  
25 SECTION 992. Arkansas Code § 19-6-423 is amended to read as follows:

26 19-6-423. ~~Department~~ Division of Correction Prison Industry Fund.

27 The ~~Department~~ Division of Correction Prison Industry Fund shall  
28 consist of those special revenues as specified in § 19-6-301(43), there to be  
29 used for the maintenance, operation, and improvement of the ~~Department~~  
30 Division of Correction’s prison industries activities.

31  
32 SECTION 993. Arkansas Code § 19-7-406 is amended to read as follows:

33 19-7-406. Loans on agricultural products.

34 It shall be lawful for the ~~Department~~ Division of Correction and other  
35 state institutions and the counties of the state which produce cotton or  
36 other agricultural products to participate in government loans made available

1 upon these agricultural products. The superintendent of any such state  
2 institution and the county judge of any such county are authorized to enter  
3 into the necessary papers to secure the benefits of these government loans.  
4

5 SECTION 994. Arkansas Code § 19-10-216(c), concerning decisions of the  
6 Arkansas State Claims Commission, is amended to read as follows:

7 (c) A claim filed by a person who at the time of filing is an inmate  
8 of the ~~Department~~ Division of Correction is exempted from the requirements of  
9 this section.  
10

11 SECTION 995. Arkansas Code § 20-9-310(2), concerning liability for  
12 furnishing medical records pursuant to subpoena, is amended to read as  
13 follows:

14 (2) Providing access to or producing a copy of the health or  
15 medical records requested by a clerk of a court, the ~~Department~~ Division of  
16 Correction, the ~~Department~~ Division of Community Correction, the Arkansas  
17 State Hospital, the Department of Health, the Department of Human Services,  
18 or a local law enforcement agency under the Sex Offender Registration Act of  
19 1997, § 12-12-901 et seq.; or  
20

21 SECTION 996. Arkansas Code § 20-9-602(12), concerning consent to  
22 medical treatment, is amended to read as follows:

23 (12) Any minor incarcerated in the ~~Department~~ Division of  
24 Correction or the ~~Department~~ Division of Community Correction, for himself or  
25 herself; and  
26

27 SECTION 997. Arkansas Code § 20-9-604(e)(1), concerning consent for  
28 medical procedure given by court in an emergency, is amended to read as  
29 follows:

30 (e)(1) Consent may be given by a court when an emergency exists and  
31 there is no one immediately available who is authorized, empowered to, or  
32 capable of consent for a person of unsound mind or there has been a  
33 subsequent material and morbid change in the condition of the affected person  
34 who is in the custody of the ~~Department~~ Division of Correction or the  
35 ~~Department~~ Division of Community Correction.  
36

1 SECTION 998. Arkansas Code § 21-5-701(3), concerning the definition of  
2 "covered public employee" under the laws addressing death benefits, is  
3 amended to read as follows:

4 (3) "Covered public employee" means a police officer,  
5 firefighter, state highway employee, state correction employee, ~~Department~~  
6 Division of Community Correction employee, jailer, qualified emergency  
7 services worker, wildlife enforcement officer, emergency medical technician,  
8 Arkansas Forestry Commission employee, commissioned law enforcement  
9 personnel, or emergency response personnel of the ~~State Parks Division of the~~  
10 Department of Parks, Heritage, and Tourism;

11  
12 SECTION 999. Arkansas Code § 21-5-701(4), concerning the definition of  
13 "Department of Community Correction employee" under the laws addressing death  
14 benefits, is amended to read as follows:

15 (4) "~~Department~~ Division of Community Correction employee" means  
16 any employee of the ~~Department~~ Division of Community Correction who is  
17 subject to injury through contact with parolees, probationers, or center  
18 residents;

19  
20 SECTION 1000. Arkansas Code § 21-5-701(10), concerning the definition  
21 of "state correction employee" under the laws addressing death benefits, is  
22 amended to read as follows:

23 (10) "State correction employee" means an employee of the  
24 ~~Department~~ Division of Correction or the Corrections School System who is  
25 subject to injury through contact with inmates or parolees of the ~~Department~~  
26 Division of Correction;

27  
28 SECTION 1001. Arkansas Code § 21-5-704(b)(2)(A), concerning payment of  
29 claim to covered public employees, their designated beneficiaries, or their  
30 survivors, is amended to read as follows:

31 (2)(A) Except as provided in subdivision (b)(2)(B) of this  
32 section, the funds shall not be reimbursed by transfer or charging the funds  
33 against any state funds allocated for turnback to cities or counties or  
34 distributed to the State Highway and Transportation Department Fund or  
35 distributed to any ~~Department~~ Division of Correction fund account or any  
36 other state department agency fund account other than the Arkansas State

1 Claims Commission fund accounts and the Miscellaneous Revolving Fund or state  
2 funds levied for firefighters, police officers, employees of the Arkansas  
3 Department of Transportation, and employees of the ~~Department~~ Division of  
4 Correction for pension purposes.

5

6 SECTION 1002. Arkansas Code § 21-5-704(c), concerning payment of claim  
7 to covered public employees, their designated beneficiaries, or their  
8 survivors, is amended to read as follows:

9 (c) It is the intent of this subchapter that twenty-five thousand  
10 dollars (\$25,000) of the total obligation of providing the benefits provided  
11 by this subchapter, even though the funds are to be administered by the  
12 Arkansas State Claims Commission, are to be defrayed from state funds and are  
13 not to be charged against, or recovered against, any turnback moneys due the  
14 cities or counties of this state or allocated to the state highway system of  
15 this state or to the ~~Department~~ Division of Correction or any other state  
16 department agency fund account other than the Arkansas State Claims  
17 Commission fund accounts and the Miscellaneous Revolving Fund.

18

19 SECTION 1003. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 21-5-  
20 705(a)(1), concerning payment of claim to designated beneficiaries or  
21 survivors of certain specified public employees killed in the line of duty,  
22 is amended to read as follows:

23 (1) Police officer, wildlife enforcement officer, commissioned  
24 law enforcement officer or emergency response employee of the ~~State Parks~~  
25 ~~Division of the~~ Department of Parks, Heritage, and Tourism, ~~Department~~  
26 Division of Community Correction employee, employee of the ~~Department~~  
27 Division of Correction, jailer, or coroner whose death occurred:

28

29 SECTION 1004. Arkansas Code § 21-5-705(b), concerning payment of  
30 claims to designated beneficiaries or survivors of certain public employees  
31 killed in the line of duty, is amended to read as follows:

32 (b) In addition to the benefits provided for in subsection (a) of this  
33 section, the state shall pay the additional sum of twenty-five thousand  
34 dollars (\$25,000) to the designated beneficiary, surviving spouse, or  
35 surviving children under twenty-two (22) years of age of any police officer,  
36 wildlife enforcement officer of the Arkansas State Game and Fish Commission,

1 commissioned law enforcement officer of the ~~State Parks Division of the~~  
2 Department of Parks, Heritage, and Tourism, ~~Department~~ Division of Community  
3 Correction employee, or employee of the ~~Department~~ Division of Correction:

4 (1) Who was wearing a bulletproof vest approved by the Director  
5 of the Department of Arkansas State Police or the Director of the Division of  
6 Arkansas State Police; and

7 (2) Whose death occurred:

8 (A) After July 1, 1989; and

9 (B) In the official line of duty as the result of a  
10 criminal action of another person or persons.

11  
12 SECTION 1005. Arkansas Code § 22-3-1202 is amended to read as follows:  
13 22-3-1202. Purpose.

14 It has been found by the General Assembly that adequate construction,  
15 equipping, maintenance, and operation of facilities for the ~~Department~~  
16 Division of Correction and the state-supported institutions of higher  
17 education are essential to the well-being of this state and that the pledging  
18 of the motor vehicles safety inspection fee, the fees derived from the  
19 agriculture and livestock activities and rentals of farm properties, the fees  
20 collected from the sale or disposition of articles and products manufactured  
21 through the operations of the prison industries program, and the rental fees  
22 collected by state-supported institutions of higher education from tenants  
23 other than state agencies is essential to the fulfillment of the purposes of  
24 this subchapter.

25  
26 SECTION 1006. Arkansas Code § 22-3-1203(2), concerning the definition  
27 of "building", is amended to read as follows:

28 (2)(A) "Building" or "buildings" means any and all buildings and  
29 related facilities constructed or acquired and equipped for the housing of  
30 inmates committed to, or in the custody of, the ~~Department~~ Division of  
31 Correction; any and all buildings and related facilities constructed,  
32 acquired, or equipped for the purpose of expanding the prison agriculture and  
33 industry programs within the ~~Department~~ Division of Correction; and any and  
34 all buildings constructed, acquired, or equipped for any state-supported  
35 institution of higher education, the construction, acquisition, or equipping  
36 of which are authorized by this subchapter.

1 (B) The term "building" or "buildings" means a single  
2 building or complex of buildings or an expansion of an existing building or  
3 complex of buildings as may be determined best to serve the needs of the  
4 ~~Department~~ Division of Correction or state-supported institutions of higher  
5 education and shall refer to and include such related structures, fixtures,  
6 and facilities as may be determined to be appropriate;

7  
8 SECTION 1007. Arkansas Code § 22-3-1203(4)(A), concerning the  
9 definition of "construct" or "construction" under the Public Facilities  
10 Finance Act of 1983, is amended to read as follows:

11 (4)(A) "Construct" or "construction" means to acquire,  
12 construct, reconstruct, remodel, expand, install, or equip all lands,  
13 buildings, structures, improvements, or other property, either real,  
14 personal, or mixed, which is useful in connection with the building, and to  
15 make other necessary expenditures in connection therewith by such methods and  
16 in such manner as the Building Authority Division ~~of the Department of~~  
17 ~~Finance and Administration~~ shall determine to be necessary or desirable to  
18 accomplish the powers, purposes, and authorities set forth in this  
19 subchapter.

20  
21 SECTION 1008. Arkansas Code § 22-3-1203(5), concerning the definition  
22 of "department", is repealed.

23 ~~(5) "Department" means the Department of Correction created by §~~  
24 ~~12-27-103 and any successor agency;~~

25  
26 SECTION 1009. Arkansas Code § 22-3-1205(a), concerning the powers of  
27 the Building Authority Division, is amended to read as follows:

28 (a) In addition to the powers, purposes, and authorities set forth  
29 elsewhere in this subchapter or in other laws, the Building Authority  
30 Division ~~of the Department of Finance and Administration~~ is authorized and  
31 empowered to:

32 (1) Acquire, construct, repair, renovate, alter, maintain, and  
33 equip existing or new buildings and capital improvements and the sites upon  
34 which they are situated for use by the ~~Department~~ Division of Correction for  
35 the housing, treatment, care, and rehabilitation of inmates committed to or  
36 in the custody of the ~~Department~~ Division of Correction;

1 (2) Acquire, construct, repair, renovate, alter, maintain, and  
2 equip existing or new buildings and capital improvements and the sites upon  
3 which they are situated for use by the ~~Department~~ Division of Correction for  
4 the prison agriculture and industry programs;

5  
6 SECTION 1010. Arkansas Code § 22-3-1210(a)(2) and (3), concerning  
7 certificates of indebtedness and the Public Facilities Debt Service Fund, are  
8 amended to read as follows:

9 (2) All moneys from the sale of or disposition of farm products,  
10 livestock, or other products produced in connection with the agriculture and  
11 livestock activities at any institution under the control of the Board of  
12 Corrections or any successor entity, excluding those moneys that may be  
13 accountable from, or the value of, products consumed within the ~~Department~~  
14 Division of Correction and from rental of farm properties under the control  
15 of the board or any successor entity;

16 (3) All moneys from the sale or disposition of articles and  
17 products manufactured or produced by prison labor through the operations of  
18 the prison industry program, excluding those moneys that may be accountable  
19 from, or the value of, articles and products used or consumed within the  
20 ~~Department~~ Division of Correction; and

21  
22 SECTION 1011. Arkansas Code § 22-3-1210(c), concerning certificates of  
23 indebtedness and the Public Facilities Debt Service Fund, is amended to read  
24 as follows:

25 (c)(1)(A) Moneys described in subdivision (a)(2) of this section are  
26 declared to be cash funds restricted in their use and dedicated and are to be  
27 used solely as authorized in § 15-5-213. The cash funds when received by the  
28 ~~Department~~ Division of Correction shall not be deposited into or deemed to be  
29 a part of the State Treasury for purposes of Arkansas Constitution, Article  
30 5, § 29, Arkansas Constitution, Article 16, § 12, Arkansas Constitution,  
31 Amendment 20, or any other constitutional or statutory provision related  
32 thereto. The ~~Department~~ Division of Correction shall pay such cash funds to  
33 the Arkansas Development Finance Authority for deposit into the Correction  
34 Facilities Privatization Account of the Correction Facilities Construction  
35 Fund for the purposes authorized by § 15-5-213. The cash funds described in  
36 this subsection shall not be subject to appropriation to the extent required

1 for debt service.

2 (B) Commencing on the first day of the month next  
3 succeeding the issuance of certificates of indebtedness under this  
4 subchapter, but not before July 1, 1983, and so long as any certificates are  
5 outstanding under this subchapter, the pledged revenues, except as provided  
6 herein, shall be deposited into the State Treasury as and when received by  
7 the ~~Department~~ Division of Correction, by the Building Authority Division ~~of~~  
8 ~~the Department of Finance and Administration~~, by state-supported institutions  
9 of higher education, or by any other state agency, as the case may be, to the  
10 credit of a fund to be designated the "Public Facilities Debt Service Fund".

11 (2) So long as any certificates of indebtedness are outstanding  
12 under this subchapter, all moneys in the Public Facilities Debt Service Fund  
13 shall be used solely for payment and redemption of the outstanding 1977 Bonds  
14 and the 1979 Bonds, as authorized in this subchapter, for the payment of the  
15 principal of and interest on the certificates of indebtedness as authorized  
16 in this subchapter, for transfer of such amounts designated in subsection (a)  
17 of this section from time to time, as deemed necessary by the Chief Fiscal  
18 Officer of the State, to the Correction Facilities Privatization Account of  
19 the Correction Facilities Construction Fund established in § 15-5-213, and  
20 for the transfer of surplus moneys as defined in the authorizing resolution  
21 in the State Treasury for credit to the designated ~~Department~~ Division of  
22 Correction funds, in accordance with the provisions of this subchapter.

23

24 SECTION 1012. Arkansas Code § 22-3-1210(f), concerning certificates of  
25 indebtedness and the Public Facilities Debt Service Fund, is amended to read  
26 as follows:

27 (f) Nothing in this section is intended to prohibit the ~~division~~  
28 Building Authority Division from investing moneys received under this  
29 section, as provided in this subchapter.

30

31 SECTION 1013. Arkansas Code § 22-3-1217 is amended to read as follows:

32 22-3-1217. Disposition of revenues from agricultural and livestock  
33 activities of correctional facility.

34 (a)(1) Prior to the issuance of certificates of indebtedness as  
35 authorized by this subchapter, all moneys collected by the ~~Department~~  
36 Division of Correction from the sale or disposition of farm products,

1 livestock, or other products produced in connection with agricultural and  
2 livestock activities at institutions under the control of the Board of  
3 Corrections, from the rental of farm properties under the control of the  
4 board, and from payments from agencies of the state or federal government in  
5 connection with the farm operations of the ~~department~~ division shall be  
6 deposited into the State Treasury as special revenues for credit to the  
7 ~~Department~~ Division of Correction Farm Fund, as authorized by law, to be used  
8 for the maintenance, operation, and improvement of the agriculture and farm  
9 programs of the ~~department~~ division.

10 (2) Moneys which the ~~department~~ division shall determine not to  
11 be necessary in defraying expenses of operating the agriculture programs of  
12 the ~~department~~ division and which are profit or surplus from the operation of  
13 the agriculture programs shall, upon certification by the board to the Chief  
14 Fiscal Officer of the State, be transferred by the Chief Fiscal Officer of  
15 the State from the ~~Department~~ Division of Correction Farm Fund to the  
16 ~~Department~~ Division of Correction Inmate Care and Custody Fund Account within  
17 the State General Government Fund, to be used to supplement general revenues  
18 provided for the maintenance, operation, and improvement of the ~~department~~  
19 division, as provided by law.

20 (b)(1) Commencing the first day of the month next succeeding the  
21 issuance of any certificates of indebtedness as authorized by this  
22 subchapter, the moneys described in this section shall be pledged revenues,  
23 as stated in § 22-3-1210, and shall be deposited into the Public Facilities  
24 Debt Service Fund as established in § 22-3-1210.

25 (2) Any surplus prison farm moneys in the Public Facilities Debt  
26 Service Fund, as defined in the authorizing resolution, shall be transferred  
27 to the ~~Department~~ Division of Correction Farm Fund, upon certification by the  
28 Building Authority Division of the Department of Finance and Administration  
29 to the Chief Fiscal Officer of the State, to the Treasurer of State, and to  
30 the Auditor of State, to be used for the maintenance, operation, and  
31 improvement of the agriculture and farm programs of the ~~Department~~ Division  
32 of Correction, as provided by law.

33 (3) Such moneys deposited into the ~~Department~~ Division of  
34 Correction Farm Fund which the ~~department~~ division shall determine not to be  
35 necessary in defraying expenses of operating the agriculture and farm  
36 programs of the ~~department~~ division shall be, upon certification thereof by

1 the board to the Chief Fiscal Officer of the State, transferred by the Chief  
2 Fiscal Officer of the State from the ~~Department~~ Division of Correction Farm  
3 Fund to the ~~Department~~ Division of Correction Inmate Care and Custody Fund  
4 Account within the State General Government Fund to be used to supplement  
5 general revenues provided for the maintenance, operation, and improvement of  
6 the ~~department~~ division, as provided by law.

7  
8 SECTION 1014. Arkansas Code § 22-3-1218 is amended to read as follows:  
9 22-3-1218. Disposition of revenues from prison labor.

10 (a)(1) Prior to the issuance of certificates of indebtedness as  
11 authorized by this subchapter, all moneys collected by the Board of  
12 Corrections from the sale or disposition of articles and products  
13 manufactured or produced by prison labor shall be forthwith deposited with  
14 the Treasurer of State, to be there kept and maintained as a special  
15 revolving account designated as the "~~Department~~ Division of Correction Prison  
16 Industries Fund" as authorized by law. The moneys so collected and deposited  
17 shall be used solely for the purchase of manufacturing supplies, equipment,  
18 machinery, and buildings used to carry out the purposes of the industries  
19 program within the ~~Department~~ Division of Correction as well as for the  
20 payment of the necessary personnel in charge thereof and to otherwise defray  
21 the necessary expenses incident thereto, all of which shall be under the  
22 direction and subject to the approval of the board.

23 (2) The ~~Department~~ Division of Correction Prison Industries Fund  
24 shall never be maintained in excess of the amount necessary to efficiently  
25 and properly carry out the intentions of this subchapter.

26 (3) When, in the opinion of the board, the ~~Department~~ Division  
27 of Correction Prison Industries Fund has reached a sum in excess of the  
28 requirements of this subchapter, the excess shall be transferred, upon  
29 certification to the Chief Fiscal Officer of the State by the board, to the  
30 ~~Department~~ Division of Correction Inmate Care and Custody Fund Account.

31 (b)(1) Commencing on the first day of the month next succeeding the  
32 issuance of any certificates of indebtedness as authorized by this  
33 subchapter, the moneys described in this section shall be pledged revenues,  
34 as stated in § 22-3-1210, and shall be deposited into the Public Facilities  
35 Debt Service Fund as established in § 22-3-1210.

36 (2) Any surplus prison industries moneys in the Public

1 Facilities Debt Service Fund, as defined in the authorizing resolution, shall  
2 be transferred into the ~~Department~~ Division of Correction Prison Industries  
3 Fund upon certification by the Building Authority Division of the Department  
4 of Finance and Administration to the Chief Fiscal Officer of the State, to  
5 the Treasurer of State, and to the Auditor of State. The moneys are to be  
6 used for the maintenance, operation, and improvement of the prison industries  
7 programs of the ~~Department~~ Division of Correction, as provided by law.

8 (3) Such moneys deposited into the ~~Department~~ Division of  
9 Correction Prison Industries Fund as the ~~Department~~ Division of Correction  
10 shall determine not to be necessary in defraying the expenses of operating  
11 the industries programs of the ~~department~~ Division of Correction, upon  
12 certification thereof by the board to the Chief Fiscal Officer of the State,  
13 shall be transferred by the Chief Fiscal Officer of the State from the  
14 ~~Department~~ Division of Correction Prison Industries Fund to the ~~Department~~  
15 Division of Correction Inmate Care and Custody Fund Account within the State  
16 General Government Fund to be used to supplement general revenues provided  
17 for the maintenance, operation, and improvement of the ~~Department~~ Division of  
18 Correction, as provided by law.

19  
20 SECTION 1015. Arkansas Code § 22-3-1225(c)(1) and (2), concerning the  
21 Prison Construction Fund, are amended to read as follows:

22 (1) Correction or prison facilities to be used by the ~~Department~~  
23 Division of Correction;

24 (2) Regional jail facilities operated by the ~~Department~~ Division  
25 of Correction; or

26  
27 SECTION 1016. Arkansas Code § 22-3-1225(e), concerning the Prison  
28 Construction Fund, is amended to read as follows:

29 (e) The Arkansas Development Finance Authority shall not fund or  
30 provide for the funding of any facility described in subsection (c) of this  
31 section to be operated or utilized by the ~~Department~~ Division of Correction  
32 unless the project, the plans therefor, and the construction thereof have  
33 been reviewed and approved by the Building Authority Division ~~of the~~  
34 ~~Department of Finance and Administration~~. The Arkansas Development Finance  
35 Authority shall not fund or provide for the funding of any other regional  
36 jail facility not utilized by the ~~Department~~ Division of Correction unless

1 the project is in compliance with the minimum standards for jail facilities  
2 adopted by the state.

3  
4 SECTION 1017. Arkansas Code § 23-61-903(9)(A)(viii), concerning the  
5 definition of "submitting entity", is amended to read as follows:

6 (viii) An entity that contracts with institutions of  
7 the ~~Department~~ Division of Correction or the ~~Department~~ Division of Community  
8 Correction to provide medical, dental, or pharmaceutical care to inmates.

9  
10 SECTION 1018. Arkansas Code § 23-115-402(f)(1) and (2), concerning the  
11 restriction on the sale of lottery tickets, are amended to read as follows:

12 (1) The ~~Department~~ Division of Correction;

13 (2) The ~~Department~~ Division of Community Correction; or

14  
15 SECTION 1019. Arkansas Code § 24-4-726(b), concerning state  
16 penitentiary employees retirement, is amended to read as follows:

17 (b) Upon certification from the Executive Director of the Arkansas  
18 Public Employees' Retirement System, the Treasurer of State shall transfer  
19 from the Department of Correction Inmate Care and Custody Fund Account of the  
20 State General Government Fund or the Division of Correction Inmate Care and  
21 Custody Fund Account of the State General Government Fund to the Arkansas  
22 Public Employees' Retirement System Fund an amount equal to the contributions  
23 made by the state penitentiary employees. That amount shall be credited to  
24 the Employer Contribution Fund of the system.

25  
26 SECTION 1020. Arkansas Code § 24-4-726(f), concerning state  
27 penitentiary employees retirement, is amended to read as follows:

28 (f) On January 1 of each year, the Executive Director of the Arkansas  
29 Public Employees' Retirement System shall determine the amount necessary for  
30 the purpose of providing funds to assure the payment of such benefits. The  
31 Treasurer of State shall transfer from the ~~Department~~ Division of Correction  
32 Inmate Care and Custody Fund Account of the State General Government Fund to  
33 the Arkansas Public Employees' Retirement System Fund that amount, as  
34 certified by the executive director.

35  
36 SECTION 1021. Arkansas Code § 25-5-101 is repealed.

1 ~~25-5-101. Continuation Organization.~~

2 ~~(a) The Department of Correction, established by § 12-27-101 et seq.,~~  
3 ~~is continued.~~

4 ~~(b) The department shall consist of those divisions which existed on~~  
5 ~~July 1, 1971, and any other divisions which may be created by law and placed~~  
6 ~~under the department.~~

7  
8  
9 SECTION 1022. Arkansas Code § 25-15-211(d), concerning licenses for  
10 administrative adjudication, is amended to read as follows:

11 (d)(1) A complaint filed by an offender with a state licensing board  
12 or state licensing agency against a licensee of the board or agency shall not  
13 be heard by the board or agency unless the complaint is accompanied by  
14 appropriately verified documentation showing that the offender has exhausted  
15 all administrative remedies under the ~~Department~~ Division of Correction  
16 grievance procedure.

17 (2) For purposes of this section, "offender" means any person  
18 sentenced to the ~~Department~~ Division of Correction or sentenced to the  
19 ~~Department~~ Division of Correction for judicial transfer to the ~~Department~~  
20 Division of Community Correction or any person confined in a community  
21 correction center as a condition of probation, suspended imposition of  
22 sentence, or post prison transfer.

23  
24 SECTION 1023. Arkansas Code § 25-15-212(a), concerning judicial review  
25 of administrative adjudication, is amended to read as follows:

26 (a) In cases of adjudication, any person, except an inmate under  
27 sentence to the custody of the ~~Department~~ Division of Correction, who  
28 considers himself or herself injured in his or her person, business, or  
29 property by final agency action shall be entitled to judicial review of the  
30 action under this subchapter. Nothing in this section shall be construed to  
31 limit other means of review provided by law.

32  
33 SECTION 1024. Arkansas Code § 25-16-614(d), concerning the examination  
34 of office, is amended to read as follows:

35 (d) On the refusal of the Treasurer of State to comply with the  
36 provisions of this section, his or her office shall be declared vacant and

1 the offense deemed a felony, and on conviction thereof he or she shall be  
2 sentenced to the ~~Department~~ Division of Correction for a term not exceeding  
3 five (5) years.

4  
5 SECTION 1025. Arkansas Code § 25-35-104(a)(2) and (3), concerning  
6 participation in the Arkansas Multi-Agency Insurance Trust Fund, are amended  
7 to read as follows:

8 (2) The ~~Department~~ Division of Correction;

9 (3) The ~~Department~~ Division of Community Correction; and

10  
11 SECTION 1026. Arkansas Code § 27-14-2212(b), concerning the mutilation  
12 of serial numbers, is amended to read as follows:

13 (b) Any person convicted of violating subsection (a) of this section  
14 shall be deemed guilty of a felony and punished by imprisonment in the  
15 ~~Department~~ Division of Correction for not less than one (1) year nor more  
16 than five (5) years.

17  
18 SECTION 1027. Arkansas Code § 27-65-132(c), concerning contracts  
19 between the State Highway Commission and employees, is amended to read as  
20 follows:

21 (c) Willful violation of this section shall be deemed a felony  
22 punishable by imprisonment in the ~~Department~~ Division of Correction for not  
23 less than one (1) year.

24  
25 SECTION 1028. Arkansas Code § 27-66-601(a) and (b), concerning state  
26 inmates working on roads, are amended to read as follows:

27 (a) The State Highway Commission shall employ and work as many of the  
28 state inmates on the public roads as may not be otherwise employed by the  
29 ~~Department~~ Division of Correction.

30 (b) State inmates working on roads shall be under the care and custody  
31 of wardens or other officers named by the ~~Department~~ Division of Correction,  
32 with the approval of the Governor.

33  
34 SECTION 1029. Arkansas Code § 27-66-601(e), concerning state inmates  
35 working on roads, is amended to read as follows:

36 (e) The ~~Department~~ Division of Correction is to receive no profits for

1 working the inmates on state roads.

2

3 SECTION 1030. Arkansas Code Title 25, Chapter 43, is amended to add an  
4 additional subchapter to read as follows:

5 Subchapter 5 – Department of Education

6

7 25-43-501. Department of Education.

8 There is created the Department of Education as a cabinet-level  
9 department.

10

11 25-43-502. State entities transferred to Department of Education.

12 (a) The administrative functions of the following state entities are  
13 transferred to the Department of Education by a cabinet-level department  
14 transfer:

15 (1) The Arkansas Better Chance Program, created under § 6-45-  
16 105;

17 (2) The Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board, created  
18 under § 6-61-201;

19 (3) The Arkansas School for the Blind, described in § 6-43-201  
20 et. seq.;

21 (4) The Arkansas School for the Deaf, created under § 6-43-301;

22 (5) The Arkansas State Library, created under § 13-2-203;

23 (6) The Board of Trustees for the Arkansas School for the Blind  
24 and Arkansas School for the Deaf, created under § 6-43-101;

25 (7) The Department of Career Education, created under § 25-30-  
26 106, now to be known as the Division of Career and Technical Education;

27 (8) The Department of Education, created under § 25-6-102, now  
28 to be known as the Division of Elementary and Secondary Education;

29 (9) The Department of Higher Education, created under § 25-7-  
30 101, now to be known as the Division of Higher Education;

31 (10) The Division of Public School Academic Facilities and  
32 Transportation, created under § 6-21-112;

33 (11) The Division of Public School Accountability, created under  
34 § 6-15-102;

35 (12) The Martin Luther King, Jr. Commission, created under § 25-  
36 24-101;

1 (13) The State Board of Education, created under § 6-11-101;

2 (14) The State Library Board, created under § 13-2-205;

3 (15) The Americorps Office, created under § 25-43-504.

4 (b) Unless otherwise provided by law, a cabinet-level department  
5 transfer under subsection (a) of this section includes all state entities  
6 under a state entity transferred to the Department of Education under  
7 subsection (a) of this section, including without limitation a division,  
8 office, program, or other unit of a state entity transferred to the  
9 Department of Education under subsection (a) of this section.

10 (c) Unless otherwise provided by law, a state entity whose  
11 administrative functions have been transferred to the Department of Education  
12 under subsection (a) of this section shall otherwise continue to exercise the  
13 duties of the state entity under the administration of the cabinet-level  
14 Department of Education in the same manner as before the creation of the  
15 cabinet-level department.

16  
17 25-43-503. Secretary of the Department of Education.

18 (a) The executive head of the Department of Education shall be the  
19 Secretary of the Department of Education.

20 (b) The secretary shall be appointed by the Governor, subject to  
21 confirmation by the Senate, and shall serve at the pleasure of the Governor.

22 (c) Each division of the department shall be under the direction,  
23 control, and supervision of the secretary.

24 (d) The secretary may delegate his or her functions, powers, and  
25 duties to various divisions or employees of the department as he or she shall  
26 deem desirable and necessary for the effective and efficient operation of the  
27 department.

28 (e) The secretary may, unless otherwise provided by law:

29 (1) Hire department personnel;

30 (2) Perform or assign duties assigned to the department; and

31 (3) Serve as the director, or the administrative or executive  
32 head of any state entity under the administrative control of the department  
33 if the secretary also meets all statutory requirements for the position.

34  
35 25-43-504. AmeriCorps Office.

36 (a) There is created within the Division of Higher Education of the

1 Department of Education an AmeriCorps Office.

2 (b) The AmeriCorps Office shall perform those duties as delegated by  
3 the Secretary of the Department of Education.

4  
5 25-43-505. Northwest Technical Institute.

6 (a) The Northwest Technical Institute shall be a part of the Division  
7 of Higher Education.

8 (b) The Northwest Technical Institute is an educational facility and  
9 shall perform those duties as delegated by the Secretary of the Department of  
10 Education.

11  
12 SECTION 1031. Arkansas Code § 1-4-114(b)(1)(A), concerning the Poet  
13 Laureate of the State of Arkansas, is amended to read as follows:

14 (A) Two (2) principal heads of English departments of  
15 state-supported universities or colleges who are selected by the Director of  
16 the ~~Department~~ Division of Higher Education; and

17  
18 SECTION 1032. Arkansas Code § 2-36-101(a), concerning the grading of  
19 fairs, is amended to read as follows:

20 (a) The Arkansas Livestock and Poultry Commission may formulate  
21 necessary and appropriate rules and regulations for the grading of fairs on a  
22 point system in cooperation with an ad hoc advisory committee formed of  
23 representatives of agriculture consisting of representatives from the United  
24 States Department of Agriculture, the University of Arkansas Cooperative  
25 Extension Service, the Office of Agricultural Science and Technology of the  
26 ~~Department~~ Division of Career and Technical Education, and the Arkansas Fair  
27 Managers Association, which shall make recommendations as to criteria for the  
28 allotment of grade points to the commission.

29  
30 SECTION 1033. Arkansas Code § 5-4-903(b)(1), concerning authorization  
31 for establishment of pre-adjudication probation programs, is amended to read  
32 as follows:

33 (b)(1) A pre-adjudication probation program may incorporate services  
34 from various state agencies and educational institutions, including without  
35 limitation the ~~Department~~ Division of Community Correction, the Department of  
36 Human Services, the Adult Education Section ~~of the Department of Career~~

1 ~~Education~~ of the Division of Workforce Services, vocational schools,  
2 technical schools, community colleges, and two-year and four-year public  
3 universities.

4  
5 SECTION 1034. Arkansas Code § 5-4-913 is amended to read as follows:

6 5-4-913. Education screening.

7 A person eligible to enter a pre-adjudication program under this  
8 subchapter shall have his or her education level assessed by the court by  
9 completing a reading, literacy, and math assessment by the ~~Department of~~  
10 ~~Career Education~~ Adult Education Section.

11  
12 SECTION 1035. Arkansas Code § 6-1-105, is amended to read as follows:

13 6-1-105. Information sharing with the Assessment Coordination  
14 ~~Department~~ Division.

15 (a)(1) The State Board of Education, the ~~Department of Education~~  
16 Division of Elementary and Secondary Education, and any other ~~Department~~  
17 department or division administered by the state board shall provide  
18 information maintained by the state board, the ~~Department of Education~~  
19 Division of Elementary and Secondary Education, or any other Department or  
20 division to the Assessment Coordination ~~Department~~ Division upon request by  
21 the Assessment Coordination ~~Department~~ Division.

22 (2) The information shall enable the Assessment Coordination  
23 ~~Department~~ Division to:

24 (A) Verify, ascertain, or calculate assessed values of  
25 real and personal property, millage rates, or tax collection rates in school  
26 districts and counties; and

27 (B) Assist the General Assembly, the Attorney General, or  
28 another state agency in verifying, ascertaining, or calculating data related  
29 to public schools, including school funding, school district revenues, and  
30 public school facilities.

31 (b) Information provided under this section shall be in any medium in  
32 which the record is readily available or in any format to which it is readily  
33 convertible with the existing software used by the state board, the  
34 ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary Education, or  
35 any other department or division.

36 (c) Actual costs or expenses incurred in compiling or transmitting the

1 data to the Assessment Coordination ~~Department~~ Division shall be paid by the  
2 ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary Education.

3  
4 SECTION 1036. Arkansas Code § 6-1-403 is amended to read as follows:

5 6-1-403. Purpose.

6 The purpose of the School Leadership Coordinating Council is to:

7 (1) Serve as a central body to coordinate the leadership  
8 development system efforts across the state including:

9 (A) Encouraging school districts to work with the  
10 ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary Education, the  
11 ~~Department~~ Division of Higher Education, the ~~Department~~ Division of Career  
12 and Technical Education, ~~the Arkansas Leadership Academy School Support~~  
13 ~~Program~~, and other leadership groups;

14 (B) Recommending a state leadership development system to  
15 coordinate all aspects of leadership development based on educational  
16 leadership standards adopted by the ~~Department of Education~~ Division of  
17 Elementary and Secondary Education; and

18 (C) Devising a system of gathering data that includes  
19 input from practitioners, educational and community leaders, university  
20 leadership and faculty, and other interested parties;

21 (2) Assist the ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary  
22 and Secondary Education, the ~~Department~~ Division of Higher Education, the  
23 ~~Department~~ Division of Career and Technical Education, ~~the Arkansas~~  
24 ~~Leadership Academy School Support Program~~, school districts, and other  
25 leadership groups in enhancing school leadership and school support efforts;  
26 and

27 (3) Aid in the development of model evaluation tools for use in  
28 the evaluation of school administrators.

29  
30 SECTION 1037. Arkansas Code § 6-1-404(a)(2), concerning the creation  
31 of the School Leadership Coordinating Council, is amended to read as follows:

32 (2) The Commissioner of Elementary and Secondary Education;

33  
34 SECTION 1038. Arkansas Code § 6-1-404(a)(4) and (5), concerning the  
35 creation of the School Leadership Coordinating Council, is amended to read as  
36 follows:

1 (4) The Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of Higher Education;

2 (5) The Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of Career and  
3 Technical Education;

4  
5 SECTION 1039. Arkansas Code § 6-1-404(e), concerning the creation of  
6 the School Leadership Coordinating Council, is amended to read as follows:

7 (e) The ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary  
8 Education, with the assistance of the ~~Department~~ Division of Higher Education  
9 and the ~~Department~~ Division of Career and Technical Education, shall staff  
10 the council.

11  
12 SECTION 1040. Arkansas Code § 6-1-404(f)(1), concerning the creation  
13 of the School Leadership Coordinating Council, is amended to read as follows:

14 (f)(1) All nonlegislative members of the council may receive expense  
15 reimbursement in accordance with § 25-16-902 paid by the ~~Department of~~  
16 Education Division of Elementary and Secondary Education if funds are  
17 available.

18  
19 SECTION 1041. Arkansas Code § 6-1-603(a), concerning the  
20 administration of the College and Career Coaches Program, is amended to read  
21 as follows:

22 (a) The ~~Department~~ Division of Career and Technical Education, in  
23 partnership with the ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and  
24 Secondary Education and the ~~Department~~ Division of Higher Education, shall  
25 develop and administer the College and Career Coaches Program.

26  
27 SECTION 1042. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 6-1-603(b),  
28 concerning the administration of the College and Career Coaches Program, is  
29 amended to read as follows:

30 (b) The ~~Department~~ Division of Career and Technical Education shall  
31 manage the College and Career Coaches Program and:

32  
33 SECTION 1043. Arkansas Code § 6-1-604(c)(1)(B), concerning the duties  
34 and supervision of the Colleges and Career Coaches Program, is amended to  
35 read as follows:

36 (B) Be a liaison between the institution of higher

1 education, education service cooperative, or nonprofit organization and the  
2 ~~Department~~ Division of Career and Technical Education.

3  
4 SECTION 1044. Arkansas Code § 6-1-604(c)(2), concerning the duties and  
5 supervision of the Colleges and Career Coaches Program, is amended to read as  
6 follows:

7 (2) The ~~department~~ Division of Career and Technical Education  
8 and the on-site supervisor shall evaluate the performance of each college and  
9 career coach.

10  
11 SECTION 1045. Arkansas Code § 6-1-605(a)(2), concerning the program  
12 effectiveness and measurement of the College and Career Coaches Program, is  
13 amended to read as follows:

14 (2)(A) The ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and  
15 Secondary Education and the ~~Department~~ Division of Higher Education shall  
16 collect and prepare performance data reports to determine the effectiveness  
17 of the program.

18 (B) The data shall be collected for each county and school  
19 district served by the program and shall be shared with the ~~Department~~  
20 Division of Career and Technical Education on January 1 and August 1 each  
21 year.

22  
23 SECTION 1046. Arkansas Code § 6-1-605(b), concerning the program  
24 effectiveness and measurement of the College and Career Coaches Program, is  
25 amended to read as follows:

26 (b) Annually, each college and career coach shall submit a report to  
27 the ~~Department~~ Division of Career and Technical Education describing his or  
28 her student contacts and the programs and services provided.

29  
30 SECTION 1047. Arkansas Code § 6-3-111 is amended to read as follows:  
31 6-3-111. Budget requests.

32 The Director of the Educational Television Division of the ~~Department~~  
33 ~~of Education~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary Education shall submit  
34 budget requests of the ~~division~~ Educational Television Division to the State  
35 Board of Education and the Commissioner of Elementary and Secondary Education  
36 for their review and approval before the budget submissions are forwarded to

1 the Governor and the Legislative Council.

2

3 SECTION 1048. Arkansas Code § 6-4-104(b), concerning the designation  
4 of the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board as the agent for out-of-  
5 state education, is amended to read as follows:

6 (b) The ~~Department~~ Division of Higher Education is hereby authorized  
7 to administer the program.

8

9 SECTION 1049. Arkansas Code § 6-4-106 is amended to read as follows:

10 6-4-106. Application by students.

11 (a) Students seeking the subsidy to be paid for their benefit shall  
12 apply to the ~~Department~~ Division of Higher Education, giving necessary  
13 information.

14 (b) If the applicant is found to be a bona fide resident of Arkansas  
15 and if funds for this purpose are available, the ~~department~~ division shall,  
16 without more, certify the applicant as qualified to participate under this  
17 program.

18

19 SECTION 1050. Arkansas Code § 6-5-307(b), concerning classroom teacher  
20 salary requirements, is amended to read as follows:

21 (b) Educational Excellence Trust Fund funds allocated for teacher  
22 salaries shall be disbursed by the ~~Department of Education~~ Division of  
23 Elementary and Secondary Education to school districts pursuant to the state  
24 foundation funding formula under § 6-20-2305.

25

26 SECTION 1051. Arkansas Code § 6-5-403(d), concerning the scope of the  
27 Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board, is amended to read as follows:

28 (d)(1) The board, working in conjunction with state-supported  
29 institutions of higher education, private institutions of higher education  
30 that wish to participate, the ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary  
31 and Secondary Education, and the ~~Department~~ Division of Career and Technical  
32 Education annually shall compile information for Arkansas high school  
33 students on:

34 (A) Academic scholarships for freshmen entering  
35 institutions of higher education in the state; and

36 (B) State-funded programs that provide opportunities for

1 developing technical job skills and apprenticeships.

2 (2)(A) The ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and  
3 Secondary Education shall provide the information annually to all public high  
4 school counselors in the state.

5 (B) Each public high school counselor annually shall  
6 provide the information received from the ~~Department of Education~~ Division of  
7 Elementary and Secondary Education to students in the public high school  
8 where he or she is employed.

9  
10 SECTION 1052. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 6-5-404(a),  
11 concerning cooperation with the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board  
12 by the State Board of Education, the Department of Education, and the public  
13 schools of Arkansas, is amended to read as follows:

14 (a) The State Board of Education, the ~~Department of Education~~ Division  
15 of Elementary and Secondary Education, and the public schools of Arkansas  
16 shall:

17  
18 SECTION 1053. Arkansas Code § 6-5-404(a)(1), concerning cooperation  
19 with the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board by the State Board of  
20 Education, the Department of Education, and the public schools of Arkansas,  
21 is amended to read as follows:

22 (1) Cooperate with the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating  
23 Board, the ~~Department~~ Division of Higher Education, and the institutions of  
24 higher education in providing the information; and

25  
26 SECTION 1054. Arkansas Code § 6-5-803(a), concerning the creation of  
27 the Arkansas Academic Physician Program, is amended to read as follows:

28 (a) There is created within the ~~Department~~ Division of Higher  
29 Education the Arkansas Academic Physician Program.

30  
31 SECTION 1055. Arkansas Code § 6-5-804(a), concerning the Health Care  
32 Student Summer Enrichment Program for Underrepresented Student Populations,  
33 is amended to read as follows:

34 (a) There is created within the ~~Department~~ Division of Higher  
35 Education the Health Care Student Summer Enrichment Program for  
36 Underrepresented Student Populations.

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SECTION 1056. Arkansas Code § 6-5-902(3), concerning the definition of "program" under the Positive Youth Development Grant Program, is amended to read as follows:

(3) "Program" means a positive youth development program that is license-exempt or approved by the ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary Education as complying with the Out-of-School Time Licensing Standards as adopted by the Division of Child Care and Early Childhood Education of the Department of Human Services.

SECTION 1057. Arkansas Code § 6-5-903(a), concerning the establishment and participation of the Positive Youth Development Grant Program, is amended to read as follows:

(a)(1) The ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary Education shall establish the Positive Youth Development Grant Program to assist in the establishment and funding of positive youth development programs for children and youth five through nineteen (5-19) years of age once funding is available.

(2) The ~~department~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary Education, with the advice and assistance of the Division of Child Care and Early Childhood Education, shall develop rules necessary for the implementation of this subchapter.

SECTION 1058. Arkansas Code § 6-5-904(b)-(e), concerning the application process and allocation of funding for a licensed youth development program, is amended to read as follows:

(b) Each applicant for a positive youth development grant shall:

(1) Complete and submit the appropriate application developed by the ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary Education in collaboration with the Division of Child Care and Early Childhood Education;

(2) Submit documentation of strong community engagement and collaboration between schools, public institutions, private agencies, business, and faith-based and other community-based organizations working together to utilize the unique skills and resources to create a community learning environment; and

(3)(A) Provide matching funds in the ratio of twenty to eighty

1 (20:80), unless the applicant is granted a waiver by the ~~division~~ Division of  
2 Child Care and Early Childhood Education.

3 (B) The ~~division~~ Division of Child Care and Early  
4 Childhood Education may waive the required matching funds if:

5 (i) The applicant operates or will operate the  
6 program within the geographic boundaries of a public school district that  
7 contains at least one (1) school identified as targeted or comprehensive by  
8 the ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary Education;  
9 and

10 (ii) The ~~division~~ Division of Child Care and Early  
11 Childhood Education determines that the applicant is unable to provide the  
12 matching funds, after exhausting all potential funding sources.

13 (C) The matching funds may consist of cash or appropriate  
14 in-kind services.

15 (c) Preference shall be given to applications that:

16 (1) Are developed collaboratively by public and nonpublic  
17 schools and private community based programs;

18 (2) Contain accountability systems and measurable outcomes under  
19 guidelines developed by the ~~Department~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary  
20 Education in consultation with the ~~division~~ Division of Child Care and Early  
21 Childhood Education;

22 (3) Detail funds received from all public sources for existing  
23 programs, the types of existing programs, and the types of students served by  
24 existing programs; and

25 (4) Increase comprehensive positive youth development programs  
26 during the school year and summer.

27 (d)(1) If the number of qualified applicants exceed the amount of  
28 available funding, the ~~Department~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary  
29 Education, after consultation with the Arkansas Early Childhood Commission,  
30 shall determine funding distribution.

31 (2) If there is a funding shortage, priority consideration shall  
32 be given to programs in communities where:

33 (A) A public school district has fifty percent (50%) or  
34 more students eligible for free and reduced lunches; and

35 (B) A public school district has been identified to  
36 receive Level 5 – Intensive support from the ~~department~~ Division of

1 Elementary and Secondary Education.

2 (e)(1) Grants shall be three-year awards to be distributed annually,  
3 as determined by the ~~division~~ Division of Child Care and Early Childhood  
4 Education.

5 (2) Grants may be renewable for positive youth development  
6 programs that meet adequate performance levels as developed by the ~~department~~  
7 Division of Elementary and Secondary Education.

8 (3) Grants are subject to the availability of funds each fiscal  
9 year.

10  
11 SECTION 1059. Arkansas Code § 6-5-904(f)(4)(A), concerning the  
12 application process and allocation of funding for a licensed youth  
13 development program, is amended to read as follows:

14 (A) Academic supports and skill-building activities that  
15 link program content to the frameworks promulgated by the ~~department~~ Division  
16 of Elementary and Secondary Education;

17  
18 SECTION 1060. Arkansas Code § 6-5-905(b)-(d), concerning the criteria  
19 for need-based funding to attend a positive youth development program, are  
20 amended to read as follows:

21 (b) The ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary  
22 Education and the Division of Child Care and Early Childhood Education may  
23 develop a fee schedule and establish eligibility based on family income for  
24 children and youth five through nineteen (5-19) years of age who are not  
25 eligible under subsection (a) of this section.

26 (c) The ~~department~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary Education and  
27 the ~~division~~ Division of Child Care and Early Childhood Education shall  
28 review criteria for identifying and targeting the areas of the state with the  
29 greatest need for programs.

30 (d) The State Board of Education, with the advice and assistance of  
31 the ~~division~~ Division of Child Care and Early Childhood Education, shall  
32 adopt the appropriate criteria for identifying children and youth five  
33 through nineteen (5-19) years of age with the greatest need to participate in  
34 programs funded by the grant.

35  
36 SECTION 1061. Arkansas Code § 6-5-1003(a)(1), concerning college and

1 career readiness standards, is amended to read as follows:

2 (a)(1) The ~~Department~~ Division of Career and Technical Education shall  
3 work in collaboration with the ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary  
4 and Secondary Education and the ~~Department~~ Division of Higher Education to  
5 develop college and career readiness standards for career and technical  
6 education courses.

7

8 SECTION 1062. Arkansas Code § 6-5-1003(b)(6)(B), concerning college  
9 and career readiness standards, is amended to read as follows:

10 (B) The ~~Department~~ Division of Career and Technical  
11 Education, in collaboration with the ~~Department of Education~~ Division of  
12 Elementary and Secondary Education and the ~~Department~~ Division of Higher  
13 Education, shall establish a common course numbering system that incorporates  
14 career and technical education courses at both the secondary and  
15 postsecondary level;

16

17 SECTION 1063. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 6-5-  
18 1003(b)(8), concerning college and career readiness standards, is amended to  
19 read as follows:

20 (8) Comprehensive guidance counseling and academic advisory  
21 systems developed by the ~~Department~~ Division of Career and Technical  
22 Education in collaboration with the ~~Department of Education~~ Division of  
23 Elementary and Secondary Education and the ~~Department~~ Division of Higher  
24 Education that:

25

26 SECTION 1064. Arkansas Code § 6-5-1004(a), concerning technical skills  
27 assessments by the Department of Career Education, is amended to read as  
28 follows:

29 (a) The ~~Department~~ Division of Career and Technical Education shall  
30 recognize valid and reliable technical skills assessments that provide  
31 evaluation of students' knowledge and skills necessary for entry into  
32 postsecondary education or a career in a selected program of study.

33

34 SECTION 1065. Arkansas Code § 6-5-1004(b)(1), concerning technical  
35 skills assessments by the Department of Career Education, is amended to read  
36 as follows:

1 (1)(A) Be a third-party, industry-recognized assessment approved  
2 by the ~~department~~ division that is based on current industry standards.

3 (B)(i) The ~~department~~ division shall provide a current  
4 list of approved third-party, industry-recognized assessments.

5 (ii) The third-party, industry-recognized  
6 assessments shall be reviewed and approved by the ~~department~~ division using a  
7 process developed by the ~~department~~ division;

8  
9 SECTION 1066. Arkansas Code § 6-5-1004(b)(4)(B), concerning technical  
10 skills assessments by the Department of Career Education, is amended to read  
11 as follows:

12 (B) The ~~department~~ division shall provide technical  
13 assistance on career and technical education to secondary administrators and  
14 teachers.

15  
16 SECTION 1067. Arkansas Code § 6-5-1102(b), concerning the  
17 establishment, membership, and meetings of the Council on Postsecondary  
18 Education and Career Readiness, is amended to read as follows:

19 (b) The council shall consist of eleven (11) members as follows:

20 (1) The Commissioner of Elementary and Secondary Education or  
21 his or her designee;

22 (2) The Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of Higher Education  
23 or his or her designee;

24 (3) The Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of Career and  
25 Technical Education or his or her designee;

26 (4) The ~~Executive~~ Director of the Arkansas Economic Development  
27 Commission or his or her designee;

28 (5) The Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of Workforce  
29 Services or his or her designee;

30 (6) A president or chancellor of an Arkansas four-year  
31 institution of higher education or his or her designee, appointed annually by  
32 the Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of Higher Education;

33 (7) The Executive Director of the Arkansas Association of  
34 Educational Administrators or his or her designee;

35 (8) The Executive Director of Arkansas Community Colleges or his  
36 or her designee;

1 (9) The Executive Director of the Arkansas Education Association  
2 or his or her designee;

3 (10) The Executive Director of the Arkansas School Boards  
4 Association or his or her designee; and

5 (11) The President of the Arkansas State Chamber of Commerce and  
6 the Associated Industries of Arkansas or his or her designee.

7  
8 SECTION 1068. Arkansas Code § 6-5-1102(c)(1), concerning the  
9 establishment, membership, and meetings of the Council on Postsecondary  
10 Education and Career Readiness, are amended to read as follows:

11 (c)(1) The Commissioner of Elementary and Secondary Education or his  
12 or her designee shall call the first meeting of the council and serve as  
13 chair for the first meeting.

14  
15 SECTION 1069. Arkansas Code § 6-5-1102(g), concerning the  
16 establishment, membership, and meetings of the Council on Postsecondary  
17 Education and Career Readiness, is amended to read as follows:

18 (g) The *Department of Education, Department of Higher Education, and*  
19 ~~*Department of Career Education, alternating each year,*~~ shall provide meeting  
20 space and staff for the council.

21  
22 SECTION 1070. Arkansas Code § 6-5-1202(b)(1), concerning the purpose  
23 and grant funding of the Advanced Placement Training and Incentive Program,  
24 is amended to read as follows:

25 (b)(1) The ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and  
26 Secondary Education shall provide grant funding to organizations that  
27 implement measures to achieve the goals of the Advanced Placement Training  
28 and Incentive Program.

29  
30 SECTION 1071. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 6-5-  
31 1202(c), concerning the purpose and grant funding of the Advanced Placement  
32 Training and Incentive Program, is amended to read as follows:

33 (c) Grant funding provided by the ~~department~~ division to an  
34 organization under this subchapter shall be used to:

35  
36 SECTION 1072. Arkansas Code § 6-10-106(a)(2), concerning uniform dates

1 for the beginning and the end of a school year, is amended to read as  
2 follows:

3 (2) The ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and  
4 Secondary Education may grant a school district a waiver to begin school on  
5 an earlier or later date if the ~~department~~ division determines that there  
6 exists a material and substantial reason for the school district to begin on  
7 an earlier or later date due to very exceptional or emergency circumstances  
8 such as a contagious disease outbreak, inclement weather, or other acts of  
9 God.

10

11 SECTION 1073. Arkansas Code § 6-10-106(c)(2), concerning uniform dates  
12 for the beginning and the end of a school year, is amended to read as  
13 follows:

14 (2) Provided, upon approval of the ~~department~~ division, this  
15 date may be used as a make-up day in any school district which has  
16 unavoidably lost more than five (5) scheduled days of student attendance  
17 during the course of the school year due to contagious disease outbreaks,  
18 inclement weather, or other acts of God.

19

20 SECTION 1074. Arkansas Code § 6-10-106(d)(3), concerning uniform dates  
21 for the beginning and the end of a school year, is amended to read as  
22 follows:

23 (3) Nothing in this subsection shall prevent a public school  
24 district from providing fewer than five (5) consecutive school days for the  
25 spring break holiday to comply with the ~~department's~~ division's requirement  
26 for a minimum number of days for student attendance under the Standards for  
27 Accreditation of Arkansas Public Schools and School Districts.

28

29 SECTION 1075. Arkansas Code § 6-10-106(e), concerning uniform dates  
30 for the beginning and the end of a school year, is amended to read as  
31 follows:

32 (e) The ~~department~~ division shall not grant a waiver from the  
33 requirements of this section unless this section specifically authorizes the  
34 waiver.

35

36 SECTION 1076. Arkansas Code § 6-10-110(a), concerning fire marshal

1 programs for local school districts, is amended to read as follows:

2 (a) The ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary  
3 Education is authorized and directed to cooperate with and assist local  
4 school districts in this state in the establishment of an Arkansas school  
5 fire marshal program.

6  
7 SECTION 1077. Arkansas Code § 6-10-111(a), concerning the Equity  
8 Assistance Center, is amended to read as follows:

9 (a) The ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary  
10 Education is authorized to establish a special section within its  
11 organization, to be known as the Equity Assistance Center, designed to  
12 provide assistance to the school districts of the state in such activities as  
13 affirmative action, program accessibility, human relations, awareness, and  
14 desegregation.

15  
16 SECTION 1078. Arkansas Code § 6-10-111(c)(1), concerning the Equity  
17 Assistance Center, is amended to read as follows:

18 (c)(1) The center created by this section shall be the liaison for  
19 the ~~department~~ division with the Office for Civil Rights of the United States  
20 Department of Education.

21  
22 SECTION 1079. Arkansas Code § 6-10-111(d)-(f), concerning the Equity  
23 Assistance Center, are amended to read as follows:

24 (d) Annually, each local school district in the state shall provide  
25 the center assurances of compliance with civil rights responsibilities in the  
26 form and at the time as is designated by the Commissioner of Elementary and  
27 Secondary Education.

28 (e) The ~~department~~ division may withhold state aid from any school  
29 district that fails to file its assurance of compliance with civil rights  
30 responsibilities by October 15 each year or fails to file any other  
31 information with a published deadline requested from school districts by the  
32 center so long as thirty (30) calendar days are given between the request for  
33 the information and the published deadline, except that thirty (30) days  
34 notice shall not be required when the request comes from a member or  
35 committee of the General Assembly.

36 (f) The ~~department~~ division is authorized to develop forms and

1 promulgate appropriate rules, regulations, and procedures as may be required  
2 to implement the provisions of this section.

3  
4 SECTION 1080. Arkansas Code § 6-10-118(a), concerning information  
5 about the availability of ARKids First, is amended to read as follows:

6 (a) The ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary  
7 Education shall cooperate with and assist local school districts in this  
8 state in the establishment of a program to inform students about health care  
9 coverage under the ARKids First Program Act, § 20-77-1101 et seq.

10  
11 SECTION 1081. Arkansas Code § 6-10-119(a)(1), concerning Medicaid  
12 billing by the Department of Education, is amended to read as follows:

13 (a)(1) By May 1 of each year, the ~~Department of Education~~ Division of  
14 Elementary and Secondary Education shall identify school districts that are  
15 underperforming in the area of direct-service Medicaid billing.

16 (2) The ~~department~~ division shall direct identified school  
17 districts to increase direct-service Medicaid billing by district staff or  
18 enter into an agreement with an education service cooperative or other public  
19 or private entity for the provision of direct-service Medicaid billing  
20 services.

21  
22 SECTION 1082. Arkansas Code § 6-10-122(c), concerning the requirement  
23 of automated external defibrillators at each school campus, is amended to  
24 read as follows:

25 (c) Beginning in 2011, the Commissioner of Elementary and Secondary  
26 Education shall provide a report to the Senate Committee on Public Health,  
27 Welfare, and Labor and the House Committee on Public Health, Welfare, and  
28 Labor on or before July 1 each year regarding the implementation of this  
29 section and the status of automated external defibrillator availability on  
30 each school campus.

31  
32 SECTION 1083. Arkansas Code § 6-10-125(d), concerning keeping a school  
33 district's floor plan on file with the emergency management coordinator, is  
34 amended to read as follows:

35 (d) The ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary  
36 Education may adopt rules to implement this section.

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SECTION 1084. Arkansas Code § 6-10-129 is amended to read as follows:

6-10-129. Efficiency in reporting – Definition.

(a)(1)(A) The ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary Education or the ~~Department~~ Division of Career and Technical Education may require a school district or public school to submit data and other information deemed necessary to assure that a school district or public school is in compliance with federal and state law and rule.

(B) A required submission may be made using the Arkansas Public School Computer Network or another system specified by the ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary Education or the ~~Department~~ Division of Career and Technical Education.

(2)(A) All divisions of the ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary Education and the ~~Department~~ Division of Career and Technical Education shall have access to data and other information that is submitted to the ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary Education or the ~~Department~~ Division of Career and Technical Education respectively.

(B) An employee of the ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary Education or the ~~Department~~ Division of Career and Technical Education or a contractor acting on behalf of the ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary Education or the ~~Department~~ Division of Career and Technical Education may only access data that is necessary to perform his or her duties.

(b) As used in this section, “data and other information” that is considered submitted includes information that is:

(1) Maintained by a school district or public school in E-School, E-Finance, or the Arkansas Public School Computer Network;

(2) Contained in any statewide data system or successor program;  
and

(3) Delivered to the ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary Education or the ~~Department~~ Division of Career and Technical Education in paper format.

(c)(1) The ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary Education or the ~~Department~~ Division of Career and Technical Education may require a school district or public school to resubmit or

1 explain data and other information if the data or other information is  
2 determined to be inaccurate, incomplete, unclear, or not in compliance with  
3 federal or state law or rule.

4 (2) Except as provided under subdivision (c)(1) of this section,  
5 data and other information shall not have to be resubmitted or explained in  
6 its original format or any other format.

7 (d) If the ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and  
8 Secondary Education or the ~~Department~~ Division of Career and Technical  
9 Education requires data or other information to be compiled into a format  
10 that is different from what was originally submitted by a school district or  
11 public school, the ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and  
12 Secondary Education or the ~~Department~~ Division of Career and Technical  
13 Education shall make the necessary format changes.

14 (e)(1) A school district or public school may submit by electronic  
15 means any signatures required when submitting reports or data and other  
16 information to the ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and  
17 Secondary Education and the ~~Department~~ Division of Career and Technical  
18 Education.

19 (2) As used in this subsection, "electronic means" means any of  
20 the following:

21 (A) A scanned and emailed version of a paper document;

22 (B) A document submitted by facsimile transmission;

23 (C) An electronic signature system that includes a  
24 passcode and is administered by the ~~Department of Education~~ Division of  
25 Elementary and Secondary Education; or

26 (D) Other technological means approved by the ~~Department~~  
27 of Education Division of Elementary and Secondary Education.

28  
29 SECTION 1085. Arkansas Code § 6-10-131(b), concerning immunity from  
30 civil liability, is amended to read as follows:

31 (b) Personnel of the ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary  
32 and Secondary Education, including without limitation the Commissioner of  
33 Elementary and Secondary Education, are immune from civil liability and suit  
34 for damages for the enforcement of policies adopted by the State Board of  
35 Education or the ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary  
36 Education if the policies are in compliance with state or federal law.

1  
2 SECTION 1086. Arkansas Code § 6-11-101(d)(2), concerning members of  
3 the State Board of Education, is amended to read as follows:

4 (2) Neither the Commissioner of Elementary and Secondary  
5 Education nor any candidate for public office, holder of a public office in  
6 the state, schoolteacher, county or city superintendent, employee of a state-  
7 supported college or university, or member of any board of trustees of any  
8 state institution of higher education shall serve as a member of the state  
9 board.

10  
11 SECTION 1087. Arkansas Code § 6-11-102(a), concerning the Commissioner  
12 of Education, is amended to read as follows:

13 (a)(1) Subject to confirmation by the Governor, the State Board of  
14 Education is empowered to employ a person to act as the Commissioner of  
15 Elementary and Secondary Education and who shall be the administrative head  
16 of the ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary  
17 Education.

18 (2) The commissioner shall serve at the pleasure of the  
19 Governor.

20 (3) The commission shall report to the Secretary of the  
21 Department of Education.

22  
23 SECTION 1088. Arkansas Code § 6-11-102(c)(1)(A), concerning the  
24 Commissioner of Education, is amended to read as follows:

25 (A) Be a person of good moral character, recognized as a  
26 leader in the field of education, and qualified technically and by experience  
27 to direct the work of the ~~department~~ division; and

28  
29 SECTION 1089. Arkansas Code § 6-11-103(b), concerning officers of the  
30 State Board of Education, is amended to read as follows:

31 (b) The Commissioner of Elementary and Secondary Education shall act  
32 as ex officio secretary of the state board without a vote.

33  
34 SECTION 1090. Arkansas Code § 6-11-104(c)(1), concerning meetings of  
35 the State Board of Education, is amended to read as follows:

36 (c)(1) Special meetings may be called by the chair of the state board

1 with no less than twenty-four (24) hours notice to the members and the  
2 Commissioner of Elementary and Secondary Education and with timely responses  
3 from enough state board members that they will attend the meeting so as to  
4 indicate that a quorum will be present.

5  
6 SECTION 1091. Arkansas Code § 6-11-105(a)(8)(B), concerning the powers  
7 and duties of the State Board of Education, is amended to read as follows:

8 (B) However, this section shall not prohibit the state  
9 board and the ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary  
10 Education from issuing teachers' licenses upon the results of teachers'  
11 examinations as now provided by law;

12  
13 SECTION 1092. Arkansas Code § 6-11-105(a)(9), concerning the powers  
14 and duties of the State Board of Education, is amended to read as follows:

15 (9) Eliminate unnecessary reports and paperwork by yearly  
16 identifying and compiling a list of all reports that are required from local  
17 school districts by the ~~department~~ division or the state board for the school  
18 year;

19  
20 SECTION 1093. Arkansas Code § 6-11-105(a)(10), concerning the powers  
21 and duties of the State Board of Education, is amended to read as follows:

22 (10) Adopt policies to ensure, except as allowed under  
23 subsection (b) of this section, that local school districts are not required  
24 by the state board or the ~~department~~ division to:

25 (A) Provide information that is already available on a  
26 ~~department~~ division student information management system or housed within  
27 the ~~department~~ division;

28 (B) Provide the same written information more than one (1)  
29 time during a school year unless the information has changed during the  
30 school year; or

31 (C) Complete forms for children with disabilities that are  
32 not necessary to ensure compliance with federal statutes and regulations,  
33 including, but not limited to, the Individuals with Disabilities Education  
34 Act, state mandates, and corresponding appropriations governing the provision  
35 of special education services to students with disabilities; and

36

1 SECTION 1094. Arkansas Code § 6-11-105(a)(11)(B), concerning the  
2 powers and duties of the State Board of Education, is amended to read as  
3 follows:

4 (B) The state board may designate the authority granted  
5 under this subdivision (a)(11) to the Commissioner of Elementary and  
6 Secondary Education.

7  
8 SECTION 1095. Arkansas Code § 6-11-105(a), concerning the powers and  
9 duties of the State Board of Education, is amended to add an additional  
10 subdivision to read as follows:

11 (12) Have general supervision of career and technical education.

12  
13 SECTION 1096. Arkansas Code § 6-11-105(b) and (c), concerning the  
14 powers and duties of the State Board of Education, is amended to read as  
15 follows:

16 (b) The state board may require information available on a ~~department~~  
17 division student information management system or require the same  
18 information twice if the state board can demonstrate a compelling need and  
19 can demonstrate there is not a more expeditious manner of getting the  
20 information.

21 (c) The state board may organize and, from time to time, change and  
22 alter the ~~department~~ division into branches or sections as may be found  
23 necessary and desirable by the commissioner to perform all proper functions  
24 and to render maximum service relating to the operation and improvement of  
25 the general education programs of the state.

26  
27 SECTION 1097. Arkansas Code § 6-11-107 is amended to read as follows:  
28 6-11-107. Official seal.

29 The State Board of Education shall adopt a seal, and the seal shall be  
30 used by the Commissioner of Elementary and Secondary Education to  
31 authenticate documents or copies of documents as the state board or  
32 commissioner may deem advisable.

33  
34 SECTION 1098. Arkansas Code § 6-11-110(b), concerning the uniform  
35 system of records and reports by the State Board of Education, is amended to  
36 read as follows:

1 (b) All the school officials and employees listed in subsection (a) of  
2 this section shall make reports to the Commissioner of Elementary and  
3 Secondary Education as may be designated by the state board.

4  
5 SECTION 1099. Arkansas Code § 6-11-111(a), concerning records of  
6 proceedings and the annual report of the State Board of Education, is amended  
7 to read as follows:

8 (a) The State Board of Education shall keep in the office of the  
9 Commissioner of Elementary and Secondary Education a complete record of the  
10 minutes of its meetings and other proceedings and annually shall make a  
11 report to the Governor that shall embody the report of the commissioner to  
12 the state board.

13  
14 SECTION 1100. Arkansas Code § 6-11-111(c)(1), concerning records of  
15 proceedings and the annual report of the State Board of Education, is amended  
16 to read as follows:

17 (c)(1) Each annual report of the state board shall be printed by the  
18 state board and distributed among the various school officers of the state or  
19 made available to public school districts by including a link to the annual  
20 report on the ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary  
21 Education website.

22  
23 SECTION 1101. Arkansas Code § 6-11-117 is amended to read as follows:  
24 6-11-117. Copies of documents as evidence.

25 Copies of any papers or documents on file in the office of the  
26 Commissioner of Elementary and Secondary Education authenticated by him or  
27 her with the seal of the State Board of Education shall be admissible in  
28 evidence with the same effect as the original.

29  
30 SECTION 1102. Arkansas Code § 6-11-124 is amended to read as follows:  
31 6-11-124. Statewide computer network.

32 (a)(1) Acts 1991, No. 1034, authorizes the Board of Trustees of the  
33 Arkansas Teacher Retirement System to provide a loan to the Department of  
34 Education, now known as the Division of Elementary and Secondary Education,  
35 for a statewide computer system capable of linking all public school systems  
36 and the department.

1 (2) In order to provide alternatives to accomplish the purposes  
2 of Acts 1991, No. 1034, the department, now division, is hereby authorized to  
3 enter into a contractual agreement with IMPAC Learning Systems, Inc., for the  
4 development of a statewide computer system capable of linking all public  
5 school systems and the department, now division, from funds provided by a  
6 loan from the Arkansas Teacher Retirement System.

7 (b) The State Board of Education shall maintain oversight authority  
8 over the approval of all standards, procedures, and specifications determined  
9 by the department, now division, regarding the purchase or lease of the  
10 statewide computer network in addition to maintaining oversight authority  
11 over the operational aspects of the system.

12 (c) The Commissioner of Elementary and Secondary Education may request  
13 from the Chief Fiscal Officer of the State a transfer of appropriation  
14 authorized for school district management and statewide data collection by  
15 the General Assembly to any other line item appropriation authorized for the  
16 department, now division, for the same purpose.

17  
18 SECTION 1103. Arkansas Code § 6-11-125 is amended to read as follows:  
19 6-11-125. Legislative intent regarding information technology.

20 (a) The General Assembly finds that the State of Arkansas has provided  
21 the encouragement and the financial means to build a foundation for an  
22 information technology network linking local school districts and the  
23 ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary Education. The  
24 General Assembly further finds that the amount of information that local  
25 school districts and their personnel are required to furnish the ~~department~~  
26 division, while essential, has become increasingly burdensome. The General  
27 Assembly therefore expresses its intent and commitment to ensuring that the  
28 ~~department~~ division utilizes and continually upgrades to the fullest extent  
29 possible the information technology network linking the various school  
30 districts and the ~~department~~ division.

31 (b) The State Board of Education, acting through the ~~department~~  
32 division, shall use every means available to eliminate the amount of  
33 paperwork required by state law and regulations to be reported from each  
34 local school district by utilizing to the fullest extent possible, beginning  
35 no later than July 1, 1998, the information technology network linking local  
36 school districts and the ~~department~~ division.

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SECTION 1104. Arkansas Code § 6-11-126 is amended to read as follows:  
6-11-126. Computer funds approval.

Before the ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary Education obligates any funds for the purchase or lease of a computer for the Arkansas Public School Computer Network, the ~~department~~ division shall first seek prior review from the Joint Interim Oversight Subcommittee on Educational Reform.

SECTION 1105. Arkansas Code § 6-11-128(a)(1), concerning the Arkansas Public School Computer Network, is amended to read as follows:

(a)(1) As used in this section, “Arkansas Public School Computer Network” or “APSCN” means the ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary Education’s computer network system for public school district reporting of financial management data and student management data to the ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary Education.

SECTION 1106. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 6-11-128(b), concerning the Arkansas Public School Computer Network, is amended to read as follows:

(b) The ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary Education shall implement the use of policies, procedures, and personnel to provide for data quality and security with the Arkansas Public School Computer Network, including without limitation the following:

SECTION 1107. Arkansas Code § 6-11-128(b)(1), concerning the Arkansas Public School Computer Network, is amended to read as follows:

(1) Periodically conducting a thorough security review and security risk assessment for all information, including without limitation personally identifiable employee and student information, that originates in the school districts and terminates on ~~Department~~ the Division of Information Systems and Arkansas Public School Computer Network servers;

SECTION 1108. Arkansas Code § 6-11-128(b)(4), concerning the Arkansas Public School Computer Network, is amended to read as follows:

(4) Creating and maintaining a process for documenting and

1 monitoring the quality of data from its source of entry into the network to  
2 any educational data repository in the ~~Department of Education~~ Division of  
3 Elementary and Secondary Education;

4  
5 SECTION 1109. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 6-11-  
6 128(c)(1)(A), concerning the Arkansas Public School Computer Network, is  
7 amended to read as follows:

8 (c)(1)(A) ~~Beginning with the 2007-2008 school year, the Department of~~  
9 ~~Education~~ The Division of Elementary and Secondary Education shall:

10  
11 SECTION 1110. Arkansas Code § 6-11-128(c)(2)(A)-(C), concerning the  
12 Arkansas Public School Computer Network, is amended to read as follows:

13 (2)(A) ~~Beginning with the 2008-2009 school year, the Department~~  
14 ~~of Education~~ The Division of Elementary and Secondary Education shall release  
15 monthly from the Arkansas Public School Computer Network selected financial  
16 and student management data submitted by public school districts for the  
17 previous month.

18 (B) The General Assembly and the ~~Department of Education~~  
19 Division of Elementary and Secondary Education shall determine by mutual  
20 agreement what financial and student management data will be selected for the  
21 monthly release.

22 (C) The ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary  
23 and Secondary Education shall make the information available to the General  
24 Assembly in the Arkansas Public School Computer Network data warehouse by the  
25 tenth business day of each month.

26  
27 SECTION 1111. Arkansas Code § 6-11-129(a)(1)(A)(v), concerning data  
28 school districts shall make accessible on a website, is amended to read as  
29 follows:

30 (v) The school district budget for the ensuing year,  
31 which shall be posted on the website within thirty (30) days following the  
32 date required to be submitted to the ~~Department of Education~~ Division of  
33 Elementary and Secondary Education;

34  
35 SECTION 1112. Arkansas Code § 6-11-129(b), concerning data school  
36 districts shall make accessible on a website, is amended to read as follows:

1 (b) The ~~department~~ division shall make the information and data  
2 required by this section available and easily accessible on the ~~department's~~  
3 division's website by including direct links to the websites of all Arkansas  
4 school districts.

5  
6 SECTION 1113. Arkansas Code § 6-11-201(a), concerning the Director of  
7 the Department of Career Education, is amended to read as follows:

8 (a)(1) The Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of Career and Technical  
9 Education, or a disbursing agent designated by him or her and approved by the  
10 ~~Career Education and Workforce Development Board~~ State Board of Education,  
11 shall give bond to the State of Arkansas as provided by law for other  
12 disbursing agents conditioned for the faithful performance of his or her  
13 duties and the faithful accounting for all the school money of the state, of  
14 any county, or of any school district that may come into his or her hands.

15  
16 SECTION 1114. Arkansas Code § 6-11-208(a)(1) and (2), concerning the  
17 formation of the multiagency task force for the Regional Education Career  
18 Alternative School System for Adjudicated Youth, are amended to read as  
19 follows:

20 (a)(1) A multiagency task force, staffed and supported by the  
21 ~~Department~~ Division of Career and Technical Education, is established and  
22 shall consist of five (5) members, including:

23 (A) The Commissioner of Elementary and Secondary Education  
24 or his or her designee;

25 (B) The Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of Career and  
26 Technical Education or his or her designee;

27 (C) The Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of Higher  
28 Education or his or her designee;

29 (D) The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Human  
30 Services or his or her designee; and

31 (E) The Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of Workforce  
32 Services or his or her designee.

33 (2) Funding for the multiagency task force shall be provided by:

34 (A) The ~~Department~~ Division of Career and Technical  
35 Education; or

36 (B) Each agency that serves on the multiagency task force,

1 in an equal amount from available, eligible funding.

2  
3 SECTION 1115. Arkansas Code § 6-13-113 is amended to read as follows:  
4 6-13-113. School district desegregation orders – Orders.

5 (a) By January 1, 2016, a school district that is subject to a  
6 desegregation order or desegregation-related order shall notify the  
7 ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary Education in  
8 writing.

9 (b) A school district that is subject to a desegregation order or a  
10 desegregation-related order shall include in the written notice to the  
11 ~~department~~ division:

12 (1) A copy of the desegregation order or desegregation-related  
13 order;

14 (2) The case heading and case number of each court case in which  
15 the order was entered;

16 (3) The name and location of each court that maintains  
17 jurisdiction over the order; and

18 (4) A description of the school choice student transfer  
19 desegregation obligations, if any, that the school district is subject to,  
20 related to the order.

21 (c) A school district that is released from court supervision related  
22 to a desegregation order or desegregation-related order shall promptly notify  
23 the ~~department~~ division.

24 (d) A school district that fails to meet the requirements of this  
25 section is in violation of the Standards for Accreditation of Arkansas Public  
26 Schools and School Districts.

27 (e) The ~~department~~ division shall post on the ~~department's~~ division's  
28 website all written notifications received as required by this section.

29  
30 SECTION 1116. Arkansas Code § 6-13-631(h), concerning the effect of  
31 minority populations on elections, is amended to read as follows:

32 (h)(1)(A) On or before August 1, 2002, and every decade thereafter,  
33 each and every school district shall submit to the ~~Department of Education~~  
34 Division of Elementary and Secondary Education a letter stating whether or  
35 not its school district board of directors falls under this section.

36 (B) In that same letter, each school district that falls

1 under this section shall state how it has complied with this section.

2 (C) Furthermore, in the same letter, any school district  
3 that believes that it is exempt from this section shall state under which  
4 provision it is exempt.

5 (2) The ~~department~~ division shall withhold twenty percent (20%)  
6 of the annual state funds allocation to a school district not in compliance  
7 with this section.

8

9 SECTION 1117. Arkansas Code § 6-13-635(b)(2)(B), concerning the school  
10 board review and approval of salary increases, is amended to read as follows:

11 (B) Within thirty (30) days following the date of an audit  
12 report in which an auditor notes noncompliance under this section, the school  
13 district shall provide a copy of the audit report to the ~~Department of~~  
14 Education Division of Elementary and Secondary Education.

15

16 SECTION 1118. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 6-13-  
17 635(b)(2)(C), concerning the school board review and approval of salary  
18 increases, is amended to read as follows:

19 (C) Annually by October 1, the ~~department~~ division shall:

20

21 SECTION 1119. Arkansas Code § 6-13-701(c) and (d), concerning the  
22 powers and duties of the board of directors of Arkansas school districts, are  
23 amended to read as follows:

24 (c) An executed certificate of appointment shall be filed with the  
25 county clerk, the county treasurer, and the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the  
26 Department of Finance and Administration.

27 (d) School district treasurers shall execute a surety bond in such  
28 amount as may be required by the ~~director~~ secretary, who shall approve the  
29 bond. The premium on the bond shall be paid out of the funds of the school  
30 district.

31

32 SECTION 1120. Arkansas Code § 6-13-701(e)(2), concerning the powers  
33 and duties of school district boards of directors in Arkansas, is amended to  
34 read as follows:

35 (2) To keep a record of all financial transactions of the school  
36 district on forms approved by the ~~Department of Education~~ Division of

1 Elementary and Secondary Education and ~~the~~ Arkansas Legislative Audit;

2  
3 SECTION 1121. Arkansas Code § 6-13-701(e)(5), concerning the powers  
4 and duties of school district boards of directors in Arkansas, is amended to  
5 read as follows:

6 (5) To make such financial reports to the ~~Department of~~  
7 Education Division of Elementary and Secondary Education as are required by  
8 law;

9  
10 SECTION 1122. Arkansas Code § 6-13-701(g)(2)(B), concerning the powers  
11 and duties of school district boards of directors in Arkansas, is amended to  
12 read as follows:

13 (B) All activity funds and school food service funds shall  
14 be maintained and accounted for in accordance with guidelines and procedures  
15 established by the ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and  
16 Secondary Education.

17  
18 SECTION 1123. Arkansas Code § 6-13-808(a), concerning the Arkansas  
19 Traveling Teacher Program, is amended to read as follows:

20 (a) The Arkansas Traveling Teacher Program is hereby established and  
21 shall be administered by the ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary  
22 and Secondary Education with the assistance of public school districts and  
23 education service cooperatives.

24  
25 SECTION 1124. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 6-13-  
26 808(b)(2), concerning the Arkansas Traveling Teacher Program, is amended to  
27 read as follows:

28 (2) The parties shall enter into a written agreement, in the  
29 form established by the ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and  
30 Secondary Education, that shall include without limitation the following:

31  
32 SECTION 1125. Arkansas Code § 6-13-808(b)(2)(G)(ii), concerning the  
33 Arkansas Traveling Teacher Program, is amended to read as follows:

34 (ii) The ~~Department of Education~~ Division of  
35 Elementary and Secondary Education shall not approve an agreement under this  
36 section unless the agreement requires the traveling teacher to be physically

1 present in the receiving school district while the traveling teacher is  
2 teaching any course specified in the agreement.

3  
4 SECTION 1126. Arkansas Code § 6-13-808(b)(3), concerning the Arkansas  
5 Traveling Teacher Program, is amended to read as follows:

6 (3) The agreement shall be reviewed and approved by the  
7 ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary Education under  
8 subsection (f) of this section.

9  
10 SECTION 1127. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 6-13-  
11 808(c), concerning the Arkansas Traveling Teacher Program, is amended to read  
12 as follows:

13 (c) To the extent the agreement is approved by the ~~Department of~~  
14 ~~Education~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary Education:

15  
16 SECTION 1128. Arkansas Code § 6-13-808(c)(1)(B), concerning the  
17 Arkansas Traveling Teacher Program, is amended to read as follows:

18 (B) The ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and  
19 Secondary Education shall reimburse the host school district for the amount  
20 of bonus paid to the traveling teacher; and

21  
22 SECTION 1129. Arkansas Code § 6-13-808(c)(2)(B), concerning the  
23 Arkansas Traveling Teacher Program, is amended to read as follows:

24 (B) The ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and  
25 Secondary Education shall reimburse the host school district for the amount  
26 of travel reimbursement paid by the host school district to the traveling  
27 teacher.

28  
29 SECTION 1130. Arkansas Code § 6-13-808(d)-(g), concerning the Arkansas  
30 Traveling Teacher Program, are amended to read as follows:

31 (d) Neither the ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and  
32 Secondary Education nor the State of Arkansas shall be obligated or liable to  
33 reimburse any bonus or travel expenses incurred under an agreement for  
34 traveling teacher services under this section if the ~~Department of Education~~  
35 Division of Elementary and Secondary Education has not reviewed and approved  
36 the entire agreement.

1 (e) The ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary  
2 Education may, if feasible and if funding is available, establish an online  
3 registry of public school teachers willing to enter into an agreement for  
4 traveling teacher services under this section with information concerning the  
5 teacher's employing school district and any course the teacher is qualified  
6 to teach.

7 (f)(1) All proposed agreements among a host school district, a  
8 receiving school district, and a traveling teacher shall be submitted to the  
9 ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary Education by a  
10 date certain for review and approval by the ~~Department of Education~~ Division  
11 of Elementary and Secondary Education.

12 (2) The ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and  
13 Secondary Education shall review each agreement with all requisite authority  
14 to approve or deny the agreement based on the provisions of law, rule,  
15 availability of funding, and discretionary determination as to the best use  
16 of state resources and funding.

17 (3) The ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and  
18 Secondary Education shall endeavor to consider approval of an agreement to:

19 (A) Place a traveling teacher with a receiving school  
20 district to maximize the efficiency of the traveling teacher's service to  
21 both the host and receiving school districts; and

22 (B) Minimize the extent and duration of any travel  
23 required.

24 (g)(1) The ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and  
25 Secondary Education shall establish any rules and agreement forms necessary  
26 for the administration of the Arkansas Traveling Teacher Program.

27 (2) In establishing the rules, the ~~Department of Education~~  
28 Division of Elementary and Secondary Education shall:

29 (A) Prioritize the approval of agreements for traveling  
30 teacher services based on subject-area course needs;

31 (B) Establish appropriate travel limitations;

32 (C) Develop a method of equitable distribution of  
33 traveling teachers among the area's education service cooperatives; and

34 (D) Provide a means by which education service  
35 cooperatives may assist in facilitating traveling teachers.

36

1 SECTION 1131. Arkansas Code § 6-13-903(c), concerning the powers of  
2 public school districts, is amended to read as follows:

3 (c) The ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary  
4 Education shall not distribute state equalization aid directly to any  
5 educational cooperative.  
6

7 SECTION 1132. Arkansas Code § 6-13-905(c), concerning the board of  
8 directors of cooperating school districts, is amended to read as follows:

9 (c) Policies for the operation of the educational cooperative will be  
10 developed by the board of directors and be filed with the ~~Department of~~  
11 ~~Education~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary Education as required by law  
12 of school districts generally.  
13

14 SECTION 1133. Arkansas Code § 6-13-906 is amended to read as follows:

15 6-13-906. Rules, regulations, and reports.

16 (a) The educational cooperative will:

17 (1) Abide by all rules and regulations of the ~~Department of~~  
18 ~~Education~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary Education which apply to  
19 school districts generally; and

20 (2) Make all reports as required by law and regulation which  
21 apply to school districts generally to the ~~department~~ Division of Elementary  
22 and Secondary Education.

23 (b)(1) Records of the expenditures and receipts of the educational  
24 cooperatives shall be kept in such manner and on such forms as may be  
25 specified by the ~~department~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary Education or  
26 the School Audit Section of Arkansas Legislative Audit.

27 (2) Reports on expenditures and receipts shall be made for the  
28 cooperative as a single agency or shall be made separately by the school  
29 districts to reflect the status of each member school district at such time  
30 and in such manner as specified by the ~~department~~ Division of Elementary and  
31 Secondary Education.  
32

33 SECTION 1134. Arkansas Code § 6-13-1002(b)(3), concerning the  
34 establishment and functions of the educational service cooperatives, is  
35 amended to read as follows:

36 (3) Promoting coordination between school districts and the

1 ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary Education in  
2 order to provide services which are consistent with the needs identified by  
3 school districts and the educational priorities of the state as established  
4 by the General Assembly or the state board.

5  
6 SECTION 1135. Arkansas Code § 6-13-1011(a)(2), concerning personnel of  
7 education service cooperatives, is amended to read as follows:

8 (2) In lieu of a salary schedule, an education service  
9 cooperative annually may submit to the ~~Department of Education~~ Division of  
10 Elementary and Secondary Education a complete listing of all employees of the  
11 education service cooperative and each employee's position, salary, and  
12 benefits.

13  
14 SECTION 1136. Arkansas Code § 6-13-1012 is amended to read as follows:

15 6-13-1012. Agency personnel.

16 With the approval of an education service cooperative's governing body,  
17 the ~~directors in the Department of Education~~ Director of the Division of  
18 Elementary and Secondary Education may assign state educational agency  
19 personnel to that education service cooperative.

20  
21 SECTION 1137. Arkansas Code § 6-13-1014 is amended to read as follows:

22 6-13-1014. Sharing and coordination of activities – Liaison.

23 (a) The ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary  
24 Education shall encourage sharing and coordination of activities among the  
25 education service cooperatives.

26 (b) The Commissioner of Elementary and Secondary Education shall name  
27 a person to serve as liaison between the ~~department~~ division and the  
28 education service cooperatives.

29 (c) This liaison shall provide information on resources and programs  
30 and be the general contact person in the ~~department~~ division for the  
31 education service cooperatives.

32  
33 SECTION 1138. Arkansas Code § 6-13-1016(c), concerning annual surveys  
34 and needs assessments of education service cooperatives, is amended to read  
35 as follows:

36 (c) Each education service cooperative shall work with the ~~Department~~

1 ~~of Education~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary Education to conduct  
2 statewide surveys which complement, rather than duplicate, the work of the  
3 ~~department~~ division.

4  
5 SECTION 1139. Arkansas Code § 6-13-1020(a)(3)(A), concerning policies,  
6 procedures, expenditures, reports, and audits to be filed with the State  
7 Board of Education, is amended to read as follows:

8 (3)(A) A report of its receipts and expenditures made in  
9 accordance with uniform accounting procedures adopted by the Commissioner of  
10 Elementary and Secondary Education.

11  
12 SECTION 1140. Arkansas Code § 6-13-1020(b), concerning policies,  
13 procedures, expenditures, reports, and audits to be filed with the State  
14 Board of Education, is amended to read as follows:

15 (b) The ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary  
16 Education may prescribe the forms and procedures for filing the information  
17 required by subsection (a) of this section.

18  
19 SECTION 1141. Arkansas Code § 6-13-1020(d)(2), concerning policies,  
20 procedures, expenditures, reports, and audits to be filed with the State  
21 Board of Education, is amended to read as follows:

22 (2) The education service cooperative shall supplement its  
23 report with written reports to each school district and to the ~~department~~  
24 division on a school-by-school, service-by-service accounting basis.

25  
26 SECTION 1142. Arkansas Code § 6-13-1021(a), concerning evaluations and  
27 performance ratings of education service cooperatives, is amended to read as  
28 follows:

29 (a) Each education service cooperative shall be evaluated during the  
30 2012-2013 school year, and at least once within each five-year period, on a  
31 schedule established by the Commissioner of Elementary and Secondary  
32 Education, all active education service cooperatives must be visited by an  
33 evaluation committee of not more than nine (9) persons.

34  
35 SECTION 1143. Arkansas Code § 6-13-1021(b)(1)(B), concerning  
36 evaluations and performance ratings of education service cooperatives, is

1 amended to read as follows:

2 (B) The final evaluation, including any self-evaluation,  
3 shall be included in the annual report to the ~~Department of Education~~  
4 Division of Elementary and Secondary Education, § 6-13-1020, and made  
5 available on the website of the education service cooperative.

6

7 SECTION 1144. Arkansas Code § 6-13-1021(b)(2)(A), concerning  
8 evaluations and performance ratings of education service cooperatives, is  
9 amended to read as follows:

10 (2)(A) The evaluation criteria shall be developed  
11 collaboratively between the ~~department~~ division and the director of each  
12 education service cooperative.

13

14 SECTION 1145. Arkansas Code § 6-13-1021(e), concerning evaluations and  
15 performance ratings of education service cooperatives, is amended to read as  
16 follows:

17 (e) The ~~department~~ division shall promulgate rules necessary for  
18 implementing this section.

19

20 SECTION 1146. Arkansas Code § 6-13-1021(f)(2)(A), concerning  
21 evaluations and performance ratings of education service cooperatives, is  
22 amended to read as follows:

23 (A) A ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and  
24 Secondary Education staff member;

25

26 SECTION 1147. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 6-13-  
27 1027(b), concerning the Education Service Cooperative Act of 1985, is amended  
28 to read as follows:

29 (b) Any education service cooperative that meets one (1) or more of  
30 the following criteria may be identified by the ~~Department of Education~~  
31 Division of Elementary and Secondary Education as being in fiscal distress  
32 upon final approval of the State Board of Education:

33

34 SECTION 1148. Arkansas Code § 6-13-1027(b)(1)(B), concerning the  
35 Education Service Cooperative Act of 1985, is amended to read as follows:

36 (B) The ~~department~~ division shall not use capital outlay

1 expenditures from the education service cooperative's balance for facilities  
2 to identify the education service cooperative as being in fiscal distress;

3  
4 SECTION 1149. Arkansas Code § 6-13-1027(b)(8), concerning the  
5 Education Service Cooperative Act of 1985, is amended to read as follows:

6 (8) Any other fiscal condition of the education service  
7 cooperative that the ~~department~~ division determines materially impacts the  
8 education service cooperative's delivery of education services.

9  
10 SECTION 1150. Arkansas Code § 6-13-1027(c) and (d), concerning the  
11 Education Service Cooperative Act of 1985, are amended to read as follows:

12 (c)(1) The ~~department~~ division may identify an education service  
13 cooperative as being in fiscal distress at any time a fiscal condition of the  
14 education service cooperative is discovered to have a detrimental negative  
15 impact on the continuation of educational services provided by the education  
16 service cooperative.

17 (2)(A) If the ~~department~~ division identifies an education  
18 service cooperative as being in fiscal distress, the ~~department~~ division  
19 shall notify the education service cooperative in writing of the  
20 identification of fiscal distress within ten (10) calendar days.

21 (B) The ~~department~~ division shall identify in the notice  
22 each criteria for fiscal distress on which the ~~department~~ division based the  
23 identification of fiscal distress.

24 (C) The ~~department~~ division shall deliver the notice by  
25 certified mail, return receipt requested, and addressed to:

26 (i) The president of the education service  
27 cooperative's board of directors; and

28 (ii) The director of the education service  
29 cooperative employed under § 6-13-1010.

30 (d) The identification of fiscal distress made by the ~~department~~  
31 division under this section may be appealed to the state board under § 6-13-  
32 1031 in which case the final order entered upon appeal is the final  
33 classification of fiscal distress.

34  
35 SECTION 1151. Arkansas Code § 6-13-1027(e)(2), concerning the  
36 Education Service Cooperative Act of 1985, is amended to read as follows:

1 (2) File with the ~~department~~ division a fiscal distress plan  
2 under § 6-13-1028.

3  
4 SECTION 1152. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 6-13-  
5 1028(a), concerning the fiscal distress plan, is amended to read as follows:

6 (a) An education service cooperative that is classified by the State  
7 Board of Education as being in fiscal distress shall file with the ~~Department~~  
8 ~~of Education~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary Education a fiscal distress  
9 plan that:

10  
11 SECTION 1153. Arkansas Code § 6-13-1028(b) and (c), concerning the  
12 fiscal distress plan, are amended to read as follows:

13 (b) The ~~department~~ division shall approve the fiscal distress plan  
14 before the education service cooperative implements the fiscal distress plan.

15 (c) An education service cooperative identified as being in fiscal  
16 distress is required to receive on-site technical evaluation and assistance  
17 from the ~~department~~ division.

18  
19 SECTION 1154. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 6-13-  
20 1029(a), concerning fiscal distress actions, is amended to read as follows:

21 (a) To address the identified areas of fiscal distress of an education  
22 service cooperative, the ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and  
23 Secondary Education shall:

24  
25 SECTION 1155. Arkansas Code § 6-13-1029(a)(1)(B), concerning fiscal  
26 distress actions, is amended to read as follows:

27 (B) The recommendations of the ~~department~~ division are  
28 binding on the education service cooperative;

29  
30 SECTION 1156. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 6-13-  
31 1029(b), concerning fiscal distress actions, is amended to read as follows:

32 (b) The ~~department~~ division also may take one (1) or more of the  
33 following actions:

34  
35 SECTION 1157. Arkansas Code § 6-13-1029(b)(1)(A)(ii) and (iii),  
36 concerning fiscal distress actions, are amended to read as follows:

1 (ii) An individual appointed to replace the director  
2 shall administratively operate the education service cooperative under the  
3 supervision and approval of the Commissioner of Elementary and Secondary  
4 Education.

5 (iii) The ~~department~~ division may compensate  
6 ~~nondepartment~~ nondivision agents operating the education service cooperative  
7 from the education service cooperative's funding; and

8  
9 SECTION 1158. Arkansas Code § 6-13-1029(c), concerning fiscal distress  
10 actions, is amended to read as follows:

11 (c) Within two (2) consecutive school years of the State Board of  
12 Education's final classification of fiscal distress, the ~~department~~ division  
13 shall determine whether to recommend that the education service cooperative  
14 be removed from fiscal distress status.

15  
16 SECTION 1159. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 6-13-  
17 1030(a), concerning the removal from fiscal distress status, is amended to  
18 read as follows:

19 (a) The ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary  
20 Education shall certify in writing to the education service cooperative that  
21 the education service cooperative may be removed from fiscal distress status  
22 when the ~~department~~ division determines that the education service  
23 cooperative has:

24  
25 SECTION 1160. Arkansas Code § 6-13-1030(a)(2), concerning the removal  
26 from fiscal distress status, is amended to read as follows:

27 (2) Complied with all ~~department~~ division recommendations and  
28 requirements for removal from fiscal distress status.

29  
30 SECTION 1161. Arkansas Code § 6-13-1030(b)(2), concerning removal from  
31 fiscal distress status, is amended to read as follows:

32 (2) An education service cooperative may not petition the state  
33 board for removal from fiscal distress status before the ~~department~~ division  
34 makes the certification under subsection (a) of this section.

35  
36 SECTION 1162. Arkansas Code § 6-13-1031(b), concerning an appeal by an

1 education service cooperative regarding its identification of fiscal  
2 distress, is amended to read as follows:

3 (b) The education service cooperative may lodge an appeal by filing a  
4 written appeal with the Commissioner of Elementary and Secondary Education by  
5 certified mail, return receipt requested, within thirty (30) days of the date  
6 the education service cooperative received notice of the identification of  
7 fiscal distress.

8

9 SECTION 1163. Arkansas Code § 6-13-1031(e), concerning an appeal by an  
10 education service cooperative regarding its identification of fiscal  
11 distress, is amended to read as follows:

12 (e) Notwithstanding any appeal rights in this section, no appeal shall  
13 stay the state board's or the ~~Department of Education's~~ Division of  
14 Elementary and Secondary Education's authority to take action to enforce the  
15 education service cooperative's compliance with financial management,  
16 accounting, auditing, and reporting procedures required by state or federal  
17 law and regulations.

18

19 SECTION 1164. Arkansas Code § 6-13-1104 is amended to read as follows:  
20 6-13-1104. Powers and duties.

21 Any model rural early childhood consortium created pursuant to this  
22 subchapter shall have the authority to petition the ~~Department of Education~~  
23 Division of Elementary and Secondary Education or the State Board of  
24 Education for waivers from present school standards to fulfill the purposes  
25 set forth in § 6-13-1101.

26

27 SECTION 1165. Arkansas Code § 6-13-1106(a)(2), concerning the criteria  
28 for an educational consortium, is amended to read as follows:

29 (2) The ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and  
30 Secondary Education shall determine which applications are accepted in  
31 accordance with the state board's published criteria.

32

33 SECTION 1166. Arkansas Code § 6-13-1308 is amended to read as follows:  
34 6-13-1308. Assistance by ~~Department of Education~~ Division of  
35 Elementary and Secondary Education.

36 (a) The ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary

1 Education may develop sample guidelines to assist local boards of directors  
2 in the development of their policies.

3 (b) The ~~department~~ division may provide professional development  
4 activities to assist schools in implementing site-based decision making.  
5

6 SECTION 1167. Arkansas Code § 6-13-1404(d)(2)(B), concerning the  
7 conditions under which the State Board of Education may consolidate school  
8 districts, is amended to read as follows:

9 (B) It shall be the duty of the ~~Department of Education~~  
10 Division of Elementary and Secondary Education to make changes in the maps of  
11 the school districts to properly show the boundary lines of the resulting  
12 district or districts.  
13

14 SECTION 1168. Arkansas Code § 6-13-1414(d), concerning a boundary  
15 change by the State Board of Education, is amended to read as follows:

16 (d) Upon an order from the state board to change or adjust boundary  
17 lines, it shall be the duty of the ~~Department of Education~~ Division of  
18 Elementary and Secondary Education to immediately make changes in the maps of  
19 the school districts of the county to show the changes of boundaries.  
20

21 SECTION 1169. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 6-13-1602,  
22 concerning the publication of an administrative consolidation list, is  
23 amended to read as follows:

24 By January 1 of each year, the ~~Department of Education~~ Division of  
25 Elementary and Secondary Education shall publish a:  
26

27 SECTION 1170. Arkansas Code § 6-13-1603(a)(1), concerning  
28 administrative reorganization, is amended to read as follows:

29 (a)(1) Any school district included in the ~~Department of Education's~~  
30 Division of Elementary and Secondary Education's consolidation list under §  
31 6-13-1602 may voluntarily agree to administratively consolidate with or be  
32 annexed to another school district or districts in accordance with the  
33 requirements and limitations of this section.  
34

35 SECTION 1171. Arkansas Code § 6-13-1603(g)(2), concerning  
36 administrative reorganization, is amended to read as follows:

1 (2) The school district fails to comply with the Standards for  
2 Accreditation of Arkansas Public Schools and School Districts issued by the  
3 ~~department~~ division.

4  
5 SECTION 1172. Arkansas Code § 6-13-1608(c)-(f), concerning an audit of  
6 all school districts by Arkansas Legislative Audit, are amended to read as  
7 follows:

8 (c)(1) Beginning on the date of publication of the consolidation list  
9 under § 6-13-1602 each year, the ~~Department of Education~~ Division of  
10 Elementary and Secondary Education shall have authority to oversee all fiscal  
11 and accounting-related matters of all school districts on the consolidation  
12 list and shall require those school districts to have accurate records  
13 necessary to close all books within sixty (60) days after the end of the  
14 fiscal year.

15 (2) No contract or other debt obligation incurred by a school  
16 district for which the ~~department~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary  
17 Education has oversight authority under this section shall be valid or  
18 enforceable against a resulting school district unless the contract or other  
19 debt obligation is preapproved in writing by the Commissioner of Elementary  
20 and Secondary Education or his or her designee.

21 (d) Any school that is involved in an administrative consolidation or  
22 administrative annexation shall have an audit started within thirty (30) days  
23 of the completion of the closing of the books by the school district.

24 (e) The ~~department~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary Education and  
25 Arkansas Legislative Audit shall jointly develop the scope and details of the  
26 comprehensive fiscal review consistent with the requirements of this section.

27 (f) A school district may not incur debt without the prior written  
28 approval of the ~~department~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary Education if  
29 the school district is identified by the ~~department~~ Division of Elementary  
30 and Secondary Education under § 6-13-1602(1) as having fewer than three  
31 hundred fifty (350) students according to the school district average daily  
32 membership in the school year immediately preceding the current school year.

33  
34 SECTION 1173. Arkansas Code § 6-13-1610(a)(5), concerning the  
35 definition of "improper expenditure exceptions" under the laws establishing  
36 financial relief for debts acquired as a result of involuntary

1 consolidations, is amended to read as follows:

2 (5) "Improper expenditure exceptions" means an erroneous  
3 expenditure of federal or state funds that is noted as an audit exception and  
4 has been determined by the ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and  
5 Secondary Education to require an expenditure of funds by the resulting  
6 district to be correct.

7  
8 SECTION 1174. Arkansas Code § 6-13-1610(b), concerning financial  
9 relief for debts acquired as a result of involuntary consolidations, is  
10 amended to read as follows:

11 (b) If on July 1, 2004, or thereafter, the State Board of Education  
12 required an involuntary administrative consolidation under § 6-13-1603(a)(3)  
13 and the resulting district assumed excess accounts payable or improper  
14 expenditure exceptions incurred by the Act 60 school district before the July  
15 1 administrative consolidation date that would have caused deficit spending  
16 if paid from the funds of the Act 60 school district, the ~~department~~ Division  
17 of Elementary and Secondary Education shall provide supplemental funding to  
18 the resulting district.

19  
20 SECTION 1175. Arkansas Code § 6-13-1610(c)(2)(A), concerning financial  
21 relief for debts acquired as a result of involuntary consolidations, is  
22 amended to read as follows:

23 (2)(A) The amount of accounts payable, excess accounts payable,  
24 improper expenditure exceptions, and available funding shall be determined by  
25 the ~~department~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary Education based on  
26 information provided in a final audit and other verifiable fiscal information  
27 available to the ~~department~~ division.

28  
29 SECTION 1176. Arkansas Code § 6-13-1610(d), concerning financial  
30 relief for debts acquired as a result of involuntary consolidations, is  
31 amended to read as follows:

32 (d)(1) Beginning on the date of the publication of the consolidation  
33 list under § 6-13-1602 each year, the ~~department~~ division shall have  
34 authority to oversee all fiscal and accounting-related matters of all school  
35 districts on the consolidation list and shall require these school districts  
36 to have accurate records necessary to close all books within sixty (60) days

1 of the end of the fiscal year.

2 (2) No contract or other debt obligation incurred by a school  
3 district for which the ~~department~~ division has oversight authority under this  
4 section shall be valid or enforceable against a resulting district unless the  
5 contract or other debt obligation is preapproved in writing by the  
6 Commissioner of Elementary and Secondary Education or his or her designee.

7  
8 SECTION 1177. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 6-13-  
9 1611(a), concerning reports by administratively consolidated school  
10 districts, is amended to read as follows:

11 (a) By October 1 of each year, the resulting district or receiving  
12 district of any school district that was administratively consolidated or  
13 administratively annexed under §§ 6-13-1601 – 6-13-1603, ~~6-13-1604~~  
14 ~~{repealed}~~, and ~~6-13-1605 {repealed}~~ shall file a written report with the  
15 House Committee on Education, the Senate Committee on Education, and the  
16 ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary Education  
17 indicating:

18  
19 SECTION 1178. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 6-13-  
20 1611(b), concerning reports by administratively consolidated school  
21 districts, is amended to read as follows:

22 (b) The ~~department~~ division shall develop or approve a survey to be  
23 used by the resulting districts or receiving districts to capture perceptual  
24 data from parents and students regarding their opinions on:

25  
26 SECTION 1179. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 6-13-  
27 1612(c), concerning academic support centers, is amended to read as follows:

28 (c) The ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary  
29 Education shall:

30  
31 SECTION 1180. Arkansas Code § 6-13-1613(a)(1), concerning minimum  
32 school district size waivers, is amended to read as follows:

33 (a)(1) A school district that is placed on the consolidation list  
34 published by the ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary  
35 Education under § 6-13-1602(2) may annually request a waiver from the average  
36 daily membership requirement of three hundred fifty (350) students from the

1 State Board of Education.

2

3 SECTION 1181. Arkansas Code § 6-14-113(d), concerning election kits  
4 for school elections, is amended to read as follows:

5 (d) The cost of the kits or packages prepared by the ~~Department of~~  
6 ~~Education~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary Education pursuant to this  
7 section shall be paid from the maintenance funds provided for the ~~department~~  
8 division by legislative appropriation.

9

10 SECTION 1182. Arkansas Code § 6-15-102 is amended to read as follows:

11 6-15-102. Division of Public School Accountability.

12 (a)(1) To enhance the public's access to public school performance  
13 indicators and to better measure the benefits of the increasing public  
14 investment in Arkansas's schools, the General Assembly finds that a Division  
15 of Public School Accountability ~~of~~ under the ~~Department of Education~~ Division  
16 of Elementary and Secondary Education should be established under the direct  
17 operational control of the Commissioner of Elementary and Secondary  
18 Education.

19 (2) The foremost obligation of the ~~division~~ Division of Public  
20 School Accountability shall be to administer all monitoring and compliance  
21 activities dealing with academic and fiscal accountability for each school or  
22 school district and to report academic progress.

23 (b) There is created the Division of Public School Accountability ~~of~~  
24 under the ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary  
25 Education.

26 (c) The ~~division~~ Division of Public School Accountability shall be  
27 under the supervision of the commissioner.

28 (d)(1)(A) The commissioner shall select an individual to serve as the  
29 ~~assistant commissioner~~ Assistant Commissioner of the ~~division~~ Division of  
30 Public School Accountability, and the ~~assistant commissioner~~ Assistant  
31 Commissioner of the Division of Public School Accountability shall serve at  
32 the pleasure of the commissioner.

33 (B) The commissioner may reassign as necessary appropriate  
34 staff for the ~~division~~ Division of Public School Accountability sufficient to  
35 fulfill all obligations for monitoring and reporting in the ~~division~~ Division  
36 of Public School Accountability.

1 (2) The person selected as the ~~assistant commissioner~~ Assistant  
2 Commissioner of the Division of Public School Accountability shall:

3 (A) Be a person of good moral character and qualified  
4 technically and by experience to direct the work of the ~~division~~ Division of  
5 Public School Accountability;

6 (B) Hold a master's degree or a higher level degree from  
7 an accredited institution; and

8 (C) Have ten (10) years of experience in an  
9 administrative, supervisory, or management position.

10 (3) No person who is related within the fourth degree of  
11 consanguinity or affinity to any member of the State Board of Education or to  
12 the commissioner shall be eligible to serve as the ~~assistant commissioner~~  
13 Assistant Commissioner of the Division of Public School Accountability.

14 (e) With guidance and approval from the commissioner, the ~~assistant~~  
15 ~~commissioner~~ Assistant Commissioner of the Division of Public School  
16 Accountability shall be responsible for hiring all employees of the ~~division~~  
17 Division of Public School Accountability.

18 (f) The ~~division~~ Division of Public School Accountability shall have  
19 the following responsibilities:

20 (1) To monitor schools for compliance with:

21 (A) State and federal regulations;

22 (B) Legislative acts and court-ordered mandates;

23 (C) All standards of learning and accreditation as  
24 established by the state board; and

25 (D) All rules and regulations as established by the state  
26 board;

27 (2) To coordinate the analysis, dissemination, and reporting of  
28 all state-mandated assessment information;

29 (3) To coordinate the implementation and administration of:

30 (A) Longitudinal tracking and trend data collection as  
31 established by the state board for the purposes of improving student and  
32 school performance, ensuring mastery of the curriculum, and providing  
33 comparisons between students within Arkansas and with students in other  
34 states;

35 (B) Value-added assessments as established by the state  
36 board; and

1 (C) The annual school performance reports as established  
2 by the state board;

3 (4) To administer all monitoring and compliance activities  
4 dealing with academic and fiscal accountability as established by the state  
5 board; and

6 (5) To work with program approval and licensure sections of the  
7 ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary Education, the  
8 ~~Department~~ Division of Higher Education, the ~~Department~~ Division of Career  
9 and Technical Education, and the individual colleges to provide information  
10 that will contribute to reasonable, equitable, and excellent preparation of  
11 licensed personnel in public and private institutions of higher education.

12 (g)(1) The ~~division~~ Division of Public School Accountability shall  
13 provide annual reports of school performance or compliance to the Joint  
14 Interim Oversight Committee on Education Reform, the House Committee on  
15 Education, and the Senate Committee on Education.

16 (2) A preliminary report shall be provided by January 1 of each  
17 year, and a follow-up report that includes information regarding on-site  
18 visits shall be filed by June 1 of each year.

19  
20 SECTION 1183. Arkansas Code § 6-15-202(a)(1), concerning accreditation  
21 and development of regulations and standards by the State Board of Education,  
22 is amended to read as follows:

23 (a)(1) The State Board of Education is authorized and directed to  
24 develop comprehensive regulations, criteria, and standards to be used by the  
25 state board and the ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and  
26 Secondary Education in the accreditation of school programs in elementary and  
27 secondary public schools in this state.

28  
29 SECTION 1184. Arkansas Code § 6-15-202(b)(2)(B)(iii), concerning  
30 accreditation and development of regulations and standards by the State Board  
31 of Education, is amended to read as follows:

32 (iii) The ~~department~~ division verifies in writing to  
33 the state board that all of the curriculum frameworks for the two (2)  
34 separate courses are included in the proposed combined or embedded course;  
35 and

36

1 SECTION 1185. Arkansas Code § 6-15-202(e)(1), concerning accreditation  
2 and development of regulations and standards by the State Board of Education,  
3 is amended to read as follows:

4 (e)(1) The ~~department~~ division shall conduct a Standards for  
5 Accreditation of Arkansas Public Schools and School Districts review for each  
6 public school or public school district in the state:

7 (A) Identified as being at a high risk of failing to meet  
8 the standards; or

9 (B) Whenever the ~~department~~ division or state board deems  
10 necessary.

11  
12 SECTION 1186. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 6-15-  
13 202(f), concerning accreditation and development of regulations and standards  
14 by the State Board of Education, is amended to read as follows:

15 (f) The Commissioner of Elementary and Secondary Education may require  
16 that the superintendent of each school district file a written statement with  
17 the ~~department~~ division as evidence that the school district for which the  
18 superintendent is responsible has complied with any or all of the following  
19 statutory requirements:

20  
21 SECTION 1187. Arkansas Code § 6-15-202(f)(51), concerning  
22 accreditation and development of regulations and standards by the State Board  
23 of Education, is amended to read as follows:

24 (51) Any other statutory mandate for school districts identified  
25 by the ~~department~~ division as relevant to the Standards for Accreditation of  
26 Arkansas Public Schools and School Districts.

27  
28 SECTION 1188. Arkansas Code § 6-15-202(g) and (h), concerning  
29 accreditation and development of regulations and standards by the State Board  
30 of Education, are amended to read as follows:

31 (g) In addition to any written statement of assurance required under  
32 subsection (f) of this section, the ~~department~~ division may conduct an on-  
33 site review of a school district to confirm that a school district has  
34 complied with any statutory requirements listed in subsection (f) of this  
35 section or any other matter related to the standards.

36 (h) The ~~department~~ division shall establish a form for the written

1 statement of assurance required under subsection (f) of this section and  
2 shall establish a date or dates by which school districts shall submit the  
3 written statement of assurance required under subsection (f) of this section.  
4

5 SECTION 1189. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 6-15-  
6 202(i), concerning accreditation and development of regulations and standards  
7 by the State Board of Education, is amended to read as follows:

8 (i) If any superintendent fails to file a written statement of  
9 assurance as required by the commissioner under subsection (f) of this  
10 section by the date established by the ~~department~~ division or knowingly  
11 submits false information or if the ~~department~~ division determines the  
12 information in the statement is inaccurate or incomplete, the ~~department~~  
13 division may:  
14

15 SECTION 1190. Arkansas Code § 6-15-203(a), concerning notification of  
16 school for failure to meet standards for accreditation and appeal, are  
17 amended to read as follows:

18 (a)(1) The ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and  
19 Secondary Education annually shall notify all schools or school districts  
20 failing to meet standards for accreditation for elementary and secondary  
21 schools not later than May 1 of each year of this determination.

22 (2)(A) However, at any time the ~~department~~ division may  
23 immediately notify a public school or school district failing to meet  
24 standards for accreditation for elementary and secondary schools when the  
25 failure is discovered by the ~~department~~ division under § 6-15-202(i).

26 (B) A public school or school district notified by the  
27 ~~department~~ division of the public school's or school district's failure to  
28 meet the standards for accreditation due to actions taken under § 6-15-202(i)  
29 shall have the same period of time to appeal to the State Board of Education  
30 as provided under subdivision (b)(3) of this section.  
31

32 SECTION 1191. Arkansas Code § 6-15-203(b)(1), concerning notification  
33 of school for failure to meet standards for accreditation and appeal, are  
34 amended to read as follows:

35 (b)(1) In the event that a school district affected by this subchapter  
36 believes the ~~department~~ division has improperly determined that a school or

1 school district fails to meet the standards for accreditation, the school  
2 district shall have a right of appeal thereafter to the state board.

3  
4 SECTION 1192. Arkansas Code § 6-15-206(a), concerning a school's  
5 subsequent failure to meet standards for accreditation, is amended to read as  
6 follows:

7 (a) Any school or school district which fails to meet current  
8 standards for accreditation as determined by the ~~Department of Education~~  
9 Division of Elementary and Secondary Education shall be classified as  
10 probationary.

11  
12 SECTION 1193. Arkansas Code § 6-15-206(b)(2), concerning a school's  
13 subsequent failure to meet standards for accreditation, is amended to read as  
14 follows:

15 (2) The ~~department~~ division shall prepare and promulgate  
16 regulations and guidelines for the maximum times allowable for correction of  
17 any violations of standards, provided no probationary status violation may  
18 exist for more than two (2) consecutive school years.

19  
20 SECTION 1194. Arkansas Code § 6-15-206(c)(2), concerning a school's  
21 subsequent failure to meet standards for accreditation, is amended to read as  
22 follows:

23 (2) The ~~department~~ division shall review annually the  
24 educational standards of school districts for the purpose of determining  
25 whether standards for accreditation of the schools therein are in compliance  
26 with current state standards for accreditation.

27  
28 SECTION 1195. Arkansas Code § 6-15-206(d)(1), concerning a school's  
29 subsequent failure to meet standards for accreditation, is amended to read as  
30 follows:

31 (d)(1) The ~~department~~ division shall conduct a review of each school's  
32 compliance if the ~~department~~ division has reason to believe that the school  
33 district or any school within the public school district has fallen below  
34 standards for accreditation.

35  
36 SECTION 1196. Arkansas Code § 6-15-206(e), concerning a school's

1 subsequent failure to meet standards for accreditation, is amended to read as  
2 follows:

3 (e) The ~~department~~ division shall cooperate with local schools and  
4 school authorities in order to assist affected school districts and schools  
5 therein to achieve compliance with the standards for accreditation as  
6 provided in this subchapter.

7

8 SECTION 1197. Arkansas Code § 6-15-213(3) and (4), concerning courses  
9 that should be considered as taught under certain circumstances, are amended  
10 to read as follows:

11 (3) The school district provides written proof, as required by  
12 the ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary Education,  
13 that the school district had the course scheduled to be taught on the school  
14 district's master course schedule during the entire time the course was  
15 required to be taught;

16 (4) The school district provides written proof, as required by  
17 the ~~department~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary Education, that the  
18 school district had a properly licensed teacher employed and able to teach  
19 the required course during the entire time the course was required to be  
20 taught on site at the school district, by independent study, or has access to  
21 the course via distance education approved by the ~~department~~ Division of  
22 Elementary and Secondary Education, and the course was listed on the school  
23 district's master course schedule; and

24

25 SECTION 1198. Arkansas Code § 6-15-214(b)(1), concerning advanced  
26 placement courses counted as core curriculum courses, is amended to read as  
27 follows:

28 (b)(1) The ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and  
29 Secondary Education acknowledges that the rigor and level of difficulty of  
30 advanced placement courses exceed the requirements of regular courses.

31

32 SECTION 1199. Arkansas Code § 6-15-214(d), concerning advanced  
33 placement courses counted as core curriculum courses, is amended to read as  
34 follows:

35 (d)(1) The public school district shall notify the ~~department~~ division  
36 after registration in the spring before the beginning of the new school year

1 and immediately after the school year begins if no students enrolled in the  
2 required course and the public school district will seek to meet the  
3 standards for accreditation using the advanced placement course.

4 (2) Upon receiving the public school district notification and  
5 after spring registration, the ~~department~~ division shall permit the public  
6 school district to meet the standards for accreditation by teaching the  
7 advanced placement course in place of the required course.

8

9 SECTION 1200. Arkansas Code § 6-15-214(f), concerning advanced  
10 placement courses counted as core curriculum courses, is amended to read as  
11 follows:

12 (f) The ~~department~~ division shall establish procedures to ensure that  
13 no student is coerced into taking an advanced placement course for the  
14 purpose of meeting the standards for accreditation.

15

16 SECTION 1201. Arkansas Code § 6-15-215(b)(2), concerning the  
17 definition of "Smart Core" under the Arkansas Smart Core Incentive Funding  
18 Program, is amended to read as follows:

19 (2) "Smart Core" means the curriculum established by the  
20 ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary Education under  
21 the Standards for Accreditation of Arkansas Public Schools and School  
22 Districts that is part of Smart Future, a state initiative focused on  
23 improving Arkansas public high schools for all students; and

24

25 SECTION 1202. Arkansas Code § 6-15-215(e), concerning the Arkansas  
26 Smart Core Incentive Funding Program, is amended to read as follows:

27 (e)(1) Subject to an appropriation and available funding for the  
28 program, the ~~department~~ division shall pay incentive funding to a school  
29 district under this section based on an annual percentage of Smart Core  
30 graduates from a public high school in the school district.

31 (2)(A) The ~~department~~ division shall make the calculation based  
32 on a student record analysis conducted annually by the ~~department~~ division  
33 beginning with the graduating class of 2010.

34 (B) The ~~department~~ division shall exclude from the student  
35 record analysis a student with an individualized education program that does  
36 not require a student to complete the Smart Core curriculum.

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SECTION 1203. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 6-15-215(f)(1), concerning the Arkansas Smart Core Incentive Funding Program, is amended to read as follows:

(f)(1) By June 30 of each year, the ~~department~~ division shall pay to a school district incentive funding under the program as follows:

SECTION 1204. Arkansas Code § 6-15-215(f)(2), concerning the Arkansas Smart Core Incentive Funding Program, is amended to read as follows:

(2) The ~~department~~ division shall not pay incentive funding to a school district for a public high school in which less than ninety percent (90%) of its graduates complete the Smart Core curriculum.

SECTION 1205. Arkansas Code § 6-15-216(a)(1), concerning flexibility in awarding course credit, is amended to read as follows:

(a)(1) Beginning in the 2018-2019 school year, a public school district may submit a plan for approval to the ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary Education to award units of high school course credit based on a demonstration of subject matter competency instead of, or in combination with, completing hours of classroom instruction.

SECTION 1206. Arkansas Code § 6-15-216(c), concerning flexibility in awarding course credit, is amended to read as follows:

(c) The ~~department~~ division may promulgate rules to implement this section, including without limitation guidelines to assist public school districts in transitioning to awarding credits as provided under this section.

SECTION 1207. Arkansas Code § 6-15-503(c), concerning prerequisites to home schooling, is amended to read as follows:

(c) Each local school district shall report the statistical data required by this section to the ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary Education each year.

SECTION 1208. Arkansas Code § 6-15-503(e), concerning prerequisites to home schooling, is amended to read as follows:

1 (e) The ~~department~~ division and the student's local school district  
2 shall not create additional criteria or require additional information for a  
3 student to attend a home school beyond that provided in this section.  
4

5 SECTION 1209. Arkansas Code § 6-15-902(c)(3)(B)(i), concerning grading  
6 scales, exemptions, and special education classes, is amended to read as  
7 follows:

8 (B)(i) If a local school district board of directors  
9 adopts a policy as set forth in subdivision (c)(3)(A) of this section, the  
10 school district must apply to the ~~Department of Education~~ Division of  
11 Elementary and Secondary Education through the Assistant Commissioner for the  
12 Division of Public School Accountability for approval of courses to be  
13 designated "concurrent enrollment college courses".  
14

15 SECTION 1210. Arkansas Code § 6-15-1003(c)(2), concerning academically  
16 competent students, is amended to read as follows:

17 (2) School districts, schools, and students shall participate in  
18 the state assessments in the basic core of knowledge and skills as defined by  
19 the ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary Education in  
20 the Arkansas Educational Support and Accountability Act, § 6-15-2901 et seq.  
21

22 SECTION 1211. Arkansas Code § 6-15-1004(a)(2), concerning qualified  
23 teachers in every public school room, is amended to read as follows:

24 (2) If there is no assessment available under subdivision (a)(1)  
25 of this section for a new licensure area for subject matter content, the  
26 ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary Education may  
27 request that the state board approve an alternative method of demonstrating  
28 subject matter content competency.  
29

30 SECTION 1212. Arkansas Code § 6-15-1004(c)(2)(A)(ii) and (iii),  
31 concerning qualified teachers in every public school room, are amended to  
32 read as follows:

33 (ii) Part of the requirements for the teacher to  
34 obtain additional licensure in a subject matter that has been designated by  
35 the ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary Education as  
36 having a critical shortage of teachers; or

1 (iii) Otherwise approved by the ~~department~~ Division  
2 of Elementary and Secondary Education under subdivision (c)(2)(B) of this  
3 section as a graduate-level course eligible for professional development  
4 credit.

5  
6 SECTION 1213. Arkansas Code § 6-15-1004(d)(3), concerning qualified  
7 teachers in every public school room, is amended to read as follows:

8 (3) A technical permit issued in cooperation with the ~~Department~~  
9 Division of Career and Technical Education;

10  
11 SECTION 1214. Arkansas Code § 6-15-1005(g)(4)(B), concerning safe,  
12 equitable, and accountable public schools, is amended to read as follows:

13 (B) Schools reaching predetermined high levels of  
14 achievement will be granted charter status with approval of the charter  
15 petition by the ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary  
16 Education.

17  
18 SECTION 1215. Arkansas Code § 6-15-1006 is amended to read as follows:  
19 6-15-1006. Assistance and support.

20 (a)(1) The ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and  
21 Secondary Education will be structured to provide leadership, service, and  
22 support to public schools.

23 (2) ~~Department~~ Division professional staff will demonstrate  
24 mastery of knowledge in learning theory, best educational practices, resource  
25 utilization, research and data analysis, school law, instructional  
26 leadership, and school administration.

27 (b)(1) ~~Department~~ Division staff will conduct, sponsor, participate  
28 in, and support continuing education and professional development.

29 (2) The continuing education and professional development will  
30 be based on overall organizational improvement, performance evaluation  
31 results, statewide student achievement results, and current educational  
32 research and practice.

33 (c)(1) The ~~department~~ division will provide leadership in marshalling  
34 support for a quality and equitable educational system in the state.

35 (2) ~~Department~~ Division resources will be committed to  
36 supporting policy development and procedures that enable the Governor, the

1 General Assembly, the State Board of Education, and business and professional  
2 organizations to work together in a positive and consistent manner to improve  
3 education in Arkansas.

4  
5 SECTION 1216. Arkansas Code § 6-15-1101(a), concerning legislative  
6 findings regarding attaching seals to high school transcripts and diplomas,  
7 is amended to read as follows:

8 (a) The General Assembly hereby recognizes and acknowledges that in  
9 recent years a high school diploma has lost credibility as a warranty that  
10 the recipient has the basic knowledge and skills necessary for either an  
11 entry-level job or for postsecondary education. The General Assembly further  
12 recognizes that the State Board of Education, the ~~Department of Education~~  
13 Division of Elementary and Secondary Education, and local school districts  
14 have worked diligently to establish and implement a core curriculum in  
15 Arkansas secondary schools. Students who complete the core curriculum with a  
16 satisfactory grade point average should receive recognition for both  
17 perseverance and a job well done. It is the purpose of this legislation to  
18 both further that recognition and to increase the confidence of Arkansans in  
19 the value of diplomas awarded by the state's public schools.

20  
21 SECTION 1217. Arkansas Code § 6-15-1301(a), concerning the creation,  
22 composition, powers and duties of the Department of Education, is amended to  
23 read as follows:

24 (a) The ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary  
25 Education is directed to create a Safe Schools Committee.

26  
27 SECTION 1218. Arkansas Code § 6-15-1301(b)(1)(D), concerning the  
28 creation, composition, powers and duties of the Department of Education, is  
29 amended to read as follows:

30 (D) A staff member of the ~~department~~ division appointed by  
31 the Commissioner of Elementary and Secondary Education;

32  
33 SECTION 1219. Arkansas Code § 6-15-1402(a), concerning the purpose,  
34 report, confidentiality, and rules of public schools, is amended to read as  
35 follows:

36 (a)(1) In order to generally improve public school accountability, to

1 provide benchmarks for measuring individual school improvement, and to  
2 empower parents and guardians of children enrolled in Arkansas public schools  
3 by providing them with the information to judge the quality of their schools,  
4 the ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary Education  
5 shall annually prepare and publish a school performance report for each  
6 individual public school in the state, including the Arkansas School for the  
7 Deaf, the Arkansas School for the Blind, and the Arkansas School for  
8 Mathematics, Sciences, and the Arts, and shall distribute the report to the  
9 House Committee on Education and the Senate Committee on Education no later  
10 than April 15 each year.

11 (2) The school performance report for each school shall be made  
12 available to every parent or guardian of a child in kindergarten through  
13 grade twelve (K-12) in the public schools of Arkansas by posting the school  
14 performance report for each school on the website of the ~~department~~ division  
15 and the website of the school district in which the public schools addressed  
16 in the school performance report are located no later than April 15 each  
17 year.

18  
19 SECTION 1220. Arkansas Code § 6-15-1402(b)(1)(A), concerning the  
20 purpose, report, confidentiality, and rules of public schools, is amended to  
21 read as follows:

22 (b)(1)(A) The school performance report shall be based on reliable  
23 statistical information uniformly required to be collected and submitted by  
24 each local school district to the ~~department~~ division and shall be published  
25 in a format that can be easily understood by parents or guardians who are not  
26 professional educators.

27  
28 SECTION 1221. Arkansas Code § 6-15-1402(b)(1)(C), concerning the  
29 purpose, report, confidentiality, and rules of public schools, is amended to  
30 read as follows:

31 (C) The ~~department~~ division may contract with individuals  
32 or businesses knowledgeable in the areas of graphic and computer design to  
33 ensure that the school performance reports required by this subchapter are  
34 published in a format that encourages their utilization by the citizens of  
35 the state.

36

1 SECTION 1222. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 6-15-  
2 1402(d), concerning the purpose, report, confidentiality, and rules of public  
3 schools, is amended to read as follows:

4 (d) The ~~department~~ division is encouraged to:

5  
6 SECTION 1223. Arkansas Code § 6-15-1402(d)(1), concerning the purpose,  
7 report, confidentiality, and rules of public schools, is amended to read as  
8 follows:

9 (1) Include explanatory material regarding efforts to improve  
10 the state's public schools on the website of the ~~department~~ division with  
11 school performance reports; and

12  
13 SECTION 1224. Arkansas Code § 6-15-1402(f)(1), concerning the purpose,  
14 report, confidentiality, and rules of public schools, is amended to read as  
15 follows:

16 (f)(1) The ~~department~~ division shall not disclose parent or guardian  
17 names, addresses, or other identifying information under any circumstances.

18  
19 SECTION 1225. Arkansas Code § 6-15-1402(h), concerning the purpose,  
20 report, confidentiality, and rules of public schools, is amended to read as  
21 follows:

22 (h) The ~~department~~ division may promulgate rules necessary to carry  
23 out the purposes of this subchapter.

24  
25 SECTION 1226. Arkansas Code § 6-15-1504(a), concerning review of the  
26 Arkansas Academic Content Standards and Curriculum Framework by the  
27 Department of Education, is amended to read as follows:

28 (a) The ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary  
29 Education shall review the Arkansas Academic Content Standards and Curriculum  
30 Framework process plan on its State Board of Education-approved revision  
31 cycle and report to the State Board of Education annually.

32  
33 SECTION 1227. Arkansas Code § 6-15-1505(b)-(d), concerning school  
34 district implementation, is amended to read as follows:

35 (b) The superintendent of each school district shall provide to the  
36 ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary Education, by

1 October 1 of each year following the adoption of the plan under subsection  
2 (a) of this section, a written statement of assurance that the content of  
3 each class and subject area, as required by the Standards for Accreditation  
4 of Arkansas Public Schools and School Districts regardless of levels, is  
5 aligned to content standards and curriculum frameworks developed by the state  
6 board in the plan.

7 (c) The ~~department~~ division shall monitor, during the standards review  
8 visit, documentation related to the plan.

9 (d) If the ~~department~~ division determines that a school district has  
10 failed to align the content of each class and subject area as required by the  
11 state board to content standards and curriculum frameworks developed by the  
12 state board, the ~~department~~ division shall:

13 (1) Note the failure to comply in the annual school performance  
14 report under § 6-15-1402; and

15 (2) Cite the failure to comply of each school on the Standards  
16 for Accreditation of Arkansas Public Schools and School Districts Annual  
17 Report.

18  
19 SECTION 1228. Arkansas Code § 6-15-1601(g)(2)-(4), concerning the  
20 establishment and members of the Commission on Closing the Achievement Gap in  
21 Arkansas, are amended to read as follows:

22 (2) Monitor the ~~Department of Education's~~ Division of Elementary  
23 and Secondary Education's efforts to comply with federal guidelines on  
24 improving the academic achievement of the disadvantaged, specifically  
25 including without limitation the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of  
26 1965, Pub. L. No. 89-10, as reauthorized by the Every Student Succeeds Act,  
27 Pub. L. No. 114-95;

28 (3)(A) Monitor the ~~department's~~ division's identification of  
29 population groups to be motivated in closing the achievement gap efforts.

30 (B) The commission may expand the role and scope of the  
31 commission to cover specific population groups as identified by the  
32 ~~department~~ division as target groups for closing the achievement gaps;

33 (4) Receive national school lunch data and reports biennially  
34 from the ~~department~~ division;

35  
36 SECTION 1229. Arkansas Code § 6-15-1601(g)(6)(C), concerning the

1 establishment and members of the Commission on Closing the Achievement Gap in  
2 Arkansas, is amended to read as follows:

3 (C) A review of policies and programs approved by the  
4 ~~department~~ division for national school lunch expenditures on closing the  
5 achievement gap;

6  
7 SECTION 1230. Arkansas Code § 6-15-1601(g)(6)(H), concerning the  
8 establishment and members of the Commission on Closing the Achievement Gap in  
9 Arkansas, is amended to read as follows:

10 (H) Suggested policy changes to improve the achievement  
11 gap at the legislative, ~~department~~ division, school district, and other  
12 levels; and

13  
14 SECTION 1231. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 6-15-  
15 1601(h), concerning the establishment and members of the Commission on  
16 Closing the Achievement Gap in Arkansas, is amended to read as follows:

17 (h) At the discretion of the Commissioner of Elementary and Secondary  
18 Education, the state shall provide resources necessary for the following:

19  
20 SECTION 1232. Arkansas Code § 6-15-1601(k)(1), concerning the  
21 establishment and members of the Commission on Closing the Achievement Gap in  
22 Arkansas, is amended to read as follows:

23 (k)(1) The ~~department~~ division shall provide meeting space and  
24 clerical support as needed by the commission.

25  
26 SECTION 1233. Arkansas Code § 6-15-1702(b)(5)(B)(ii)(b), concerning a  
27 parental involvement plan, is amended to read as follows:

28 (b) The use of and access to ~~Department of~~  
29 Education Division of Elementary and Secondary Education website tools for  
30 parents;

31  
32 SECTION 1234. Arkansas Code § 6-15-1702(b)(5)(B)(ii)(d), concerning a  
33 parental involvement plan, is amended to read as follows:

34 (d) Other strategies or curricula developed or  
35 acquired by the school district for at-home parental instruction approved by  
36 the ~~department~~ division; and

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SECTION 1235. Arkansas Code § 6-15-1704(a)(1), concerning monitoring and annual review of parental involvement plans, is amended to read as follows:

(1) File a copy of the plan with the ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary Education;

SECTION 1236. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 6-15-1704(b)(1)(A), concerning monitoring and annual review of parental involvement plans, is amended to read as follows:

(b)(1)(A) The ~~department~~ division shall:

SECTION 1237. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 6-15-1704(b)(1)(B), concerning monitoring and annual review of parental involvement plans, is amended to read as follows:

(B) Periodically on a rotating schedule, the ~~department~~ division shall monitor each school district's plan to:

SECTION 1238. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 6-15-1704(b)(1)(C), concerning monitoring and annual review of parental involvement plans, is amended to read as follows:

(C) The ~~department~~ division shall place priority for monitoring under subdivision (b)(1)(B) of this section on school districts that have been identified as being in:

SECTION 1239. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 6-15-1704(b)(2), concerning monitoring and annual review of parental involvement plans, is amended to read as follows:

(2) By January 1 of each year, the ~~department~~ division shall provide any recommendations in writing to a school district:

SECTION 1240. Arkansas Code § 6-15-1704(b)(3), concerning monitoring and annual review of parental involvement plans, is amended to read as follows:

(3) The ~~department~~ division shall allow the school district an opportunity to implement the ~~department's~~ division's recommendations.

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SECTION 1241. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 6-15-1705, concerning the incorporation of parental involvement into teacher education programs, is amended to read as follows:

The ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary Education and the ~~Department~~ Division of Higher Education shall collaborate with institutions of higher education to incorporate into teacher and administrator education programs instruction regarding:

SECTION 1242. Arkansas Code § 6-15-1901(c), concerning the establishment of a Delta Student Academic Success Plan, is amended to read as follows:

(c) The Chancellor of the University of Arkansas at Pine Bluff may enter into an agreement with the superintendents of the school districts within Arkansas, Chicot, Drew, Jefferson, and Lincoln counties to implement the plan to the extent that the plan does not conflict with Arkansas law or with the standards set forth by the ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary Education.

SECTION 1243. Arkansas Code § 6-15-2006(a)(1)(C)(ii), concerning an annual report by school districts, is amended to read as follows:

(ii) The ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary Education may promulgate rules to implement this section.

SECTION 1244. Arkansas Code § 6-15-2008 is amended to read as follows:  
6-15-2008. Technical assistance.

(a) The ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary Education shall provide technical assistance as needed to aid school districts in administering this subchapter.

(b)(1) At least semiannually, the ~~department~~ division shall provide a report to the House Committee on Education and the Senate Committee on Education setting forth the school districts requesting assistance, the date of the requests, and the dates and actions taken.

(2) The ~~department~~ division shall further report the results of the action taken or assistance provided.

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SECTION 1245. Arkansas Code § 6-15-2101(a)(1) and (2), concerning school rating systems and annual reports, are amended to read as follows:

(a)(1) The ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary Education shall prepare annual reports of the results of the statewide assessment program that describe student achievement in each school district and each school in the state and the school performance category levels under § 6-15-2103.

(2) The ~~department~~ division shall prescribe the design and content of these reports that shall include without limitation descriptions of achievement of all schools participating in any assessment program and all of their major student populations as determined by the ~~department~~ division, provided that the provisions of § 6-15-2909 pertaining to student records apply to this section.

SECTION 1246. Arkansas Code § 6-15-2101(b)(1), concerning school rating systems and annual reports, is amended to read as follows:

(b)(1) The ~~department~~ division shall provide information regarding performance of students and educational programs as required under §§ 6-15-2907 and 6-15-2301 and implement a system of school reports as required by statute and State Board of Education rule.

SECTION 1247. Arkansas Code § 6-15-2104 is amended to read as follows:  
6-15-2104. Mobility.

The ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary Education shall study the effects of mobility on the performance of highly mobile students and recommend programs to improve the performance of such students.

SECTION 1248. Arkansas Code § 6-15-2105(b)(1), concerning school rating systems, school ratings and performance category level measurement, and publication, is amended to read as follows:

(b)(1) Each school's designation or rating shall be published annually by the ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary Education and by the school district and shall be available on the ~~department's~~ division's website.

1  
2 SECTION 1249. Arkansas Code § 6-15-2105(b)(3)(A), concerning school  
3 rating systems, school ratings and performance category level measurement,  
4 and publication, is amended to read as follows:

5 (A) "A" for schools that are rated "exemplary" by the  
6 ~~department~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary Education, Level 5 under § 6-  
7 15-2102 [repealed], or Level 5 under § 6-15-2103;

8  
9 SECTION 1250. Arkansas Code § 6-15-2107(c)(2), concerning the Arkansas  
10 School Recognition Program, is amended to read as follows:

11 (2) The ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and  
12 Secondary Education may disburse available performance-based funding  
13 appropriated by the General Assembly on a pro rata basis.

14  
15 SECTION 1251. Arkansas Code § 6-15-2108(d), concerning school rating  
16 systems, is amended to read as follows:

17 (d) The ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary  
18 Education shall promulgate rules to implement this section.

19  
20 SECTION 1252. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 6-15-  
21 2202(c), concerning access to public school information on school improvement  
22 plans, is amended to read as follows:

23 (c) Not less than annually, the ~~Department of Education~~ Division of  
24 Elementary and Secondary Education shall monitor compliance with the  
25 requirements of this section when the ~~department~~ division:

26  
27 SECTION 1253. Arkansas Code § 6-15-2202(d)(1), concerning access to  
28 public school information on school improvement plans, is amended to read as  
29 follows:

30 (d)(1) The ~~department~~ division shall report a failure to comply with  
31 this section to the State Board of Education.

32  
33 SECTION 1254. Arkansas Code § 6-15-2301(a)(2), concerning best  
34 financial management practices for school districts, standards, reviews, and  
35 designation of school districts, is amended to read as follows:

36 (2)(A) The ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and

1 Secondary Education and the Arkansas Legislative Audit are directed to  
2 develop a system for reviewing the financial management practices of school  
3 districts.

4 (B) In this system, the Arkansas Legislative Audit shall  
5 assist the ~~department~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary Education in  
6 examining school district operations to determine whether they meet “best  
7 financial management code practices”.

8

9 SECTION 1255. Arkansas Code § 6-15-2301(b)(1) and (2), concerning best  
10 financial management practices for school districts, standards, reviews, and  
11 designation of school districts, are amended to read as follows:

12 (b)(1) The best financial management practices adopted by the State  
13 Board of Education may be updated periodically after consultation with the  
14 Legislative Council, the Governor, the ~~department~~ Division of Elementary and  
15 Secondary Education, school districts, and the Arkansas Legislative Audit.

16 (2) The ~~department~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary  
17 Education shall submit to the state board for review and possible adoption  
18 proposed revisions to the best financial management practices adopted by the  
19 state board and reviewed by the Legislative Council.

20

21 SECTION 1256. Arkansas Code § 6-15-2301(c)(1), concerning best  
22 financial management practices for school districts, standards, reviews, and  
23 designation of school districts, is amended to read as follows:

24 (c)(1) The ~~department~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary Education  
25 shall conduct the reviews or contract with a private firm selected through a  
26 formal request-for-proposal process to perform the review.

27

28 SECTION 1257. Arkansas Code § 6-15-2301(d), concerning best financial  
29 management practices for school districts, standards, reviews, and  
30 designation of school districts, is amended to read as follows:

31 (d) The state board shall consult with the ~~department~~ Division of  
32 Elementary and Secondary Education throughout the best practices review  
33 process to ensure that the technical expertise of the ~~department~~ Division of  
34 Elementary and Secondary Education benefits the review process and supports  
35 the school districts before, during, and after the review.

36

1 SECTION 1258. Arkansas Code § 6-15-2301(e)(3)(A), concerning best  
2 financial management practices for school districts, standards, reviews, and  
3 designation of school districts, is amended to read as follows:

4 (3)(A) The ~~department~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary  
5 Education shall prepare annual reports of the results of the best financial  
6 management practices reviews and shall post to its website the school and the  
7 school district financial grades.

8  
9 SECTION 1259. Arkansas Code § 6-15-2301(g), concerning best financial  
10 management practices for school districts, standards, reviews, and  
11 designation of school districts, is amended to read as follows:

12 (g) Subject to funding by the General Assembly, the ~~department~~  
13 Division of Elementary and Secondary Education may contract with a private  
14 firm to conduct best financial management practices reviews.

15  
16 SECTION 1260. Arkansas Code § 6-15-2301(h), concerning best financial  
17 management practices for school districts, standards, reviews, and  
18 designation of school districts, is amended to read as follows:

19 (h)(1) Reviews shall be conducted by Arkansas Legislative Audit, the  
20 ~~department~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary Education, or the consultant.

21 (2)(A) Funds may be used for the cost of reviews by Arkansas  
22 Legislative Audit and private consultants contracted by the state board.

23 (B) Costs may include professional services, travel  
24 expenses of the ~~department~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary Education and  
25 of the staff of Arkansas Legislative Audit, and any other necessary expenses  
26 incurred as part of a best financial management practices review and as  
27 preapproved by the ~~department~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary Education.

28  
29  
30 SECTION 1261. Arkansas Code § 6-15-2301(i)(1), concerning best  
31 financial management practices for school districts, standards, reviews, and  
32 designation of school districts, is amended to read as follows:

33 (i)(1) A school district shall complete a self-assessment instrument  
34 provided by the ~~department~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary Education  
35 that indicates the school district's evaluation of its performance on each  
36 best practice.

1  
2 SECTION 1262. Arkansas Code § 6-15-2301(i)(2)(B), concerning best  
3 financial management practices for school districts, standards, reviews, and  
4 designation of school districts, is amended to read as follows:

5 (B) The completed self-assessment instrument and  
6 supporting documentation shall be submitted to the ~~department~~ Division of  
7 Elementary and Secondary Education no later than the date of commencement of  
8 the review as notified by the ~~department~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary  
9 Education.

10  
11 SECTION 1263. Arkansas Code § 6-15-2301(j), concerning best financial  
12 management practices for school districts, standards, reviews, and  
13 designation of school districts, is amended to read as follows:

14 (j) During the review, the ~~department~~ Division of Elementary and  
15 Secondary Education or the consultant conducting the review, if any, shall  
16 hold at least one (1) advertised public forum as part of the review in order  
17 to explain the best financial management practices review process and obtain  
18 input from students, parents or guardians, the business community, and other  
19 school district residents regarding their concerns about the operations and  
20 management of the school district.

21  
22 SECTION 1264. Arkansas Code § 6-15-2301(k)(2)(A), concerning best  
23 financial management practices for school districts, standards, reviews, and  
24 designation of school districts, is amended to read as follows:

25 (2)(A) The ~~department~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary  
26 Education shall issue a final report to the Legislative Council regarding the  
27 school district's use of the best financial management practices and cost  
28 savings recommendations within sixty (60) days after completing the reviews.

29  
30 SECTION 1265. Arkansas Code § 6-15-2301(l)(2), concerning best  
31 financial management practices for school districts, standards, reviews, and  
32 designation of school districts, is amended to read as follows:

33 (2)(A) Within sixty (60) days after the receipt of the final  
34 report, the school district board of directors shall notify the state board  
35 and the ~~department~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary Education in writing  
36 of the implementation schedule for the action plan.

1 (B) The ~~department~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary  
2 Education shall contact the school district, assess the situation, and offer  
3 technical assistance, if needed.  
4

5 SECTION 1266. Arkansas Code § 6-15-2301(m)(1), concerning best  
6 financial management practices for school districts, standards, reviews, and  
7 designation of school districts, is amended to read as follows:

8 (1) No later than six (6) months after receipt of the final best  
9 financial practices report, the school district board of directors shall  
10 submit an initial status report to the Governor, the state board, Arkansas  
11 Legislative Audit, the ~~department~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary  
12 Education, and the Legislative Council on progress made toward implementing  
13 the action plan and whether changes have occurred in other areas of operation  
14 that would affect compliance with the best practices; and  
15

16 SECTION 1267. Arkansas Code § 6-15-2301(m)(2)(A), concerning best  
17 financial management practices for school districts, standards, reviews, and  
18 designation of school districts, is amended to read as follows:

19 (2)(A) A second status report shall be submitted by the school  
20 district to the Governor, the state board, Arkansas Legislative Audit, the  
21 ~~department~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary Education, and the  
22 Legislative Council no later than six (6) months after submission of the  
23 initial report, and every six (6) months thereafter, until status reports are  
24 not required.  
25

26 SECTION 1268. Arkansas Code § 6-15-2302(b)(1), concerning general  
27 business managers, is amended to read as follows:

28 (b)(1) On and after July 31, 2007, a general business manager for a  
29 public school district shall meet the minimum qualifications established by  
30 rule of the ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary  
31 Education.  
32

33 SECTION 1269. Arkansas Code § 6-15-2401(a)(1), concerning review of  
34 Arkansas Placement Status Reports and reports of students needing  
35 remediation, is amended to read as follows:

36 (a)(1) Representatives from the ~~Department~~ Division of Higher

1 Education and the ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and  
2 Secondary Education shall meet with the respective chairs of the Senate  
3 Committee on Education and the House Committee on Education or their  
4 designees along with the selected superintendents, high school principals,  
5 and high school counselors one (1) time every biennium to review the Arkansas  
6 Placement Status Reports to determine whether any revisions in the format of  
7 the reports, the information that is reported, or the reporting process need  
8 to be made.

9  
10 SECTION 1270. Arkansas Code § 6-15-2501(c), concerning the creation of  
11 the Division of Education Renewal Zones, is amended to read as follows:

12 (b) The ~~division~~ Division of Education Renewal Zones shall be under  
13 the supervision of the State Board of Education.

14  
15 SECTION 1271. Arkansas Code § 6-15-2501(b)(3), concerning the creation  
16 of the Division of Education Renewal Zones, is amended to read as follows:

17 (3) The Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of Higher Education  
18 shall assign one (1) individual from the staff of the ~~Department~~ Division of  
19 Higher Education to serve as a liaison to the ~~division~~ Division of Education  
20 Renewal Zones.

21  
22 SECTION 1272. Arkansas Code § 6-15-2501(d) and (e), concerning the  
23 creation of the Division of Education Renewal Zones, is amended to read as  
24 follows:

25 (d) The ~~division~~ Division of Education Renewal Zones shall be  
26 responsible for developing guidelines for the approval of education renewal  
27 zone strategic plans and for the evaluation and reporting of education  
28 renewal zone activities.

29 (e) The ~~division~~ Division of Education Renewal Zones shall approve any  
30 education renewal zone strategic plan prior to the disbursement or annual  
31 renewal of funds to participating institutions of higher education.

32  
33 SECTION 1273. Arkansas Code § 6-15-2502(d)(1)(C)(ii), concerning the  
34 establishment, purpose, and organization of education renewal zones, is  
35 amended to read as follows:

36 (ii) The ~~division~~ Division of Education Renewal

1 Zones shall give preference to qualified four-year higher education  
2 institutions located within the education service cooperative area.

3  
4 SECTION 1274. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 6-15-  
5 2502(d)(1)(D), concerning the establishment, purpose, and organization of  
6 education renewal zones, is amended to read as follows:

7 (D) If there is no qualified four-year higher education  
8 institution located within the education service cooperative area, the  
9 ~~division~~ Division of Education Renewal Zones may select:

10  
11 SECTION 1275. Arkansas Code § 6-15-2502(d)(3)(B)(ii)-(iv), concerning  
12 the establishment, purpose, and organization of education renewal zones, is  
13 amended to read as follows:

14 (ii) A public school designated by the ~~Department of~~  
15 ~~Education~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary Education as a school in  
16 school improvement or a school in a school district designated by the  
17 ~~department~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary Education as being in  
18 academic distress shall participate in an education renewal zone if requested  
19 to do so by the ~~department~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary Education,  
20 and the ~~division~~ Division of Education Renewal Zones working with the  
21 ~~department~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary Education shall establish  
22 priorities of establishing education renewal zones for those schools, which  
23 shall be contingent on the appropriation availability of funding for the  
24 renewal zones.

25 (iii) Acceptance or rejection of the application by  
26 a school for admittance to an education renewal zone shall be the  
27 responsibility of the ~~division~~ Division of Education Renewal Zones, with  
28 consultation from the higher education partner.

29 (iv) The ~~division~~ Division of Education Renewal  
30 Zones may include within an education renewal zone any school within the  
31 education service cooperative area provided that no more than ten (10)  
32 schools may participate in any single education renewal zone.

33 (v) The ~~division~~ Division of Education Renewal Zones  
34 may designate up to a maximum of three (3) education renewal zones within any  
35 single education service cooperative area.

36

1 SECTION 1276. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 6-15-  
2 2502(d)(3)(C), concerning the establishment, purpose, and organization of  
3 education renewal zones, is amended to read as follows:

4 (C) In designating education renewal zones and selecting  
5 schools for participation in a particular zone, the ~~division~~ Division of  
6 Education Renewal Zones shall give priority to schools that meet one (1) or  
7 more of the following criteria:

8  
9 SECTION 1277. Arkansas Code § 6-15-2502(d)(3)(C)(ii), concerning the  
10 establishment, purpose, and organization of education renewal zones, is  
11 amended to read as follows:

12 (ii) The school lies within a school district  
13 designated by the ~~department~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary Education  
14 as in academic distress or financial distress under the Arkansas  
15 Comprehensive Testing, Assessment, and Accountability Program;

16  
17 SECTION 1278. Arkansas Code § 6-15-2502(d)(4)(C), concerning the  
18 establishment, purpose, and organization of education renewal zones, is  
19 amended to read as follows:

20 (C) The ~~division~~ Division of Education Renewal Zones may  
21 designate up to a maximum of three (3) education renewal zones within any  
22 single education service cooperative area.

23  
24 SECTION 1279. Arkansas Code § 6-15-2502(d)(5)(B), concerning the  
25 establishment, purpose, and organization of education renewal zones, is  
26 amended to read as follows:

27 (B) Any two-year community or technical college, technical  
28 support organization, or other entity may participate in the education  
29 renewal zone at the discretion of the ~~division~~ Division of Education Renewal  
30 Zones and in collaboration with a designated higher education partner and a  
31 designated education service cooperative.

32  
33 SECTION 1280. Arkansas Code § 6-15-2504(d)(2)(B), concerning the  
34 development, provisions, and implementation of school improvement plans, is  
35 amended to read as follows:

36 (B) Funds received by school districts for the ~~Department~~

1 ~~of Education~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary Education Public School  
2 Fund Account for professional development may be used to provide funding for  
3 the professional development requirements of the education renewal zone  
4 school district partners;

5  
6 SECTION 1281. Arkansas Code § 6-15-2606(c)(1)(B), concerning a  
7 Rewarding Excellence in Achievement plan, is amended to read as follows:

8 (B) Locally selected and ~~Department of Education~~ Division  
9 of Elementary and Secondary Education-approved standardized assessment  
10 outcomes for students in each teacher's class may also be included;

11  
12 SECTION 1282. Arkansas Code § 6-15-2606(c)(2)(B), concerning a  
13 Rewarding Excellence in Achievement plan, is amended to read as follows:

14 (B) Locally selected and ~~Department of Education~~-approved  
15 Division of Elementary and Secondary Education-approved standardized  
16 assessment outcomes may also be included; and

17  
18 SECTION 1283. Arkansas Code § 6-15-2608(a), concerning the evaluation  
19 of participants in the Rewarding Excellence in Achievement plan, is amended  
20 to read as follows:

21 (a) The ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary  
22 Education shall commission an annual evaluation of the Rewarding Excellence  
23 in Achievement plan of each public school district and public charter school  
24 participating in the Rewarding Excellence in Achievement Program.

25  
26 SECTION 1284. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 6-15-  
27 2701(c), concerning the closing the achievement gap program, is amended to  
28 read as follows:

29 (c) The ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary  
30 Education shall:

31  
32 SECTION 1285. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 6-15-  
33 2701(d), concerning the closing the achievement gap program, is amended to  
34 read as follows:

35 (d) The ~~department~~ division shall identify the chronically  
36 underperforming schools with the largest achievement gaps among students and

1 give to those chronically underperforming schools the ~~department's~~ division's  
2 highest priority for:

3  
4 SECTION 1286. Arkansas Code § 6-15-2802(a), concerning rules for a  
5 school of innovation, is amended to read as follows:

6 (a) The Commissioner of Elementary and Secondary Education may approve  
7 a public school as a school of innovation for the purpose of transforming and  
8 improving the teaching and learning under § 6-15-2803.

9  
10 SECTION 1287. Arkansas Code § 6-15-2802(c)(9), concerning rules for a  
11 school of innovation, is amended to read as follows:

12 (9) Reporting and oversight responsibility of the school of  
13 innovation and the ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and  
14 Secondary Education;

15  
16 SECTION 1288. Arkansas Code § 6-15-2803(a), concerning school of  
17 innovation plans, is amended to read as follows:

18 (a) A school district shall submit its school of innovation plan,  
19 approved by the school district board of directors, to the Commissioner of  
20 Elementary and Secondary Education for approval to become a school of  
21 innovation.

22  
23 SECTION 1289. Arkansas Code § 6-15-2804(a)(7)(A), concerning a school  
24 of innovation, is amended to read as follows:

25 (7)(A) Provide instructional time that meets or exceeds the  
26 instructional time requirement adopted by the state board unless granted an  
27 exception by the Commissioner of Elementary and Secondary Education.

28  
29 SECTION 1290. Arkansas Code § 6-15-2804(a)(8), concerning a school of  
30 innovation, is amended to read as follows:

31 (8) Provide data requested by the ~~Department of Education~~  
32 Division of Elementary and Secondary Education to generate reports;

33  
34 SECTION 1291. Arkansas Code § 6-15-2904 is amended to read as follows:

35 6-15-2904. Responsibility of ~~Department of Education~~ Division of  
36 Elementary and Secondary Education.

1           The ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary  
2 Education shall develop and implement a comprehensive accountability system  
3 for Arkansas public schools and school districts that:

4           (1) Establishes clear academic standards that are periodically  
5 reviewed and revised;

6           (2) Maintains a statewide student assessment system that  
7 includes a variety of assessment measures;

8           (3) Assesses whether all students have equitable access to  
9 excellent educators;

10           (4) Establishes levels of support for public school districts;  
11 and

12           (5) Maintains information systems composed of performance  
13 indicators that allow the ~~department~~ division to identify levels of public  
14 school district support and generate reports for the public.

15  
16           SECTION 1292. Arkansas Code § 6-15-2906(a)(1), concerning academic  
17 standards established by the Department of Education, is amended to read as  
18 follows:

19           (a)(1) The ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and  
20 Secondary Education shall establish academic standards that define what  
21 students shall know and be able to demonstrate in each content area.

22  
23           SECTION 1293. Arkansas Code § 6-15-2906(b), concerning academic  
24 standards established by the Department of Education, is amended to read as  
25 follows:

26           (b) The ~~department~~ division shall establish a schedule for periodic  
27 review and revision of academic standards to ensure that Arkansas academic  
28 standards are rigorous and prepare students for college, career, and  
29 community engagement.

30  
31           SECTION 1294. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 6-15-  
32 2906(c), concerning academic standards established by the Department of  
33 Education, is amended to read as follows:

34           (c) The ~~department~~ division shall include, at a minimum, the following  
35 elements in the periodic review and revision of Arkansas academic standards:

36

1 G SECTION 1295. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 6-15-  
2 2907(a), concerning the statewide student assessment system, is amended to  
3 read as follows:

4 (a) The ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary  
5 Education shall implement a statewide student assessment system to be  
6 administered by Arkansas public schools on a schedule determined by the State  
7 Board of Education that includes the following components:

8

9 SECTION 1296. Arkansas Code § 6-15-2907(b), concerning the statewide  
10 student assessment system, is amended to read as follows:

11 (b) At the direction of the state board, the ~~department~~ division shall  
12 cause assessment instruments to be administered at additional grade levels as  
13 necessary to measure educational achievement in the public schools of this  
14 state.

15

16 SECTION 1297. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 6-15-  
17 2907(h), concerning the statewide student assessment system, is amended to  
18 read as follows:

19 (h) The ~~department~~ division shall provide for statewide student  
20 assessments that are:

21

22 SECTION 1298. Arkansas Code § 6-15-2908(a)(1), concerning the analyses  
23 of the statewide student assessment data, is amended to read as follows:

24 (a)(1) The ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and  
25 Secondary Education shall provide analyses of data produced by statewide  
26 student assessments.

27

28 SECTION 1299. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 6-15-  
29 2908(a)(3), concerning the analyses of the statewide student assessment data,  
30 is amended to read as follows:

31 (3) The model used by the ~~department~~ division shall:

32

33 SECTION 1300. Arkansas Code § 6-15-2909(a)(2), concerning the public  
34 availability of test instruments and scores, is amended to read as follows:

35 (2) Disseminated or otherwise made available to the public by a  
36 member of the State Board of Education, an employee of the ~~Department of~~

1 ~~Education~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary Education, a member of the  
2 board of directors of a school district, an employee of a school district, or  
3 any other person, except as permitted under the provisions of the Family  
4 Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974, 20 U.S.C. § 1232g, as it existed  
5 on January 1, 2017.

6  
7 SECTION 1301. Arkansas Code § 6-15-2910(a), concerning recommended  
8 student performance levels by the Department of Education, is amended to read  
9 as follows:

10 (a) The ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary  
11 Education shall recommend student performance levels for the statewide  
12 student assessment system to the State Board of Education for its approval.  
13

14 SECTION 1302. Arkansas Code § 6-15-2911(a)(1), concerning student-  
15 focused learning systems, is amended to read as follows:

16 (a)(1) ~~Beginning with the 2017-2018 school year, the Department of~~  
17 ~~Education~~ The Division of Elementary and Secondary Education shall  
18 collaborate with public school districts to transition to a student-focused  
19 learning system to support success for all students.  
20

21 SECTION 1303. Arkansas Code § 6-15-2912(c)(1), concerning educator  
22 excellence, is amended to read as follows:

23 (1) Report the data needed by the ~~Department of Education~~  
24 Division of Elementary and Secondary Education to identify and evaluate  
25 educator effectiveness in accordance with state and federal reporting  
26 requirements; and  
27

28 SECTION 1304. Arkansas Code § 6-15-2913(a)(1)(A)(i), concerning levels  
29 of school district support, is amended to read as follows:

30 (A)(i) The process for determining the differentiated  
31 levels of support that the ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and  
32 Secondary Education will provide to school districts.  
33

34 SECTION 1305. Arkansas Code § 6-15-2914(d)(1), concerning school-level  
35 improvement plans and school district support plans, is amended to read as  
36 follows:

1 (d)(1) Annually by September 1, a public school district receiving  
2 Level 2 – Collaborative, Level 3 – Coordinated, Level 4 – Directed, or Level  
3 5 – Intensive support shall submit to the ~~Department of Education~~ Division of  
4 Elementary and Secondary Education a public school district support plan in  
5 accordance with rules of the State Board of Education.

6  
7 SECTION 1306. Arkansas Code § 6-15-2915(b), concerning school district  
8 classification as in need of Level 5 – intensive support and student transfer  
9 eligibility, is amended to read as follows:

10 (b) The ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary  
11 Education shall notify in writing the public school district superintendent  
12 and the president of the public school district board of directors of the  
13 recommendation to the state board for classification as in need of Level 5 –  
14 Intensive support.

15  
16 SECTION 1307. Arkansas Code § 6-15-2915(c)(1), concerning school  
17 district classification as in need of Level 5 – intensive support and and  
18 student transfer eligibility, is amended to read as follows:

19 (c)(1) A public school district recommended for classification as in  
20 need of Level 5 – Intensive support may appeal to the state board by filing a  
21 written appeal with the Commissioner of Elementary and Secondary Education in  
22 accordance with the procedure established in the rules of the state board.

23  
24 SECTION 1308. Arkansas Code § 6-15-2916(1), concerning the State Board  
25 of Education’s authority over a public school district classified as in need  
26 of Level 5 – intensive support, is amended to read as follows:

27 (1) Direct the Commissioner of Elementary and Secondary  
28 Education to conduct an analysis of all school district systems and make  
29 recommendations for action by the state board; and

30  
31 SECTION 1309. Arkansas Code § 6-15-2917(c)(1), concerning a public  
32 school district under the authority of the State Board of Education, is  
33 amended to read as follows:

34 (c)(1) If the public school district has not demonstrated to the state  
35 board and the ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary  
36 Education that the public school district meets the criteria to exit Level 5

1 – Intensive support within five (5) years of the assumption of authority, the  
2 state board shall annex, consolidate, or reconstitute the public school  
3 district under § 6-13-1401 et seq. and this subchapter.

4  
5 SECTION 1310. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 6-15-  
6 2918(a), concerning comprehensive information systems to be established by  
7 the Department of Education, is amended to read as follows:

8 (a) The ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary  
9 Education shall:

10  
11 SECTION 1311. Arkansas Code § 6-15-2918(b) and (c), concerning  
12 comprehensive information systems to be established by the Department of  
13 Education, are amended to read as follows:

14 (b) The ~~department~~ division shall provide electronic resources for  
15 educators to support and augment student achievement, efficiency, and  
16 educational initiatives.

17 (c) The ~~department~~ division may contract with providers to collect,  
18 maintain, and analyze data and prepare reports.

19  
20 SECTION 1312. Arkansas Code § 6-16-104(b), concerning the basic  
21 language of instruction for public school branches, is amended to read as  
22 follows:

23 (b) It shall be the duty of the Commissioner of Elementary and  
24 Secondary Education, the Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of Career and  
25 Technical Education, and city superintendents to see that the provisions of  
26 this section are carried out.

27  
28 SECTION 1313. Arkansas Code § 6-16-122(c), concerning American  
29 heritage items in classrooms, is amended to read as follows:

30 (c) A copy of this section shall be distributed to the superintendent  
31 of each school district in the state by the ~~Department of Education~~ Division  
32 of Elementary and Secondary Education, whereupon the superintendents then  
33 shall provide a copy to each teacher and each school district board member.

34  
35 SECTION 1314. Arkansas Code § 6-16-124(b)(3)(A), concerning the  
36 required teaching of Arkansas history as a social studies course, is amended

1 to read as follows:

2 (3)(A) The ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and  
3 Secondary Education shall, in advance of the 2018-2019 school year, develop  
4 materials or units relating to Arkansas and the American Civil War.

5  
6 SECTION 1315. Arkansas Code § 6-16-126(b)(1)(A), concerning food  
7 handling safety and instructional materials, is amended to read as follows:

8 (b)(1)(A) The Commissioner of Elementary and Secondary Education shall  
9 provide a clearinghouse for instructional materials on food handling safety.

10

11 SECTION 1316. Arkansas Code § 6-16-126(b)(2), concerning food handling  
12 safety and instructional materials, is amended to read as follows:

13 (2) The commissioner shall encourage collaborative efforts  
14 between the ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary  
15 Education and other agencies and organizations in accessing developmentally  
16 appropriate instructional materials on food handling safety.

17

18 SECTION 1317. Arkansas Code § 6-16-127(c), concerning the creation of  
19 the Arkansas Foreign Language Teacher Training Program, is amended to read as  
20 follows:

21 (c) The ~~Department~~ Division of Higher Education, in consultation with  
22 the ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary Education  
23 and representatives of the state's foreign language educators, shall develop  
24 a request-for-proposals process whereby Arkansas institutions of higher  
25 education with teacher training programs may apply for funding, not to exceed  
26 three (3) years, to enhance their foreign language teacher training program.

27

28 SECTION 1318. Arkansas Code § 6-16-127(d)(2)-(4), concerning the  
29 creation of the Arkansas Foreign Language Teacher Training Program, are  
30 amended to read as follows:

31 (2) All donations, grants, and appropriations received shall be  
32 accounted for by the ~~Department~~ Division of Higher Education.

33 (3) The Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of Higher Education  
34 may solicit and receive donations and grants for the purpose of making  
35 awards.

36 (4) The provisions of this section and § 6-16-128 shall be

1 contingent on the appropriation and funding necessary to allow the ~~Department~~  
2 Division of Higher Education to carry out the duties assigned it in this  
3 section and § 6-16-128.

4  
5 SECTION 1319. Arkansas Code § 6-16-128(b) and (c), concerning the  
6 Arkansas Early Grades Foreign Language Pilot Program, are amended to read as  
7 follows:

8 (b) The ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary  
9 Education, in consultation with the ~~Department~~ Division of Higher Education  
10 and representatives of the state's foreign language educators, shall develop  
11 a request-for-proposals process whereby public schools serving students in  
12 kindergarten through grade six (K-6) may apply for funding, not to exceed  
13 three (3) years, to establish a foreign language training program, with an  
14 emphasis on Spanish.

15 (c)(1) The awards granted under the provisions of this section and §  
16 6-16-127 may be funded by donations, grants, or legislative appropriation.

17 (2) The Commissioner of Elementary and Secondary Education may  
18 solicit and receive donations and grants for the purpose of making awards.

19 (3) All donations, grants, and appropriations received shall be  
20 accounted for by the ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and  
21 Secondary Education.

22 (4) The provisions of this section and § 6-16-127 shall be  
23 contingent on the appropriation and funding necessary to allow the ~~Department~~  
24 ~~of Education~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary Education to carry out the  
25 duties assigned to it in this section and § 6-16-127.

26  
27 SECTION 1320. Arkansas Code § 6-16-130(a)(4)(A), concerning the  
28 required teaching of visual art or music in elementary school, is amended to  
29 read as follows:

30 (4)(A) The ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and  
31 Secondary Education shall provide a stipend of not less than one hundred  
32 dollars (\$100) per class to each school for the purchase of necessary  
33 supplies or equipment for the classes required by this subsection.

34  
35 SECTION 1321. Arkansas Code § 6-16-135(a), concerning personal and  
36 family finance standards to be developed by the Department of Education in

1 consultation with the Department of Career Education, is amended to read as  
2 follows:

3 (a) The ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary  
4 Education, in consultation with the ~~Department~~ Division of Career and  
5 Technical Education and subject to the approval of the State Board of  
6 Education, shall develop personal and family finance standards.

7  
8 SECTION 1322. Arkansas Code § 6-16-136(b)(1)(A), concerning the  
9 statewide coordination of distance learning, is amended to read as follows:

10 (b)(1)(A) The ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and  
11 Secondary Education shall promulgate the rules necessary for efficient  
12 scheduling of courses offered by public schools through distance learning  
13 technologies.

14  
15 SECTION 1323. Arkansas Code § 6-16-137(a)(1), concerning the  
16 definition of "content standards" under the requirements for a physical  
17 education credit for physical activity courses, is amended to read as  
18 follows:

19 (1) "Content standards" means those curriculum course content  
20 standards identified and set out in the ~~Department of Education~~ Division of  
21 Elementary and Secondary Education curriculum frameworks;

22  
23 SECTION 1324. Arkansas Code § 6-16-137(a)(4), concerning the  
24 definition of "statement of assurance" under the requirements for a physical  
25 education credit for physical activity courses, is amended to read as  
26 follows:

27 (4) "Statement of assurance" means a written statement to be  
28 filed by the superintendent or chief academic officer with the ~~department~~  
29 Division of Elementary and Secondary Education by October 1 of each school  
30 year that ensures that the organized physical activity course is in  
31 compliance with the physical education course content standards and  
32 curriculum frameworks as required pursuant to § 6-15-1505 and subdivision  
33 (b)(2) of this section.

34  
35 SECTION 1325. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 6-16-  
36 137(b)(2), concerning the requirements for a physical education credit for

1 physical activity courses, is amended to read as follows:

2 (2) The organized physical activity course is verified by the  
3 superintendent of the school district or the chief administrative officer of  
4 an open-enrollment charter school who files a written statement of assurance  
5 with the ~~department~~ division by October 1 of the school year as required  
6 under § 6-15-1505 stating that:

7

8 SECTION 1326. Arkansas Code § 6-16-137(f) and (g), concerning the  
9 requirements for a physical education credit for physical activity courses,  
10 are amended to read as follows:

11 (f)(1) If it is determined by the ~~department~~ division that any  
12 organized physical activity course allowed to be used for physical education  
13 credit by a student does not meet the ~~department's~~ division's physical  
14 education course content standards and curriculum frameworks, as required  
15 under this section, the school district or open-enrollment charter school may  
16 be cited or placed in probationary violation of the Standards for  
17 Accreditation of Arkansas Public Schools and School Districts under The  
18 Quality Education Act of 2003, § 6-15-201 et seq.

19 (2) If it is determined by the ~~department~~ division that a  
20 superintendent or chief academic officer or any other licensed personnel have  
21 knowingly provided false or misleading information in the statement of  
22 assurance required under this section, the state board may take appropriate  
23 action on the license of that individual pursuant to § 6-17-410.

24 (g) The ~~department~~ division is authorized to monitor, review  
25 documentation, request information, or require additional reports from public  
26 schools, school districts, open-enrollment charter schools, or school  
27 personnel to enforce compliance with the requirements of this section.

28

29 SECTION 1327. Arkansas Code § 6-16-140(b) and (c), concerning  
30 vocational or technical course awards, are amended to read as follows:

31 (b) The ~~Department~~ Division of Career and Technical Education in  
32 cooperation with the ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and  
33 Secondary Education shall determine and issue the appropriate award to a  
34 student upon successful completion of the vocational or technical career  
35 pathway or program of study.

36 (c) The ~~Department~~ Division of Career and Technical Education is

1 authorized to promulgate rules as necessary for the implementation of this  
2 section.

3

4 SECTION 1328. Arkansas Code § 6-16-144(b), concerning the Arts-  
5 Enriched Curriculum Program, is amended to read as follows:

6 (b) There is established the Arts-Enriched Curriculum Program, a  
7 five-year pilot program funded through grants administered by the ~~Department~~  
8 ~~of Education~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary Education to implement an  
9 arts-enriched curriculum, training, and research at fifteen (15) schools over  
10 the five-year period.

11

12 SECTION 1329. Arkansas Code § 6-16-144(f)(2)(B), concerning the Arts-  
13 Enriched Curriculum Program, is amended to read as follows:

14 (B) ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary  
15 and Secondary Education.

16

17 SECTION 1330. Arkansas Code § 6-16-203 is amended to read as follows:  
18 6-16-203. Readiness testing.

19 (a) The ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary  
20 Education shall develop guidelines for school districts to perform readiness  
21 testing for children who are entering kindergarten.

22 (b)(1) After the ~~department~~ division develops guidelines under  
23 subsection (a) of this section, each school district in the state shall  
24 conduct individual readiness testing on each child entering kindergarten and  
25 provide the results of the testing to the child's parents in a timely manner  
26 before the child's first day of school.

27 (2) The results of the testing that are provided to parents  
28 shall indicate in clear, understandable terminology the child's readiness for  
29 entering kindergarten.

30

31 SECTION 1331. Arkansas Code § 6-16-305(b)-(e), concerning funds for  
32 research and demonstration centers and consultative services, are amended to  
33 read as follows:

34 (b) In such instances, however, the funds shall be appropriated for  
35 the use of the State Board of Education and shall be subject to cooperative  
36 agreements in writing between the ~~Department of Education~~ Division of

1 Elementary and Secondary Education and the sponsoring teacher training  
2 institutions or school districts.

3 (c) Available funds may be used by the ~~department~~ Division of  
4 Elementary and Secondary Education for the purpose of securing consultative  
5 services.

6 (d)(1) In that eventuality, the ~~department~~ Division of Elementary and  
7 Secondary Education shall certify that the expenditures are reasonable and  
8 are within customary amounts paid for the services.

9 (2) An annual report of the expenditures shall be filed with the  
10 Department of Finance and Administration, the Legislative Council, and the  
11 Legislative Joint Auditing Committee.

12 (e) Moreover, full-time state employees shall not be reimbursed for  
13 consultative services but may be reimbursed for expenses incurred in  
14 participating in these programs in instances where their services have been  
15 authorized by the Commissioner of Elementary and Secondary Education or the  
16 Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of Career and Technical Education.

17  
18 SECTION 1332. Arkansas Code § 6-16-310(a), concerning approval and  
19 funding for early childhood and kindergarten programs, is amended to read as  
20 follows:

21 (a) The expenditure of state or local tax funds, except as provided in  
22 § 6-16-305, shall be limited to program applications approved by the  
23 ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary Education for  
24 children five (5) years of age as defined elsewhere in this subchapter.

25  
26 SECTION 1333. Arkansas Code § 6-16-601(a)(4)(B), concerning the  
27 authority of postsecondary preparatory programs, is amended to read as  
28 follows:

29 (B) Designated by the ~~Department~~ Division of Higher  
30 Education; and

31  
32 SECTION 1334. Arkansas Code § 6-16-601(c), concerning the definition  
33 of "placement test" under the authority of postsecondary preparatory  
34 programs, is amended to read as follows:

35 (c) The ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary  
36 Education shall:

1 (1) Approve content guides for postsecondary preparatory  
2 programs with assistance from the ~~Department~~ Division of Higher Education;  
3 and

4 (2)(A) Approve or disapprove the annual application of a  
5 postsecondary preparatory program after:

6 (i) Reviewing evidence of the postsecondary  
7 preparatory program's performance and success; and

8 (ii) Giving priority for approval and funding to a  
9 postsecondary preparatory program operated by a partnership between a school  
10 district and an institution of higher education.

11 (B) The ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and  
12 Secondary Education shall not approve an application under this subdivision  
13 (c)(2) unless the postsecondary preparatory program meets the criteria under  
14 this subchapter and established by State Board of Education rules.

15  
16 SECTION 1335. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 6-16-  
17 601(d)(1), concerning the authority of postsecondary preparatory programs, is  
18 amended to read as follows:

19 (d)(1) In collaboration with the ~~Department~~ Division of Higher  
20 Education, the ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary  
21 Education shall collect and analyze the following data from postsecondary  
22 preparatory programs:

23  
24 SECTION 1336. Arkansas Code § 6-16-601(d)(1)(I), concerning the  
25 authority of postsecondary preparatory programs, is amended to read as  
26 follows:

27 (I) The amount of funding the ~~Department of Education~~  
28 Division of Elementary and Secondary Education distributed to each  
29 postsecondary preparatory program.

30  
31 SECTION 1337. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 6-16-  
32 601(d)(2), concerning the authority of postsecondary preparatory programs, is  
33 amended to read as follows:

34 (2) The ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and  
35 Secondary Education shall:

36

1 SECTION 1338. Arkansas Code § 6-16-602(a)(4)(A), concerning  
2 postsecondary preparatory programs, is amended to read as follows:

3 (4)(A) Use instructors with appropriate content knowledge and  
4 specialized training developed by the ~~Department of Education~~ Division of  
5 Elementary and Secondary Education for instructors of developmental  
6 education.

7  
8 SECTION 1339. Arkansas Code § 6-16-602(b), concerning postsecondary  
9 preparatory programs, is amended to read as follows:

10 (b) A postsecondary preparatory program shall not receive funding  
11 under this subchapter unless the postsecondary preparatory program files an  
12 annual application with the ~~department~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary  
13 Education and the application is approved under § 6-16-601.

14  
15 SECTION 1340. Arkansas Code § 6-16-603(b)(3)(B), concerning local  
16 programs and placement tests, is amended to read as follows:

17 (B) The ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and  
18 Secondary Education and the ~~Department~~ Division of Higher Education as  
19 appropriate courses for college and career readiness.

20  
21 SECTION 1341. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 6-16-  
22 604(a)(3), concerning student enrollment, is amended to read as follows:

23 (3) If space and funding are available after all eligible  
24 students who applied to attend a postsecondary preparatory program are  
25 enrolled, the ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary  
26 Education may permit a public school student to enroll in a postsecondary  
27 preparatory program if the student:

28  
29 SECTION 1342. Arkansas Code § 6-16-604(c), concerning student  
30 enrollment, is amended to read as follows:

31 (c) The opportunity to participate in a postsecondary preparatory  
32 program under this subchapter shall not be interpreted as mandating the  
33 ~~department~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary Education to fund  
34 postsecondary preparatory programs at a cost in excess of the funds  
35 appropriated and funded in the Public School Fund for this purpose.

36

1 SECTION 1343. Arkansas Code § 6-16-605(a)(2), concerning testing and  
2 acceptance of test scores, is amended to read as follows:

3 (2) Completes a postsecondary preparatory program successfully  
4 and in the student's senior year of high school enrolls in a mathematics or  
5 English language arts course that is designated by the ~~Department of~~  
6 ~~Education~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary Education and the ~~Department~~  
7 Division of Higher Education as an appropriate course for college and career  
8 readiness.

9  
10 SECTION 1344. Arkansas Code § 6-16-704 is amended to read as follows:

11 6-16-704. School-year remediation program.

12 Those schools electing not to offer a summer school program shall offer  
13 a ~~Department of Education-approved~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary  
14 Education-approved remediation program during the regular school year to  
15 students in kindergarten through grade three (K-3) not performing at grade  
16 level.

17  
18 SECTION 1345. Arkansas Code § 6-16-705 is amended to read as follows:

19 6-16-705. Summer school remediation program.

20 Students in kindergarten through grade three (K-3) not performing at  
21 grade level during the regular school year shall participate in a ~~Department~~  
22 ~~of Education-approved~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary Education-approved  
23 remediation program or a summer school remediation program to be eligible for  
24 promotion to the next grade.

25  
26 SECTION 1346. Arkansas Code § 6-16-803(4) and (5), concerning the  
27 definitions of "commissioner" and "department" under the Arkansas Advanced  
28 Placement and International Baccalaureate Diploma Incentive Program Act of  
29 1995, are repealed.

30 ~~(4) "Commissioner" means the Commissioner of Education;~~

31 ~~(5) "Department" means the Department of Education;~~

32  
33 SECTION 1347. Arkansas Code § 6-16-804(a) and (b), concerning the  
34 establishment, subsidies, rules, and regulations of the Arkansas Advanced  
35 Placement and International Baccalaureate Diploma Incentive Program, are  
36 amended to read as follows:

1 (a) The Arkansas Advanced Placement and International Baccalaureate  
2 Diploma Incentive Program is hereby established, to be administered by the  
3 Commissioner of Elementary and Secondary Education.

4 (b) Contingent upon legislative appropriations and based on criteria  
5 established by the ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and  
6 Secondary Education, schools participating in the program may be awarded a  
7 one-time equipment and instructional materials grant for providing an  
8 advanced placement course or a course offered under the International  
9 Baccalaureate Diploma Programme.

10  
11 SECTION 1348. Arkansas Code § 6-16-805(b) and (c), concerning funding  
12 of the Arkansas Advanced Placement and International Baccalaureate Diploma  
13 Incentive Program, are amended to read as follows:

14 (b) All donations, grants, and appropriations received shall be  
15 accounted for by the ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and  
16 Secondary Education.

17 (c) The Commissioner of Elementary and Secondary Education may solicit  
18 and receive donations and grants for the purpose of making awards.

19  
20 SECTION 1349. Arkansas Code § 6-16-901(a), concerning legislative  
21 findings regarding the evaluation of instructional programs, is amended to  
22 read as follows:

23 (a) The General Assembly finds and acknowledges that a system of  
24 evaluation is needed to justify expenditure of state resources on effective  
25 instructional programs and to eliminate state funding of ineffective  
26 instructional programs. The General Assembly further finds that an evaluation  
27 system to examine instructional programs administered by the ~~Department of~~  
28 ~~Education~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary Education must be implemented  
29 by the Commissioner of Elementary and Secondary Education in order to make a  
30 recommendation regarding continuation or termination of any mandated  
31 instructional program administered by the ~~department~~ division.

32  
33 SECTION 1350. Arkansas Code § 6-16-901(b)(2), concerning legislative  
34 findings regarding the evaluation of instructional programs, is amended to  
35 read as follows:

36 (2) Each instructional program administered by the ~~department~~

1 division shall be formally reviewed by a program performance audit every four  
2 (4) years to evaluate purposes, activities, duties, accomplishments, and  
3 resources required to implement the program.  
4

5 SECTION 1351. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 6-16-  
6 1004(d), concerning dating violence awareness, is amended to read as follows:

7 (d) The ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary  
8 Education shall annually provide a list of source materials available for  
9 school districts to use to teach a unit on dating violence awareness,  
10 including without limitation materials from:  
11

12 SECTION 1352. Arkansas Code § 6-16-1202(2)(C), concerning the  
13 definition of "endorsed concurrent enrollment course" concerning Advanced  
14 Placement and endorsed concurrent enrollment, is amended to read as follows:

15 (C) Is listed in the Arkansas Course Transfer System of  
16 the ~~Department~~ Division of Higher Education;  
17

18 SECTION 1353. Arkansas Code § 6-16-1204(a)(2), concerning the  
19 implementation of Advanced Placement and pre-Advanced Placement coursework,  
20 is amended to read as follows:

21 (2) The ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and  
22 Secondary Education shall approve all classes designated as pre-Advanced  
23 Placement courses.  
24

25 SECTION 1354. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 6-16-  
26 1403(b), concerning digital learning and approved provider list, is amended  
27 to read as follows:

28 (b) The ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary  
29 Education shall annually:  
30

31 SECTION 1355. Arkansas Code § 6-16-1405(b), concerning digital  
32 learning providers, is amended to read as follows:

33 (b) The ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary  
34 Education or state board shall not require as a condition of approval of a  
35 digital learning provider that the digital learning provider limit the  
36 delivery of digital learning courses to public schools that require physical

1 attendance at the public school to successfully complete the credit for which  
2 the digital learning course is provided.

3  
4 SECTION 1356. Arkansas Code § 6-16-1504(b)(3), concerning school  
5 district participation in the Reengagement System and Differentiated Pathway  
6 to a High School Diploma Program, is amended to read as follows:

7 (3) Have an audit conducted to ensure that the participating  
8 program offered by the school district meets academic standards adopted by  
9 the ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary Education.

10  
11 SECTION 1357. Arkansas Code § 6-16-1505(b)(3), concerning a model  
12 contract and model interlocal agreement for local school districts, is  
13 amended to read as follows:

14 (3) The responsibilities for data collection and reporting,  
15 including student transcripts and data required by the ~~Department of~~  
16 ~~Education~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary Education;

17  
18 SECTION 1358. Arkansas Code § 6-17-102 is amended to read as follows:  
19 6-17-102. Emergency first aid personnel.

20 Every public elementary school and every public secondary school in the  
21 State of Arkansas shall have in its employ at least one (1) person who is  
22 certified by the American Red Cross or approved by the ~~Department of~~  
23 ~~Education~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary Education as qualified to  
24 administer emergency first aid and who shall be on the school grounds during  
25 normal school hours.

26  
27 SECTION 1359. Arkansas Code § 6-17-106(b), concerning insult or abuse  
28 of teacher, is amended to read as follows:

29 (b) Each school district shall report to the ~~Department of Education~~  
30 Division of Elementary and Secondary Education any prosecutions within the  
31 school districts under this section.

32  
33 SECTION 1360. Arkansas Code § 6-17-119(a)(2), concerning the  
34 definition of "classified employee" under alternative pay programs, is  
35 amended to read as follows:

36 (2) "Classified employee" means a person employed by a public

1 school district under a written annual contract who is not required to have a  
2 teaching license issued by the ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary  
3 and Secondary Education as a condition of employment;

4  
5 SECTION 1361. Arkansas Code § 6-17-119(c), concerning alternative pay  
6 programs, is amended to read as follows:

7 (c) The ~~department~~ division shall promulgate the rules necessary for  
8 the proper implementation of this section.

9  
10 SECTION 1362. Arkansas Code § 6-17-201(d)(2), concerning personnel  
11 policy requirements for school districts, is amended to read as follows:

12 (2)(A) By September 15 of each year, a school district shall  
13 provide the ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary  
14 Education with the website address at which its current personnel policies,  
15 including the salary schedule, may be found.

16 (B) The ~~department~~ division shall notify any school  
17 district that has not posted its policies on the school district website or  
18 provided the ~~department~~ division with the website address in accordance with  
19 this section.

20  
21 SECTION 1363. Arkansas Code § 6-17-207, concerning school district  
22 accreditation, is amended to read as follows:

23 6-17-207. Accreditation of school district.

24 No school district which does not have written personnel policies shall  
25 be accredited by the ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and  
26 Secondary Education.

27  
28 SECTION 1364. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 6-17-  
29 301(b)(1)(A), concerning the employment of licensed personnel by school  
30 district boards, is amended to read as follows:

31 (A) Been placed on fiscal distress by the ~~Department of~~  
32 Education Division of Elementary and Secondary Education because of:

33  
34 SECTION 1365. Arkansas Code § 6-17-304(b) and (c), concerning the  
35 employment of teachers obligated to another school district and liability of  
36 hiring school districts, are amended to read as follows:

1 (b) Either school district may petition the ~~Department of Education~~  
2 Division of Elementary and Secondary Education to satisfy the liability by  
3 transferring such amount to the entitled school district from funds which the  
4 ~~department division~~ would have distributed to the liable school district.

5 (c) Upon receipt of such a petition, the ~~department division~~  
6 determine the amount of the liability and satisfy the same by such transfer.  
7

8 SECTION 1366. Arkansas Code § 6-17-305(a), concerning student  
9 teachers, is amended to read as follows:

10 (a) Any primary or secondary school which has been accredited by the  
11 ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary Education may be  
12 entitled to assignments of student teachers from institutions of higher  
13 education in this state, irrespective of accreditation by any other agency,  
14 private or public.  
15

16 SECTION 1367. Arkansas Code § 6-17-308(c), concerning moving expenses  
17 paid for by the State Board of Education, is amended to read as follows:

18 (c) In order to be eligible for the reimbursement, the teacher must  
19 apply to the local school district, and the school district must obtain the  
20 prior approval from the ~~Department~~ Division of Higher Education for  
21 reimbursement before the relocation occurs.  
22

23 SECTION 1368. Arkansas Code § 6-17-308(d)(1), concerning moving  
24 expenses paid for by the State Board of Education, is amended to read as  
25 follows:

26 (d)(1) If the reimbursement is approved, the ~~department division~~  
27 provide funds to the school district to reimburse the teacher an amount not  
28 to exceed one thousand dollars (\$1,000) for the documented actual expenses  
29 incurred in the course of relocating.  
30

31 SECTION 1369. Arkansas Code § 6-17-309(a)(2)(B), concerning teaching  
32 licensure and waiver, is amended to read as follows:

33 (B) Those persons approved by the ~~Department of Education~~  
34 Division of Elementary and Secondary Education to teach the grade level or  
35 subject matter of the class in the ~~Department of Education's~~ Division of  
36 Elementary and Secondary Education's distance learning program;

1  
2 SECTION 1370. Arkansas Code § 6-17-309(a)(2)(C)(ii), concerning  
3 teaching licensure and waiver, is amended to read as follows:

4 (ii) Meet the qualification requirements of that  
5 institution or the ~~Department~~ Division of Career and Technical Education; and  
6

7 SECTION 1371. Arkansas Code § 6-17-310(a)(1), concerning the Office  
8 for the Purpose of Teacher Recruitment, is amended to read as follows:

9 (a)(1) There is established within the ~~Department of Education~~  
10 Division of Elementary and Secondary Education the Office for the Purpose of  
11 Teacher Recruitment for ensuring that the children of our state are taught by  
12 highly qualified professionals.  
13

14 SECTION 1372. Arkansas Code § 6-17-310(b)(1), concerning the Office  
15 for the Purpose of Teacher Recruitment, is amended to read as follows:

16 (1) Develop, disseminate, and distribute written materials and  
17 video productions on the importance of teaching as a profession, emphasizing  
18 the critical need for teachers in certain geographical areas of the state and  
19 the availability of financial scholarships to college students in exchange  
20 for service as a licensed teacher in the geographical critical-need area as  
21 identified by the ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and  
22 Secondary Education to assist the ~~Department~~ Division of Higher Education;  
23

24 SECTION 1373. Arkansas Code § 6-17-310(c)(3)(B), concerning the Office  
25 for the Purpose of Teacher Recruitment, is amended to read as follows:

26 (B) The ~~Department~~ Division of Higher Education may assist  
27 the office with the measure implemented under subdivision (c)(3)(A) of this  
28 section;  
29

30 SECTION 1374. Arkansas Code § 6-17-310(c)(10), concerning the Office  
31 for the Purpose of Teacher Recruitment, is amended to read as follows:

32 (10) Coordinate teacher recruitment activities with the  
33 ~~Department~~ Division of Higher Education;  
34

35 SECTION 1375. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 6-17-  
36 310(d), concerning the Office for the Purpose of Teacher Recruitment, is

1 amended to read as follows:

2 (d) The ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary  
3 Education may develop a supplemental funding program to be known as the  
4 “High-Priority Teacher Recruitment Program” that:

5

6 SECTION 1376. Arkansas Code § 6-17-310(e)(2), concerning the Office  
7 for the Purpose of Teacher Recruitment, is amended to read as follows:

8 (2) Unacceptably wide achievement gaps as determined by the  
9 ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary Education in  
10 conjunction with the Commission on Closing the Achievement Gap in Arkansas.

11

12 SECTION 1377. Arkansas Code § 6-17-401(b)(2), concerning teacher’s  
13 license requirement, is amended to read as follows:

14 (2) Other documentation from the Office of Professional  
15 Licensure of the ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary  
16 Education authorizing employment as a teacher under the conditions set forth  
17 by the ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary Education  
18 in the documentation.

19

20 SECTION 1378. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 6-17-  
21 402(b)(1)(A), concerning rules issued by the State Board of Education, is  
22 amended to read as follows:

23 (A) Completes an educator preparation program approved by  
24 the ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary Education,  
25 which shall include without limitation:

26

27 SECTION 1379. Arkansas Code § 6-17-402(d)(2), concerning rules issued  
28 by the State Board of Education, is amended to read as follows:

29 (2) The teacher preparation programs for licensure in this state  
30 shall report the results of the examinations to the ~~department~~ division upon  
31 request.

32

33 SECTION 1380. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 6-17-  
34 403(c), concerning provisional licensure for teachers trained and licensed in  
35 other states, is amended to read as follows:

36 (c) The state board shall issue a standard five-year teaching license

1 to an individual who furnishes to the ~~Department of Education~~ Division of  
2 Elementary and Secondary Education proof of the following:

3  
4 SECTION 1381. Arkansas Code § 6-17-409(a) and (b), concerning  
5 alternative educator preparation programs, are amended to read as follows:

6 (a) As used in this section, "alternative educator preparation  
7 program" means a program of study approved by the ~~Department of Education~~  
8 Division of Elementary and Secondary Education for candidates holding a  
9 bachelor's degree who are preparing for licensure as teachers and leaders in  
10 public schools in this state.

11 (b)(1) The State Board of Education may offer and operate an  
12 alternative educator preparation program.

13 (2)(A) The ~~department~~ division may provide grants of financial  
14 assistance to entities that train individuals seeking to obtain licensure  
15 through an alternative educator preparation program administered by the  
16 ~~department~~ division.

17 (B) The ~~department~~ division shall pay the grants from  
18 funds appropriated by the General Assembly to the ~~department~~ division for  
19 such purpose.

20 (C) The state board shall promulgate rules to determine  
21 eligibility for and amount of awards of the grants concerning the operation  
22 of the alternative educator preparation program authorized by this section  
23 and for such other purposes as may be necessary in carrying out the intent of  
24 this section.

25 (3) The ~~department~~ division may refuse to admit for enrollment  
26 in the alternative educator preparation program administered by the  
27 ~~department~~ division a person who has been dismissed from a teacher education  
28 program at an institution of higher education.

29 (4) If the state board requires an applicant for licensure  
30 through an alternative educator preparation program to complete one (1) or  
31 more additional college-level courses and the applicant has obtained a  
32 bachelor's degree, the required course or courses shall be available as an  
33 online course, a traditional face-to-face course, or a hybrid course that is  
34 part online instruction and part face-to-face instruction, as approved by the  
35 ~~department~~ division.

36

1 SECTION 1382. Arkansas Code § 6-17-409(g), concerning alternative  
2 educator preparation programs, is amended to read as follows:

3 (g) Each applicant for a provisional license under this section shall  
4 successfully complete the criminal records checks and Child Maltreatment  
5 Central Registry check under § 6-17-410 before the ~~department~~ division may  
6 issue the license.

7  
8 SECTION 1383. Arkansas Code § 6-17-410(a)(1)(A), concerning the  
9 application, renewal, revocation, suspension, and probation of teacher  
10 licensures, is amended to read as follows:

11 (a)(1)(A)(i) An applicant for a license issued by the State Board of  
12 Education, an applicant for license renewal, and a preservice teacher shall  
13 apply to the Identification Bureau of the ~~Department~~ Division of Arkansas  
14 State Police for a statewide and nationwide criminal records check, to be  
15 conducted by the ~~Department~~ Division of Arkansas State Police and the Federal  
16 Bureau of Investigation.

17  
18 SECTION 1384. Arkansas Code § 6-17-410(a)(1)(B), concerning the  
19 application, renewal, revocation, suspension, and probation of teacher  
20 licensures, is amended to read as follows:

21 (B) The applicant shall sign a release of information to  
22 the ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary Education  
23 and shall be responsible for the payment of any fee associated with the  
24 criminal records check.

25  
26 SECTION 1385. Arkansas Code § 6-17-410(a)(2) and (3), concerning the  
27 application, renewal, revocation, suspension, and probation of teacher  
28 licensures, are amended to read as follows:

29 (2) Upon completion of the criminal records check, the  
30 Identification Bureau of the ~~Department~~ Division of Arkansas State Police  
31 shall forward all releasable information obtained concerning the applicant to  
32 the ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary Education.

33 (3)(A) An applicant for a license issued by the state board, an  
34 applicant for license renewal, and a preservice teacher are required to  
35 request through the ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and  
36 Secondary Education a Child Maltreatment Central Registry check to be

1 conducted by the Department of Human Services.

2 (B) The applicant shall sign a release of information to  
3 the ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary Education  
4 and is responsible for the payment of any fee associated with the Child  
5 Maltreatment Central Registry check.

6 (C) The Department of Human Services shall forward all  
7 releasable information concerning the applicant to the ~~Department of~~  
8 ~~Education~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary Education upon completion of  
9 the Child Maltreatment Central Registry check.

10 (D) An institution of higher education is not required to  
11 bar a student from enrollment in an educator preparation program due to a  
12 true report in the Child Maltreatment Central Registry.

13  
14 SECTION 1386. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 6-17-  
15 410(b)(1), concerning the application, renewal, revocation, suspension, and  
16 probation of teacher licensures, is amended to read as follows:

17 (b)(1) The state board may issue a six-month nonrenewable letter of  
18 provisional eligibility for licensure pending the results of the criminal  
19 records check and the Child Maltreatment Central Registry check. However, the  
20 Commissioner of Elementary and Secondary Education may extend the period of  
21 provisional eligibility to the end of that contract year if:

22  
23 SECTION 1387. Arkansas Code § 6-17-410(b)(3), concerning the  
24 application, renewal, revocation, suspension, and probation of teacher  
25 licensures, is amended to read as follows:

26 (3) If the ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and  
27 Secondary Education receives information from the Department of Human  
28 Services that the person holding a letter of provisional eligibility for  
29 teacher licensure has a true report in the Child Maltreatment Central  
30 Registry, the state board shall immediately revoke the provisional  
31 eligibility of the teacher licensure applicant.

32  
33 SECTION 1388. Arkansas Code § 6-17-410(d)(A)(iii) and (iv), concerning  
34 the application, renewal, revocation, suspension, and probation of teacher  
35 licensures, are amended to read as follows:

36 (iii) Intentionally compromising the validity or

1 security of any student test or testing program administered by or required  
2 by the state board or the ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and  
3 Secondary Education;

4 (iv) Having the completed examination test score of  
5 any testing program required by the state board for teacher licensure  
6 declared invalid by the testing program company and so reported to the  
7 ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary Education by the  
8 testing company;

9  
10 SECTION 1389. Arkansas Code § 6-17-410(d)(1)(A)(viii), concerning the  
11 application, renewal, revocation, suspension, and probation of teacher  
12 licensures, is amended to read as follows:

13 (viii) Knowingly submitting or providing false or  
14 misleading information or knowingly failing to submit or provide information  
15 requested or required by law to the ~~Department of Education~~ Division of  
16 Elementary and Secondary Education, the state board, or Arkansas Legislative  
17 Audit;

18  
19 SECTION 1390. Arkansas Code § 6-17-410(f)(1)(A)(iv), concerning the  
20 application, renewal, revocation, suspension, and probation of teacher  
21 licensures, is amended to read as follows:

22 (iv) An unlicensed individual admitted to a teacher  
23 preparation program approved by the ~~Department of Education~~ Division of  
24 Elementary and Secondary Education.

25  
26 SECTION 1391. Arkansas Code § 6-17-410(f)(3)(A), concerning the  
27 application, renewal, revocation, suspension, and probation of teacher  
28 licensures, is amended to read as follows:

29 (3)(A) An unlicensed individual who is disqualified from  
30 licensure by subsection (c) of this section may apply for a waiver prior to  
31 applying for licensure by submitting to the ~~Department of Education~~ Division  
32 of Elementary and Secondary Education:

33 (i) Written request for a hearing;

34 (ii) Proof of acceptance or enrollment in a teacher  
35 preparation program approved by the ~~Department of Education~~ Division of  
36 Elementary and Secondary Education; and

1 (iii) Written recommendation from the teacher  
2 preparation program.

3  
4 SECTION 1392. Arkansas Code § 6-17-410(g)(1)(D)-(F), concerning the  
5 application, renewal, arevocation, suspension, and probation of teacher  
6 licensures, are amended to read as follows:

7 (D) Has intentionally compromised the validity or security  
8 of any student test or testing program administered or required by the  
9 ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary Education;

10 (E) Has knowingly submitted falsified information or  
11 failed to submit information requested or required by law to the ~~Department~~  
12 ~~of Education~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary Education, the state board,  
13 or Arkansas Legislative Audit;

14 (F) Has failed to establish or maintain the necessary  
15 requirements and standards set forth in Arkansas law or ~~Department of~~  
16 ~~Education~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary Education rules for teacher  
17 licensure; or

18  
19 SECTION 1393. Arkansas Code § 6-17-410(h)(1), concerning the  
20 application, renewal, revocation, suspension, and probation of teacher  
21 licensures, is amended to read as follows:

22 (h)(1) Any information received by the ~~Department of Education~~  
23 Division of Elementary and Secondary Education from the Identification Bureau  
24 of the ~~Department~~ Division of Arkansas State Police or the Department of  
25 Human Services pursuant to subsection (a) of this section shall not be  
26 available for examination except by the affected applicant for licensure or  
27 his or her duly authorized representative, and no record, file, or document  
28 shall be removed from the custody of the ~~Department of Education~~ Division of  
29 Elementary and Secondary Education.

30  
31 SECTION 1394. Arkansas Code § 6-17-410(j)(1) and (2), concerning the  
32 application, renewal, revocation, suspension, and probation of teacher  
33 licensures, are amended to read as follows:

34 (1) "Preservice teacher" means an unlicensed individual who is  
35 accepted or enrolled in a teacher preparation program approved by the  
36 ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary Education; and

1           (2) “Supervised clinical practice” means the placement of a  
2 preservice teacher by a teacher education program approved by the ~~Department~~  
3 ~~of Education~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary Education at the  
4 educational entity for the purpose of the student completing an internship or  
5 a student teaching experience required by the teacher education program.

6  
7           SECTION 1395. Arkansas Code § 6-17-411 is amended to read as follows:

8           6-17-411. Criminal records check as a condition for initial employment  
9 of licensed personnel – Definitions.

10           (a)(1)(A) Except as provided in subdivision (a)(1)(B) of this section,  
11 the board of directors of an educational entity shall require as a condition  
12 for initial employment by the educational entity that any person holding a  
13 license issued by the State Board of Education and making application for  
14 employment authorize release to the ~~Department of Education~~ Division of  
15 Elementary and Secondary Education the results of:

16                   (i) Statewide and nationwide criminal records checks  
17 by the Identification Bureau of the ~~Department~~ Division of Arkansas State  
18 Police, which conform to the applicable federal standards and include the  
19 taking of the applicant’s fingerprints; and

20                   (ii) The Child Maltreatment Central Registry check  
21 by the Department of Human Services.

22                   (B)(i) The board of directors of a school district created  
23 by consolidation, annexation, or detachment may waive the requirements under  
24 subdivision (a)(1)(A) of this section for personnel who were employed by an  
25 affected district immediately before the annexation, consolidation, or  
26 detachment and who had a complete criminal background check conducted as a  
27 condition of the person’s most recent employment with the affected district  
28 as required under this section.

29                   (ii) As used in subdivision (a)(1)(B)(i) of this  
30 section, “affected district” means a school district that loses territory or  
31 students as a result of annexation, consolidation, or detachment.

32           (2) Unless the employing educational entity’s board of directors  
33 has taken action to pay for the cost of criminal background checks or the  
34 Child Maltreatment Central Registry checks required by this section, the  
35 employment applicant shall be responsible for the payment of any fee  
36 associated with the criminal records check and the Child Maltreatment Central

1 Registry check.

2 (3) At the conclusion of the criminal records check required by  
3 this section, the Identification Bureau of the ~~Department~~ Division of  
4 Arkansas State Police may maintain the fingerprints in the automated  
5 fingerprint identification system.

6 (4)(A) Any information received by the ~~Department of Education~~  
7 Division of Elementary and Secondary Education from the Identification Bureau  
8 of the ~~Department~~ Division of Arkansas State Police or the Department of  
9 Human Services pursuant to this section shall not be available for  
10 examination except by the affected applicant for employment or his or her  
11 duly authorized representative, and no record, file, or document shall be  
12 removed from the custody of the ~~Department of Education~~ Division of  
13 Elementary and Secondary Education.

14 (B) Any information made available to the affected  
15 applicant for employment shall be information pertaining to that applicant  
16 only.

17 (C) Rights of privilege and confidentiality established  
18 under this section shall not extend to any document created for purposes  
19 other than this background check.

20 (5) The ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and  
21 Secondary Education shall promptly inform the board of directors of the  
22 educational entity whether or not the affected applicant is eligible for  
23 employment as provided by subsection (b) of this section.

24 (b)(1)(A) No person holding a license from the state board shall be  
25 eligible for employment by an educational entity if the results of the  
26 criminal records check released to the ~~Department of Education~~ Division of  
27 Elementary and Secondary Education by the applicant reveal that the applicant  
28 has pleaded guilty or nolo contendere to or has been found guilty of any  
29 offense that will or may result in license revocation by the state board  
30 under § 6-17-410, unless the state board waives revocation.

31 (B) No person holding a license issued by the state board  
32 shall be eligible for employment by an educational entity if the results of  
33 the Child Maltreatment Central Registry check released to the ~~Department of~~  
34 Education Division of Elementary and Secondary Education reveal that the  
35 applicant has a true report in the Child Maltreatment Central Registry,  
36 unless the state board waives revocation under § 6-17-410.

1 (2) However, the board of directors of an educational entity is  
2 authorized to offer provisional employment to the affected applicant pending  
3 notification from the ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and  
4 Secondary Education that the:

5 (A) Applicant is eligible for employment based on the  
6 background checks; or

7 (B) State board has waived the disqualifying offense or  
8 placement on the Child Maltreatment Central Registry.

9 (c) The board of directors of an educational entity shall require as a  
10 condition for supervised clinical practice at the educational entity that a  
11 preservice teacher seeking to conduct his or her supervised clinical practice  
12 shall authorize the release to the ~~Department of Education~~ Division of  
13 Elementary and Secondary Education of the results of the criminal records  
14 background check and Child Maltreatment Central Registry check required under  
15 subdivision (a)(1)(A) of this section.

16 (d) As used in this section:

17 (1) "Educational entity" means:

18 (A) The ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and  
19 Secondary Education; or

20 (B) An entity that is identified by the ~~Department of~~  
21 Education Division of Elementary and Secondary Education as a local education  
22 agency, except that for a public school operated by a school district the  
23 school district is the educational entity;

24 (2) "Preservice teacher" means an unlicensed individual who is  
25 accepted or enrolled in a teacher preparation program approved by the  
26 ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary Education; and

27 (3) "Supervised clinical practice" means the placement of a  
28 preservice teacher by a teacher education program approved by the ~~Department~~  
29 of Education Division of Elementary and Secondary Education at the  
30 educational entity for the purpose of the student completing an internship or  
31 student teaching experience required by the teacher education program.

32  
33 SECTION 1396. Arkansas Code § 6-17-412(a)(1), concerning certification  
34 by the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards, is amended to read  
35 as follows: hold a teaching license from the ~~Department of Education~~ Division  
36 of Elementary and Secondary Education and who is engaged directly in

1 instruction with students in a classroom setting for more than seventy  
2 percent (70%) of the individual's contracted time;

3  
4 SECTION 1397. Arkansas Code § 6-17-413(a)(1)(A), concerning bonuses  
5 and certification funding by the National Board for Professional Teaching  
6 Standards, is amended to read as follows:

7 (a)(1)(A) The ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and  
8 Secondary Education shall pay the full amount of the participation fee of the  
9 National Board for Professional Teaching Standards and provide, if determined  
10 to be necessary by the ~~department~~ division, substitute pay for a maximum of  
11 three (3) days of approved paid leave for teachers selected by the State  
12 Board of Education to participate in the program of the national board.

13  
14 SECTION 1398. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 6-17-  
15 413(a)(3)(A), concerning bonuses and certification funding by the National  
16 Board for Professional Teaching Standards, is amended to read as follows:

17 (3)(A) The ~~department~~ division shall pay a yearly incentive  
18 bonus of five thousand dollars (\$5,000) for no more than ten (10) school  
19 years or, in the case of a recertification obtained before January 1, 2018,  
20 for the life of the recertification to any classroom teacher, building-level  
21 principal, or building-level assistant principal who:

22  
23 SECTION 1399. Arkansas Code § 6-17-413(b) and (c), concerning bonuses  
24 and certification funding by the National Board for Professional Teaching  
25 Standards, are amended to read as follows:

26 (b)(1) A teacher who receives state moneys for the participation fee  
27 of the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards but who does not  
28 complete the certification process within three (3) years after the teacher's  
29 entry into the certification program of the national board or who becomes  
30 certified by the national board but does not teach or serve as a building-  
31 level principal or building-level assistant principal in the Arkansas public  
32 school system for three (3) continuous school years after receiving the  
33 certification by the national board shall repay the ~~department~~ division the  
34 amount it contributed to the participation fee of the national board and the  
35 total amount it contributed to any yearly bonus.

36 (2) If the teacher, principal, or assistant principal leaves the

1 employment of a public school district before the three (3) continuous years  
2 are completed and is employed by an Arkansas institution of higher education  
3 or employed by an education service cooperative and the teacher does not  
4 teach in a classroom with students, the teacher, principal, or assistant  
5 principal shall repay the ~~department~~ division the amount it contributed to  
6 the participation fee of the national board and the total amount it  
7 contributed to any yearly salary bonus.

8 (3) The State Board of Education may suspend the Arkansas  
9 teacher's license of any person that fails, when required to do so, to repay  
10 moneys contributed by the ~~department~~ division for the certification program  
11 of the national board.

12 (4) Repayment of moneys contributed by the ~~department~~ division  
13 is not required if, due to the death or disability of the teacher or other  
14 extenuating circumstances as may be recognized by the State Board of  
15 Education, the teacher does not complete the certification process of the  
16 national board or does not teach in the Arkansas public school system for  
17 three (3) continuous school years after completing the certification process  
18 of the national board.

19 (c)(1) Provisions of this section and § 6-17-412 shall apply only to  
20 the extent that funds are appropriated to the ~~department~~ division to pay for  
21 these provisions.

22 (2)(A) For a member of the Arkansas Teacher Retirement System,  
23 the ~~department~~ division shall withhold any employee contributions when  
24 necessary from the incentive bonus and shall send the employee contributions  
25 to the system for credit as a part of the member's salary.

26 (B) The employer contributions shall be provided from  
27 funds that are appropriated to the ~~department~~ division to pay for the bonuses  
28 and shall be sent to the system for credit as employer contributions to match  
29 the member's salary.

30  
31 SECTION 1400. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 6-17-  
32 413(d)(2), concerning bonuses and certification funding by the National Board  
33 for Professional Teaching Standards, is amended to read as follows:

34 (2) By December 1 of each year, the ~~department~~ division shall

35 (1) "Classroom teacher" means an individual who is required to  
36 pay a yearly incentive bonus of five thousand dollars (\$5,000) to a speech-

1 language pathologist who:

2

3 SECTION 1401. Arkansas Code § 6-17-413(d)(3)(A)(ii), concerning  
4 bonuses and certification funding by the National Board for Professional  
5 Teaching Standards, is amended to read as follows:

6 (ii) If sufficient funds are not available to pay  
7 the full amount of the bonus to each certified speech-language pathologist as  
8 provided under this section, the ~~department~~ division may reduce the amount of  
9 the bonus for each qualified recipient proportionately as necessary to  
10 provide a bonus to each qualified speech-language pathologist in an equal  
11 amount.

12

13 SECTION 1402. Arkansas Code § 6-17-413(d)(5)(A)(i), concerning bonuses  
14 and certification funding by the National Board for Professional Teaching  
15 Standards, is amended to read as follows:

16 (5)(A)(i) If a speech-language pathologist who receives a bonus  
17 under this subsection leaves employment in the Arkansas public school system  
18 before completing three (3) continuous school years of employment, the  
19 speech-language pathologist shall repay the ~~department~~ division a prorated  
20 portion of the bonus received in the school year based on a daily rate for  
21 the remainder of a school year in which the speech-language pathologist  
22 leaves employment.

23

24 SECTION 1403. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 6-17-  
25 413(e)(1), concerning bonuses and certification funding by the National Board  
26 for Professional Teaching Standards, is amended to read as follows:

27 (e)(1) The ~~department~~ division shall pay a yearly incentive bonus to a  
28 person who:

29

30 SECTION 1404. Arkansas Code § 6-17-413(e)(3)(F)(ii), concerning  
31 bonuses and certification funding by the National Board for Professional  
32 Teaching Standards, is amended to read as follows:

33 (ii) A person who, as of December 1, 2017, meets the  
34 qualifications for a yearly incentive bonus under both this subsection and  
35 subsection (a) of this section may make an irrevocable election to receive  
36 future yearly incentive bonuses under this subsection by filing a written

1 election with the ~~department~~ division no later than July 1, 2019.

2  
3 SECTION 1405. Arkansas Code § 6-17-414(a)(1)(B)(i), concerning a  
4 criminal record check as condition for initial employment of nonlicensed  
5 personnel, is amended to read as follows:

6 (B)(i) The person shall sign a release of information to  
7 the ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary Education.

8  
9 SECTION 1406. Arkansas Code § 6-17-414(a)(2)(A), concerning a criminal  
10 record check as condition for initial employment of nonlicensed personnel, is  
11 amended to read as follows:

12 (2)(A) Upon completion of the criminal records check, the  
13 Identification Bureau of the ~~Department~~ Division of Arkansas State Police  
14 shall forward all releasable information obtained concerning the person to  
15 the ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary Education,  
16 which shall promptly inform the board of directors of the educational entity  
17 whether or not the applicant is eligible for employment as provided by  
18 subsection (b) of this section.

19  
20 SECTION 1407. Arkansas Code § 6-17-414(a)(3)(B) and (C), concerning a  
21 criminal record check as condition for initial employment of nonlicensed  
22 personnel, are amended to read as follows:

23 (B) The applicant shall sign a release of information to  
24 the ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary Education  
25 and shall be responsible for the payment of any fee associated with the Child  
26 Maltreatment Central Registry check.

27 (C) The Department of Human Services shall forward all  
28 releasable information concerning the applicant to the ~~Department of~~  
29 ~~Education~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary Education upon completion of  
30 the Child Maltreatment Central Registry check.

31  
32 SECTION 1408. Arkansas Code § 6-17-414(c), concerning a criminal  
33 record check as condition for initial employment of nonlicensed personnel, is  
34 amended to read as follows:

35 (c) However, the board of directors of an educational entity is  
36 authorized to offer provisional employment to an applicant pending receipt of

1 eligibility information from the ~~Department of Education~~ Division of  
2 Elementary and Secondary Education.

3  
4 SECTION 1409. Arkansas Code § 6-17-414(d)(1), concerning a criminal  
5 record check as condition for initial employment of nonlicensed personnel, is  
6 amended to read as follows:

7 (d)(1) Any information received by the ~~Department of Education~~  
8 Division of Elementary and Secondary Education from the Identification Bureau  
9 of the ~~Department~~ Division of Arkansas State Police or the Department of  
10 Human Services pursuant to this section shall not be available for  
11 examination except by the affected applicant for employment or his or her  
12 duly authorized representative, and no record, file, or document shall be  
13 removed from the custody of the ~~Department of Education~~ Division of  
14 Elementary and Secondary Education.

15  
16 SECTION 1410. Arkansas Code § 6-17-414(e)(4), concerning a criminal  
17 record check as condition for initial employment of nonlicensed personnel, is  
18 amended to read as follows:

19 (4) Knowingly submits or provides false or misleading  
20 information or knowingly fails to submit or provide information requested or  
21 required by law to the ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and  
22 Secondary Education, the state board, or Arkansas Legislative Audit;

23  
24 SECTION 1411. Arkansas Code § 6-17-414(f)(1)(B) and (C), concerning a  
25 criminal record check as condition for initial employment of nonlicensed  
26 personnel, are amended to read as follows:

27 (B) Has intentionally compromised the validity or security  
28 of any student test or testing program administered or required by the  
29 ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary Education;

30 (C) Has knowingly submitted falsified information or  
31 failed to submit information requested or required by law to the ~~Department~~  
32 of Education Division of Elementary and Secondary Education, the state board,  
33 or Arkansas Legislative Audit; or

34  
35 SECTION 1412. Arkansas Code § 6-17-414(g)(5)(B), concerning a criminal  
36 record check as condition for initial employment of nonlicensed personnel, is

1 amended to read as follows:

2 (B) After adopting a resolution granting a waiver, the  
3 board of directors of an educational entity shall immediately provide a copy  
4 of the resolution and waiver request to the ~~Department of Education~~ Division  
5 of Elementary and Secondary Education.

6  
7 SECTION 1413. Arkansas Code § 6-17-414(h)(1)(A) and (B), concerning a  
8 criminal record check as condition for initial employment of nonlicensed  
9 personnel, are amended to read as follows:

10 (A) The ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and  
11 Secondary Education; or

12 (B) An entity that is identified by the ~~Department of~~  
13 Education Division of Elementary and Secondary Education as a local education  
14 agency, except that for a public school operated by a school district the  
15 school district is the educational entity; and

16  
17 SECTION 1414. Arkansas Code § 6-17-414(h)(2)(C), concerning a criminal  
18 record check as a condition for initial employment of nonlicensed personnel,  
19 is amended to read as follows:

20 (C) Designated employee position with the ~~Department of~~  
21 Education Division of Elementary and Secondary Education.

22  
23 SECTION 1415. Arkansas Code § 6-17-421(b)(1)(A), concerning a criminal  
24 record check for fraudulent acts, is amended to read as follows:

25 (b)(1)(A) Upon making application for employment in a position as a  
26 fiscal officer of an educational entity, the board of directors of the  
27 educational entity shall require the employment applicant to authorize  
28 release to the ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary  
29 Education the results of statewide and nationwide criminal records checks by  
30 the Identification Bureau of the ~~Department~~ Division of Arkansas State  
31 Police.

32  
33 SECTION 1416. Arkansas Code § 6-17-421(b)(3)(A), concerning a criminal  
34 record check for fraudulent acts, is amended to read as follows:

35 (3)(A) Any information received by the ~~Department of Education~~  
36 Division of Elementary and Secondary Education from the Identification Bureau

1 of the ~~Department~~ Division of Arkansas State Police or the Department of  
2 Human Services pursuant to this section shall not be available for  
3 examination except by the affected applicant for employment or his or her  
4 duly authorized representative, and no record, file, or document shall be  
5 removed from the custody of the ~~Department of Education~~ Division of  
6 Elementary and Secondary Education.

7

8 SECTION 1417. Arkansas Code § 6-17-421(b)(4), concerning a criminal  
9 record check for fraudulent acts, is amended to read as follows:

10 (4) The ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and  
11 Secondary Education shall promptly inform the board of directors of the  
12 educational entity whether or not the affected employment applicant is  
13 eligible for employment as provided in this subsection.

14

15 SECTION 1418. Arkansas Code § 6-17-421(c), concerning a criminal  
16 record check for fraudulent acts, is amended to read as follows:

17 (c)(1) No person shall be eligible for employment as a fiscal officer  
18 by an educational entity if the results of the criminal records check  
19 released to the ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary  
20 Education by the applicant reveal that the applicant has pleaded guilty or  
21 nolo contendere to or has been found guilty of a fraudulent act but only  
22 after an opportunity for a hearing before the State Board of Education upon  
23 reasonable notice in writing.

24

25 (2) However, the board of directors of an educational entity is  
26 authorized to offer provisional employment to the affected applicant pending  
27 receipt of eligibility information from the ~~Department of Education~~ Division  
28 of Elementary and Secondary Education.

29

30 SECTION 1419. Arkansas Code § 6-17-422(b)(1)(A), concerning the  
31 establishment of the Professional Licensure Standards and Board, is amended  
32 to read as follows:

33 (A) The Commissioner of Elementary and Secondary Education  
34 or his or her designee, who shall serve as a nonvoting member;

35

36 SECTION 1420. Arkansas Code § 6-17-422(b)(1)(E), concerning the  
establishment of the Professional Licensure Standards Board, is amended to

1 read as follows:

2 (E) One (1) nonvoting representative designated by the  
3 ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary Education from  
4 its Human Resources, Educator Effectiveness and Licensure Division  
5 recommended by the commissioner;

6

7 SECTION 1421. Arkansas Code § 6-17-422(g)(2), concerning the  
8 establishment of the Professional Licensure Standards Board, is amended to  
9 read as follows:

10 (2) Members of the Professional Licensure Standards Board may  
11 receive expense reimbursement in accordance with § 25-16-902, to be paid by  
12 the ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary Education to  
13 the extent money is available for that purpose.

14

15 SECTION 1422. Arkansas Code § 6-17-422(h)(2)(A), concerning the  
16 establishment of the Professional Licensure Standards Board, is amended to  
17 read as follows:

18 (2)(A) With the assistance of the ~~Department of Education~~  
19 Division of Elementary and Secondary Education and the ~~Department~~ Division of  
20 Higher Education, develop a system for the annual reporting and review of  
21 educator preparation program quality.

22

23 SECTION 1423. Arkansas Code § 6-17-422(h)(4)(A)(ii), concerning the  
24 establishment of the Professional Licensure Standards Board, is amended to  
25 read as follows:

26 (ii) Request through the ~~Department of Education~~  
27 Division of Elementary and Secondary Education a Child Maltreatment Central  
28 Registry check to be conducted by the Department of Human Services.

29

30 SECTION 1424. Arkansas Code § 6-17-424(b), concerning the eligibility  
31 of a school counselor for administrator licensure for counselors, is amended  
32 to read as follows:

33 (b) The ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary  
34 Education shall promulgate the rules necessary to implement this section.

35

36 SECTION 1425. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 6-17-

1 426(a)(1), concerning a review of repeat audit findings by the Professional  
2 Licensure Standards Board, is amended to read as follows:

3 (a)(1) The Legislative Joint Auditing Committee may refer an audit  
4 report of a school district to the ~~Department of Education~~ Division of  
5 Elementary and Secondary Education if:

6  
7 SECTION 1426. Arkansas Code § 6-17-426(a)(2), concerning a review of  
8 repeat audit findings by the Professional Licensure Standards Board, is  
9 amended to read as follows:

10 (2) The ~~department~~ division shall submit the audit report  
11 referred in subdivision (a)(1) of this section to the Professional Licensure  
12 Standards Board in forms approved by the ~~department~~ division.

13  
14 SECTION 1427. Arkansas Code § 6-17-427(a)(1) and (2), concerning  
15 superintendent licenses and superintendent mentoring program requirement, are  
16 amended to read as follows:

17 (a)(1) The ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and  
18 Secondary Education shall develop and sponsor a superintendent mentoring  
19 program for first-year superintendents that includes without limitation:

- 20 (A) Curriculum and instruction;  
21 (B) Ethics;  
22 (C) Facilities;  
23 (D) Human resources;  
24 (E) Leadership;  
25 (F) School funding; and  
26 (G) Technology.

27 (2) The ~~department~~ division shall incorporate all training that  
28 is currently required for first-year superintendents into the superintendent  
29 mentoring program.

30  
31 SECTION 1428. Arkansas Code § 6-17-428(d)(1), concerning ethical  
32 violations, is amended to read as follows:

33 (1) The ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and  
34 Secondary Education;

35  
36 SECTION 1429. Arkansas Code § 6-17-428(p)(3)(A)(i), concerning ethical

1 violations, is amended to read as follows:

2 (3)(A)(i) The ~~department~~ division shall establish and maintain a  
3 website providing a school hiring officer with the ability to determine if  
4 the State Board of Education has acted upon an ethics complaint concerning a  
5 violation of the standard in subdivision (p)(2)(A) of this section involving  
6 the sexual abuse of a student by an applicant for employment who holds an  
7 Arkansas teaching or administrator's license or an individual intending to be  
8 employed under a waiver from licensure as a teacher of record or as an  
9 administrator.

10

11 SECTION 1430. Arkansas Code § 6-17-428(p)(3)(B), concerning ethical  
12 violations, is amended to read as follows:

13 (B) Before an educator who holds an Arkansas teaching  
14 license or administrator's license or an individual intending to be employed  
15 under a waiver from licensure as a teacher of record or as an administrator  
16 may be hired for employment at an Arkansas school, the school hiring officer  
17 shall check the website maintained by the ~~department~~ division under  
18 subdivision (p)(3)(A) of this section to determine whether the State Board of  
19 Education has acted upon a violation of the standard in subdivision (p)(2)(A)  
20 of this section involving the sexual abuse of a student by the applicant.

21

22 SECTION 1431. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 6-17-  
23 428(q), concerning ethical violations, is amended to read as follows:

24 (q) Subject to the disclosure limitations of subsections (m) and (o)  
25 of this section, the ~~department~~ division may include on the ~~department's~~  
26 division's public website for licensure the following information on each  
27 violation of the code of ethics by an educator whose license the State Board  
28 of Education has suspended, revoked, denied, or not renewed based on the  
29 recommendations of the ethics subcommittee:

30

31 SECTION 1432. Arkansas Code § 6-17-429(e), concerning the Right to  
32 Read Act, is amended to read as follows:

33 (e) A provider of a state-approved educator preparation program shall  
34 include in its annual report to the ~~Department of Education~~ Division of  
35 Elementary and Secondary Education a description of the provider's program to  
36 prepare educators to teach reading using scientific reading instruction.

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36

SECTION 1433. Arkansas Code § 6-17-429(g), concerning the Right to Read Act, is amended to read as follows:

(g)(1) The ~~department~~ division is vested with the authority to and shall enforce this section.

(2) The ~~department~~ division shall promulgate rules to implement this section.

SECTION 1434. Arkansas Code § 6-17-603 is amended to read as follows: 6-17-603. Reporting of test scores – Confidentiality.

(a)(1) Scores from the tests required under this subchapter and § 6-17-402 shall not be disclosed but shall be retained by the ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary Education as confidential records not subject to the Freedom of Information Act of 1967, § 25-19-101 et seq., or any other act that would require the disclosure thereof.

(2) However, the ~~department~~ division shall provide each licensee with that person's test score and the grader's analysis of the writing portion of the test.

(b) The ~~department~~ division shall transmit to the Governor and the House Committee on Education and the Senate Committee on Education a composite report indicating by county the number of persons who failed the tests and the number of persons who passed the tests.

SECTION 1435. Arkansas Code § 6-17-701(a), concerning a program to improve reading skills, is amended to read as follows:

(a) The ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary Education is authorized and directed to develop and implement an inclusive statewide program to improve the reading skills of students in the public schools of this state.

SECTION 1436. Arkansas Code § 6-17-701(c), concerning a program to improve reading skills, is amended to read as follows:

(c) The intensive in-service training in the teaching of reading provided for in this section shall be developed and implemented under the direction of reading specialists of the ~~department~~ division and selected in-service teachers who have been identified as having been particularly

1 successful in the teaching of reading.

2

3 SECTION 1437. Arkansas Code § 6-17-702(a)(1)(B), concerning school  
4 district staff development sessions, is amended to read as follows:

5 (B) Licensed personnel may count up to two (2) days of six  
6 (6) hours each of attendance at instructional professional development  
7 sessions conducted by bona fide professional organizations toward fulfillment  
8 of the ten (10) days of staff development required by the Standards for  
9 Accreditation of Arkansas Public Schools and School Districts, provided the  
10 sessions have been certified by the ~~Department of Education~~ Division of  
11 Elementary and Secondary Education.

12

13 SECTION 1438. Arkansas Code § 6-17-704(a)(1), concerning a  
14 professional development plan, is amended to read as follows:

15 (1) Is required by statute or by the ~~Department of Education~~  
16 Division of Elementary and Secondary Education; or

17

18 SECTION 1439. Arkansas Code § 6-17-704(e)(1), concerning a  
19 professional development plan, is amended to read as follows:

20 (1) Shall comply with the ~~Department of Education~~ Division of  
21 Elementary and Secondary Education Rules Governing Professional Development;  
22 and

23

24 SECTION 1440. Arkansas Code § 6-17-704(f)(2), concerning a  
25 professional development plan, is amended to read as follows:

26 (2) Delivered by any method, online or otherwise, approved by  
27 the ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary Education  
28 under the State Board of Education rules.

29

30 SECTION 1441. Arkansas Code § 6-17-705(d), concerning professional  
31 development credit, is amended to read as follows:

32 (d) A person who holds any license issued by the State Board of  
33 Education may obtain credit for required professional development through a  
34 micro-credentialing process approved by the ~~Department of Education~~ Division  
35 of Elementary and Secondary Education.

36

1 SECTION 1442. Arkansas Code § 6-17-707(b) and (c), concerning the  
2 Arkansas Online Professional Development Initiative, are amended to read as  
3 follows:

4 (b) Under the initiative, the Commissioner of Elementary and Secondary  
5 Education shall identify teacher professional development needs in the state  
6 and prioritize the needs based on the areas of professional development most  
7 needed to improve academic and teaching knowledge and skills of licensed  
8 personnel.

9 (c) Based on the needs and priorities identified in the assessment  
10 under subsection (b) of this section, the commissioner shall work with the  
11 Director of the Educational Television Division of the ~~Department of~~  
12 ~~Education~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary Education and local school  
13 districts to develop a statewide online professional development program that  
14 includes quality professional development courses that:

15 (1) Are aligned to the required focus areas identified in the  
16 State Board of Education rules governing professional development and the  
17 Arkansas Educational Support and Accountability Act, § 6-15-2901 et seq.;

18 (2) Are aligned with the clear, specific, and challenging  
19 academic content areas as established by the ~~Department of Education~~ Division  
20 of Elementary and Secondary Education as required under § 6-15-2906;

21 (3) Are aligned with the Arkansas academic standards established  
22 by the ~~department~~ division for each class level or subject area included in  
23 the respective professional development programs;

24 (4) Are research-based and available from sources with expertise  
25 in technology-delivered professional development courses;

26 (5) Are consistent with the Board of Control for Southern  
27 Regional Education multistate online professional development standards in  
28 existence on January 1, 2005;

29 (6) Focus on improving student academic achievement by improving  
30 a teacher's academic and teaching knowledge and skills; and

31 (7) Include an assessment at the end of the program designed to  
32 measure each licensed person's level of understanding and ability to  
33 implement or apply the information presented in the program.

34  
35 SECTION 1443. Arkansas Code § 6-17-707(d)(4), concerning the Arkansas  
36 Online Professional Development Initiative, is amended to read as follows:

1 (4) If a technology-delivered professional development course or  
2 service that has been identified as needed under the assessment in subsection  
3 (b) of this section is not available, the network or other providers shall  
4 work with the ~~department~~ division to develop a course or service to meet the  
5 identified need.

6  
7 SECTION 1444. Arkansas Code § 6-17-707(e), concerning the Arkansas  
8 Online Professional Development Initiative, is amended to read as follows:

9 (e)(1) The ~~department~~ division shall determine the content of and  
10 preapprove all professional development courses or programs delivered by the  
11 network that qualify for professional development credit as required by the  
12 Standards for Accreditation of Arkansas Public Schools and School Districts  
13 or teacher licensure requirements.

14 (2) The ~~department~~ division may approve professional development  
15 obtained through a micro-credentialing process.

16  
17 SECTION 1445. Arkansas Code § 6-17-707(f)-(h), concerning the Arkansas  
18 Online Professional Development Initiative, are amended to read as follows:

19 (f) The ~~department~~ division shall provide the staff and resources  
20 needed to provide the quality leadership necessary to coordinate the  
21 initiative.

22 (g) The initiative shall include a method for the ~~department~~ division,  
23 the network, school districts, schools, and licensed personnel to annually  
24 evaluate the effectiveness of the initiative and its online professional  
25 development course and programs.

26 (h)(1) As part of a school district support plan, the ~~department~~  
27 division may include guidelines for the professional development programs to  
28 be delivered to the licensed personnel employed by a school district  
29 receiving Level 3 – Coordinated, Level 4 – Directed, or Level 5 – Intensive  
30 support.

31 (2) As part of the school district support plan, the ~~department~~  
32 division may require the participation and completion of professional  
33 development courses or programs by licensed personnel in a school or school  
34 district as appropriate for the licensed personnel's job assignments and  
35 duties.

36

1 SECTION 1446. Arkansas Code § 6-17-708(a), concerning teen suicide  
2 awareness and prevention professional development, is amended to read as  
3 follows:

4 (a)(1) The ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and  
5 Secondary Education shall require two (2) hours of professional development  
6 in teen suicide awareness and prevention for licensed public school personnel  
7 according to the professional development schedule under § 6-17-709.

8 (2) The professional development under this section may be  
9 accomplished through self-review of suitable suicide prevention materials  
10 approved by the ~~department~~ division.

11  
12 SECTION 1447. Arkansas Code § 6-17-709(b), concerning a professional  
13 development schedule for school personnel, is amended to read as follows:

14 (b)(1) Two (2) hours of the professional development required by  
15 subsection (a) of this section shall be counted in one (1) school year toward  
16 the minimum number of hours of professional development required for licensed  
17 educators under the ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and  
18 Secondary Education Rules Governing Professional Development.

19 (2) If additional hours are obtained by a licensed educator, the  
20 school district may count those hours as part of the minimum number of hours  
21 of professional development required for licensed educators under the  
22 ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary Education Rules  
23 Governing Professional Development.

24  
25 SECTION 1448. Arkansas Code § 6-17-709(d), concerning the Arkansas  
26 Online Professional Development Initiative, is amended to read as follows:

27 (d) The ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary  
28 Education shall establish the curriculum under this section in collaboration  
29 with educational agencies and associations, including without limitation the:

- 30 (1) ~~Department~~ Division of Higher Education;  
31 (2) Arkansas Association of Educational Administrators;  
32 (3) Arkansas Education Association;  
33 (4) Arkansas School Boards Association;  
34 (5) Arkansas Association for Supervision and Curriculum  
35 Development;  
36 (6) Arkansas State Teachers Association; and

1 (7) Arkansas Rural Ed Association.

2  
3 SECTION 1449. Arkansas Code § 6-17-709(e)(1)(A), concerning the  
4 Arkansas Online Professional Development Initiative, is amended to read as  
5 follows:

6 (A) The ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and  
7 Secondary Education;

8  
9 SECTION 1450. Arkansas Code § 6-17-709(e)(1)(C), concerning the  
10 Arkansas Online Professional Development Initiative, is amended to read as  
11 follows:

12 (C) Providers approved by the ~~Department of Education~~  
13 Division of Elementary and Secondary Education.

14  
15 SECTION 1451. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 6-17-  
16 709(e)(3)(A), concerning the Arkansas Online Professional Development  
17 Initiative, is amended to read as follows:

18 (3)(A) The ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and  
19 Secondary Education shall not issue an initial teaching license until the  
20 applicant verifies that he or she has obtained the required professional  
21 development concerning:

22  
23 SECTION 1452. Arkansas Code § 6-17-709(e)(3)(B), concerning the  
24 Arkansas Online Professional Development Initiative, is amended to read as  
25 follows:

26 (B) For a teaching license issued under the state's  
27 reciprocity provisions to an out-of-state teacher, the ~~Department of~~  
28 Education Division of Elementary and Secondary Education shall issue a  
29 provisional license until the licensee obtains the professional development  
30 identified in subdivision (e)(3)(A) of this section.

31  
32 SECTION 1453. Arkansas Code § 6-17-710(b), concerning human  
33 trafficking professional development, is amended to read as follows:

34 (b) The ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary  
35 Education or another person, firm, or corporation designated by the  
36 ~~department~~ division shall develop and administer the professional development

1 under subsection (a) of this section.

2

3 SECTION 1454. Arkansas Code § 6-17-803(b)(3), concerning optional  
4 contracts for teachers payable in monthly installments, is amended to read as  
5 follows:

6 (3) If any teacher fails to repay any money owed to a school  
7 district upon a contract breached by him or her, the secretary of the school  
8 district shall certify the failure to the ~~Department of Education~~ Division of  
9 Elementary and Secondary Education, and the State Board of Education shall  
10 suspend the teacher's license until all of the money is repaid.

11

12 SECTION 1455. Arkansas Code § 6-17-805(f)(1), concerning deduction  
13 from salary for professional membership dues, is amended to read as follows:

14 (1) "Classified employee" means any person employed by a school  
15 district under a written annual contract who is not required to have a  
16 teaching license issued by the ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary  
17 and Secondary Education as a condition of employment; and

18

19 SECTION 1456. Arkansas Code § 6-17-811(a)(2)(A), concerning incentives  
20 for teacher recruitment and retention in high-priority districts, is amended  
21 to read as follows:

22 (2)(A) "National school lunch students" means those students or  
23 the percentage of enrolled students from low socioeconomic backgrounds as  
24 indicated by eligibility for free or reduced-price meals under the National  
25 School Lunch Act as determined on October 1 of each previous school year and  
26 submitted to the ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary  
27 Education, unless the school district is identified by the ~~Department of~~  
28 ~~Education~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary Education as participating in  
29 the special assistance certification and reimbursement alternative  
30 implemented under 42 U.S.C. § 1759a, as interpreted in 7 C.F.R. § 245.9.

31

32 SECTION 1457. Arkansas Code § 6-17-811(c)(2), concerning incentives  
33 for teacher recruitment and retention in high-priority districts, is amended  
34 to read as follows:

35 (2) The superintendent of the high-priority district where the  
36 teacher is employed shall certify in writing to the ~~department~~ division that

1 the teacher has completed all contractual obligations for the school year.

2  
3 SECTION 1458. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 6-17-  
4 811(d), concerning incentives for teacher recruitment and retention in high-  
5 priority districts, is amended to read as follows:

6 (d) The ~~department~~ division shall:

7  
8 SECTION 1459. Arkansas Code § 6-17-811(e)(2), concerning incentives  
9 for teacher recruitment and retention in high-priority districts, is amended  
10 to read as follows:

11 (2) If the funds appropriated and available for the payment of  
12 the bonuses under this section are insufficient to pay the maximum bonus  
13 amounts to each qualifying teacher, the ~~department~~ division shall distribute  
14 the available funding to qualified teachers on a pro rata basis.

15  
16 SECTION 1460. Arkansas Code § 6-17-812(a)(4), concerning compensation  
17 for teaching more than the maximum number of students, is amended to read as  
18 follows:

19 (4)(A) Except when a teacher teaches a course that lends itself  
20 to large group instruction, as defined by the ~~Department of Education~~  
21 Division of Elementary and Secondary Education, the maximum number of  
22 students a teacher in grades five through twelve (5-12) is permitted to teach  
23 without receiving additional compensation under this section shall not exceed  
24 one hundred fifty (150) students per day.

25 (B) The ~~department~~ division shall include in the Standards  
26 for Accreditation of Arkansas Public Schools and School Districts the maximum  
27 number of students under subdivision (a)(4)(A) of this section.

28  
29 SECTION 1461. Arkansas Code § 6-17-812(e), concerning compensation for  
30 teaching more than the maximum number of students, is amended to read as  
31 follows:

32 (e)(1) The ~~department~~ division shall promulgate rules to implement  
33 this section.

34 (2) The rules promulgated by the ~~department~~ division shall  
35 include without limitation the manner in which students in grades five (5)  
36 and six (6) are to be counted for the purposes of this section.

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SECTION 1462. Arkansas Code § 6-17-907(f), concerning school district funds, is amended to read as follows:

(f) The county treasurer shall credit all the various federal funds to the consolidated federal grants fund unless otherwise specifically designated by the ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary Education.

SECTION 1463. Arkansas Code § 6-17-907(k), concerning school district funds, is amended to read as follows:

(k) The county treasurer may request representatives of Arkansas Legislative Audit or of the ~~department~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary Education to assist in establishing and crediting the various percentages of revenue to the respective funds.

SECTION 1464. Arkansas Code § 6-17-913(b), concerning audits of school districts accounts, is amended to read as follows:

(b) Where audits are made by a certified public accountant, a certified copy of the audit shall be distributed to the school district, the Department of Finance and Administration, the ~~Department~~ Division of Career and Technical Education, and the ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary Education.

SECTION 1465. Arkansas Code § 6-17-919(b), concerning void warrants unless a valid license and contract exist, is amended to read as follows:

(b)(1) The school district superintendent and the superintendent's surety shall be liable for any warrants that he or she countersigns in payment of teachers' salaries unless and until the state board has issued a valid license or the ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary Education has provided the documentation required by subdivision (a)(1)(B) of this section.

(2) An online copy that is accessible on a website designated by the ~~department~~ division is sufficient evidence of the issuance of a valid license or the documentation required by subdivision (a)(1)(B) of this section.

1 SECTION 1466. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 6-17-  
2 1113(a)(1), concerning the School Worker Defense Program, is amended to read  
3 as follows:

4 (a)(1) The ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and  
5 Secondary Education shall establish a School Worker Defense Program for the  
6 protection under subdivision (a)(2) of this section of:

7  
8 SECTION 1467. Arkansas Code § 6-17-1113(c)(2), concerning the School  
9 Worker Defense Program, is amended to read as follows:

10 (2) Any school districts previously covered by or moneys  
11 expended pursuant to the self-insurance program of the ~~department~~ division or  
12 the School Worker Defense Program shall be deemed a proper expenditure of  
13 state funds.

14  
15 SECTION 1468. Arkansas Code § 6-17-1113(e), concerning the School  
16 Worker Defense Program, is amended to read as follows:

17 (e)(1) The defense fund and protection program authorized in this  
18 section shall be a part of and administered by the ~~department~~ division.

19 (2) The ~~department~~ division shall adopt appropriate rules and  
20 regulations necessary to carry out the purposes of this section.

21  
22 SECTION 1469. Arkansas Code § 6-17-1113(f), concerning the School  
23 Worker Defense Program, is amended to read as follows:

24 (f) Any person entitled to payment under the program may appeal the  
25 decision of the ~~department~~ division to the advisory board.

26  
27 SECTION 1470. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 6-17-1114  
28 is amended to read as follows:

29 It is the duty of the State and Public School Life and Health Insurance  
30 Board, the Supervisor of the Public School Employees Insurance Section and  
31 the insurance section employees, the ~~Department of Education~~ Division of  
32 Elementary and Secondary Education, and each public school district and their  
33 officers and employees:

34  
35 SECTION 1471. Arkansas Code § 6-17-1117(b), concerning health  
36 insurance provided by the school district, is amended to read as follows:

1 (b)(1)(A) ~~The Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and  
2 Secondary Education shall pay the Employee Benefits Division ~~of the~~  
3 ~~Department of Finance and Administration~~ a minimum of sixty-one dollars  
4 (\$61.00) per month for each eligible employee electing to participate in the  
5 public school employees' health insurance program administered by the State  
6 and Public School Life and Health Insurance Board.

7 (B) ~~The Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and  
8 Secondary Education shall make the total contributions under subdivision  
9 (b)(1)(A) of this section by transferring fifty-five million dollars  
10 (\$55,000,000) to the ~~division~~ Employee Benefits Division in twelve (12) equal  
11 monthly installments.

12 (2) The funds provided to the ~~division~~ Employee Benefits  
13 Division under this subsection shall be administered by the board for the  
14 benefit of the employee participants of the public school employees' health  
15 insurance program.

16 (3)(A) In the event that appropriation or funding is not  
17 provided, the ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary  
18 Education shall not be responsible for the increased payments for the public  
19 school employees' health insurance program as established by this section.

20 (B) If funding and appropriation are provided but are  
21 inadequate for the total number of employees electing to participate in the  
22 public school employees' health insurance program, the ~~Department of~~  
23 ~~Education~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary Education shall pay a  
24 proportional share on behalf of each participant.

25 (C) If funding and appropriation are provided and exceed  
26 the amount needed to make the minimum contribution under subdivision  
27 (b)(1)(A) of this section, the ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary  
28 and Secondary Education shall pay a proportional share of the excess on  
29 behalf of each participant.

30  
31 SECTION 1472. Arkansas Code § 6-17-1118(a)(6) and (7), concerning the  
32 creation of the School Worker Defense Program Advisory Board, are amended to  
33 read as follows:

34 (6) The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and  
35 Administration or his or her designee; and

36 (7)(A) The Commissioner of Elementary and Secondary Education or

1 his or her designee.

2 (B) Provided, however, no employee of the ~~Department of~~  
3 ~~Education~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary Education who is charged with  
4 administering the defense fund and protection program shall be eligible to  
5 serve as the designee of the commissioner.

6

7 SECTION 1473. Arkansas Code § 6-17-1118(e), concerning the creation of  
8 the School Worker Defense Program Advisory Board, is amended to read as  
9 follows:

10 (e)(1) The ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and  
11 Secondary Education may promulgate rules and regulations as necessary for the  
12 proper administration of this section to establish an advisory board.

13 (2) The ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and  
14 Secondary Education shall provide support staff for the advisory board.

15

16 SECTION 1474. Arkansas Code § 6-17-1405 is amended to read as follows:

17 6-17-1405. Notification of award – Transfer of available federal  
18 funds.

19 (a) Upon making any award to or in behalf of an employee of any school  
20 district, the Workers' Compensation Commission shall notify the appropriate  
21 officer of the school district and shall notify the ~~Department of Education~~  
22 Division of Elementary and Secondary Education.

23 (b) If the salary or compensation of the employee in whose behalf the  
24 award was made is paid wholly or partly from federal funds, the ~~department~~  
25 division is authorized to transfer funds from the federal funds available for  
26 the program under which such employee was paid to the Public School Fund to  
27 reimburse the Public School Fund for funds transferred to the Workers'  
28 Compensation Revolving Fund as provided for in this subchapter.

29

30 SECTION 1475. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 6-17-  
31 1602(e)(1), concerning the creation of the Master School Principal Program,  
32 is amended to read as follows:

33 (e)(1) The ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and  
34 Secondary Education and the academy shall:

35

36 SECTION 1476. Arkansas Code § 6-17-1603 is amended to read as follows

1 6-17-1603. Yearly incentive bonus.

2 (a) The ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary  
3 Education shall promulgate rules and regulations for the nine thousand dollar  
4 (\$9,000) yearly incentive bonus provided under this section for principals  
5 receiving master school principal status.

6 (b) The ~~department~~ division shall pay a yearly incentive bonus of nine  
7 thousand dollars (\$9,000) for every school year for no more than five (5)  
8 years to any building-level principal who:

9 (1) Receives a master school principal designation from the  
10 Arkansas Leadership Academy; and

11 (2) At the time of receiving the bonus, is employed full time as  
12 a building-level principal in an Arkansas public school district.

13  
14 SECTION 1477. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 6-17-  
15 1604(b)(1), concerning high-need school salary bonus and hold-back longevity,  
16 is amended to read as follows:

17 (b)(1) The ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and  
18 Secondary Education shall pay a high-need school salary bonus of twenty-five  
19 thousand dollars (\$25,000) for every school year for no more than five (5)  
20 years to any building-level principal who:

21  
22 SECTION 1478. Arkansas Code § 6-17-1702(1), concerning the definition  
23 of "employee" under the Public School Employee Fair Hearing Act, is amended  
24 to read as follows:

25 (1) "Employee" means any person employed by a school district  
26 under a written annual contract who is not required to have an educator  
27 license issued by the ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and  
28 Secondary Education as a condition of employment;

29  
30 SECTION 1479. Arkansas Code § 6-17-1901(d), concerning the minority  
31 teacher and administrator recruitment plan, is amended to read as follows:

32 (d) The plan shall be a part of the equity assistance plan filed  
33 annually with the Equity Assistance Center of the ~~Department of Education~~  
34 Division of Elementary and Secondary Education and shall be updated annually  
35 for an additional ten (10) years.

36

1 SECTION 1480. Arkansas Code § 6-17-1902(a), concerning the Equity  
2 Assistance Center and the coordination and contents plan, is amended to read  
3 as follows:

4 (a) The Equity Assistance Center of the ~~Department of Education~~  
5 Division of Elementary and Secondary Education shall provide technical  
6 assistance to the school districts in developing recruitment plans.  
7

8 SECTION 1481. Arkansas Code § 6-17-2205(2), concerning paid breaks for  
9 certain classified school district employees, is amended to read as follows:

10 (2) Each school district shall file an affidavit for compliance  
11 with the ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary  
12 Education regarding the Fair Labor Standards Act, 29 U.S.C. § 201 et seq.,  
13 for classified employees unless the school district policies or state laws  
14 impose higher standards.  
15

16 SECTION 1482. Arkansas Code § 6-17-2206(a)(1), concerning highly  
17 qualified paraprofessional bonuses provided by the Department of Education,  
18 is amended to read as follows:

19 (a)(1) The purpose of this section is to provide a bonus from the  
20 ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary Education in  
21 recognition of the efforts made by paraprofessional employees who attain  
22 highly qualified status.  
23

24 SECTION 1483. Arkansas Code § 6-17-2301(d)(2), concerning policy  
25 requirements for each school district, is amended to read as follows:

26 (2) By September 15 of each year, a school district shall  
27 provide the ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary  
28 Education with the website address at which its current personnel policies  
29 for classified employees, including the salary schedule, may be found.  
30

31 SECTION 1484. Arkansas Code § 6-17-2301(e), concerning policy  
32 requirements for each school district, is amended to read as follows:

33 (e) The ~~department~~ division shall notify any school district that has  
34 not posted its policies on the school district website or provided the  
35 ~~department~~ division with the website address in accordance with this section.  
36

1 SECTION 1485. Arkansas Code § 6-17-2302(b)(1), concerning the  
2 definition of "classified employee" under the Personnel Policy Law for  
3 Classified Employees, is amended to read as follows:

4 (1) "Classified employee" means any person employed by a school  
5 district under a written annual contract who is not required to have a  
6 teaching license issued by the ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary  
7 and Secondary Education as a condition of employment;

8  
9 SECTION 1486. Arkansas Code § 6-17-2402(3)(A), concerning the Teacher  
10 Compensation Program, is amended to read as follows:

11 (A) An individual who is required to hold a teaching  
12 license from the ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary  
13 Education and who is engaged directly in instruction with students in a  
14 classroom setting for more than seventy percent (70%) of the individual's  
15 contracted time;

16  
17 SECTION 1487. Arkansas Code § 6-17-2403(c)(1)(A), concerning minimum  
18 teacher compensation schedules, is amended to read as follows:

19 (A) Public school accredited by the ~~Department of~~  
20 ~~Education~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary Education or a nationally  
21 recognized accrediting association;

22  
23 SECTION 1488. Arkansas Cod-e § 6-17-2403(d)(2), concerning minimum  
24 teacher compensation schedules, is amended to read as follows:

25 (2) The minimum teacher compensation schedule for a part-time  
26 teacher or part-time paraprofessional employed by a school district to work  
27 in an adult education program shall be established by the Adult Education  
28 Section of the ~~Department of Career Education~~ Division of Workforce Services  
29 and approved by the ~~Career Education and Workforce Development Board~~ Director  
30 of the Division of Workforce Services.

31  
32 SECTION 1489. Arkansas Code § 6-17-2406(c), concerning the  
33 applicability of teacher salary schedules and low income status, is amended  
34 to read as follows:

35 (c) The Civilian Student Training Program or the Arkansas National  
36 Guard Youth Challenge Program may be designated by the ~~Department of~~

1 ~~Education~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary Education as a low-income  
2 school, and receive the benefits of such designation if the Civilian Student  
3 Training Program or the Arkansas National Guard Youth Challenge Program meets  
4 the low-income school criteria.

5  
6 SECTION 1490. Arkansas Code § 6-17-2502(2), concerning the definition  
7 of "in residence" under the Arkansas Teacher of the Year Act, is amended to  
8 read as follows:

9 (2) "In residence" means working exclusively with the ~~Department~~  
10 ~~of Education~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary Education at a location  
11 agreed upon between the ~~department~~ division and the Arkansas Teacher of the  
12 Year;

13  
14 SECTION 1491. Arkansas Code § 6-17-2503(a)(1), concerning the Arkansas  
15 Teacher of the Year Program, is amended to read as follows:

16 (a)(1) The ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and  
17 Secondary Education shall develop a process for selecting the Arkansas  
18 Teacher of the Year.

19  
20 SECTION 1492. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 6-17-  
21 2503(e)(1), concerning the Arkansas Teacher of the Year Program, is amended  
22 to read as follows:

23 (1) Work in residence with the ~~department~~ division to:

24  
25 SECTION 1493. Arkansas Code § 6-17-2503(f), concerning the Arkansas  
26 Teacher of the Year Program, is amended to read as follows:

27 (f) During the school year in which a school district's Arkansas  
28 Teacher of the Year is on paid administrative leave, the ~~department~~ division  
29 shall reimburse the school district as provided in § 6-17-2505.

30  
31 SECTION 1494. Arkansas Code § 6-17-2505 is amended to read as follows:  
32 6-17-2505. ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and  
33 Secondary Education responsibility.

34 (a) During the school year in which a school district's Arkansas  
35 Teacher of the Year is on paid administrative leave, the ~~Department of~~  
36 ~~Education~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary Education shall reimburse the

1 school district for:

2 (1) The teacher's salary and benefits; and

3 (2)(A) Incidental expenses incurred by the teacher as a result  
4 of his or her participation in the Arkansas Teacher of the Year Program.

5 (B) All incidental expenses shall be approved by the  
6 ~~department~~ division.

7 (b) The ~~department~~ division shall be responsible for the reimbursement  
8 of any incidental expenses incurred by the teacher during the implementation  
9 of the program for the current year.

10 (c) The ~~department~~ division may receive private donations, grants, or  
11 other forms of assistance to help fund any aspect of the program.

12 (d) The State Board of Education shall promulgate rules as necessary  
13 to administer the provisions of this section.

14

15 SECTION 1495. Arkansas Code § 6-17-2602(1)(D), concerning the lifetime  
16 teaching license, is amended to read as follows:

17 (D) The ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and  
18 Secondary Education;

19

20 SECTION 1496. Arkansas Code § 6-17-2604(a), concerning the lifetime  
21 teaching license, is amended to read as follows:

22 (a) A person who meets the eligibility requirements of § 6-17-2603 may  
23 apply for a lifetime teaching license by filing an application with the  
24 ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary Education.

25

26 SECTION 1497. Arkansas Code § 6-17-2606 is amended to read as follows:  
27 6-17-2606. Rules – Reports.

28 The ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary  
29 Education shall:

30 (1) Develop rules to implement the provisions of this  
31 subchapter; and

32 (2) Report annually to the General Assembly regarding compliance  
33 with each item set forth in this subchapter.

34

35 SECTION 1498. Arkansas Code § 6-17-2702(a), concerning the  
36 determination of eligibility for teachers to receive a supplemental grant

1 from the Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math Fund, is amended to read  
2 as follows:

3 (a) The Arkansas Economic Development Commission, in coordination with  
4 the ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary Education,  
5 shall promulgate rules governing the eligibility of teachers of science,  
6 technology, engineering, or math to receive a supplemental grant from the  
7 Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math Fund.

8

9 SECTION 1499. Arkansas Code § 6-17-2703(b), concerning the application  
10 process for the Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math Fund, is amended  
11 to read as follows:

12 (b) Selection and identification of qualified science, technology,  
13 engineering, and math teachers shall be coordinated with the ~~Department of~~  
14 ~~Education~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary Education for identification  
15 of qualified science, technology, engineering, and math teachers.

16

17 SECTION 1500. Arkansas Code § 6-17-2703(f), concerning the application  
18 process for the Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math Fund, is amended  
19 to read as follows:

20 (f) The commission shall review the applications in accordance with  
21 rules promulgated by the commission in coordination with the ~~department~~  
22 division to determine if the applicant qualifies for a supplemental grant  
23 from the fund.

24

25 SECTION 1501. Arkansas Code § 6-17-2804(b)(10)(B), concerning the  
26 administrative agency responsibilities of the Teacher Excellence and Support  
27 System, is amended to read as follows:

28 (B) The raw data reported to and collected by the  
29 ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary Education for  
30 the purposes of this section, including all or part of the raw data that the  
31 ~~department~~ division provides to an expert outside the ~~department~~ division for  
32 analysis, is exempt from disclosure under the Freedom of Information Act of  
33 1967, § 25-19-101 et seq.

34

35 SECTION 1502. Arkansas Code § 6-17-2809(a), concerning the system of  
36 administrator leadership support and evaluations, is amended to read as

1 follows:

2 (a)(1) The ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and  
3 Secondary Education shall design a system of administrator leadership support  
4 and evaluations that:

5 (A) Is aligned to current leadership standards adopted by  
6 the State Board of Education;

7 (B) Uses multi-tiered systems of professional support and  
8 learning for what a leader should know and be able to do; and

9 (C) Provides a research-based framework to conduct  
10 administrator evaluations.

11 (2) The ~~department~~ division may collaborate with state and  
12 national school leadership organizations and institutions of higher education  
13 with school leadership preparation programs to develop the system.

14

15 SECTION 1503. Arkansas Code § 6-18-102(f), concerning legislative  
16 findings regarding school uniform policy, is amended to read as follows:

17 (f) The ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary  
18 Education and education service cooperatives shall, when possible, assist  
19 public schools by providing information regarding uniform dress codes upon  
20 request from public school administrators.

21

22 SECTION 1504. Arkansas Code § 6-18-103(c), concerning selective  
23 service registration, is amended to read as follows:

24 (c) The ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary  
25 Education shall issue rules and regulations to ensure compliance with the  
26 provisions of this section.

27

28 SECTION 1505. Arkansas Code § 6-18-105 is amended to read as follows:

29 6-18-105. Skills and knowledge for preparation of kindergarten  
30 children.

31 (a)(1) ~~By December 31, 2003, the~~ The Department of Education shall  
32 determine and prepare a list of the skills and knowledge that a child should  
33 have in order to be prepared to enter kindergarten.

34 (2) The list shall be prepared in a manner that will assist  
35 parents in preparing their children for kindergarten.

36 (b)(1) The list shall be available to parents on the ~~Department of~~

1 ~~Education's~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary Education's website and from  
2 the ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary Education by  
3 mail if requested.

4 (2) The ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and  
5 Secondary Education shall make reasonable efforts to have the list of skills  
6 published in the Happy Birthday Baby Book.

7 (c)(1) The Department of Human Services shall provide copies of the  
8 list to child care facilities licensed by the Division of Child Care and  
9 Early Childhood Education.

10 (2) ~~By December 31, 2003, the~~ The Department of Human Services  
11 shall adopt rules and regulations requiring child care facilities licensed by  
12 the ~~division~~ Division of Child Care and Early Childhood Education each year  
13 to distribute the list to the parent of each three-year-old child, four-year-  
14 old child, and five-year-old child attending the child care facility.

15 (d) Nothing in this section shall be construed to require a child to  
16 have a certain level of skill or knowledge before enrolling in kindergarten.

17  
18 SECTION 1506. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 6-18-  
19 107(b), concerning the enrollment of military dependents in school, is  
20 amended to read as follows:

21 (b) The ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary  
22 Education shall require a public school to report the enrollment of a student  
23 who is a military dependent:

24  
25 SECTION 1507. Arkansas Code § 6-18-109(a)(1)(B), concerning the  
26 Student Online Personal Information Protection Act, is amended to read as  
27 follows:

28 (B) Created or provided by an employee or agent of a  
29 public school, school district, local education agency, or ~~Department of~~  
30 ~~Education~~ the Division of Elementary and Secondary Education to the operator  
31 for public school purposes; or

32  
33 SECTION 1508. Arkansas Code § 6-18-109(a)(2)(B), concerning the  
34 Student Online Personal Information Protection Act, is amended to read as  
35 follows:

36 (B) An operator does not include the ~~Department of~~

1 ~~Education~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary Education, a school district,  
2 or an open-enrollment public charter school;

3  
4 SECTION 1509. Arkansas Code § 6-18-109(f)(2)(B), concerning the  
5 Student Online Personal Information Act, is amended to read as follows:

6 (B) As allowed by federal or state law and under the  
7 direction of a school, school district, or the ~~department~~ division if no  
8 covered information is used for advertising or to compile a profile of a  
9 public school student; or

10  
11 SECTION 1510. Arkansas Code § 6-18-202(e)(5)(B), concerning age and  
12 residence for attending public schools, is amended to read as follows:

13 (B) The appeal shall be made to the ~~Department of~~  
14 Education Division of Elementary and Secondary Education.

15  
16 SECTION 1511. Arkansas Code § 6-18-202(e)(6)(A) and (B), concerning  
17 age and residence for attending public schools, are amended to read as  
18 follows:

19 (6)(A) The ~~department~~ division shall promulgate rules to  
20 establish the procedure for a ~~department~~ division hearing officer to  
21 investigate the appeal and conduct a hearing.

22 (B) The ~~department~~ division hearing officer may compel  
23 disclosure of information from both of the school districts in his or her  
24 duties.

25  
26 SECTION 1512. Arkansas Code § 6-18-204(b)(5)(B), concerning school  
27 attendance in another school district and conditions, is amended to read as  
28 follows:

29 (B) The amount of tuition shall be agreed upon by both  
30 districts before enrollment in the receiving district, except that if an  
31 agreement cannot be reached by the opening date of the receiving school, an  
32 appeal shall be made to the Assistant Director for Public School Finance and  
33 Administrative Support of the ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary  
34 and Secondary Education within thirty (30) days from the opening date of  
35 school, and his or her decision shall be final.

36

1 SECTION 1513. Arkansas Code § 6-18-205(b)(1)(B)(i), concerning school  
2 attendance in another school district and liability, is amended to read as  
3 follows:

4 (B)(i) Either school district may petition the ~~Department~~  
5 ~~of Education~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary Education to satisfy the  
6 liability by transferring that amount to the entitled school district from  
7 funds which the ~~department~~ division would have distributed to the liable  
8 school district.

9  
10 SECTION 1514. Arkansas Code § 6-18-208(a), concerning requirements for  
11 enrollment in public school and exceptions, is amended to read as follows:

12 (a) Before a child's admission to an Arkansas public school, a school  
13 district shall request the parent, guardian, or other responsible person to  
14 furnish the child's Social Security number and shall inform the parent,  
15 guardian, or other responsible person that, in the alternative, they may  
16 request that the school district assign the child a nine-digit number  
17 designated by the ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and  
18 Secondary Education.

19  
20 SECTION 1515. Arkansas Code § 6-18-208(d)(2), concerning requirements  
21 for enrollment in public school and exceptions, is amended to read as  
22 follows:

23 (2) This section shall not apply to educational records that are  
24 transferred to or between the ~~department~~ division, other public schools or  
25 school districts, or other governmental agencies as allowed or required by  
26 federal law, state law, or State Board of Education rule.

27  
28 SECTION 1516. Arkansas Code § 6-18-213(a)(1), concerning school  
29 attendance records and reports, is amended to read as follows:

30 (a)(1) A record of pupil attendance shall be kept by each school  
31 district of the state in a format prescribed by the ~~Department of Education~~  
32 Division of Elementary and Secondary Education.

33  
34 SECTION 1517. Arkansas Code § 6-18-215(c) and (d), concerning a school  
35 enrollment census and determining student dropout rates, are amended to read  
36 as follows:

1 (c) The graduation rates, as defined by the ~~Department of Education~~  
2 Division of Elementary and Secondary Education, shall be tracked for students  
3 in grades nine through twelve (9-12).

4 (d) The ~~department~~ division shall use this section for in-state  
5 reporting purposes related to school dropout rates.

6  
7 SECTION 1518. Arkansas Code § 6-18-227(b)(1)(B), concerning the  
8 Arkansas Opportunity Public School Choice Act of 2004, is amended to read as  
9 follows:

10 (B) The parent, guardian, or the student, if the student  
11 is over eighteen (18) years of age, has notified the ~~Department of Education~~  
12 Division of Elementary and Secondary Education and both the sending and  
13 receiving school districts of the request for a transfer no later than July  
14 30 of the first year in which the student intends to transfer.

15  
16 SECTION 1519. Arkansas Code § 6-18-227(b)(2)(B), concerning the  
17 Arkansas Opportunity Public School Choice Act of 2004, is amended to read as  
18 follows:

19 (B) Application for the opportunity public school choice  
20 option shall be provided by the ~~department~~ division, shall contain a notice  
21 that a transfer under this subsection shall operate as an irrevocable choice  
22 for at least one (1) entire school year, and shall remain in force until the  
23 student completes high school as provided in this subsection except as  
24 otherwise provided by law.

25  
26 SECTION 1520. Arkansas Code § 6-18-227(d)(4), concerning the Arkansas  
27 Opportunity Public School Choice Act of 2004, is amended to read as follows:

28 (4) The ~~department~~ division shall promulgate rules governing the  
29 use of school capacity as a basis for denying admission under this section.

30  
31 SECTION 1521. Arkansas Code § 6-18-227(f), concerning the Arkansas  
32 Opportunity Public School Choice Act of 2004, is amended to read as follows:

33 (f) The ~~department~~ division shall develop an annual report on the  
34 status of school choice and deliver the report to the state board, the  
35 Governor, and the Legislative Council at least ninety (90) days before the  
36 convening of the regular session of the General Assembly.

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SECTION 1522. Arkansas Code § 6-18-227(j)(1)-(3), concerning the Arkansas Opportunity Public School Choice Act of 2004, are amended to read as follows:

(j)(1) All school districts shall report to the ~~department~~ division on an annual basis the race, gender, and other pertinent information needed to properly monitor compliance with the provisions of this section.

(2) The reports may be on those forms that are prescribed by the ~~department~~ division, or the data may be submitted electronically by the district using a format authorized by the ~~department~~ division.

(3) The ~~department~~ division may put on probation the superintendent of any school district that fails to file its report each year or fails to file any other information with a published deadline requested from school districts by the ~~department~~ division so long as thirty (30) calendar days are given between the request for the information and the published deadline.

(4) A copy of the report shall be provided to the House Committee on Education and the Senate Committee on Education.

SECTION 1523. Arkansas Code § 6-18-230(b)(2)(B), concerning the minimum age for enrolling in prekindergarten, is amended to read as follows:

(B) ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary Education.

SECTION 1524. Arkansas Code § 6-18-233(c)(2)(B), concerning school choices for children in foster care, is amended to read as follows:

(B) If a public school district claims a conflict under subdivision (c)(2)(A) of this section, the public school district shall immediately submit proof from a federal court to the ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary Education that the public school district has a genuine conflict under an active desegregation order or active court-approved desegregation plan with the provisions of this section.

SECTION 1525. Arkansas Code § 6-18-233(d)(1)(A), concerning school choices for children in foster care, is amended to read as follows:

(A) Made on a form approved by the ~~Department of Education~~

1 Division of Elementary and Secondary Education; and

2  
3 SECTION 1526. Arkansas Code § 6-18-233(k), concerning school choices  
4 for children in foster care, is amended to read as follows:

5 (k) The ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary  
6 Education shall promulgate rules to implement this section.

7  
8  
9 SECTION 1527. Arkansas Code § 6-18-316(b) and (c), concerning the  
10 transfer of a student on a petition, are amended to read as follows:

11 (b) Forms for use in transferring children from one (1) school  
12 district to another shall be provided by the ~~Department of Education~~ Division  
13 of Elementary and Secondary Education.

14 (c) After the petition has been approved by the board of directors of  
15 the resident district and the board of directors of the receiving district,  
16 copies of approved transfers shall be filed by the receiving district with  
17 the office of the county clerk, with the administrative offices of the  
18 respective school districts, and with the ~~department~~ division.

19  
20 SECTION 1528. Arkansas Code § 6-18-317(b) and (c), concerning  
21 prohibited student transfers, are amended to read as follows:

22 (b) Each form filed with the ~~Department of Education~~ Division of  
23 Elementary and Secondary Education reporting a legal student transfer must be  
24 accompanied by an affidavit signed by each member of both school district  
25 boards of directors stating that the transfer does not violate the  
26 prohibition set forth in subsection (a) of this section.

27 (c) If the transfer fails to comply with subsection (b) of this  
28 section, the ~~department~~ division shall withhold from each district state aid  
29 in an amount equal to that to be generated by the student in question in the  
30 respective districts.

31  
32 SECTION 1529. Arkansas Code § 6-18-319(c), concerning proper contacts  
33 of a transfer student, is amended to read as follows:

34 (c) A school district from which the student transferred has the right  
35 to appeal the transfer of the student to the ~~Department of Education~~ Division  
36 of Elementary and Secondary Education. The school district to which the

1 student transferred and the parents or guardian of the student shall have the  
2 burden to prove the transfer was proper.

3  
4 SECTION 1530. Arkansas Code § 6-18-502(a), concerning the guidelines  
5 for development of school district student discipline polices, is amended to  
6 read as follows:

7 (a) The ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary  
8 Education shall establish guidelines for the development of school district  
9 student discipline policies.

10  
11 SECTION 1531. Arkansas Code § 6-18-502(h), concerning the guidelines  
12 for development of school district student discipline polices, is amended to  
13 read as follows:

14 (h) In developing the state guidelines for school district discipline  
15 policies, the ~~department~~ division shall involve parents, students, teachers,  
16 and administrators.

17  
18 SECTION 1532. Arkansas Code § 6-18-503(a)(1)(A), concerning the  
19 requirement of written student discipline policies, is amended to read as  
20 follows:

21 (a)(1)(A) Each school district in this state shall develop written  
22 student discipline policies in compliance with the guidelines established by  
23 the ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary Education  
24 and shall file such policies with the ~~department~~ division.

25  
26 SECTION 1533. Arkansas Code § 6-18-503(d) and (e), concerning the  
27 requirement of written student discipline policies, are amended to read as  
28 follows:

29 (d) Any amendments or revisions to a school district's student  
30 discipline policies shall be developed and adopted in the same manner as the  
31 original policies required by § 6-18-502 and shall be consistent with the  
32 guidelines established by the ~~department~~ division.

33 (e) Any amendment or revision to the student discipline policies  
34 adopted by a school district shall be submitted to the ~~department~~ division  
35 within thirty (30) days after the adoption of such amendment or revision.

36

1 SECTION 1534. Arkansas Code § 6-18-504(a) and (b), concerning  
2 compliance with §§ 6-18-502 and 6-18-503, is amended to read as follows:

3 6-18-504. Compliance with §§ 6-18-502 and 6-18-503.

4 (a) The ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary  
5 Education shall monitor compliance with the requirements of §§ 6-18-502 and  
6 6-18-503, and the State Board of Education shall adopt rules and regulations  
7 for the administration of the requirements thereof.

8 (b) Any school district failing to file the disciplinary policy  
9 required by § 6-18-503 with the ~~department~~ division shall have all state aid  
10 funds withheld until such disciplinary policy is filed with the ~~department~~  
11 division.

12  
13 SECTION 1535. Arkansas Code § 6-18-506(b), concerning the School  
14 Dismissal Act, is amended to read as follows:

15 (b) Every school district board of directors shall adopt and file with  
16 the ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary Education  
17 written policies concerning the violation of school standards such as  
18 disrespect for teachers and classified school employees, vandalism, and other  
19 undesirable behavioral patterns.

20  
21 SECTION 1536. Arkansas Code § 6-18-506(e), concerning the School  
22 Dismissal Act, is amended to read as follows:

23 (e) The policy may be revised at any time by filing an updated policy  
24 with the ~~department~~ division.

25  
26 SECTION 1537. Arkansas Code § 6-18-507(a)(3), concerning the  
27 suspension or expulsion of a student, is amended to read as follows:

28 (3) "Nontraditional scheduling" means block or other alternative  
29 scheduling as defined by the ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary  
30 and Secondary Education; and

31  
32 SECTION 1538. Arkansas Code § 6-18-507(e)(3)(B), concerning the  
33 suspension or expulsion of a student, is amended to read as follows:

34 (B) The principal of each school shall report within a week to  
35 the ~~department~~ division the name, current address, and Social Security number  
36 of any student who is expelled for possessing a firearm or other prohibited

1 weapon on school property or for committing other acts of violence.

2  
3 SECTION 1539. Arkansas Code § 6-18-507(e)(4)(A), concerning the  
4 suspension or expulsion of a student, is amended to read as follows:

5 (4)(A) The ~~department~~ division shall establish and maintain a  
6 registry of students who are expelled for possessing a firearm or other  
7 prohibited weapon on school property or for committing other acts of  
8 violence.

9  
10 SECTION 1540. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 6-18-  
11 511(d)(1), concerning the removal of a student from class, is amended to read  
12 as follows:

13 (d)(1) If a teacher removes a student from class two (2) times during  
14 any nine-week grading period or its equivalent as determined by the  
15 ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary Education, the  
16 principal or the principal's designee may not return the student to the  
17 teacher's class unless a conference is held for the purpose of determining  
18 the causes of the problem and possible solutions, with the following  
19 individuals present:

20  
21 SECTION 1541. Arkansas Code § 6-18-514(i), concerning antibullying  
22 policies, is amended to read as follows:

23 (i) The school district shall provide the ~~Department of Education~~  
24 Division of Elementary and Secondary Education with the website address at  
25 which a copy of the policies adopted in compliance with this section may be  
26 found.

27  
28 SECTION 1542. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 6-18-  
29 516(b)(1), concerning effective school discipline, is amended to read as  
30 follows:

31 (b)(1) Annually, the ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary  
32 and Secondary Education shall report at the school, school district, and  
33 state level the following data concerning exclusionary disciplinary actions,  
34 in-school suspensions, and corporal punishment:

35  
36 SECTION 1543. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 6-18-

1 516(b)(2), concerning effective school discipline, is amended to read as  
2 follows:

3 (2) The ~~department~~ division shall report exclusionary  
4 disciplinary actions by both:

5  
6 SECTION 1544. Arkansas Code § 6-18-516(c), concerning effective school  
7 discipline, is amended to read as follows:

8 (c) The ~~department~~ division shall report the data required in  
9 subsection (b) of this section:

10 (1) On the website of the ~~department~~ division to the extent that  
11 publication is consistent with the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act,  
12 20 U.S.C. § 1232g; and

13 (2) In a manner that reflects historical trends and allows for  
14 the comparison of schools and school districts.

15  
16 SECTION 1545. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 6-18-  
17 516(d), concerning effective school discipline, is amended to read as  
18 follows:

19 (d) The ~~department~~ division shall:

20  
21 SECTION 1546. Arkansas Code § 6-18-516(e), concerning effective school  
22 discipline, is amended to read as follows:

23 (e) The ~~department~~ division, or researcher identified by the  
24 ~~department~~ division, shall provide an annual report to the State Board of  
25 Education analyzing disciplinary infractions, disciplinary actions, and  
26 disciplinary disparities existing throughout the state.

27  
28 SECTION 1547. Arkansas Code § 6-18-705(c), concerning the school  
29 breakfast program, is amended to read as follows:

30 (c) The ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary  
31 Education may promulgate rules and regulations necessary for implementation  
32 of this section in compliance with federal guidelines.

33  
34 SECTION 1548. Arkansas Code § 6-18-705(d)(2), concerning the school  
35 breakfast program, is amended to read as follows:

36 (2) In any high school under the requirements of this section,

1 if fifty percent (50%) or more of the eligible students refuse to participate  
2 in the school breakfast program during any year of the program as  
3 demonstrated by sufficient proof to the ~~department~~ division, the state board  
4 may grant a waiver from the requirements of this section to the high school.  
5

6 SECTION 1549. Arkansas Code § 6-18-705(e), concerning the school  
7 breakfast program, is amended to read as follows:

8 (e) The ~~department~~ division is hereby authorized to withhold state  
9 equalization aid from any school district that fails to comply with the  
10 provisions of this section.  
11

12 SECTION 1550. Arkansas Code § 6-18-707(c)(1), concerning a  
13 prescription asthma inhaler or auto-injectable epinephrine, is amended to  
14 read as follows:

15 (c)(1) The ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and  
16 Secondary Education shall develop guidelines for use in school districts that  
17 allow a student to carry and use an asthma inhaler or auto-injectable  
18 epinephrine, or both, while in school, at an on-site school-sponsored  
19 activity, or at an off-site school-sponsored activity.  
20

21 SECTION 1551. Arkansas Code § 6-18-707(c)(2)(B)(iii), concerning a  
22 prescription asthma inhaler or auto-injectable epinephrine, is amended to  
23 read as follows:

24 (iii) A copy of an individualized healthcare plan  
25 for the student prepared in accordance with § 6-18-1005 and any related rules  
26 of the ~~department~~ division.  
27

28 SECTION 1552. Arkansas Code § 6-18-709(a)(2), concerning the Public  
29 School Health Services Advisory Committee, is amended to read as follows:

30 (2) The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Health shall  
31 appoint:

32 (A) One (1) member to represent the Department of Health;

33 (B) One (1) member to represent the Arkansas State Board  
34 of Nursing;

35 (C) One (1) member to represent the Arkansas Center for  
36 Health Improvement;

1 (D) One (1) member to represent the Child and Adolescent  
2 Health Section of the Department of Health; and

3 (E) One (1) member to represent the Office of Minority  
4 Health and Health Disparities of the Department of Health.

5  
6 SECTION 1553. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 6-18-  
7 709(a)(3), concerning the Public School Health Services Advisory Committee,  
8 is amended to read as follows:

9 (3) The Commissioner of Elementary and Secondary Education shall  
10 appoint:

11  
12 SECTION 1554. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 6-18-  
13 709(a)(3)(A), concerning the Public School Health Services Advisory  
14 Committee, is amended to read as follows:

15 (A) Six (6) members to represent the ~~Department of~~  
16 Education Division of Elementary and Secondary Education as follows:

17  
18 SECTION 1555. Arkansas Code § 6-18-709(a)(3)(G)(ii)(b), concerning the  
19 Public School Health Services Advisory Committee, is amended to read as  
20 follows:

21 (b) The ~~Department of Education~~ Division of  
22 Elementary and Secondary Education; or

23  
24 SECTION 1556. Arkansas Code § 6-18-709(a)(9), concerning the Public  
25 School Health Services Advisory Committee, is amended to read as follows:

26 (9) The ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and  
27 Secondary Education shall provide office space and staff for the Public  
28 School Health Services Advisory Committee.

29  
30 SECTION 1557. Arkansas Code § 6-18-709(f), concerning the Public  
31 School Health Services Advisory Committee, is amended to read as follows:

32 (f)(1) The Public School Health Services Advisory Committee shall  
33 identify the information it needs from public school districts and from  
34 nurses employed by public school districts to conduct the study and  
35 communicate those requests for information to the ~~Department of Education~~  
36 Division of Elementary and Secondary Education in collaboration with the

1 Department of Health.

2 (2)(A) Each public school nurse or individual designated by the  
3 public school shall report the information requested to the ~~Department of~~  
4 ~~Education~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary Education and to the school  
5 board of directors not less than yearly.

6 (B) A school shall continue to report the information  
7 until the Public School Health Services Advisory Committee's term has  
8 expired.

9 (3) The ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and  
10 Secondary Education shall provide the information to the Public School Health  
11 Services Advisory Committee in a manner that protects student privacy under  
12 state and federal laws.

13

14 SECTION 1558. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 6-18-  
15 709(g), concerning the Public School Health Advisory Committee, is amended to  
16 read as follows:

17 (g) Annually, beginning on July 1, 2015, a school district shall  
18 report the following to the ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary  
19 and Secondary Education:

20

21 SECTION 1559. Arkansas Code § 6-18-712(a), concerning posting the  
22 Child Abuse Hotline telephone number in public schools and open-enrollment  
23 charter schools, is amended to read as follows:

24 (a) Each public school and open-enrollment charter school shall post a  
25 sign that contains the toll-free telephone number for the Child Abuse Hotline  
26 established by the Department of Human Services and the ~~Department~~ Division  
27 of Arkansas State Police under § 12-18-301.

28

29 SECTION 1560. Arkansas Code § 6-18-712(d), concerning posting the  
30 Child Abuse Hotline telephone number in public schools and open-enrollment  
31 charter schools, is amended to read as follows:

32 (d)(1) The ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and  
33 Secondary Education shall administer the requirements under this section.

34 (2) The ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and  
35 Secondary Education may adopt rules in compliance with this section to carry  
36 out the requirements under this section.

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SECTION 1561. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 6-18-713(b), concerning student sudden cardiac arrest education, is amended to read as follows:

(b) The ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary Education shall develop guidelines and other relevant materials to inform and educate school officials, teachers, athletic coaches, students, and parents about the nature and warning signs of sudden cardiac arrest, including the risks associated with continuing to participate in or practice an athletic activity when experiencing any of the following symptoms:

SECTION 1562. Arkansas Code § 6-18-901(a), concerning the maintenance of permanent student records, is amended to read as follows:

(a) The ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary Education, at the direction of the State Board of Education and in cooperation with any other appropriate state agencies, shall develop and publish an itemized listing of all information to be maintained in a student's permanent record during enrollment in a school district in this state.

SECTION 1563. Arkansas Code § 6-18-901(d)(2), concerning the maintenance of permanent student records, is amended to read as follows:

(2) Upon request by the Division of Youth Services of the Department of Human Services, a copy of the education record, as defined by regulations promulgated by the ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary Education, shall be transmitted to the ~~division~~ Division of Youth Services within ten (10) school days.

SECTION 1564. Arkansas Code § 6-18-1004(a)(2), concerning a school district plan for student services, is amended to read as follows:

(2) Only those trained and certified in the appropriate specialty or following a ~~Department of Education's~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary Education's deficiency removal plan will be assigned to carry out the duties of each service.

SECTION 1565. Arkansas Code § 6-18-1007 is amended to read as follows:

1 6-18-1007. School student services status report.

2 (a) By January 1, 1994, and each year thereafter, the ~~Department of~~  
3 ~~Education~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary Education shall compile and  
4 present to the Governor, the State Board of Education, the Senate Committee  
5 on Education, and the House Committee on Education a report outlining  
6 monitoring findings and the status of implementing each of the provisions of  
7 this subchapter by the various school districts, including which districts  
8 are in substantial compliance with the plan required under this subchapter.

9 (b)(1)(A) ~~By January 1, 1998, the department~~ The division shall have  
10 in place a staffing structure which assures that the ~~department's~~ division's  
11 administration and field service staff are responsible for monitoring the  
12 ~~department~~ division and local school district implementation and compliance  
13 with the provisions of this subchapter.

14 (B) The ~~department~~ division shall employ one (1) or more  
15 persons who shall have a minimum qualification of certification as a school  
16 counselor.

17 (2) Each school district shall be responsible for submitting an  
18 annual report to the Assistant Commissioner of Learning Services of the  
19 ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary Education  
20 outlining its compliance with and implementation of plans for the provisions  
21 of this section.

22 (3)(A) The Commissioner of Elementary and Secondary Education,  
23 in consultation with the appropriate assistant commissioner, shall designate  
24 an individual or individuals who shall have a minimum qualification of  
25 certification as a school counselor to be responsible for coordinating the  
26 monitoring of compliance with this section.

27 (B) The monitoring shall include interviews with  
28 administrators, counselors, students, and teachers.

29  
30 SECTION 1566. Arkansas Code § 6-18-1008 is amended to read as follows:

31 6-18-1008. Implementation.

32 (a) The State Board of Education shall cause the Commissioner of  
33 Elementary and Secondary Education to designate one (1) employee who shall be  
34 responsible for overseeing the implementation of this subchapter.

35 (b) ~~By January 1, 1994, and each year thereafter, the Department of~~  
36 ~~Education~~ The Division of Elementary and Secondary Education shall compile

1 and present to the Governor, the state board, the House Committee on  
2 Education, and the Senate Committee on Education a report outlining the  
3 status of implementing each of the provisions of this subchapter by the  
4 various school districts.

5  
6 SECTION 1567. Arkansas Code § 6-18-1104(b), concerning the procedure  
7 for participation in elementary school fund-raising programs, is amended to  
8 read as follows:

9 (b) A one-page form for parental notification and permission shall be  
10 developed by the ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary  
11 Education in cooperation with school administrators and the Arkansas Parent  
12 Teacher Association.

13  
14 SECTION 1568. Arkansas Code § 6-18-1302(4)(A), concerning the  
15 definition of "questionnaire or survey" under the Parental Authorization of  
16 Questionnaires Act, is amended to read as follows:

17 (4)(A) "Questionnaire or survey" means a list or group of  
18 questions, responses to which are provided to a person or an entity other  
19 than a public school, a public school district, the ~~Department of Education~~  
20 Division of Elementary and Secondary Education, or any branch of the United  
21 States ~~government~~ Government.

22  
23 SECTION 1569. Arkansas Code § 6-18-1501(a)(1)(B)(i), concerning vision  
24 screenings, is amended to read as follows:

25 (B)(i) The ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary  
26 and Secondary Education shall ensure the provision of all general revenues  
27 necessary to access federal funds for eye and vision screenings for all  
28 qualified federal healthcare program recipients.

29  
30 SECTION 1570. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 6-18-  
31 1501(b), concerning vision screenings, is amended to read as follows:

32 (b) An eye and vision screening shall include the following tests,  
33 procedures, equipment, and instruments approved by the Arkansas Commission on  
34 Eye and Vision Care of School-Age Children and the ~~department~~ division:  
35

36 SECTION 1571. Arkansas Code § 6-18-1502(b)(1), concerning child eye

1 exams, is amended to read as follows:

2 (b)(1) If a child does not receive an appropriate examination, as  
3 evidenced by a certificate signed by an optometrist or ophthalmologist  
4 acknowledging the examination, then the public school or public charter  
5 school where the child is registered shall report the child to the ~~Department~~  
6 ~~of Education~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary Education.

7  
8 SECTION 1572. Arkansas Code § 6-18-1503(a), concerning standardized  
9 forms for eye and vision screening reports, is amended to read as follows:

10 (a) Standardized forms for eye and vision screening reports shall be  
11 developed by the ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary  
12 Education in conjunction with the Arkansas Commission on Eye and Vision Care  
13 of School-Age Children and adopted by the ~~department~~ division in regulations  
14 promulgated under the Arkansas Administrative Procedure Act, § 25-15-201 et  
15 seq.

16  
17 SECTION 1573. Arkansas Code § 6-18-1504 is amended to read as follows:  
18 6-18-1504. Training.

19 The ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary  
20 Education, in conjunction with the Arkansas Commission on Eye and Vision Care  
21 of School-Age Children, shall adopt regulations that establish standards for  
22 training school nurses to perform eye and vision screenings.

23  
24 SECTION 1574. Arkansas Code § 6-18-1602(2)(B)(i), concerning the  
25 definition of "Smart Core" under the Universal ACT Assessment Program Act, is  
26 amended to read as follows:

27 (i) Established by rules of the state board in  
28 coordination with the ~~Department~~ Division of Higher Education; and

29  
30 SECTION 1575. Arkansas Code § 6-18-1603 is amended to read as follows:  
31 6-18-1603. Creation.

32 There is created in the ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary  
33 and Secondary Education the Universal ACT Assessment Program to be developed,  
34 implemented, and administered by the ~~department~~ division as provided in this  
35 subchapter.

36

1 SECTION 1576. Arkansas Code § 6-18-1606(a), concerning implementation  
2 of the Universal ACT Assessment Program, is amended to read as follows:

3 (a) Beginning with the 2017-2018 school year, the Universal ACT  
4 Assessment Program may provide each student in grades nine (9), ten (10),  
5 eleven (11), or twelve (12) with the opportunity to take the ACT Assessment  
6 while in grades nine (9), ten (10), eleven (11), or twelve (12) without any  
7 charge by using school district funding, including National School Lunch Act  
8 funds, 42 U.S.C. § 1751 et seq., to pay for the exams as approved by the  
9 ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary Education.

10  
11 SECTION 1577. Arkansas Code § 6-18-1607 is amended to read as follows:  
12 6-18-1607. Rules.

13 The ~~Department~~ Division of Higher Education and the ~~Department of~~  
14 ~~Education~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary Education shall develop rules  
15 for the administration of this subchapter.

16  
17 SECTION 1578. Arkansas Code § 6-18-1608 is amended to read as follows:  
18 6-18-1608. Reporting.

19 The ~~Department~~ Division of Higher Education and the ~~Department of~~  
20 ~~Education~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary Education shall submit a  
21 combined annual report to the Legislative Council by December 1 of each year  
22 that establishes compliance with this subchapter, provides data on the number  
23 of participants in the Universal ACT Assessment Program, and outlines the  
24 impact of this program on the college readiness of high school seniors and  
25 the remediation rates at institutions of higher education.

26  
27 SECTION 1579. Arkansas Code § 6-18-1905(a)(2), concerning the  
28 application for a transferring student, is amended to read as follows:

29 (2) On a form approved by the ~~Department of Education~~ Division  
30 of Elementary and Secondary Education; and

31  
32 SECTION 1580. Arkansas Code § 6-18-1906(a)(2), concerning the  
33 limitations of the Public School Choice Act of 2015, is amended to read as  
34 follows:

35 (2) Annually by January 1, a school district that claims a  
36 conflict under subdivision (a)(1) of this section shall submit proof from a

1 federal court to the ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and  
2 Secondary Education that the school district has a genuine conflict under an  
3 active desegregation order or active court-approved desegregation plan that  
4 explicitly limits the transfer of students between school districts.

5  
6 SECTION 1581. Arkansas Code § 6-18-1906(a)(4)-(6), concerning the  
7 limitations of the Public School Choice Act of 2015, are amended to read as  
8 follows:

9 (4)(A) Within thirty (30) calendar days of receipt of proof  
10 under subdivision (a)(2) of this section, the ~~department~~ division shall  
11 notify the school district whether it is required to participate in the  
12 school choice provisions of this subchapter.

13 (B) The ~~department~~ division may reject incomplete  
14 submissions.

15 (C) If the ~~department~~ division does not provide a written  
16 exemption to the school district, then the school district shall be required  
17 to participate in the school choice provisions of this subchapter.

18 (5) The ~~department~~ division shall maintain on its website a list  
19 of school districts that are not required to participate in the school choice  
20 provisions of this subchapter.

21 (6) The State Board of Education may review a decision of the  
22 ~~department~~ division upon written petition of the affected school district and  
23 may affirm or reverse the decision of the ~~department~~ division under the rules  
24 promulgated by the state board to implement this subsection.

25  
26 SECTION 1582. Arkansas Code § 6-18-1906(b)(2), concerning the  
27 limitations of the Public School Choice Act of 2015, is amended to read as  
28 follows:

29 (2) Annually by December 15, the ~~department~~ division shall  
30 report to each school district the net maximum number of school choice  
31 transfers for the next school year.

32  
33 SECTION 1583. Arkansas Code § 6-19-102(d), concerning the authority to  
34 transport students and vehicles, is amended to read as follows:

35 (d) A bus or other vehicle used in transporting pupils in one (1)  
36 district shall not be used to transport pupils in another district without

1 the consent of the ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and  
2 Secondary Education, except as specifically allowed by law.

3  
4 SECTION 1584. Arkansas Code § 6-20-106 is amended to read as follows:  
5 6-20-106. Amendment 74 rules and regulations.

6 Due to pending public school finance litigation, before any rules and  
7 regulations pursuant to the implementation of Arkansas Constitution,  
8 Amendment 74, are reviewed by the Administrative Rules and Regulations  
9 Subcommittee of the Legislative Council and adopted by the ~~Department of~~  
10 ~~Education~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary Education, such proposed rules  
11 and regulations shall be reviewed by the Litigation Reports Oversight  
12 Subcommittee of the Legislative Council.

13  
14 SECTION 1585. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 6-20-  
15 107(b), concerning educational cost reimbursement prohibition, is amended to  
16 read as follows:

17 (b) The ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary  
18 Education, a public school district, or an open-enrollment public charter  
19 school shall not be liable for any educational costs or other related costs  
20 associated with the placement of a juvenile in an out-of-state residential or  
21 inpatient facility for any care and treatment, including psychiatric  
22 treatment, unless:

23  
24 SECTION 1586. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 6-20-  
25 107(b)(2), concerning educational cost reimbursement prohibition, is amended  
26 to read as follows:

27 (2) The ~~department~~ division authorizes public payment for  
28 educational costs based on a determination that the educational program and  
29 facilities are appropriate for the juvenile and the ~~department~~ division has  
30 approved the facility's educational program; and

31  
32 SECTION 1587. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 6-20-  
33 107(b)(3)(B), concerning educational cost reimbursement prohibition, is  
34 amended to read as follows:

35 (B) If the educational program is not authorized before  
36 placement, the ~~department~~ division, public school districts, or open-

1 enrollment public charter schools shall not be responsible for education or  
2 other related costs, nor shall they be subject to any order to pay for  
3 educational or other related costs.

4  
5 SECTION 1588. Arkansas Code § 6-20-107(c)-(f), concerning educational  
6 cost reimbursement prohibition, are amended to read as follows:

7 (c) The ~~department~~ division, a public school district, or an open-  
8 enrollment public charter school shall not be liable for any educational  
9 costs or other related costs associated with the placement of a juvenile in  
10 an in-state residential or inpatient facility for any care and treatment,  
11 including psychiatric treatment, unless:

12 (1) The ~~department~~ division authorizes public payment for  
13 educational costs based on a determination that the educational program and  
14 facilities are appropriate for the juvenile and the ~~department~~ division has  
15 approved the facility's educational program; and

16 (2)(A) Each educational program authorization precedes the  
17 placement.

18 (B) If the educational program is not authorized before  
19 the placement, the ~~department~~ division, public school districts, or open-  
20 enrollment public charter schools shall not be responsible for education or  
21 other related costs, nor shall they be subject to any order to pay for  
22 educational or other related costs.

23 (d) The liability of the ~~department~~ division, a public school  
24 district, or an open-enrollment public charter school for the educational  
25 costs or other related costs described in subsections (b) and (c) of this  
26 section shall be limited to the lesser of:

27 (1) The reimbursement rate established by the ~~department~~  
28 division for a juvenile placed in a residential or inpatient facility; or

29 (2) The normal and customary educational cost reimbursement rate  
30 of the state in which a juvenile is placed in an out-of-state residential or  
31 inpatient facility as determined by the ~~department~~ division.

32 (e) This section shall not apply to a juvenile placed in an Arkansas  
33 juvenile detention facility as defined in § 6-20-104.

34 (f) Nothing in this section shall be construed to require payment by  
35 the ~~department~~ division, a public school district, or an open-enrollment  
36 public charter school for educational costs and other related costs

1 associated with the placement of a juvenile in an out-of-state residential or  
2 inpatient facility for any care or treatment, including psychiatric  
3 treatment, before April 7, 2005.

4  
5 SECTION 1589. Arkansas Code § 6-20-210 is amended to read as follows:

6 6-20-210. Pulaski County desegregation.

7 (a) For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2004, and for each fiscal year  
8 thereafter, the ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary  
9 Education shall, from time to time as needed, certify to the Treasurer of  
10 State and the Chief Fiscal Officer of the State the amount of funds disbursed  
11 or approved to be disbursed by the ~~department~~ division for desegregation  
12 expenses under the Pulaski County School Desegregation Settlement Agreement.

13 (b) Upon the receipt of the certification and after making those  
14 deductions as set out in § 19-5-202(b)(2)(B), the Treasurer of State shall  
15 also deduct from the net general revenues the amount certified and transfer  
16 this amount to the ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and  
17 Secondary Education Public School Fund Account, there to be used exclusively  
18 for payment of or reimbursement for expenses incurred from the ~~Department of~~  
19 ~~Education~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary Education Public School Fund  
20 Account under the agreement.

21  
22 SECTION 1590. Arkansas Code § 6-20-212 is amended to read as follows:

23 6-20-212. Desegregation expenses.

24 (a) ~~For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2005, and for each fiscal year~~  
25 ~~thereafter, the Department of Education~~ The Division of Elementary and  
26 Secondary Education shall from time to time, as needed, certify to the  
27 Treasurer of State and the Chief Fiscal Officer of the State, the amount of  
28 funds disbursed or approved to be disbursed by the ~~department~~ division for  
29 desegregation expenses under any desegregation settlement agreement.

30 (b) Upon the receipt of the certification, the Treasurer of State,  
31 after making those deductions as set out in § 19-5-202(b)(2)(B), shall also  
32 deduct from the net general revenues the amount certified and transfer this  
33 amount to the ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary  
34 Education Public School Fund Account, there to be used exclusively for  
35 payment of or reimbursement for expenses incurred from the account under any  
36 desegregation settlement agreement.

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SECTION 1591. Arkansas Code § 6-20-223(b), concerning noncredit remedial courses, is amended to read as follows:

(b) Nothing in this section shall be interpreted as authorizing a state-supported institution to receive direct payments from the ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary Education or from a school district for noncredit remedial courses taken by a student.

SECTION 1592. Arkansas Code § 6-20-224 is amended to read as follows:  
6-20-224. Federal turnback funds.

Any federal mineral leasing funds, federal forest reserve funds, federal flood control funds, or any similar turnback funds in the State Treasury for which the eligible county or school district cannot be identified may be transferred to the ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary Education Public School Fund Account and used for any lawful school purpose.

SECTION 1593. Arkansas Code § 6-20-402(b)(4), concerning a limitation on current indebtedness, postdated warrants and installment contracts, and liability, is amended to read as follows:

(4) A copy of any guaranteed energy savings contract that is executed in connection with the acquisition, installation, or construction of energy conservation measures under this section shall be filed with the ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary Education.

SECTION 1594. Arkansas Code § 6-20-402(c)(1)(E), concerning a limitation on current indebtedness, postdated warrants and installment contracts, and liability, is amended to read as follows:

(E) The school district obtains the prior written approval of the ~~department~~ division to refinance one (1) or more outstanding postdated warrants, lease-purchase agreements, or installment contracts.

SECTION 1595. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 6-20-402(d)(6), concerning a limitation on current indebtedness, postdated warrants and installment contracts, and liability, is amended to read as follows:

1 (6) Upon incurring current indebtedness, the school district  
2 shall notify the ~~department~~ division of the indebtedness, on forms provided  
3 by the ~~department~~ division, showing the:  
4

5 SECTION 1596. Arkansas Code § 6-20-402(e)(2)(A)(ii), concerning a  
6 limitation on current indebtedness, postdated warrants and installment  
7 contracts, and liability, is amended to read as follows:

8 (ii) Submits a written request for payment of the  
9 amount of the unpaid judgment and a certified copy of the final judgment to  
10 the Commissioner of Elementary and Secondary Education and the superintendent  
11 of the school district.  
12

13 SECTION 1597. Arkansas Code § 6-20-402(f), concerning a limitation on  
14 current indebtedness, postdated warrants and installment contracts, and  
15 liability, is amended to read as follows:

16 (f) If the state board withholds state aid from a school district  
17 under subsection (e) of this section, the school district shall be identified  
18 by the ~~department~~ division to be a school district in fiscal distress under §  
19 6-20-1906.  
20

21 SECTION 1598. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 6-20-  
22 415(a), concerning the hiring of public school district desegregation  
23 consultants, is amended to read as follows:

24 (a) The ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary  
25 Education in consultation with the Attorney General shall hire consultants on  
26 the following basis:  
27

28 SECTION 1599. Arkansas Code § 6-20-415(b) and (c), concerning the  
29 hiring of public school district desegregation consultants, are amended to  
30 read as follows:

31 (b) The ~~department~~ division shall not pay the consultant fees or  
32 expenses from moneys appropriated and available for the reimbursement of  
33 attorney's fees to the three (3) Pulaski County school districts under § 6-  
34 20-416.

35 (c)(1) The ~~department~~ division and the Attorney General also may hire  
36 consultants with expertise in the fields of auditing and forensic accounting

1 to provide oversight and management of the three (3) Pulaski County school  
2 districts' finances with an emphasis on desegregation funding.

3 (2) The consultants hired by the ~~department~~ division and the  
4 Attorney General shall have full authority to examine any documents and  
5 software and shall be allowed full access to any persons necessary to  
6 discharge the consultants' duties as directed by the ~~department~~ division and  
7 the Attorney General.

8 (3) In addition to the authority otherwise granted to the State  
9 Board of Education and the ~~department~~ division by law, the ~~department~~  
10 division may require a school district to modify, update, or change the  
11 school district's financial oversight or management policies, procedures, or  
12 practices in response to the recommendations of the consultants.

13 (4) A school district that fails to comply with the requirements  
14 of the ~~department~~ division under this subsection shall be identified by the  
15 ~~department~~ division as being in fiscal distress and subject to the applicable  
16 enforcement provisions as provided by law.

17  
18 SECTION 1600. Arkansas Code § 6-20-416(a), concerning desegregation  
19 funding, is amended to read as follows:

20 (a) The ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary  
21 Education and the Attorney General are authorized to seek proper federal  
22 court review and determination of the current unitary status of any school  
23 district in the case of Little Rock School District v. Pulaski County Special  
24 School District No. 1, et al., No. LR-C-82-866.

25  
26 SECTION 1601. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 6-20-  
27 416(b)(1), concerning desegregation funding, is amended to read as follows:

28 (b)(1) ~~Upon July 31, 2007, the department~~ The division and the  
29 Attorney General are authorized to seek modification of the current consent  
30 decree or enter into a new or an amended consent decree or settlement  
31 agreement under this section that allows the State of Arkansas to:

32  
33 SECTION 1602. Arkansas Code § 6-20-416(c)(1), concerning desegregation  
34 funding, is amended to read as follows:

35 (c)(1) The ~~department~~ division in consultation with the Attorney  
36 General shall have the authority to enter into agreements with the three (3)

1 Pulaski County school districts to reimburse the school districts for legal  
2 fees incurred for seeking unitary status or partial unitary status.

3  
4 SECTION 1603. Arkansas Code § 6-20-416(e), concerning desegregation  
5 funding, is amended to read as follows:

6 (e)(1) A school district receiving state funds under a federal court  
7 order or a settlement agreement in desegregation litigation shall categorize  
8 and describe the state funds received and any expenditure of those funds  
9 according to the uniform chart of accounts and codes established by the  
10 ~~department~~ division.

11 (2) The ~~department~~ division shall modify, as necessary, the  
12 Arkansas Financial Accounting Handbook or the Arkansas Educational Financial  
13 Accounting and Reporting System, or both, to ensure that the uniform chart of  
14 accounts and codes is available to accurately monitor:

15 (A) State funding paid to a school district under the  
16 federal court order or settlement agreement; and

17 (B) All expenditures of that funding.

18 (3) An error related to the coding and reporting of the state  
19 funds that causes a material misstatement of financial information is cause  
20 for determining a deficiency under the ~~Department of Education~~ Division of  
21 Elementary and Secondary Education Rules Governing the Arkansas Financial  
22 Accounting and Reporting System and Annual Training Requirements.

23  
24 SECTION 1604. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 6-20-  
25 416(f), concerning desegregation funding, is amended to read as follows:

26 (f) By September 1 of each year, a school district that receives state  
27 funding pursuant to a federal court order or settlement agreement in  
28 desegregation litigation shall report to the ~~department~~ division, in the form  
29 and manner established by the ~~department~~ division, the following:

30  
31 SECTION 1605. Arkansas Code § 6-20-416(f)(2)(F), concerning  
32 desegregation funding, is amended to read as follows:

33 (F) Any other pertinent information as determined by the  
34 ~~department~~ division;

35  
36 SECTION 1606. Arkansas Code § 6-20-416(f)(3)(D), concerning

1 desegregation funding, is amended to read as follows:

2 (D) The ~~department~~ division may determine additional  
3 guidelines regarding the necessary level of specificity;

4  
5 SECTION 1607. Arkansas Code § 6-20-416(g) and (h), concerning  
6 desegregation funding, are amended to read as follows:

7 (g)(1) A school district not utilizing the Arkansas Public School  
8 Computer Network shall provide the ~~department~~ division and the Attorney  
9 General, or their designees, full and complete, real-time access to the  
10 accounting and school district financial management software utilized by the  
11 school district.

12 (2) A school district may satisfy the obligation under  
13 subdivision (g)(1) of this section by converting to the Arkansas Public  
14 School Computer Network, but the school district still shall provide the  
15 ~~department~~ division and the Attorney General, or their designees, with full  
16 and complete access to the prior financial management system.

17 (h) This section shall not:

18 (1) Force entry of a consent decree or settlement agreement by  
19 the ~~department~~ division or the Attorney General with the three (3) Pulaski  
20 County school districts; or

21 (2) Protect any school district from action or sanction by the  
22 ~~department~~ division for fiscal, academic, or facilities distress.

23  
24 SECTION 1608. Arkansas Code § 6-20-504(b)(3) and (4), concerning  
25 children living in foster homes, are amended to read as follows:

26 (3) If the school district to which the request is made fails or  
27 refuses to pay the requested funds to the requesting school district within  
28 thirty (30) days after receiving the request, the requesting school district  
29 may notify the ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary  
30 Education of the fact, and the ~~department~~ division shall investigate the  
31 facts of the request and the refusal to remit payment.

32 (4) If the ~~department~~ division determines that the funds  
33 requested were due the requesting school district as provided in this  
34 section, the ~~department~~ division shall notify the school districts involved  
35 of the determination and shall withhold the amount thereof from the next  
36 state aid funds available for distribution to the school district that failed

1 or refused to remit the funds as provided in this subchapter and shall pay  
2 the amount over to the requesting school district as provided in this  
3 section, to be used for the education of the child living in a foster home  
4 who is a student in the school district during the current school year.

5  
6 SECTION 1609. Arkansas Code § 6-20-510 is amended to read as follows:

7 6-20-510. Confidentiality of records.

8 All files and records that are required by the laws of this state or  
9 under the provisions of applicable federal laws or regulations to be kept  
10 confidential and all court orders pertaining to the confidentiality of  
11 records or prohibiting or limiting the disclosure thereof pertaining to a  
12 child living in a foster home or a child with disabilities under the  
13 provisions of this subchapter shall be strictly complied with by the  
14 respective school districts and by the ~~Department of Education~~ Division of  
15 Elementary and Secondary Education in all correspondence and transactions  
16 pertaining to the administration of the provisions of this subchapter.

17  
18 SECTION 1610. Arkansas Code § 6-20-601(b)(1), concerning the  
19 qualifications for schools to receive isolated school district funding, is  
20 amended to read as follows:

21 (1) The school district's budget is prepared by the school  
22 district with ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary  
23 Education approval;

24  
25 SECTION 1611. Arkansas Code § 6-20-602(b)(2)(D)(ii), concerning  
26 isolated schools, is amended to read as follows:

27 (ii) This section shall not be construed to restrict  
28 the authority of the ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and  
29 Secondary Education and the state board otherwise granted by law.

30  
31 SECTION 1612. Arkansas Code § 6-20-603(f) and (g), concerning the  
32 continued support of isolated school districts, is amended to read as  
33 follows:

34 (f) For the purposes of this section, school districts with isolated  
35 school areas shall account for the average daily membership of all schools  
36 located in the isolated school areas as required by the ~~Department of~~

1 ~~Education~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary Education and shall submit  
2 reports as required by the ~~department~~ division.

3 (g) The ~~Department~~ division shall distribute isolated funding under  
4 this section in two (2) payments per school year.

5  
6 SECTION 1613. Arkansas Code § 6-20-709(c), concerning school lunch  
7 menus, is amended to read as follows:

8 (c) The Child Health Advisory Committee, the Child Nutrition Unit of  
9 the ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary Education,  
10 and the Department of Health shall provide technical assistance as necessary.

11  
12 SECTION 1614. Arkansas Code § 6-20-801(c)(1), concerning the  
13 continuance of the Revolving Loan Fund, is amended to read as follows:

14 (1) To pay expenses of the operation of the revolving loan  
15 program administered by the state board and the ~~Department of Education~~  
16 Division of Elementary and Secondary Education; and

17  
18 SECTION 1615. Arkansas Code § 6-20-1204(c)(1), concerning form of  
19 bonds and security, is amended to read as follows:

20 (c)(1) As additional security for the payment of any bond of a school  
21 district, the Commissioner of Elementary and Secondary Education shall cure a  
22 delinquency in payment by withholding state funding due the district.

23  
24 SECTION 1616. Arkansas Code § 6-20-1204(c)(3), concerning form of  
25 bonds and security, is amended to read as follows:

26 (3) If the commissioner withholds state funding from a school  
27 district pursuant to this subsection, the ~~Department of Education~~ Division of  
28 Elementary and Secondary Education shall identify the school district to be a  
29 school district in fiscal distress under the Arkansas Fiscal Assessment and  
30 Accountability Program, § 6-20-1901 et seq.

31  
32 SECTION 1617. Arkansas Code § 6-20-1204(d)(3), concerning form of  
33 bonds and security, is amended to read as follows:

34 (3)(A) If the designated paying agent does not receive the bond  
35 payment from the district at least five (5) calendar days before the date the  
36 payment is due under the authorizing documents, the ~~department~~ division

1 immediately shall cure any deficiency in payment by making payment in the  
2 full amount of the deficiency to the designated paying agent.

3 (B) If the commissioner determines that payment has been  
4 made by the school district and that a payment deficiency does not exist, the  
5 ~~department~~ division shall not make the payment under subdivision (d)(3)(A) of  
6 this section.

7 (C) If the ~~department~~ division makes payment under  
8 subdivision (d)(3)(A) of this section, it may identify the school district on  
9 behalf of which the payment is made to be a school district in fiscal  
10 distress under the program.

11 (D)(i) If the ~~department~~ division makes payment under  
12 subdivision (d)(3)(A) of this section, a school district shall be indebted to  
13 the ~~department~~ division in the full amount paid by the ~~department~~ division  
14 and immediately shall remit the full amount to the ~~department~~ division.

15 (ii) If a school district does not remit the full  
16 amount to the ~~department~~ division under subdivision (d)(3)(D)(i) of this  
17 section, the ~~department~~ division shall withhold from the school district the  
18 next distribution of state funding in an amount sufficient to reimburse the  
19 ~~department~~ division for the payment.

20 (iii) In the event that the amount of state funding  
21 next due to be distributed to the school district is not sufficient to  
22 reimburse the ~~department~~ division, the ~~department~~ division shall continue to  
23 withhold state funding due to the school district until the ~~department~~  
24 division is fully reimbursed.

25 (iv) If the commissioner determines that payment has  
26 been made to the ~~department~~ division by the school district and that the  
27 obligation of the school district to the ~~department~~ division no longer  
28 exists, the ~~department~~ division shall not withhold from the school district  
29 the distribution of state funding under subdivisions (d)(3)(D)(ii) and (iii)  
30 of this section.

31  
32 SECTION 1618. Arkansas Code § 6-20-1205(a)(1), concerning the  
33 submission of a statement prior to issuing bonds and approval, is amended to  
34 read as follows:

35 (1) Shall furnish to the Commissioner of Elementary and  
36 Secondary Education a statement of the amount proposed to be borrowed and of

1 the maturity of the indebtedness, a financial statement of the affairs of the  
2 school district, and a certificate from the county clerk showing the then-  
3 assessed valuation of the real, personal, and utility property in the school  
4 district; and

5  
6 SECTION 1619. Arkansas Code § 6-20-1205(c), concerning the submission  
7 of a statement prior to issuing bonds and approval, is amended to read as  
8 follows:

9 (c) The ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary  
10 Education is authorized to adopt procedural rules and regulations to enforce  
11 the provisions of this section.

12  
13 SECTION 1620. Arkansas Code § 6-20-1216(a), concerning the authority  
14 to use refunding bonds, is amended to read as follows:

15 (a) Any school district of Arkansas shall have the right, subject to  
16 procedural rules and regulations adopted by the ~~Department of Education~~  
17 Division of Elementary and Secondary Education, to refund its bonds  
18 outstanding at any time. Any ~~department~~ division rule or regulation that  
19 would prevent or delay a school district from refunding outstanding bonds may  
20 be waived by the Commissioner of Elementary and Secondary Education or the  
21 commissioner's designee provided that the commissioner or the commissioner's  
22 designee determines that it is in the best interest of the school district to  
23 proceed with the refunding immediately.

24  
25 SECTION 1621. Arkansas Code § 6-20-1218(a), concerning refunding  
26 bonds, maximum amounts, and conversion and sale, is amended to read as  
27 follows:

28 (a) When the refunding bonds are issued to be exchanged for  
29 outstanding bonds, it shall not be necessary to advertise them for sale, but  
30 they may be executed and delivered to the ~~Department of Education~~ Division of  
31 Elementary and Secondary Education, and the Commissioner of Elementary and  
32 Secondary Education shall, from time to time, as outstanding bonds are  
33 presented to him or her for exchange, certify and deliver refunding bonds in  
34 face value of the same proportion of the total face value of the refunding  
35 bond issue that the face value of the surrendered bonds bears to the total  
36 face value of the outstanding bonds to be refunded.

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SECTION 1622. Arkansas Code § 6-20-1223(a)(3), concerning the refunding of bonds and issuance without election, is amended to read as follows:

(3) The issue has been approved by the Commissioner of Elementary and Secondary Education or the commissioner's designee subject to ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary Education rules and regulations.

SECTION 1623. Arkansas Code § 6-20-1801 is amended to read as follows:  
6-20-1801. Filing of audit reports.

(a)(1) Unless a shorter period is prescribed by law or regulation, all school districts' annual audits not conducted by Arkansas Legislative Audit shall be completed and filed with the ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary Education and the Arkansas Legislative Audit within nine (9) months following the end of each fiscal year.

(2) At the request of the school district, the ~~department~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary Education may grant an extension of up to ninety (90) days on the deadline under this subsection.

(b)(1) All school district contracts for audit services with private certified public accountants shall contain a provision requiring completion of the audit and filing of the audit reports by the auditor with the ~~department~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary Education and Arkansas Legislative Audit within nine (9) months following the end of each fiscal year.

(2) At the request of the school district, the ~~department~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary Education may grant an extension of up to ninety (90) days on the deadline under this subsection.

(c) Arkansas Legislative Audit shall annually provide the ~~department~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary Education a list of school districts audited by Arkansas Legislative Audit and update the ~~department~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary Education on any changes throughout the year.

(d)(1) If the ~~department~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary Education has identified a school as being in fiscal distress by June 30 of any year, the annual audit of that school district shall be completed and filed with the ~~department~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary Education and

1 the Legislative Joint Auditing Committee within six (6) months following the  
2 end of each fiscal year.

3 (2) If the committee determines that circumstances warrant, the  
4 committee may extend the time to file the audit report of a fiscally  
5 distressed school district up to an additional ninety (90) days.

6  
7 SECTION 1624. Arkansas Code § 6-20-1802 is amended to read as follows:  
8 6-20-1802. Fiscal distress for failure to file.

9 (a) Any school district failing to file an audit report required by §  
10 6-20-1801 within the nine-month time period or within the time period under  
11 any extension granted by the ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary  
12 and Secondary Education shall automatically be considered by the ~~department~~  
13 division to be in fiscal distress.

14 (b) By January 31 of each year, the ~~department~~ division, by certified  
15 mail, shall notify any school district failing to file the required audit  
16 report that the school district is considered in fiscal distress.

17  
18 SECTION 1625. Arkansas Code § 6-20-1803(a), concerning questionable  
19 audit reports, is amended to read as follows:

20 (a) If the ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and  
21 Secondary Education or the Legislative Joint Auditing Committee is concerned  
22 that a particular audit may be substandard or seriously questionable with  
23 respect to applicable professional auditing standards, the ~~department~~  
24 division or the committee may file a complaint on the audit report to the  
25 Arkansas State Board of Public Accountancy.

26  
27 SECTION 1626. Arkansas Code § 6-20-1804 is amended to read as follows:  
28 6-20-1804. List of ineligible accountants.

29 (a) The ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary  
30 Education shall maintain a list of accountants or accounting firms ineligible  
31 to conduct school district audits. Accountants or accounting firms placed on  
32 the ineligibility list by the ~~department~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary  
33 Education shall be ineligible to conduct school audits for a period  
34 determined by the ~~department~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary Education  
35 but which shall not exceed a five-year period from the end of the fiscal year  
36 for which the audit report was contracted to be prepared.

1 (b) Before entering into contracts for audit services, school  
2 districts shall inquire with the ~~department~~ Division of Elementary and  
3 Secondary Education which accountants are ineligible to conduct public school  
4 audits.

5 (c) The ~~department~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary Education may  
6 place accountants or accounting firms on the ineligibility list for any of  
7 the following reasons:

8 (1) If, in the opinion of the ~~department~~ Division of Elementary  
9 and Secondary Education or the Legislative Joint Auditing Committee, a school  
10 district audit report is not filed within the nine-month time period or  
11 within the time period under any extension granted by the ~~department~~ Division  
12 of Elementary and Secondary Education with the ~~department~~ Division of  
13 Elementary and Secondary Education and Arkansas Legislative Audit as required  
14 by § 6-20-1801 because of neglect or fault of the certified public accountant  
15 or accounting firm;

16 (2) If the Quality Review Committee of the Arkansas State Board  
17 of Public Accountancy reports to the ~~department~~ Division of Elementary and  
18 Secondary Education and the Legislative Joint Auditing Committee that a  
19 school district audit report shows evidence of lack of general conformity  
20 with applicable professional standards or state laws and regulations or  
21 evidence that the report is substandard or seriously questionable; or

22 (3) Any other compelling reason that the ~~department~~ Division of  
23 Elementary and Secondary Education believes justifies placing the accountant  
24 or accounting firm on the ineligibility list.

25  
26 SECTION 1627. Arkansas Code § 6-20-1902 is amended to read as follows:

27 6-20-1902. Purpose.

28 The purpose of this subchapter shall be to establish and implement a  
29 program by which the ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and  
30 Secondary Education shall identify, assess, and address school districts in  
31 fiscal distress.

32  
33 SECTION 1628. Arkansas Code § 6-20-1903(3), concerning definition of  
34 "department" in the Arkansas Fiscal Assessment and Accountability Program, is  
35 repealed.

36 ~~(3) "Department" means the Department of Education;~~

1  
2 SECTION 1629. Arkansas Code § 6-20-1903(4), concerning the Arkansas  
3 Fiscal Assessment and Accountability Program, is amended to read as follows:

4 (4) "Fiscal distress status" means a public school district  
5 determined by the ~~department~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary Education  
6 and classified by the State Board of Education as being placed in fiscal  
7 distress status pursuant to this subchapter;

8  
9 SECTION 1630. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 6-20-  
10 1904(a), concerning the indicators of fiscal distress, is amended to read as  
11 follows:

12 (a) A school district meeting any of the following criteria may be  
13 identified by the ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and  
14 Secondary Education to be a school district in fiscal distress upon final  
15 approval by the State Board of Education:

16  
17 SECTION 1631. Arkansas Code § 6-20-1904(a)(2)(E), concerning the  
18 indicators of fiscal distress, is amended to read as follows:

19 (E) Material failure to provide timely and accurate  
20 legally required financial reports to the ~~department~~ division, Arkansas  
21 Legislative Audit, the General Assembly, or the Internal Revenue Service;

22  
23 SECTION 1632. Arkansas Code § 6-20-1904(b), concerning the indicators  
24 of fiscal distress, is amended to read as follows:

25 (b)(1) By August 31 of each year, the ~~department~~ division shall report  
26 to the superintendent of a school district if the ~~department~~ division is  
27 aware that the school district has experienced two (2) or more indicators of  
28 fiscal distress in one (1) school year that the ~~department~~ division deems to  
29 be at a nonmaterial level but that without intervention could place the  
30 district in fiscal distress.

31 (2) The superintendent of a school district shall report to the  
32 ~~department~~ division if the superintendent is aware the school district has  
33 experienced two (2) or more indicators of fiscal distress in one (1) school  
34 year that the superintendent deems to be at a nonmaterial level but that  
35 without intervention could place the district in fiscal distress.

36 (3)(A) The ~~department~~ division and the superintendent shall

1 review all data related to the nonmaterial indicators of fiscal distress.

2 (B)(i) Within thirty (30) days of the ~~department's~~  
3 division's determination that the school district may be experiencing fiscal  
4 distress at a nonmaterial level, the ~~department~~ division shall provide a  
5 notice to the school district's superintendent and board of directors that:

6 (a) Describes the nonmaterial indicators of  
7 fiscal distress that could jeopardize the fiscal integrity of the school  
8 district if not addressed; and

9 (b) Identifies the support available from the  
10 ~~department~~ division to address each nonmaterial indicator of fiscal distress.

11 (ii) The board of directors shall place on the  
12 agenda for the next regularly scheduled meeting of the board of directors a  
13 discussion of the notice of nonmaterial indicators of fiscal distress.

14  
15 SECTION 1633. Arkansas Code § 6-20-1905 is amended to read as follows:  
16 6-20-1905. Notification and appeal.

17 (a)(1)(A)(i) The ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and  
18 Secondary Education shall provide written notice, via certified mail, return  
19 receipt requested, to the president of the school district board of directors  
20 and the superintendent of each school district identified as being in fiscal  
21 distress.

22 (ii) The ~~department~~ division shall provide the  
23 notice required under this subdivision (a)(1)(A) on or before March 30 of  
24 each year.

25 (B)(i) At any time after March 30, the ~~department~~ division  
26 may identify a school district as being in fiscal distress if the ~~department~~  
27 division discovers that a fiscal condition of a school district negatively  
28 impacts the continuation of educational services by the school district.

29 (ii) The ~~department~~ division immediately shall  
30 provide the same notice required under subdivision (a)(1)(A)(i) to the school  
31 district identified under this subdivision (a)(1)(B).

32 (b) Any school district identified in fiscal distress status may  
33 appeal to the State Board of Education by filing a written appeal with the  
34 office of the Commissioner of Elementary and Secondary Education by certified  
35 mail, return receipt requested, within thirty (30) days of receipt of notice  
36 of identified fiscal distress status from the ~~department~~ division.

1 (c) The state board shall hear the appeal within sixty (60) days of  
2 receipt of the written notice of appeal from the school district.

3 (d) The written appeal shall state in clear terms the reason why the  
4 school district should not be classified as in fiscal distress.

5 (e) Notwithstanding any appeal rights in this subchapter, no appeal  
6 shall stay the ~~department's~~ division's authority to take action to protect  
7 the fiscal integrity of any school district identified as in fiscal distress.

8 (f) The decision of the state board shall be a final order, and there  
9 is no further right of appeal except that the school district may appeal to  
10 Pulaski County Circuit Court pursuant to the Arkansas Administrative  
11 Procedure Act, § 25-15-201 et seq.

12  
13 SECTION 1634. Arkansas Code § 6-20-1906(a), concerning the  
14 classification of fiscal distress status, is amended to read as follows:

15 (a) Those school districts identified by the ~~Department of Education~~  
16 Division of Elementary and Secondary Education as being in fiscal distress  
17 shall be classified as school districts in fiscal distress upon final  
18 determination by the State Board of Education.

19  
20 SECTION 1635. Arkansas Code § 6-20-1907 is amended to read as follows:  
21 6-20-1907. Debt issuance.

22 No school district identified in fiscal distress may incur any debt  
23 without the prior written approval of the ~~Department of Education~~ Division of  
24 Elementary and Secondary Education.

25  
26 SECTION 1636. Arkansas Code § 6-20-1908 is amended to read as follows:  
27 6-20-1908. Fiscal distress plan.

28 (a) Those school districts identified by the ~~Department of Education~~  
29 Division of Elementary and Secondary Education as being in fiscal distress  
30 shall file with the ~~department~~ division within ten (10) days after the final  
31 classification by the State Board of Education a written fiscal distress  
32 improvement plan to address any area in which the school district is  
33 experiencing fiscal distress as identified by the ~~department~~ division.

34 (b) Each school district shall seek and obtain approval of its plan  
35 from the ~~department~~ division and shall describe how the school district will  
36 remedy those areas in which the school district is experiencing fiscal

1 distress and shall establish the time period by which the school district  
2 will remedy all criteria which placed the school district in fiscal distress  
3 status.

4 (c) A school district in fiscal distress may only petition the state  
5 board for removal from fiscal distress status after the ~~department~~ division  
6 has certified in writing that the school district has corrected all criteria  
7 for being classified as in fiscal distress and has complied with all  
8 ~~department~~ division recommendations and requirements for removal from fiscal  
9 distress.

10 (d) Except under § 6-20-1910(e), a school district shall not be  
11 allowed to remain in fiscal distress status for more than five (5)  
12 consecutive school years from the date that the school district was  
13 classified as being in fiscal distress status.

14 (e) Any school district classified as being in fiscal distress status  
15 shall be required to receive on-site technical evaluation and assistance from  
16 the ~~department~~ division.

17 (f)(1) The ~~department~~ division shall evaluate and make written  
18 recommendations to the district superintendent regarding staffing of the  
19 school district and fiscal practices of the school district.

20 (2) The written recommendations of the ~~department~~ division shall  
21 be binding on the school district, the superintendent, and the school  
22 district board of directors.

23 (g) Every six (6) months, the ~~department~~ division shall submit a  
24 written evaluation on the status of each school district in fiscal distress  
25 to the state board.

26 (h)(1) The ~~department~~ division may petition the state board at any  
27 time for the consolidation, annexation, or reconstitution of a school  
28 district in fiscal distress or take other appropriate action as allowed by  
29 this subchapter in order to secure and protect the best interest of the  
30 educational resources of the state or to provide for the best interests of  
31 students in the school district.

32 (2) The state board may approve the petition or take other  
33 appropriate action as allowed by this subchapter.

34 (i) Except under § 6-20-1910(e), the state board shall consolidate,  
35 annex, or reconstitute any school district that fails to remove itself from  
36 the classification of a school district in fiscal distress within five (5)

1 consecutive school years of classification of fiscal distress status unless  
2 the state board, at its discretion, issues a written finding supported by a  
3 majority of the state board, explaining in detail that the school district  
4 could not remove itself from fiscal distress due to impossibility caused by  
5 external forces beyond the school district's control.

6  
7 SECTION 1637. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 6-20-  
8 1909(a), concerning the Department of Education fiscal distress actions, is  
9 amended to read as follows:

10 (a) In addressing school districts in fiscal distress, the  
11 Commissioner of Elementary and Secondary Education may:

12  
13 SECTION 1638. Arkansas Code § 6-20-1909(a)(1)(B), concerning the  
14 Department of Education fiscal distress actions, is amended to read as  
15 follows:

16 (B) Compensate ~~nondepartment~~ nondivision agents operating  
17 the school district from school district funding;

18  
19 SECTION 1639. Arkansas Code § 6-20-1909(a)(7)(A)(i), concerning the  
20 Department of Education fiscal distress actions, is amended to read as  
21 follows:

22 (i) The ~~Department of Education~~ Division of  
23 Elementary and Secondary Education certifies in writing to the state board  
24 and to the school district that the school district has corrected all issues  
25 that caused the classification of fiscal distress; and

26  
27 SECTION 1640. Arkansas Code § 6-20-1909(b)-(d), concerning the  
28 Department of Education fiscal distress actions, are amended to read as  
29 follows:

30 (b) The ~~department~~ division may impose various reporting requirements  
31 on the school district.

32 (c) The ~~department~~ division shall monitor the fiscal operations and  
33 accounts of the school district.

34 (d) The ~~department~~ division shall require school district staff and  
35 employees to obtain fiscal instruction or training in areas of fiscal concern  
36 for the school district.

1  
2 SECTION 1641. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 6-20-  
3 1910(d), concerning state board actions to consolidate, annex, or  
4 reconstitute a school district, is amended to read as follows:

5 (d) If the Commissioner of Elementary and Secondary Education assumes  
6 authority over a public school district in fiscal distress under § 6-20-1909,  
7 the state board may pursue the following process for returning a public  
8 school district to the local control of its residents:

9  
10 SECTION 1642. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 6-20-  
11 1910(d)(2)(C), concerning state board actions to consolidate, annex, or  
12 reconstitute a school district, is amended to read as follows:

13 (C) The ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and  
14 Secondary Education shall cause to be provided to the community advisory  
15 board technical assistance and training in, at a minimum, the areas required  
16 in § 6-13-629.

17  
18 SECTION 1643. Arkansas Code § 6-20-1910(d)(3)(A)(ii)(a), concerning  
19 state board actions to consolidate, annex, or reconstitute a school district,  
20 is amended to read as follows:

21 (a) The ~~department~~ division certifies in  
22 writing to the state board and to the school district that the school  
23 district has corrected all criteria for being placed into fiscal distress;  
24 and

25  
26 SECTION 1644. Arkansas Code § 6-20-1910(f), concerning state board  
27 actions to consolidate, annex, or reconstitute a school district, is amended  
28 to read as follows:

29 (f) Nothing in this section shall be construed to prevent the  
30 ~~department~~ division or the state board from taking any of the actions listed  
31 in § 6-20-1909 or this section at any time to address a school district in  
32 fiscal distress.

33  
34 SECTION 1645. Arkansas Code § 6-20-1911 is amended to read as follows:  
35 6-20-1911. Rules and regulations.

36 (a) The ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary

1 Education shall promulgate rules and regulations as necessary to identify,  
2 evaluate, assist, and address school districts in fiscal distress.

3 (b) The ~~department~~ division may promulgate rules and regulations as  
4 necessary to administer this subchapter.

5  
6 SECTION 1646. Arkansas Code § 6-20-2002(2), concerning the definition  
7 of "classroom teacher" under the laws regarding tracking and accounting of  
8 interschool athletic program funds, is amended to read as follows:

9 (2) "Classroom teacher" means an individual who is required to  
10 hold a teaching license from the ~~Department of Education~~ Division of  
11 Elementary and Secondary Education and who is engaged directly in instruction  
12 with students in a classroom setting for more than seventy percent (70%) of  
13 the individual's contracted time;

14  
15 SECTION 1647. Arkansas Code § 6-20-2002(4), concerning the definition  
16 of "state funds" under the laws regarding tracking and accounting of  
17 interschool athletic program funds, is amended to read as follows:

18 (4) "State funds" means all money derived from state revenues,  
19 specifically including, but not limited to, distributions from the ~~Department~~  
20 ~~of Education~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary Education Public School  
21 Fund Account and ad valorem property taxes distributed to a public school or  
22 school district.

23  
24 SECTION 1648. Arkansas Code § 6-20-2003(a), concerning reporting by  
25 local school districts, is amended to read as follows:

26 (a) During the appropriate Arkansas Public School Computer  
27 Network reporting cycle each year, a school district shall submit appropriate  
28 data to the ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary  
29 Education documenting the school district's total athletic expenditures paid  
30 from state funds.

31  
32 SECTION 1649. Arkansas Code § 6-20-2102(1), concerning the definition  
33 of "classroom teacher" under the laws governing the tracking and accounting  
34 of interschool scholastic activity funds, is amended to read as follows:

35 (1) "Classroom teacher" means an individual who is required to  
36 hold a teaching license from the ~~Department of Education~~ Division of

1 Elementary and Secondary Education and who is engaged directly in instruction  
2 with students in a classroom setting for more than seventy percent (70%) of  
3 the individual's contracted time;

4  
5 SECTION 1650. Arkansas Code § 6-20-2102(4), concerning the definition  
6 of "state funds" under the laws governing the tracking and accounting of  
7 interschool scholastic activity funds, is amended to read as follows:

8 (4) "State funds" means all money derived from state revenues,  
9 specifically including, but not limited to, distributions from the ~~Department~~  
10 ~~of Education~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary Education Public School  
11 Fund Account and ad valorem property taxes distributed to a public school or  
12 school district.

13  
14 SECTION 1651. Arkansas Code § 6-20-2103(a), concerning reporting by  
15 school districts, is amended to read as follows:

16 (a) During the appropriate Arkansas Public School Computer Network  
17 reporting cycle each year, a school district shall submit data to the  
18 ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary Education  
19 documenting the school district's total interschool scholastic activity  
20 expenditures paid from state funds.

21  
22 SECTION 1652. Arkansas Code § 6-20-2202 is amended to read as follows:  
23 6-20-2202. Budget and expenditure report.

24 (a)(1) The board of directors of each school district, open-enrollment  
25 public charter school, and education service cooperative annually shall  
26 prepare a budget of expenditures and receipts that shall be filed with the  
27 ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary Education by  
28 September 30 of each year under this subchapter.

29 (2)(A) Each budget shall be approved by the board of directors  
30 of each school district, open-enrollment public charter school, and education  
31 service cooperative at a legally held meeting and shall be signed by the  
32 president of the board of directors and the ex officio financial secretary of  
33 each school district, open-enrollment public charter school, and education  
34 service cooperative.

35 (B) The budget shall contain the information and be  
36 prepared in an electronic format prescribed by the ~~Department of Education~~

1 Division of Elementary and Secondary Education governing financial accounting  
2 for Arkansas school districts, open-enrollment public charter schools, and  
3 education service cooperatives.

4 (3)(A) The electronic format required by the ~~Department of~~  
5 ~~Education~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary Education shall be available  
6 for completion by school districts, open-enrollment public charter schools,  
7 and education service cooperatives not later than September 15 of each year.

8 (B) The ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and  
9 Secondary Education shall declare when the electronic format is accessible to  
10 school districts, open-enrollment public charter schools, and education  
11 service cooperatives via a Commissioner of Elementary and Secondary  
12 Education's memo.

13 (b)(1)(A) Warrants or checks of a school district, open-enrollment  
14 public charter school, or education service cooperative issued after the date  
15 required by subsection (a) of this section shall be invalid unless a budget  
16 has been filed as required by this subchapter and in compliance with  
17 appropriate rules.

18 (B) The ex officio financial secretary of a school  
19 district, open-enrollment public charter school, or education service  
20 cooperative and his or her surety shall be liable for any warrants or checks  
21 countersigned after the date required by subsection (a) of this section if a  
22 budget has not been filed.

23 (2) After the ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and  
24 Secondary Education has met all deadlines for providing information to school  
25 districts, open-enrollment public charter schools, or education service  
26 cooperatives, distribution of all grants and aids from the state for which  
27 the school district, open-enrollment public charter school, or education  
28 service cooperative may be eligible shall be suspended until the requirements  
29 of this subchapter are met by the school districts, open-enrollment public  
30 charter schools, or education service cooperatives.

31 (c)(1)(A) School district, open-enrollment public charter school, and  
32 education service cooperative budgets filed pursuant to this section shall be  
33 reviewed by the auditors of the financial accountability office of the  
34 ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary Education to  
35 determine whether the requirements of state law and the rules of the State  
36 Board of Education regarding the use of school, open-enrollment public

1 charter school, and education service cooperative funds and expenditure  
2 requirements are being met.

3 (B)(i) The review and the determination shall be completed  
4 not later than February 15 of each year.

5 (ii) If the auditors of the financial accountability  
6 office determine that the financial records are deficient, then the school  
7 district, open-enrollment public charter school, or education service  
8 cooperative shall be notified and shall have thirty (30) days to respond  
9 prior to suspension of the grants and aids.

10 (2) Upon approval by the auditors, copies of the approved budget  
11 shall be filed with the school district, the open-enrollment public charter  
12 school, the education service cooperative, the county treasurer if serving as  
13 school treasurer, and the ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and  
14 Secondary Education.

15 (d)(1)(A) The ex officio financial secretary of each school district,  
16 open-enrollment public charter school, and education service cooperative  
17 shall keep a record of the following information in a format required by the  
18 ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary Education:

19 (i) The daily expenditures and receipts of the  
20 school district, open-enrollment public charter school, or education service  
21 cooperative; and

22 (ii)(a) Information on fund balances maintained by  
23 the school district, open-enrollment public charter school, or education  
24 service cooperative, including, but not limited to, the:

25 (1) Sources of the funds maintained as  
26 fund balances, to the extent practicable;

27 (2) Reasons for maintaining, instead of  
28 spending, the fund balances;

29 (3)(A) Amount of funds transferred  
30 between various funds during the past year.

31 (B) The school district, open-  
32 enrollment public charter school, and education service cooperative shall  
33 identify the funds transferred between and the amount of funds transferred;  
34 and

35 (4) Amount of fund balances dedicated  
36 for the construction, maintenance, or repair of academic or athletic

1 facilities.

2 (b) The ~~Department of Education~~ Division of  
3 Elementary and Secondary Education shall promulgate rules that require  
4 reporting of fund balances sufficient to verify whether funds allocated for  
5 educational purposes, including, but not limited to, student academic needs  
6 and the maintenance and operation of public school district facilities, are  
7 used for their intended purposes or retained by the school district in its  
8 fund balances.

9 (B)(i) An annual report summarizing the information  
10 required in subdivision (d)(1)(A) of this section in a format required by the  
11 ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary Education shall  
12 be filed by August 31 of each year with the ~~Department of Education~~ Division  
13 of Elementary and Secondary Education.

14 (ii) A final close must be performed in each school  
15 district's or open-enrollment public charter school's or education service  
16 cooperative's applicable general ledger database no later than September 10  
17 of each year.

18 (iii) The Arkansas Public School Computer Network  
19 shall ensure that proper controls are in place to prohibit changes to the  
20 aforementioned data after the final close has been performed.

21 (2) If the auditors of the financial accountability office of  
22 the ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary Education  
23 determine that the financial records of any school district, open-enrollment  
24 public charter school, or education service cooperative are not properly  
25 maintained or that the financial affairs of the school district, open-  
26 enrollment public charter school, or education service cooperative are not  
27 administered in accordance with state law or state board rules, grants and  
28 aids from the state to which the school district, open-enrollment public  
29 charter school, or education service cooperative may be entitled shall be  
30 withheld until it is determined that the fiscal records of the school  
31 district, open-enrollment public charter school, or education service  
32 cooperative are in order or that the financial affairs are being properly  
33 administered as established by statute or by rule promulgated by the state  
34 board, provided that the ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and  
35 Secondary Education has met all deadlines for providing information to school  
36 districts, open-enrollment public charter schools, or education service

1 cooperatives.

2 (e)(1) The ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and  
3 Secondary Education may withhold state aid from any school district, open-  
4 enrollment public charter school, or education service cooperative that fails  
5 to file its budget or any other required report with the ~~Department of~~  
6 ~~Education~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary Education by the deadline  
7 established by statute or by rule promulgated by the state board or by the  
8 due dates established by the ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary  
9 and Secondary Education pursuant to subdivision (e)(2) of this section,  
10 provided that the ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and  
11 Secondary Education has met all deadlines for providing pertinent information  
12 to school districts, open-enrollment public charter schools, or education  
13 service cooperatives.

14 (2) The ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and  
15 Secondary Education shall submit a list of all required financial  
16 accountability reports along with due dates to each school district, open-  
17 enrollment public charter school, and education service cooperative by July 1  
18 of each year.

19 (f) The state board shall promulgate the necessary rules to fully  
20 implement this section.

21 (g)(1) The Treasurer of State shall withhold the monthly distribution  
22 of county aid provided under § 19-5-602(c) from any county whose county  
23 official who is the preparer of the tax books fails to provide by March 15 of  
24 each calendar year information concerning the annual abstract of assessment  
25 that reflects the aggregate value of the real and personal property for each  
26 school district located wholly or in part in the county as follows:

27 (A) If the county is capable of providing the information  
28 electronically, then the information shall be provided to both the ~~Department~~  
29 ~~of Education~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary Education and the  
30 Assessment Coordination ~~Department~~ Division; and

31 (B) If the county is not capable of providing the  
32 information electronically, then the information shall be provided only to  
33 the Assessment Coordination ~~Department~~ Division.

34 (2) The information transmitted to the ~~Department of Education~~  
35 Division of Elementary and Secondary Education and the Assessment  
36 Coordination ~~Department~~ Division shall also include:

1 (A) The previous calendar year's property assessment that  
2 will be used for ad valorem tax collections in the current year; and

3 (B) The millage rates, which shall be listed by the type  
4 of millage, levied against that property assessment.

5  
6 SECTION 1653. Arkansas Code § 6-20-2203(a)(3)(A), concerning the  
7 requirement of a uniform budget and accounting system, is amended to read as  
8 follows:

9 (3)(A) Pursuant to § 6-20-2207, the ~~Department of Education~~  
10 Division of Elementary and Secondary Education shall establish and implement  
11 a uniform chart of accounts known as the "Arkansas Financial Accounting  
12 Handbook" or the "Arkansas Handbook".

13  
14 SECTION 1654. Arkansas Code § 6-20-2203(a)(4), concerning the  
15 requirement of a uniform budget and accounting system, is amended to read as  
16 follows:

17 (4) The rules shall be developed by the state board in  
18 cooperation with the ~~department~~ division, representatives from the Arkansas  
19 Association of Educational Administrators, the Arkansas Association of School  
20 Business Officials, the Arkansas Education Association, the education service  
21 cooperatives, and the Legislative Joint Auditing Committee.

22  
23 SECTION 1655. Arkansas Code § 6-20-2203(b), concerning the requirement  
24 of a uniform budget and accounting system, is amended to read as follows:

25 (b) To the extent necessary to comply with federal law, the terms and  
26 definitions contained in the Arkansas Handbook shall initially comply with  
27 Financial Accounting for Local and State School Systems, 2003 Edition (NCES  
28 2004-318), and may thereafter be revised by the ~~department~~ division as  
29 necessary to remain consistent and shall be used for valid comparisons of  
30 expenditures of schools, school districts, open-enrollment public charter  
31 schools, and education service cooperatives.

32  
33 SECTION 1656. Arkansas Code § 6-20-2203(c)(3)(B), concerning the  
34 requirement of a uniform budget and accounting system, is amended to read as  
35 follows:

36 (B) The ~~department~~ division shall implement the

1 expenditure categories in this subdivision (c)(3) beginning with the 2007-  
2 2008 school year;

3

4 SECTION 1657. Arkansas Code § 6-20-2203(c)(4)(B), concerning the  
5 requirement of a uniform budget and accounting system, is amended to read as  
6 follows:

7 (B) The ~~department~~ division shall complete a trial  
8 implementation of the revenue categories in subdivisions (c)(4)(A)(i) and  
9 (ii) of this section by the end of the 2007-2008 school year and fully  
10 implement all revenue categories in this subdivision (c)(4) beginning with  
11 the 2008-2009 school year;

12

13 SECTION 1658. Arkansas Code § 6-20-2203(c)(5)(B), concerning the  
14 requirement of a uniform budget and accounting system, is amended to read as  
15 follows:

16 (B) The ~~department~~ division shall implement this  
17 subdivision (c)(5) beginning with the 2007-2008 school year;

18

19 SECTION 1659. Arkansas Code § 6-20-2203(c)(6)(B), concerning the  
20 requirement of a uniform budget and accounting system, is amended to read as  
21 follows:

22 (B) The ~~department~~ division shall implement this  
23 subdivision (c)(6) beginning with the 2007-2008 school year;

24

25 SECTION 1660. Arkansas Code § 6-20-2203(c)(8)(B), concerning the  
26 requirement of a uniform budget and accounting system, is amended to read as  
27 follows:

28 (B) The ~~department~~ division shall implement this  
29 subdivision (c)(8) beginning with the 2007-2008 school year.

30

31 SECTION 1661. Arkansas Code § 6-20-2203(e) and (f), concerning the  
32 requirement of a uniform budget and accounting system, are amended to read as  
33 follows:

34 (e) The ~~department~~ division shall have the authority to analyze and  
35 inspect the financial records of any school, open-enrollment public charter  
36 school, school district, or education service cooperative in order to verify

1 that a school, school district, or education service cooperative is correctly  
2 and accurately reporting expenditures.

3 (f) By February 15 of each year, the ~~department~~ division shall submit  
4 a report to the state board, the Governor, the Senate Committee on Education,  
5 and the House Committee on Education concerning public school and public  
6 school district expenditures required by law.

7

8 SECTION 1662. Arkansas Code § 6-20-2204 is amended to read as follows:  
9 6-20-2204. Required training.

10 (a)(1)(A) The ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and  
11 Secondary Education shall establish two (2) tiers of required training.

12 (B) Both tiers of required training shall apply to public  
13 school districts, open-enrollment public charter schools, and education  
14 service cooperatives.

15 (C)(i) At a minimum, two (2) persons per educational  
16 entity are required to attend an initial and annual Tier I training:

17 (a) The school district superintendent or the  
18 education service cooperative director or the open-enrollment public charter  
19 school director; and

20 (b) A person whose job responsibilities  
21 include preparing the budget or overall accounting responsibility.

22 (ii) The two (2) persons per educational entity  
23 required to attend the initial and annual Tier I training shall each obtain  
24 twelve (12) hours of initial training and instruction necessary to  
25 demonstrate basic proficiency as determined by the ~~department~~ division,  
26 including, but not limited to:

27 (a) School laws of Arkansas;

28 (b) Laws and rules governing the expenditure  
29 of public education funds, fiscal accountability, and school finance;

30 (c) Ethics; and

31 (d) Financial accounting and reporting of  
32 schools, school districts, open-enrollment public charter schools, and  
33 education service cooperative expenditures.

34 (2)(A) Each year thereafter, the school district superintendent,  
35 the education service cooperative executive director, or open-enrollment  
36 public charter school director and the person whose job responsibilities

1 include preparing the budget or overall accounting responsibility who have  
2 already attended the initial and Tier I training shall obtain by December 31  
3 of each calendar year a minimum of two (2) hours of annual training and  
4 instruction as required by the ~~department~~ division in order to maintain basic  
5 proficiency in the topics described in subdivision (a)(1) of this section.

6 (B) Additional annual training may be required by the  
7 ~~department~~ division for the school district superintendent, the education  
8 service cooperative executive director, or open-enrollment public charter  
9 school director and the person whose job responsibilities include preparing  
10 the budget or overall accounting responsibility based on repetitive or  
11 flagrant audit findings or the identification of multiple indicators of  
12 fiscal distress.

13 (3)(A) The instruction may be provided by an institution of  
14 higher education in this state, from instruction sponsored by the ~~department~~  
15 division, by an in-service training program conducted by the Arkansas  
16 Association of School Business Officials, or from another provider.

17 (B) To satisfy the training and requirements under this  
18 subsection, any provider other than the ~~department~~ division shall apply for  
19 and receive preapproval by the ~~department~~ division as to the form and content  
20 of the training and instruction before they are offered as training and  
21 instruction to comply with the provisions of this subsection ~~(a)~~.

22 (4)(A) If a person fails to obtain the required Tier I training  
23 by the end of the calendar year and fails to cure the deficiency by March 1  
24 of the following calendar year without filing a request for extension of time  
25 as determined from the records of the ~~department~~ division, the ~~department~~  
26 division shall immediately notify the superintendent of the employing school  
27 district, the director of the open-enrollment public charter school, or the  
28 executive director of the education service cooperative by certified mail,  
29 return receipt requested, with a copy to the state board president.

30 (B)(i) The superintendent of the school district, the  
31 director of the open-enrollment public charter school, or the education  
32 service cooperative executive director shall notify the person by certified  
33 mail, return receipt requested, and the person shall be unable to continue in  
34 his or her position from the date of receipt of notification by the  
35 superintendent of the school district, the director of the open-enrollment  
36 public charter school, or the education service cooperative executive

1 director.

2 (ii) Any person receiving notice that he or she  
3 shall be unable to continue in his or her position solely because of his or  
4 her failure to obtain the required training may request a hearing before the  
5 State Board of Education prior to his or her permanent dismissal.

6 (5) If the person fails to obtain all required training by  
7 December 31, this failure shall constitute one (1) citation against the  
8 school district or the open-enrollment public charter school as measured by  
9 the Standards for Accreditation of Arkansas Public Schools and School  
10 Districts issued by the ~~department~~ division or an admonishment to the  
11 education service cooperative by the ~~department~~ division.

12 (6)(A) If the person is unable to obtain the required training  
13 because of military service or illness as verified by a written sworn  
14 statement of the person's attending physician, the ~~department~~ division shall  
15 grant an extension permitting the person additional time to obtain the  
16 required training.

17 (B) The issuance of an extension shall not constitute a  
18 citation against the school district as measured by the Standards for  
19 Accreditation of Arkansas Public Schools and School Districts issued by the  
20 ~~department~~ division or the education service cooperative and shall not  
21 operate to remove the person from his or her job.

22 (b)(1) Tier II training shall include, but not be limited to,  
23 employees who do not make decisions about selecting codes or who have a  
24 limited number of codes that they can use.

25 (2) Tier II training shall be developed by the ~~department~~  
26 division in cooperation with representatives from the Arkansas Association of  
27 Educational Administrators, the Arkansas Association of School Business  
28 Officials, the Arkansas Education Association, the Legislative Joint Auditing  
29 Committee, and the education service cooperatives.

30 (3)(A) The training shall be annual and shall be a minimum of  
31 two (2) hours.

32 (B) Additional annual training may be required by the  
33 ~~department~~ division for employees who do not make decisions about selecting  
34 codes or who have a limited number of codes that they can use based on  
35 repetitive or flagrant audit findings or the identification of multiple  
36 indicators of fiscal distress.

1 (4) School districts shall be responsible for providing the  
2 training to these employees.

3 (5) School district trainers are required to attend Tier I  
4 training and annual updates as required by the ~~department~~ division under this  
5 subsection ~~(b)~~ and subsection (a) of this section.

6 (c)(1) Each school district, open-enrollment public charter school, or  
7 education service cooperative shall maintain files and records indicating all  
8 employees who are required to obtain and who have completed Tier II training.

9 (2) Each school district superintendent, open-enrollment public  
10 charter school director, or education service cooperative executive director  
11 shall provide the ~~department~~ division an assurance statement regarding the  
12 completion of Tier II training by the required individuals.

13 (d) The state board shall modify the Standards for Accreditation of  
14 Arkansas Public Schools and School Districts issued by the ~~department~~  
15 division as may be required by this section.

16 (e) It is the responsibility of the ~~department~~ division to receive and  
17 maintain records of instructional hours of Tier I training obtained under  
18 this section.

19 (f) The state board is authorized to promulgate rules and regulations  
20 consistent with the provisions of this section.

21  
22 SECTION 1663. Arkansas Code § 6-20-2206(a), concerning miscellaneous  
23 provisions regarding the Department of Education, is amended to read as  
24 follows:

25 (a) If the ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and  
26 Secondary Education determines that an overpayment has been made to a school  
27 district, open-enrollment public charter school, or education service  
28 cooperative in any funding category authorized by law, the ~~department~~  
29 division is authorized to withhold the overpayment from future funding of the  
30 school district, open-enrollment public charter school, or education service  
31 cooperative and is authorized to transfer the amount withheld for the  
32 overpayment to the line item appropriation from which the overpayment was  
33 initially made.

34  
35 SECTION 1664. Arkansas Code § 6-20-2206(c)(5)(B), concerning  
36 miscellaneous provisions regarding the Department of Education, is amended to

1 read as follows:

2 (B) Pupil attendance records shall be kept according to  
3 law and regulations on paper or electronic forms either furnished or approved  
4 by the ~~department~~ division.

5

6 SECTION 1665. Arkansas Code § 6-20-2207(b)(1) and (2), concerning the  
7 rule-making authority of the State Board of Education, are amended to read as  
8 follows:

9 (b)(1)(A) The state board shall amend the rules, and the ~~Department of~~  
10 ~~Education~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary Education shall amend the  
11 Arkansas Handbook provided in subsection (a) of this section as necessary.

12 (B) The amendments, annual revisions, and financial  
13 accounting updates to the Arkansas Handbook shall be developed with  
14 representatives from the Arkansas Association of School Business Officials,  
15 the education service cooperatives, and other school district officials as  
16 designated by the ~~department~~ division.

17 (2) Before making an amendment to the Arkansas Handbook, the  
18 ~~department~~ division shall provide written notice via a Commissioner of  
19 Elementary and Secondary Education memo to the school districts, open-  
20 enrollment public charter schools, and education service cooperatives.

21

22 SECTION 1666. Arkansas Code § 6-20-2208(c)(2)(A), concerning the  
23 monitoring of expenditures by school districts, is amended to read as  
24 follows:

25 (2)(A) Expend the sums allocated to the school district under §  
26 6-20-2305(b) for salaries and other instructional aid components to benefit  
27 students in the special needs categories within the school district unless  
28 other expenditures are allowed by law or rule of the State Board of Education  
29 or the ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary  
30 Education.

31

32 SECTION 1667. Arkansas Code § 6-20-2208(d)(1), concerning the  
33 monitoring of expenditures by school districts, is amended to read as  
34 follows:

35 (d)(1) During the appropriate Arkansas public school computer network  
36 reporting cycle each year, each school district shall submit appropriate data

1 to the ~~department~~ division establishing the school district's compliance with  
2 this section.

3

4 SECTION 1668. Arkansas Code § 6-20-2208(d)(4), concerning the  
5 monitoring of expenditures by school districts, is amended to read as  
6 follows:

7 (4) Reports for each school district shall be developed by the  
8 ~~department~~ division and transmitted to the Governor, the Senate Committee on  
9 Education, and the House Committee on Education.

10

11 SECTION 1669. Arkansas Code § 6-20-2210(a)(4), concerning the  
12 limitation on fund balances, is amended to read as follows:

13 (4)(A) "Revenues" means the same as defined in the latest  
14 version of the Arkansas Financial Accounting Handbook established by the  
15 ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary Education under  
16 § 6-20-2203.

17

18 SECTION 1670. Arkansas Code § 6-20-2210(a)(4)(B)(viii)(a) and (b),  
19 concerning the limitation on fund balances, are amended to read as follows:

20 (a) The latest version of the Arkansas  
21 Financial Accounting Handbook established by the ~~department~~ division under §  
22 6-20-2203; or

23 (b) Rules promulgated by the ~~department~~  
24 division; and

25

26 SECTION 1671. Arkansas Code § 6-20-2210(d)-(f), concerning the  
27 limitation on fund balances, are amended to read as follows:

28 (d)(1) The ~~department~~ division shall:

29 (A) Monitor on a yearly basis each public school  
30 district's compliance with the requirements of this section; and

31 (B) Withhold subsequent state funding from a public school  
32 district in the amounts under subdivision (d)(2) of this section for each  
33 year the public school district fails to make the required reduction.

34 (2) If a public school district fails to reduce every year  
35 within the five-year period its net legal balance by twenty percent (20%) of  
36 the total required reduction under subsection (b) of this section, the

1 ~~department~~ division shall withhold subsequent state funding from that public  
2 school district in an amount equal to the amount the public school district  
3 failed to reduce its net legal balance for that year.

4 (e)(1) Under an unusual and limited circumstance, including without  
5 limitation an increase in one-time funds, a public school district may  
6 request that the ~~department~~ division waive the requirements of this section.

7 (2) A public school district seeking a waiver shall file a  
8 waiver request with the Commissioner of Elementary and Secondary Education,  
9 accompanied by a resolution adopted by the public school district's board of  
10 directors, describing the unusual and limited circumstances.

11 (3) The commissioner may grant a waiver request under this  
12 subsection if the commissioner finds that the request is necessary based upon  
13 the unusual and limited circumstances.

14 (f) The ~~department~~ division shall promulgate rules to implement this  
15 section.

16  
17 SECTION 1672. Arkansas Code § 6-20-2303(4), concerning the definition  
18 of "classroom teacher" under the Public School Funding Act of 2003, is  
19 amended to read as follows:

20 (4) "Classroom teacher" means:

21 (A) An individual who is required to hold a teaching  
22 license from the ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary  
23 Education and who is engaged directly in instruction with students in a  
24 classroom setting for more than seventy percent (70%) of the individual's  
25 contracted time;

26 (B) A guidance counselor; or

27 (C) A librarian;

28  
29 SECTION 1673. Arkansas Code § 6-20-2303(13)(A), concerning the  
30 definition of "national school lunch students" under the Public School  
31 Funding Act of 2003, is amended to read as follows:

32 (13)(A) "National school lunch students" means those students or  
33 the percentage of enrolled students from low socioeconomic backgrounds as  
34 indicated by eligibility for free or reduced-price meals under the National  
35 School Lunch Act, 42 U.S.C. § 1751 et seq., as determined on October 1 of  
36 each previous school year and submitted to the ~~Department of Education~~

1 Division of Elementary and Secondary Education, unless the school district is  
2 identified by the ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and  
3 Secondary Education as participating in the special assistance certification  
4 and reimbursement alternative implemented under 42 U.S.C. § 1759a.

5  
6 SECTION 1674. Arkansas Code § 6-20-2303(17), concerning the definition  
7 of "quarterly average daily membership" under the Public School Funding Act  
8 of 2003, is amended to read as follows:

9 (17) "Quarterly average daily membership" means the average  
10 daily membership for one (1) quarter of a school year used for calculating  
11 student growth funding and as determined by rule established by the  
12 ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary Education;

13  
14 SECTION 1675. Arkansas Code § 6-20-2304(b)(1), concerning regulations  
15 and access to information on legislation by the State Board of Education, is  
16 amended to read as follows:

17 (1) Including a link to the information on the ~~Department of~~  
18 ~~Education~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary Education website; and

19  
20 SECTION 1676. Arkansas Code § 6-20-2305(a)(1)(B), concerning school  
21 funding, is amended to read as follows:

22 (B) The ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and  
23 Secondary Education shall distribute state foundation funding aid to each  
24 school district in twelve (12) monthly payments.

25  
26 SECTION 1677. Arkansas Code § 6-20-2305(a)(4), concerning school  
27 funding, is amended to read as follows:

28 (4)(A)(i) Except as provided in subdivisions (a)(4)(C) and (D)  
29 of this section, by the end of each school fiscal year, for a school district  
30 whose net revenues are less than the sum of ninety-eight percent (98%) of the  
31 uniform rate of tax multiplied by the property assessment of the school  
32 district, the ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary  
33 Education shall distribute to the school district the difference between:

34 (a) The net revenues distributed to the school  
35 district as reported under § 26-80-101(b)(4)(A)(ii) for the calendar year  
36 immediately preceding the current school year; and

1 (b) The sum of ninety-eight percent (98%) of  
2 the uniform rate of tax multiplied by the property assessment of the school  
3 district.

4 (ii) The ~~Department of Education~~ Division of  
5 Elementary and Secondary Education may distribute to the school district a  
6 lesser amount than required under subdivisions (a)(4)(A)(i)(a) and (b) of  
7 this section if after the lesser amount is distributed the school district  
8 will receive the foundation funding amount under § 6-20-2305(a).

9 (B) For a school district whose net revenues are more than  
10 the sum of ninety-eight percent (98%) of the uniform rate of tax multiplied  
11 by the property assessment of the school district, the ~~Department of~~  
12 ~~Education~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary Education, under the authority  
13 of § 6-20-2306, shall recoup from the school district an amount equal to the  
14 difference between:

15 (i) The net revenues of the school district; and

16 (ii) The sum of ninety-eight percent (98%) of the  
17 uniform rate of tax multiplied by the property assessment of the school  
18 district.

19 (C) The ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and  
20 Secondary Education shall not distribute to a school district the funds under  
21 subdivision (a)(4)(A)(i) of this section if, regardless of the school  
22 district's tax collection rate, the school district's net revenues plus  
23 miscellaneous funds calculated under § 6-20-2308 meet or exceed the  
24 foundation funding amount set forth in § 6-20-2305(a).

25 (D)(i) A county treasurer shall submit annually to the  
26 ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary Education an  
27 annual summary report of all proceeds generated from ad valorem taxes and  
28 distributed by the county to a school district for the period beginning  
29 January 1 and ending on December 31 of the preceding calendar year to verify  
30 the receipt of revenues under § 26-80-101(b)(4)(A)(ii).

31 (ii)(a) The ~~Department of Education~~ Division of  
32 Elementary and Secondary Education may adjust data appropriately if it  
33 determines that irregular distributions by a county treasurer of excess  
34 commissions cause a school district's property tax collection rate from the  
35 uniform rate of tax to exceed ninety-eight percent (98%).

36 (b) The ~~Department of Education~~ Division of

1 Elementary and Secondary Education may adjust the uniform rate of tax from an  
2 irregular distribution to an amount not in excess of ninety-eight percent  
3 (98%) and apply the excess distribution amount the following school year.

4 (iii) Evidence of overlapping revenue reporting or  
5 irregular distributions shall be provided in the form required by the  
6 ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary Education.

7  
8 SECTION 1678. Arkansas Code § 6-20-2305(b)(4)(B)(ii)(a), concerning  
9 school funding, is amended to read as follows:

10 (ii)(a) If a school district will receive in the  
11 current school year national school lunch state categorical funding under  
12 subdivision (b)(4)(A) of this section that is based on a different per-  
13 student amount of national school lunch state categorical funding than the  
14 school district received in the immediately preceding school year, due to a  
15 percentage change in national school lunch students, the ~~department~~ Division  
16 of Elementary and Secondary Education shall adjust the funding to the school  
17 district in a transitional three-year period.

18  
19 SECTION 1679. Arkansas Code § 6-20-2305(b)(4)(B)(iii)(a), concerning  
20 school funding, is amended to read as follows:

21 (iii)(a) The ~~Department of Education~~ Division of  
22 Elementary and Secondary Education shall establish rules to implement the  
23 transitional national school lunch state categorical funding provided in  
24 subdivision (b)(4)(B)(ii) of this section.

25  
26 SECTION 1680. Arkansas Code § 6-20-2305(b)(4)(B)(v)(b) and (c),  
27 concerning school funding, are amended to read as follows:

28 (b) The State Board of Education shall  
29 establish rules to be used by the ~~Department of Education~~ Division of  
30 Elementary and Secondary Education to determine:

31 (1) The amount of growth necessary to  
32 qualify as significant growth;

33 (2) The expected increase in the number  
34 of national school lunch students based on the expected increase in enrolled  
35 students; and

36 (3) Which school districts have

1 experienced a significant growth in enrolled students as necessary to qualify  
2 for funding under this subdivision (b)(4)(B)(v).

3 (c) The ~~Department of Education~~ Division of  
4 Elementary and Secondary Education shall not be required to adjust or fund a  
5 school district's national school lunch students based on the current year's  
6 number of national school lunch students enrolled in the school district or  
7 the average growth of students in the school district.

8  
9 SECTION 1681. Arkansas Code § 6-20-2305(b)(4)(C)(i)(b)(16), concerning  
10 school funding, is amended to read as follows:

11 (16) The College and Career Coaches  
12 Program, as administered by the ~~Department~~ Division of Career and Technical  
13 Education under § 6-1-601 et seq.; and

14  
15 SECTION 1682. Arkansas Code § 6-20-2305(b)(4)(C)(iv)(a), concerning  
16 school funding, is amended to read as follows:

17 (iv)(a) Upon review of the school district's school-  
18 level improvement plan, if the Commissioner of Elementary and Secondary  
19 Education determines that the school district has met the needs of students  
20 in the school district for whom the funding for additional educational  
21 categories under this subsection is provided, has met the requirements of  
22 subdivisions (b)(4)(C)(ii) and (iii) of this section, and has prudently  
23 managed its resources, the commissioner shall give written approval of the  
24 detailed planned flexible use of excess national school lunch student  
25 categorical funds provided to the school district.

26  
27 SECTION 1683. Arkansas Code § 6-20-2305(b)(4)(C)(vi)-(viii),  
28 concerning school funding, are amended to read as follows:

29 (vi) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, if  
30 the ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary Education  
31 determines that a school district's expenditure of funds allocated under this  
32 subdivision (b)(4) would result in the school district's losing funding under  
33 any federal law, then the funds allocated to a school district under this  
34 subdivision (b)(4) may be expended for other academic programs or salaries.

35 (vii) The ~~Department of Education~~ Division of  
36 Elementary and Secondary Education may direct that a school district expend

1 available funds on specified programs under subdivision (b)(4)(C)(i) of this  
2 section.

3 (viii)(a) By September 15 of each school year, a  
4 school district shall submit to the ~~Department of Education~~ Division of  
5 Elementary and Secondary Education a report for the immediately preceding  
6 school year listing each program upon which funds allocated under this  
7 subdivision (b)(4) were expended, the amount expended, and any other  
8 information required by the ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary  
9 and Secondary Education on the use of funds allocated under this subdivision  
10 (b)(4).

11 (b) The ~~Department of Education~~ Division of  
12 Elementary and Secondary Education shall develop appropriate reporting forms  
13 for use by school districts to comply with subdivision (b)(4)(C)(viii)(a) of  
14 this section.

15  
16 SECTION 1684. Arkansas Code § 6-20-2305(b)(4)(C)(x)-(xii), concerning  
17 school funding, are amended to read as follows:

18 (x) Each school district shall submit to the  
19 ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary Education a  
20 report listing each program and purpose upon which funds allocated under this  
21 subdivision (b)(4) were expended, the amount expended, and any other  
22 information required by the ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary  
23 and Secondary Education concerning the receipt and use of funds allocated  
24 under this subdivision (b)(4).

25 (xi) No provision of subdivision (b)(4)(C)(ix) of  
26 this section shall be deemed to prohibit a school district from participating  
27 in the provisions of subdivisions (b)(4)(C)(ii)-(viii) of this section.

28 (xii) The ~~Department of Education~~ Division of  
29 Elementary and Secondary Education shall promulgate rules and develop  
30 appropriate reporting forms for use by school districts to comply with this  
31 subdivision (b)(4)(C).  
32 and Secondary Education a report listing each program upon which funds  
33 allocated under this subdivision (b)(4) were expended, the amount expended,  
34 and any other information required by the ~~Department of Education~~ Division of  
35 Elementary and Secondary Education.

36 (ii) The ~~Department of Education~~ Division of

1 Elementary and Secondary Education shall develop appropriate reporting forms  
2 for use by school districts.

3

4 SECTION 1685. Arkansas Code § 6-20-2305(b)(4)(E)(i), concerning school  
5 funding, is amended to read as follows:

6 (E)(i) The ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary  
7 and Secondary Education shall provide a report on the impact of national  
8 school lunch student categorical funding provided under this subdivision  
9 (b)(4) on closing the achievement gap to the House Committee on Education and  
10 the Senate Committee on Education by May 31 each even-numbered year,  
11 beginning in 2010.

12

13 SECTION 1686. Arkansas Code § 6-20-2305(b)(4)(F)(iii)(a), concerning  
14 school funding, is amended to read as follows:

15 (iii)(a) Under an unusual and limited circumstance,  
16 including without limitation an increase in one-time funds or an unexpected  
17 decrease in school district revenues during a given year, a school district  
18 may request that the ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and  
19 Secondary Education waive the requirements of this subdivision (b)(4)(F).

20

21 SECTION 1687. Arkansas Code § 6-20-2305(b)(4)(F)(v), concerning school  
22 funding, is amended to read as follows:

23 (v)(a) The ~~Department of Education~~ Division of  
24 Elementary and Secondary Education shall monitor on a yearly basis each  
25 school district's compliance with the requirements of this subdivision  
26 (b)(4)(F).

27

28 (b) If a school district fails to comply with  
29 the requirements of this subdivision (b)(4)(F) during a school year, the  
30 ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary Education may in  
31 the following school year withhold from that school district's national  
32 school lunch state categorical funding allocation an amount equal to the  
33 amount required to be spent by the school district in order to be in  
34 compliance with the requirements of this subdivision (b)(4)(F).

35

36 (c) The ~~Department of Education~~ Division of  
Elementary and Secondary Education may redistribute amounts withheld under  
this subdivision (b)(4)(F) to other school districts entitled to receive

1 national school lunch state categorical funding allocations.

2  
3 SECTION 1688. Arkansas Code § 6-20-2305(b)(5)(C), concerning school  
4 funding, is amended to read as follows:

5 (C)(i) Additional funding provided for professional  
6 development above the amount in subdivision (b)(5)(A) of this section shall  
7 be used by the ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary  
8 Education for the development and administration of professional learning  
9 communities for the benefit of public school districts.

10 (ii)(a) The ~~Department of Education~~ Division of  
11 Elementary and Secondary Education shall promulgate rules to administer the  
12 additional professional development funding under subdivision (b)(5)(C)(i) of  
13 this section.

14 (b) The ~~Department of Education~~ Division of  
15 Elementary and Secondary Education may partner with or choose a person, firm,  
16 corporation, or education service cooperative to provide the knowledge,  
17 skills, experience, and expertise for the development of a research-based  
18 process for the implementation of professional learning communities.

19  
20 SECTION 1689. Arkansas Code § 6-20-2305(e)(1)(C), concerning school  
21 funding, is amended to read as follows:

22 (C) If the ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary  
23 and Secondary Education determines that a school district's expenditure of  
24 funds allocated under subsection (b) of this section would result in the  
25 school district's losing funding under any federal law, then the funds  
26 allocated to a school district under subsection (b) of this section may be  
27 expended for other academic programs or salaries as permitted by the  
28 ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary Education.

29  
30 SECTION 1690. Arkansas Code § 6-20-2305(e)(4), concerning school  
31 funding, is amended to read as follows:

32  
33 SECTION 1691. Arkansas Code § 6-20-2305(b)(4)(D), concerning school  
34 funding, is amended to read as follows:

35 (D)(i) By the end of each school year, each school  
36 district shall submit to the ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary

1 (4)(A) The ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and  
2 Secondary Education shall monitor on a yearly basis each school district's  
3 compliance with the requirements of this subsection.

4 (B) If a school district fails to comply with the  
5 requirements of this subsection during a school year, the ~~Department of~~  
6 ~~Education~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary Education may in the following  
7 school year withhold from that school district's categorical funding  
8 allocation an amount equal to the amount required to be spent by the school  
9 district in order to be in compliance with the requirements of this  
10 subsection.

11 (C) The ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and  
12 Secondary Education may redistribute amounts withheld under this subsection  
13 to other school districts entitled to receive categorical funding  
14 allocations.

15  
16 SECTION 1692. Arkansas Code § 6-20-2305(f)(2), concerning school  
17 funding, is amended to read as follows:

18 (2) The school district shall maintain records and make reports  
19 relative to attendance, receipts, and disbursements and other reports as  
20 required by the ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary  
21 Education for the administration of this subchapter;

22  
23 SECTION 1693. Arkansas Code § 6-20-2305(f)(5)(B), concerning school  
24 funding, is amended to read as follows:

25 (B) The records shall be kept according to law and  
26 regulations on paper or electronic forms either furnished or approved by the  
27 ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary Education.

28  
29 SECTION 1694. Arkansas Code § 6-20-2305(g), concerning school funding,  
30 is amended to read as follows:

31 (g)(1) By the end of each school year, each school district shall  
32 submit to the ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary  
33 Education a report listing each program upon which funds allocated under  
34 subsection (b) of this section were expended, the amount expended, and any  
35 other information required by the ~~Department of Education~~ Division of  
36 Elementary and Secondary Education.

1           (2) The ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and  
2 Secondary Education shall develop appropriate reporting forms for use by  
3 school districts.

4  
5           SECTION 1695. Arkansas Code § 6-20-2306 is amended to read as follows:

6           6-20-2306. ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and  
7 Secondary Education to provide funding – Adjustments for overpayments.

8           (a) If the ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and  
9 Secondary Education determines that an overpayment has been made to a school  
10 district under any appropriation authorized by this subchapter, the  
11 ~~department~~ division may:

12                   (1) Withhold the overpayment from subsequent state funding;

13                   (2) Transfer the amount withheld for the overpayment to the line  
14 item appropriation from which the overpayment was initially made; or

15                   (3) Request a refund from the school district in the amount of  
16 the overpayment.

17           (b) The school district shall comply as directed by the ~~department~~  
18 division.

19  
20           SECTION 1696. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 6-20-  
21 2308(a), concerning the calculation of miscellaneous funds, is amended to  
22 read as follows:

23           (a) For the purpose of making an initial calculation of state  
24 foundation funding aid, the ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary  
25 and Secondary Education shall calculate the miscellaneous funds of a school  
26 district as:

27  
28           SECTION 1697. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 6-20-  
29 2308(b)(1), concerning the calculation of miscellaneous funds, is amended to  
30 read as follows:

31           (b)(1) Except as provided under subdivision (b)(2) of this section,  
32 for a school district that receives state foundation funding aid and receives  
33 an aggregate amount of miscellaneous funds during the calendar year in which  
34 the current school fiscal year began that is less than the aggregate amount  
35 of miscellaneous funds the school district received in the calendar year  
36 immediately preceding the beginning of the current school fiscal year, by the

1 end of the school fiscal year the ~~department~~ division shall distribute to the  
2 school district an amount equal to the difference between:

3  
4 SECTION 1698. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 6-20-  
5 2308(c)(1), concerning the calculation of miscellaneous funds, is amended to  
6 read as follows:

7 (c)(1) Beginning with the 2014-2015 school fiscal year, the ~~department~~  
8 division shall recoup an overpayment of state funding under the authority  
9 provided by § 6-20-2306 for a school district that receives:

10  
11 SECTION 1699. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 6-20-  
12 2308(c)(2), concerning the calculation of miscellaneous funds, is amended to  
13 read as follows:

14 (2) The ~~department~~ division shall recoup from the school  
15 district an amount equal to the difference between:

16  
17 SECTION 1700. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 6-20-2309  
18 is amended to read as follows:

19 For the 2017-2018 school year and the 2018-2019 school year, in  
20 addition to the foundation funding provided to a school district under § 6-  
21 20-2305(a)(2), the ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and  
22 Secondary Education shall distribute enhanced transportation funding to  
23 school districts each school year in the following amounts:

24  
25 SECTION 1701. Arkansas Code § 6-20-2503(b)(2)(B), concerning bonded  
26 debt assistance, is amended to read as follows:

27 (B) The annual amount due on a fiscal year basis from the  
28 school district in accordance with the principal and interest payment  
29 schedule in effect and on file with the ~~Department of Education~~ Division of  
30 Elementary and Secondary Education on January 1, 2005, for the outstanding  
31 bonded indebtedness identified under subdivision (b)(2)(A) of this section;  
32 and

33  
34 SECTION 1702. Arkansas Code § 6-20-2503(b)(3)(A)(i)(a), concerning  
35 bonded debt assistance, is amended to read as follows:

36 (i)(a) For the year that financial assistance under

1 this section will be provided, ascertain the scheduled debt payment on a  
2 fiscal year basis from the principal and interest payment schedule in effect  
3 and on file with the ~~department~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary  
4 Education on January 1, 2005, and reduce the amount of the payment by ten  
5 percent (10%) except as provided in subdivision (b)(3)(A)(i)(b) of this  
6 section.

7  
8 SECTION 1703. Arkansas Code § 6-20-2503(c)(1)(B), concerning bonded  
9 debt assistance, is amended to read as follows:

10 (B) If a school district qualifies for bonded debt  
11 assistance under this section, the amount of bonded debt assistance under  
12 this section shall not be altered or reduced as a result of refunding the  
13 bonds that were issued and outstanding as of January 1, 2005, and the bonded  
14 debt assistance shall continue after the refunding based on the principal and  
15 interest payment schedule in effect and on file with the ~~department~~ Division  
16 of Elementary and Secondary Education on January 1, 2005.

17  
18 SECTION 1704. Arkansas Code § 6-20-2503(c)(2), concerning bonded debt  
19 assistance, is amended to read as follows:

20 (2) Nothing in this subsection shall prevent the annual  
21 adjustment of bonded debt assistance under this section in accordance with  
22 annual variations in the state wealth index and the school district's  
23 principal and interest payment schedule in effect and on file with the  
24 ~~department~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary Education on January 1, 2005.

25  
26 SECTION 1705. Arkansas Code § 6-20-2503(g), concerning bonded debt  
27 assistance, is amended to read as follows:

28 (g) Within thirty (30) days after the satisfaction of a school  
29 district's outstanding bonded indebtedness in existence as of January 1,  
30 2005, the school district shall notify the ~~department~~ Division of Elementary  
31 and Secondary Education that the school district's outstanding bonded  
32 indebtedness in existence as of January 1, 2005, has been satisfied, which  
33 shall include defeasance, but shall exclude refunding.

34  
35 SECTION 1706. Arkansas Code § 6-20-2507(b), concerning the creation of  
36 the Academic Facilities Partnership Program, is amended to read as follows:

1 (b)(1) In order to apply for state financial participation in a new  
2 construction project, a school district shall provide the ~~division~~ Division  
3 of Public School Academic Facilities and Transportation with a detailed  
4 narrative, description, and justification for the project, a drawing, and  
5 evidence of:

6 (A) Preparation for the new construction project as  
7 demonstrated by inclusion of the new construction project in the school  
8 district's facilities master plan;

9 (B)(i) The adoption of a resolution certifying to the  
10 ~~division~~ Division of Public School Academic Facilities and Transportation the  
11 school district's dedication of local resources to meet the school district's  
12 share of financial participation in the new construction project.

13 (ii) The resolution shall specify the approximate  
14 date that the board of directors of the school district intends to seek  
15 elector approval of any bond or tax measures or to apply other local  
16 resources to pay the school district's share of financial participation in  
17 the new construction project;

18 (C)(i) The total estimated cost of the new construction  
19 project that shall be a minimum of three hundred dollars (\$300) per student  
20 or one hundred fifty thousand dollars (\$150,000), whichever is less.

21 (ii) The ~~division~~ Division of Public School Academic  
22 Facilities and Transportation may waive the minimum requirement under  
23 subdivision (b)(1)(C)(i) of this section upon a recommendation by the  
24 Director of the Division of Public School Academic Facilities and  
25 Transportation to the Commission for Arkansas Public School Academic  
26 Facilities and Transportation for the minimum to be waived for cause and a  
27 majority of the commission votes to support the waiver;

28 (D) The new construction project's conformance with sound  
29 educational practices;

30 (E) The new construction project's compliance with current  
31 academic facilities standards, including without limitation, appropriate  
32 space utilization of the applicable school in the district as determined by  
33 the ~~division~~ Division of Public School Academic Facilities and  
34 Transportation;

35 (F) The allocation of project costs between new  
36 construction activities and maintenance, repair, and renovation activities if

1 the new construction project includes improvements that could be classified  
2 as maintenance, repair, and renovation; and

3 (G) How the new construction project supports the prudent  
4 and resourceful expenditure of state funds and improves the school district's  
5 ability to deliver an adequate and equitable education to public school  
6 students in the district.

7 (2)(A) Life cycle data is advisory only and shall not be  
8 sufficient to support the approval of those items in the list of approved  
9 projects or individual items within a project.

10 (B) The ~~division~~ Division of Public School Academic  
11 Facilities and Transportation shall require independent proof of the failure  
12 of the equipment or other item.

13  
14 SECTION 1707. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 6-20-  
15 2507(c), concerning the creation of the Academic Facilities Partnership  
16 Program, is amended to read as follows:

17 (c) The ~~division~~ Division of Public School Academic Facilities and  
18 Transportation shall use criteria to evaluate a school district's application  
19 for state financial participation in a new construction project, which shall  
20 include, without limitation, the following:

21  
22 SECTION 1708. Arkansas Code § 6-20-2507(d), concerning the creation of  
23 the Academic Facilities Partnership Program, is amended to read as follows:

24 (d)(1) The ~~division~~ Division of Public School Academic Facilities and  
25 Transportation shall notify the school district of the ~~division's~~ Division of  
26 Public School Academic Facilities and Transportation's decision on the  
27 application and, if applicable, the estimated amount of state financial  
28 participation in the new construction project no later than May 1 of each  
29 odd-numbered year.

30 (2) The ~~division's~~ Division of Public School Academic Facilities  
31 and Transportation's notice of its decision on a school district's  
32 application for state financial participation in a new construction project  
33 shall include an explanation of the evaluative factors underlying the  
34 decision of the ~~division~~ Division of Public School Academic Facilities and  
35 Transportation to provide or not provide state financial participation in  
36 support of the new construction project.

1 (3) The commission may withdraw committed funds if a school  
2 district had funding made available on:

3 (A) July 1, 2006, and does not begin construction, as  
4 evidenced by a signed construction contract, by January 31, 2010; or

5 (B) July 1, 2007, and does not begin construction, as  
6 evidenced by a signed construction contract, by January 31, 2011.

7 (4) If a construction project has not begun as required under  
8 subdivision (d)(3) of this section due to the failure of a school district to  
9 raise the school district's share of the project cost due to a failed millage  
10 election before June 1, 2009, the ~~division~~ Division of Public School Academic  
11 Facilities and Transportation may exercise its authority under § 6-21-811.  
12

13 SECTION 1709. Arkansas Code § 6-20-2507(e)(1), concerning the creation  
14 of the Academic Facilities Partnership Program, is amended to read as  
15 follows:

16 (e)(1) If the ~~division~~ Division of Public School Academic Facilities  
17 and Transportation determines that the new construction project is eligible  
18 for state financial participation, the ~~division~~ Division of Public School  
19 Academic Facilities and Transportation and the school district shall enter  
20 into an agreement specifying the terms of the state's financial participation  
21 and the conditions that must be satisfied by the school district.  
22

23 SECTION 1710. Arkansas Code § 6-20-2507(e)(2)(D) and (E), concerning  
24 the creation of the Academic Facilities Partnership Program, are amended to  
25 read as follows:

26 (D) Provide that changes to the plans for the new  
27 construction project shall be made in consultation with the ~~division~~ Division  
28 of Public School Academic Facilities and Transportation;

29 (E) Provide that the ~~division~~ Division of Public School  
30 Academic Facilities and Transportation or any person acting on behalf of the  
31 ~~division~~ Division of Public School Academic Facilities and Transportation may  
32 conduct on-site inspections of the new construction project as frequently as  
33 the ~~division~~ Division of Public School Academic Facilities and Transportation  
34 deems necessary to assure the prudent and resourceful expenditure of state  
35 funds with regard to public school academic facilities;  
36

1 SECTION 1711. Arkansas Code § 6-20-2507(f), concerning the creation of  
2 the Academic Facilities Partnership Program, is amended to read as follows:

3 (f)(1)(A) If a school district qualifies for state financial  
4 participation under this section, the ~~division~~ Division of Public School  
5 Academic Facilities and Transportation shall certify the amount of state  
6 financial participation to the commission.

7 (B) The amount of state financial participation under this  
8 section is limited to the amount resulting from the application of the  
9 academic facilities wealth index to the project cost promulgated by the  
10 commission to calculate the cost necessary to bring the academic facility  
11 into compliance with the Arkansas Public School Academic Facility Manual  
12 under § 6-21-809.

13 (2)(A) The commission shall certify the amount to the ~~Department~~  
14 ~~of Education~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary Education for payment, less  
15 any withholding or reduction imposed by the commission under § 6-21-114(d)  
16 for a school district's failure to comply with the commission's insurance  
17 requirements.

18 (B) For tracking purposes, the school district shall  
19 account for the funds received as state financial participation under this  
20 section as restricted funds and shall account for the funds in accordance  
21 with provisions of law, including without limitation, the Arkansas  
22 Educational Financial Accounting and Reporting Act of 2004, § 6-20-2201 et  
23 seq., and rules established by the State Board of Education and the  
24 commission.

25  
26 SECTION 1712. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 6-20-  
27 2508(c), concerning the creation of the Academic Facilities Catastrophic  
28 Program, is amended to read as follows:

29 (c) As part of its application for state financial participation in a  
30 catastrophic project, the school district shall provide the ~~division~~ Division  
31 of Public School Academic Facilities and Transportation with evidence of:  
32

33 SECTION 1713. Arkansas Code § 6-20-2508(d)-(f), concerning the  
34 creation of the Academic Facilities Catastrophic Program, are amended to read  
35 as follows:

36 (d)(1) The ~~division~~ Division of Public School Academic Facilities and

1 Transportation shall evaluate a school district's application for  
2 catastrophic assistance and may conduct an on-site inspection before making a  
3 decision on the application as it deems necessary.

4 (2) The ~~division~~ Division of Public School Academic Facilities  
5 and Transportation shall notify the school district of the ~~division's~~  
6 Division of Public School Academic Facilities and Transportation's decision  
7 on the application and, if applicable, the amount of state financial  
8 participation. The ~~division~~ Division of Public School Academic Facilities and  
9 Transportation shall base its decision on several factors, including, without  
10 limitation:

11 (A) Compliance with appropriate academic facility  
12 standards, including, without limitation, appropriate space utilization;

13 (B) The amount and availability of insurance or other  
14 public or private emergency assistance;

15 (C) The academic facilities wealth index of the school  
16 district; and

17 (D) The prudent and resourceful expenditure of state funds  
18 with regard to public school academic facilities.

19 (e)(1)(A) If a school district qualifies for state financial  
20 participation under this section, the ~~division~~ Division of Public School  
21 Academic Facilities and Transportation shall certify the amount of state  
22 financial participation to the Commission for Arkansas Public School Academic  
23 Facilities and Transportation.

24 (B) The amount of state financial participation under this  
25 section shall not exceed the amount resulting from the application of the  
26 academic facilities wealth index to the cost necessary to bring the academic  
27 facility into compliance with the Arkansas Public School Academic Facility  
28 Manual, less any withholding or reduction imposed by the commission under §  
29 6-21-114(d) for a school district's failure to comply with the commission's  
30 insurance requirements, including without limitation, the failure to carry  
31 replacement cost coverage, if applicable, on all buildings and facilities.

32 (2)(A) The commission shall certify the amount to the ~~Department~~  
33 ~~of Education~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary Education for payment.

34 (B) For tracking purposes, the school district shall  
35 account for the funds received as a state financial participation under this  
36 section as restricted funds and shall account for the funds in accordance

1 with provisions of law, including, without limitation, the Arkansas  
2 Educational Financial Accounting and Reporting Act of 2004, § 6-20-2201 et  
3 seq., and rules established by the State Board of Education and the  
4 commission.

5 (f) Every effort shall be made to conform a catastrophic project to  
6 current academic facilities standards, including appropriate space  
7 utilization requirements, unless in the judgment of the ~~division~~ Division of  
8 Public School Academic Facilities and Transportation it is impractical to  
9 conform the catastrophic project to current standards.

10  
11 SECTION 1714. Arkansas Code § 6-20-2511(b), concerning high-growth  
12 school districts, is amended to read as follows:

13 (b) There is established the Academic Facilities High-Growth School  
14 District Loan Program under which the ~~Department of Education~~ Division of  
15 Elementary and Secondary Education shall provide an interest-free loan to a  
16 high-growth school district in which the mills required to service the bonded  
17 indebtedness incurred for academic facilities ~~exceeds~~ exceed the maximum  
18 expected millage for the high-growth school district.

19  
20 SECTION 1715. Arkansas Code § 6-20-2511(d)(3)(C), concerning high-  
21 growth school districts, is amended to read as follows:

22 (C) Shall not otherwise change the amount of revenues  
23 available to repay the loan without the prior approval of the ~~department~~  
24 Division of Elementary and Secondary Education.

25  
26 SECTION 1716. Arkansas Code § 6-20-2511(e) and (f), concerning high-  
27 growth school districts, are amended to read as follows:

28 (e) Within a reasonable time after its receipt, each application under  
29 subsection (c) of this section shall be examined by the ~~department~~ Division  
30 of Elementary and Secondary Education in accordance with rules established by  
31 the State Board of Education as to the accuracy of the answers contained  
32 therein.

33 (f)(1) After considering the merits of each application, the  
34 ~~department~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary Education may, in its  
35 discretion, approve the application for the full amount of the proposed loan,  
36 approve the application for a loan of a lesser amount than the amount

1 requested, or disapprove the application.

2 (2) Before approving the application, the ~~department~~ Division of  
3 Elementary and Secondary Education shall make a determination that the total  
4 space available in the high-growth school district is less than the amount  
5 needed to accommodate the growth of students.

6  
7 SECTION 1717. Arkansas Code § 6-20-2516(f)-(i), concerning the  
8 creation of the Academic Facilities Review Board, are amended to read as  
9 follows:

10 (f) The ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary  
11 Education shall provide staff support for the board's activities.

12 (g)(1) Members of the board shall serve without pay.

13 (2) Members of the board may receive expense reimbursement in  
14 accordance with § 25-16-902, to be paid by the ~~department~~ Division of  
15 Elementary and Secondary Education to the extent money is available for that  
16 purpose.

17 (h) The board shall establish policies and procedures for conducting  
18 hearings and appeals.

19 (i)(1) Following the hearing at which all testimony and evidence are  
20 presented, the board shall make a final determination accepting, rejecting,  
21 or modifying the determination of the ~~division~~ Division of Public School  
22 Academic Facilities and Transportation.

23 (2) Within ten (10) business days, the board shall provide to  
24 the appellant public school district and to the ~~division~~ Division of Public  
25 School Academic Facilities and Transportation a notice of the board's final  
26 determination.

27 (3)(A) If the board's final determination will result in a  
28 greater level of state financial participation in a project than previously  
29 authorized by the ~~division~~ Division of Public School Academic Facilities and  
30 Transportation, the board's final determination shall be reviewed by the  
31 commission in accordance with procedures developed by the commission.

32 (B) A decision of the commission resulting from a review  
33 of a decision of the board under this section is final and is not subject to:

34 (i) Further appeal to the commission;

35 (ii) Request for rehearing by the commission; or

36 (iii) Petition for judicial review under the

1 Arkansas Administrative Procedure Act, § 25-15-201 et seq.

2  
3 SECTION 1718. Arkansas Code § 6-20-2517(b)(13)(B), concerning nursing  
4 centers in new schools, is amended to read as follows:

5 (B) The ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and  
6 Secondary Education may purchase appropriate software that is accessible to a  
7 school district depending on the availability of funding;

8  
9 SECTION 1719. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 6-21-  
10 106(g), concerning fire hazard inspection at schools prior to closing for  
11 breaks, is amended to read as follows:

12 (g) The chief executive officer of the fire department shall notify  
13 the State Fire Marshal Enforcement Section of the ~~Department~~ Division of  
14 Arkansas State Police and the ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary  
15 and Secondary Education if:

16  
17 SECTION 1720. Arkansas Code § 6-21-112(e), concerning the Division of  
18 Public School Academic Facilities and Transportation, is amended to read as  
19 follows:

20 (e)(1) The ~~Director of the Department of Information Systems~~ Secretary  
21 of the Department of Transformation and Shared Services shall assign one (1)  
22 individual to serve as a technology liaison to the Division of Public School  
23 Academic Facilities and Transportation.

24 (2) The ~~Director of the Department of Finance and Administration~~  
25 Secretary of the Department of Transformation and Shared Services shall  
26 assign one (1) individual from the staff of the Building Authority Division  
27 ~~of the Department of Finance and Administration~~ to serve as a physical plant  
28 liaison to the Division of Public School Academic Facilities and  
29 Transportation.

30  
31 SECTION 1721. Arkansas Code § 6-21-112(h), concerning the creation of  
32 the Division of Public School Academic Facilities and Transportation, is  
33 amended to read as follows:

34 (h) The ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary  
35 Education shall coordinate and share certain administrative, custodial,  
36 legal, internal finance, and other necessary personnel and responsibilities

1 to effectuate the daily operations of the Division of Public School Academic  
2 Facilities and Transportation and the ~~Department~~ Division of Information  
3 Systems.

4  
5 SECTION 1722. Arkansas Code § 6-21-114(a)(1) and (2), concerning the  
6 creation of the Commission for Arkansas Public School Academic Facilities and  
7 Transportation, are amended to read as follows:

8 (1) The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and  
9 Administration;

10 (2) The Commissioner of Elementary and Secondary Education; and  
11

12 SECTION 1723. Arkansas Code § 6-21-114(b)(1), concerning the creation  
13 of the Commission for Arkansas Public School Academic Facilities and  
14 Transportation, is amended to read as follows:

15 (b)(1) The members of the commission shall meet and organize  
16 immediately after March 29, 2005. The Commissioner of Elementary and  
17 Secondary Education shall be the chair of the commission.  
18

19 SECTION 1724. Arkansas Code § 6-21-114(c), concerning the creation of  
20 the Commission for Arkansas Public School Academic Facilities and  
21 Transportation, is amended to read as follows:

22 (c) Staff support shall be provided by appropriate personnel of the  
23 Department of Finance and Administration, the ~~Department of Education~~  
24 Division of Elementary and Secondary Education, the Arkansas Development  
25 Finance Authority, and the ~~division~~ Division of Public School Academic  
26 Facilities and Transportation.  
27

28 SECTION 1725. Arkansas Code § 6-21-114(d)(1), concerning the creation  
29 of the Commission for Arkansas Public School Academic Facilities and  
30 Transportation, is amended to read as follows:

31 (1) Oversee the operations of the ~~division~~ Division of Public  
32 School Academic Facilities and Transportation;  
33

34 SECTION 1726. Arkansas Code § 6-21-115(a) and (b), concerning the  
35 name, operation, and director of the Division of Public School Academic  
36 Facilities and Transportation, are amended to read as follows:

1 (a) The division established under § 6-21-112 within the Division of  
2 Elementary and Secondary Education shall be known as the "Division of Public  
3 School Academic Facilities and Transportation" ~~of the Department of~~  
4 ~~Education~~.

5 (b)(1) The ~~division~~ Division of Public School Academic Facilities and  
6 Transportation shall operate under the direction, control, and supervision of  
7 the Commission for Arkansas Public School Academic Facilities and  
8 Transportation.

9 (2) The ~~division~~ Division of Public School Academic Facilities  
10 and Transportation shall not operate under the direction, control, and  
11 supervision of the State Board of Education.

12  
13 SECTION 1727. Arkansas Code § 6-21-303(c), concerning soliciting bids  
14 for the procurement of commodities by the board of directors of each school  
15 district, is amended to read as follows:

16 (c) The ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary  
17 Education may grant a waiver of the requirements of subsection (b) of this  
18 section if a school district requests a waiver and the school district is in  
19 fiscal distress.

20  
21 SECTION 1728. Arkansas Code § 6-21-304(a)(1)(B), concerning the manner  
22 of making purchases by a school district, is amended to read as follows:

23 (B) Annually on July 1, the Commissioner of Elementary and  
24 Secondary Education shall adjust the purchase price amounts under subdivision  
25 (a)(1)(A) of this section by the percentage change in the Consumer Price  
26 Index for All Urban Consumers or its successor.

27  
28 SECTION 1729. Arkansas Code § 6-21-403(d), concerning the public  
29 school district requirements for instruction material, is amended to read as  
30 follows:

31 (d)(1)(A) The ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and  
32 Secondary Education shall monitor to ensure that all school districts in  
33 Arkansas comply with this section.

34 (B) The ~~department~~ division shall report in the annual  
35 school performance report a school district that fails to provide  
36 instructional materials, including the availability of any equipment needed

1 to access the instructional materials.

2 (2) The state board, through the ~~department~~ division, may  
3 promulgate rules as may be necessary to carry out this subchapter and shall  
4 report to the members of the House Committee on Education and Senate  
5 Committee on Education annually any school district out of compliance by  
6 November 1 of each year.

7

8 SECTION 1730. Arkansas Code § 6-21-410(a)(1), concerning illegal acts  
9 involving school officials, is amended to read as follows:

10 (a)(1) It shall be illegal for the Commissioner of Elementary and  
11 Secondary Education or any other employee connected with the ~~Department of~~  
12 ~~Education~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary Education, any member of any  
13 selecting committee, or any member of any school district board of directors  
14 to accept or receive any money, gift, property, or favor whatsoever from any  
15 person, firm, or corporation, or any agent thereof offering for sale any item  
16 pursuant to this subchapter or from any person in any way interested in such  
17 sale.

18

19 SECTION 1731. Arkansas Code § 6-21-410(c)(1), concerning illegal acts  
20 involving school officials, is amended to read as follows:

21 (c)(1) It shall be illegal for any person directly or indirectly to  
22 promise or offer to give or cause to be promised, offered, or given any  
23 money, good, bribe, present, reward, or any valuable thing whatsoever to the  
24 commissioner, his or her assistants, or any other employee of the ~~Department~~  
25 ~~of Education~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary Education, the Director of  
26 the ~~Department~~ Division of Career and Technical Education, his or her  
27 assistants or any other employee of the ~~Department~~ Division of Career and  
28 Technical Education, any school district board members, teachers, or other  
29 persons with the intent of influencing their decisions on any questions,  
30 matters, causes, or proceedings in the selection of instructional materials.

31

32 SECTION 1732. Arkansas Code § 6-21-811 is amended to read as follows:

33 6-21-811. Academic Facilities Distress Program.

34 (a) The Commission for Arkansas Public School Academic Facilities and  
35 Transportation shall classify a public school or school district as being in  
36 academic facilities distress if the Division of Public School Academic

1 Facilities and Transportation recommends and the commission concurs that the  
2 public school or school district has engaged in actions or inactions that  
3 result in any of the following:

4 (1) Any act or violation determined by the ~~division~~ Division of  
5 Public School Academic Facilities and Transportation to jeopardize any  
6 academic facility used by a public school or school district, including, but  
7 not limited to:

8 (A) Material failure to properly maintain academic  
9 facilities in accordance with this subchapter and rules adopted by the  
10 commission;

11 (B) Material violation of local, state, or federal fire,  
12 health, or safety code provisions or laws;

13 (C) Material violation of applicable building code  
14 provisions or law;

15 (D) Material failure to provide timely and accurate  
16 facilities master plans to the ~~division~~ Division of Public School Academic  
17 Facilities and Transportation;

18 (E) Material failure to comply with state law governing  
19 purchasing, bid requirements, or school-construction-related laws or rules in  
20 relation to academic facilities projects;

21 (F) Material default on any school district debt  
22 obligation; or

23 (G) Material failure to plan and progress satisfactorily  
24 toward accomplishing the priorities established by the ~~division~~ Division of  
25 Public School Academic Facilities and Transportation and the approved school  
26 district's facilities master plan; and

27 (2) Any other condition of an academic facility or facilities in  
28 a public school or school district that is determined by the ~~division~~  
29 Division of Public School Academic Facilities and Transportation to have a  
30 detrimental impact on educational services provided by that public school or  
31 school district.

32 (b) The ~~division~~ Division of Public School Academic Facilities and  
33 Transportation shall provide written notice, via certified mail, return  
34 receipt requested, to the president of the board of directors and the  
35 superintendent of the school district identified or containing a school  
36 identified by the ~~division~~ Division of Public School Academic Facilities and

1 Transportation as being in facilities distress.

2 (c)(1) By August 31 of each year, the ~~division~~ Division of Public  
3 School Academic Facilities and Transportation shall notify the superintendent  
4 of a school district if the ~~division~~ Division of Public School Academic  
5 Facilities and Transportation is aware the school district has experienced  
6 two (2) or more indicators of facilities distress in one (1) school year that  
7 the ~~division~~ Division of Public School Academic Facilities and Transportation  
8 deems to be nonmaterial but that without intervention could place the  
9 district in facilities distress.

10 (2) The superintendent of a school district shall report to the  
11 ~~division~~ Division of Public School Academic Facilities and Transportation if  
12 the superintendent is aware the school district has experienced two (2) or  
13 more indicators of facilities distress in one (1) school year that the  
14 superintendent deems to be nonmaterial but that without intervention could  
15 place the district in facilities distress.

16 (3)(A) The ~~division~~ Division of Public School Academic  
17 Facilities and Transportation and the superintendent shall review all data  
18 related to the nonmaterial indicators of facilities distress.

19 (B)(i) Within thirty (30) days of the ~~division's~~ Division  
20 of Public School Academic Facilities and Transportation's determination that  
21 the school district may be experiencing facilities distress at a nonmaterial  
22 level, the ~~division~~ Division of Public School Academic Facilities and  
23 Transportation shall provide a notice to the school district's superintendent  
24 and board of directors that:

25 (a) Describes the nonmaterial indicators of  
26 facilities distress that could have a detrimental impact on educational  
27 services provided by the affected public school or the school district if not  
28 addressed; and

29 (b) Identifies the support available from the  
30 ~~division~~ Division of Public School Academic Facilities and Transportation to  
31 address each nonmaterial indicator of facilities distress.

32 (ii) The board of directors shall place on the  
33 agenda for the next regularly scheduled meeting of the board of directors a  
34 discussion of the notice of nonmaterial indicators of facilities distress.

35 (4)(A) If any condition of an academic facility raises a  
36 significant health or safety issue, the superintendent of the school district

1 where the academic facility is located or the person responsible for the  
2 management of the academic facility shall immediately notify the ~~division~~  
3 Division of Public School Academic Facilities and Transportation and the  
4 board of directors of the school district.

5 (B) The board of directors shall place on the agenda for  
6 the next regularly scheduled meeting of the board of directors a discussion  
7 of the notice of the significant health or safety issue.

8 (d)(1) A public school or school district classified by the commission  
9 as being in facilities distress shall develop a facilities improvement plan  
10 within thirty (30) days from the date of classification and promptly submit  
11 the facilities improvement plan to the ~~division~~ Division of Public School  
12 Academic Facilities and Transportation for review and approval.

13 (2) A public school or school district shall review and revise  
14 its facilities improvement plan on a periodic basis as determined by the  
15 ~~division~~ Division of Public School Academic Facilities and Transportation and  
16 submit the updated facilities improvement plan to the ~~division~~ Division of  
17 Public School Academic Facilities and Transportation in order for the  
18 ~~division~~ Division of Public School Academic Facilities and Transportation to  
19 determine whether the public school or school district is correcting its  
20 deficient areas of practice regarding academic facilities.

21 (3) A school district shall use facilities improvement plans as  
22 necessary to supplement and update its facilities master plan.

23 (e)(1) Every two (2) years, the ~~division~~ Division of Public School  
24 Academic Facilities and Transportation shall determine whether the progress  
25 of each school district complies with the school district's facilities master  
26 plan and shall notify the school district of any noncompliance.

27 (2) Every two (2) years, the ~~division~~ Division of Public School  
28 Academic Facilities and Transportation shall review the applications made for  
29 the Academic Facilities Partnership Program established under § 6-20-2507, to  
30 identify any school district that did not apply for state funding for  
31 necessary facilities to meet adequacy requirements and shall notify the  
32 school district of any deficiencies.

33 (3) Within thirty (30) days of receiving the notice provided  
34 under subdivision (e)(1) or subdivision (e)(2) of this section, the school  
35 district shall submit a facilities improvement plan to the ~~division~~ Division  
36 of Public School Academic Facilities and Transportation for its review and

1 approval that states how the school district will address the noncompliance  
2 issues contained in the notice.

3 (4) If the ~~division~~ Division of Public School Academic  
4 Facilities and Transportation does not approve the facilities improvement  
5 plan submitted by the school district, it shall identify the school district  
6 as being in facilities distress.

7 (5) A school district may appeal the identification of the  
8 ~~division~~ Division of Public School Academic Facilities and Transportation  
9 under this subsection to the commission pursuant to the procedures  
10 established by the commission.

11 (f)(1)(A) Within ten (10) days of a school district's failure to pass  
12 a millage required to fulfill its obligations under the school district's  
13 facilities master plan, the ~~division~~ Division of Public School Academic  
14 Facilities and Transportation shall provide written notice to the school  
15 district of the date, time, and place for a conference with the school  
16 district at which the ~~division~~ Division of Public School Academic Facilities  
17 and Transportation will:

18 (i) Determine whether as a result of the failed  
19 millage there are facilities issues relating to:

20 (a) Immediate repairs under § 6-20-2504(b)(4)  
21 [repealed];

22 (b) The presence and number of suitability  
23 needs of public school academic facilities, which shall be defined by rule;  
24 or

25 (c) Immediate need for academic facilities to  
26 meet student growth; and

27 (ii) Thoroughly discuss and explain the sanctions  
28 and requirements that are available to the commission if the school district  
29 or a school within the district is classified by the commission as being in  
30 facilities distress under this section and § 6-21-812.

31 (B) The written notice shall be provided via certified  
32 mail to the president of the school district board of directors and the  
33 superintendent of the school district.

34 (C) The commission shall establish rules for the  
35 implementation of this subdivision (f)(1).

36 (2)(A) If the commission determines that there are immediate

1 repairs, growth, or suitability issues that require expedited attention, the  
2 commission may direct the school district to conduct a special election to  
3 vote on a millage increase.

4 (B)(i) The ~~division~~ Division of Public School Academic  
5 Facilities and Transportation and the school district shall agree upon the  
6 issues to be submitted for a vote in the special election.

7 (ii) The special election may not include any issues  
8 other than the issues that are mutually agreed upon.

9 (C) The special election shall be held on a date that is:

10 (i) Mutually agreed upon by the ~~division~~ Division of  
11 Public School Academic Facilities and Transportation and the school district;  
12 and

13 (ii) Not later than seven (7) months from the date  
14 of the election at which the millage failed unless it is necessary to extend  
15 the date beyond seven (7) months because of restrictions on the number of  
16 elections that may be held within a calendar year.

17 (D) If within ninety (90) days from the notice provided to  
18 the school district under subdivision (f)(1)(A) of this section the school  
19 district has not set an election date, the ~~division~~ Division of Public School  
20 Academic Facilities and Transportation shall identify the school district as  
21 being in facilities distress.

22 (E)(i) If the school district is able to finance the  
23 immediate repairs, growth, and suitability improvements without the necessity  
24 of a special election on increasing its millage, the school district may  
25 enter into an agreement with the ~~division~~ Division of Public School Academic  
26 Facilities and Transportation to fund its improvements separately, which  
27 shall include an implementation timeframe.

28 (ii) The ~~division~~ Division of Public School Academic  
29 Facilities and Transportation shall identify the school district as being in  
30 facilities distress for failure to implement the agreed upon plan for  
31 immediate repairs, growth, and suitability improvements within the timeframe  
32 specified in the agreement.

33 (g) When a school district is classified by the commission to be in  
34 facilities distress, the ~~division~~ Division of Public School Academic  
35 Facilities and Transportation may with the approval of the commission:

36 (1)(A) Provide on-site technical evaluation and assistance and

1 make written recommendations to the school district superintendent regarding  
2 the care and maintenance of any academic facility in the school district.

3 (B) Any school district classified as being in facilities  
4 distress status shall accept on-site technical evaluation and assistance from  
5 the ~~division~~ Division of Public School Academic Facilities and  
6 Transportation.

7 (C) The written recommendations of the ~~division~~ Division  
8 of Public School Academic Facilities and Transportation are binding on the  
9 school district, the superintendent, and the board of directors;

10 (2) Remove permanently, reassign, or suspend on a temporary  
11 basis the superintendent of the school district, and:

12 (A) Appoint an individual in place of the superintendent  
13 to administratively operate the school district under the supervision and  
14 approval of the Commissioner of Elementary and Secondary Education; and

15 (B) Compensate from school district funds the individual  
16 appointed to operate the school district;

17 (3) Suspend or remove some or all of the current board of  
18 directors and call for the election of a new board of directors for the  
19 school district, in which case the school district shall reimburse the county  
20 board of election commissioners for election costs as otherwise required by  
21 law;

22 (4) Require the school district to operate without a board of  
23 directors under the supervision of the superintendent or an individual or  
24 panel appointed by the commissioner;

25 (5) Waive the application of Arkansas law or the corresponding  
26 State Board of Education rules and regulations, with the exception of:

27 (A) The Teacher Fair Dismissal Act of 1983, § 6-17-1501 et  
28 seq.; and

29 (B) The Public School Employee Fair Hearing Act, § 6-17-  
30 1701 et seq.;

31 (6) In the absence of a school district board of directors,  
32 direct the commissioner to assume all authority of the board of directors as  
33 may be necessary for the day-to-day governance of the school district;

34 (7)(A) Return the administration of the school district to the  
35 former board of directors or place the administration of the school district  
36 in a newly elected board of directors if:

1 (i) The ~~division~~ Division of Public School Academic  
2 Facilities and Transportation certifies in writing to the commission and to  
3 the school district that the school district has corrected all issues that  
4 caused the classification of facilities distress; and

5 (ii) The commission determines the school district  
6 has corrected all issues that caused the classification of facilities  
7 distress.

8 (B) If the ~~division~~ Division of Public School Academic  
9 Facilities and Transportation calls for an election of a new school district  
10 board of directors, the school district shall reimburse the county board of  
11 election commissioners for election costs as otherwise required by law;

12 (8) Require school district staff and employees to attend  
13 training in areas of concern for the public school or school district;

14 (9)(A) Require a school district to cease all expenditures  
15 related to activities not described as part of an adequate education in § 6-  
16 20-2302 and place money that would have been spent on the activities into an  
17 academic facilities escrow account to be released only upon approval by the  
18 ~~division~~ Division of Public School Academic Facilities and Transportation for  
19 use in conjunction with a local academic facilities project.

20 (B) School districts shall include a clause addressing  
21 this contingency in all contracts with personnel who are involved with  
22 activities not described as part of an adequate education;

23 (10) Notify the public school or school district in writing that  
24 the deficiencies regarding academic facilities shall be corrected within a  
25 time period designated by the ~~division~~ Division of Public School Academic  
26 Facilities and Transportation;

27 (11)(A) Petition the state board at any time for the  
28 consolidation, annexation, or reconstitution of a school district in  
29 facilities distress or take other appropriate action as allowed by this  
30 subchapter in order to secure and protect the best interest of the  
31 educational resources of the state or to provide for the best interest of  
32 students in the school district.

33 (B) The state board may approve the petition or take other  
34 appropriate action as allowed by this subchapter.

35 (C) Except as set forth in subdivision (g)(11)(D) of this  
36 section or subsection (n) of this section, the state board shall consolidate,

1 annex, or reconstitute any school district that fails to remove itself from  
2 the classification of a school district in facilities distress within five  
3 (5) consecutive school years of classification of facilities distress status.

4 (D) The state board may grant additional time for a public  
5 school or school district to remove itself from facilities distress by  
6 issuing a written finding supported by a majority of the state board  
7 explaining in detail that the public school or school district could not  
8 remove itself from facilities distress during the relevant time period due to  
9 impossibility caused by external forces beyond the control of the public  
10 school or school district;

11 (12) Correct the failure of a school district to complete its  
12 agreed plan or to pass the millage in the special election under subdivision  
13 (f)(2) of this section by contracting for and completing the necessary  
14 improvements under the agreed plan;

15 (13)(A) If the ~~division~~ Division of Public School Academic  
16 Facilities and Transportation recommends and the commission concurs that the  
17 academic facilities in the public school district in facilities distress are  
18 inadequate to provide an adequate education, the state board may dissolve the  
19 school district and transfer students to public schools in other public  
20 school districts.

21 (B) The state board shall assign the public school  
22 district's territory, property, and debt; and

23 (14) Take any other action allowed by law that is deemed  
24 necessary to assist a public school or school district in correcting the  
25 issues that caused the classification of facilities distress, to secure and  
26 protect the best interest of the educational resources of the state, or to  
27 provide for the best interest of students in the school district.

28 (h) No school district identified by the ~~division~~ Division of Public  
29 School Academic Facilities and Transportation as being in facilities distress  
30 may incur any debt without the prior written approval of the commission.

31 (i) A public school or school district in facilities distress may  
32 petition the commission for removal from facilities distress status only  
33 after the ~~division~~ Division of Public School Academic Facilities and  
34 Transportation has certified in writing that the public school or school  
35 district has corrected all criteria for being classified as in facilities  
36 distress and has complied with all ~~division~~ Division of Public School

1 Academic Facilities and Transportation recommendations and requirements for  
2 removal from facilities distress status.

3 (j) The ~~division~~ Division of Public School Academic Facilities and  
4 Transportation shall submit a written evaluation on the status of each school  
5 district in facilities distress to the commission and the state board at  
6 least one (1) time every six (6) months.

7 (k)(1)(A) If a school district is classified by the commission as  
8 being in facilities distress and has immediate repairs, growth, or  
9 suitability improvement issues, the ~~division~~ Division of Public School  
10 Academic Facilities and Transportation, in addition to any other remedy under  
11 this section and § 6-21-812, may provide a loan to the school district to be  
12 repaid from any funds available that are not required to provide an adequate  
13 education.

14 (B)(i) Funds available that are not required to provide an  
15 adequate education include:

16 (a) Fund balances and any cash on hand that  
17 are not part of foundation funding or categorical funding under § 6-20-2305  
18 and are not otherwise required to provide an adequate education for students  
19 in the public school district; and

20 (b) Revenues that are not obligated on bonds.

21 (ii) Funds remaining after the annual payment on a  
22 bond obligation are included in funds that are not required to provide an  
23 adequate education.

24 (2) The public school district shall repay the loan on the  
25 schedule determined by the ~~division~~ Division of Public School Academic  
26 Facilities and Transportation.

27 (1) The commission in conjunction with the Academic Facilities  
28 Oversight Committee shall:

29 (1) Reexamine the role and function of the State Facility  
30 Assessment of 2004;

31 (2) Assess the progress made by the state in the mandates of the  
32 Supreme Court in Lake View School District No. 25 v. Huckabee, 351 Ark. 31,  
33 91 S.W.3d 472 (2002); and

34 (3) Make needed changes in the implementation of the academic  
35 facilities program by modifying the commission's rules.

36 (m) If the ~~division~~ Division of Public School Academic Facilities and

1 Transportation or the commissioner assumes authority over a public school  
2 district in facilities distress under subsection (g) of this section, the  
3 commission may pursue the following process for returning a public school  
4 district to the local control of its residents:

5 (1) During the second full school year following the assumption  
6 of authority, the commission shall determine the extent of the school  
7 district's progress toward correcting all issues that caused the  
8 classification of facilities distress;

9 (2)(A) If the commission determines that sufficient progress has  
10 been made by a school district toward correcting all criteria for being  
11 classified as in facilities distress, but the school district has not yet  
12 resolved all issues that caused the classification of facilities distress,  
13 the commissioner, with the approval of the commission, may appoint a  
14 community advisory board of either five (5) or seven (7) members to serve  
15 under the supervision and approval of the commissioner.

16 (B) The members of the community advisory board shall be  
17 residents of the school district and shall serve on a voluntary basis without  
18 compensation.

19 (C) ~~The Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and  
20 Secondary Education shall cause to be provided to the community advisory  
21 board technical assistance and training in, at a minimum, the areas required  
22 in § 6-13-629.

23 (D) The duties of the community advisory board include  
24 without limitation:

25 (i) Meeting monthly during a regularly scheduled  
26 public meeting with the state-appointed administrator regarding the progress  
27 of the school or school district toward correcting all issues that caused the  
28 classification of facilities distress;

29 (ii) Seeking community input from the residents of  
30 the school district regarding the progress of the school or school district  
31 toward correcting all issues that caused the classification of facilities  
32 distress;

33 (iii) Conducting hearings and making recommendations  
34 to the commissioner regarding personnel and student discipline matters as set  
35 forth in the appropriate district policies;

36 (iv) Working to build community capacity for the

1 continued support of the school district; and

2 (v) Submitting quarterly reports to the commissioner  
3 and the commission regarding the progress of the school or school district  
4 toward correcting all issues that caused the classification of facilities  
5 distress.

6 (E) The members of the community advisory board shall  
7 serve at the pleasure of the commissioner until:

8 (i) The school district is returned to local control  
9 and a permanent school district board of directors is elected and qualified;  
10 or

11 (ii) The state board, upon petition of the  
12 commission or ~~division~~ the Division of Public School Academic Facilities and  
13 Transportation, annexes, consolidates, or reconstitutes the school district  
14 pursuant to this title or under another provision of law;

15 (3) By April 1 of each year following the appointment of a  
16 community advisory board pursuant to subdivision (m)(2) of this section, the  
17 commission shall determine the extent of the school district's progress  
18 toward correcting all criteria for being classified as in facilities distress  
19 and shall:

20 (A) Allow the community advisory board to remain in place  
21 for an additional year;

22 (B)(i) Return the school district to local control by  
23 calling for the election of a newly elected school district board of  
24 directors if:

25 (a) The ~~division~~ Division of Public School  
26 Academic Facilities and Transportation certifies in writing to the commission  
27 and to the school district that the school district has corrected all issues  
28 that caused the classification of facilities distress; and

29 (b) The commission determines the school  
30 district has corrected all issues that caused the classification of  
31 facilities distress.

32 (ii) If the ~~division~~ Division of Public School  
33 Academic Facilities and Transportation or the commission calls for an  
34 election of a new school district board of directors, the school district  
35 shall reimburse the county board of election commissioners for election costs  
36 as otherwise required by law; or

1 (C) Petition the state board for the annexation,  
2 consolidation, or reconstitution of the school district under this section;  
3 and

4 (4)(A) If the ~~division~~ Division of Public School Academic  
5 Facilities and Transportation, with the approval of the commission, calls for  
6 an election of a new school district board of directors pursuant to  
7 subdivision (g)(7) of this section, the commissioner, with the approval of  
8 the commission, may appoint an interim board of directors to govern the  
9 school district until a permanent school district board of directors is  
10 elected and qualified.

11 (B) The interim board of directors shall consist of either  
12 five (5) or seven (7) members.

13 (C) The members of the interim board of directors shall be  
14 residents of the school district and otherwise eligible to serve as board  
15 members under applicable law.

16 (D) The members of the interim board of directors shall  
17 serve on a voluntary basis without compensation.

18 (n)(1) If, by the end of the fifth school year following the school  
19 district's classification of facilities distress status, the school district  
20 in facilities distress has not corrected all issues that caused the  
21 classification of facilities distress, the state board, upon petition from  
22 the commission or ~~division~~ the Division of Public School Academic Facilities  
23 and Transportation and after a public hearing, shall consolidate, annex, or  
24 reconstitute the school district under this section.

25 (2) The state board may grant additional time for a public  
26 school or school district to remove itself from facilities distress by  
27 issuing a written finding supported by a majority of the state board  
28 explaining in detail that the public school or school district could not  
29 remove itself from facilities distress during the relevant time period due to  
30 impossibility caused by external forces beyond the control of the public  
31 school or school district.

32 (o) This section does not prevent the ~~division~~ Division of Public  
33 School Academic Facilities and Transportation, the commission, or state board  
34 from taking any of the actions listed in this section at any time to address  
35 a public school or school district in facilities distress.

36

1 SECTION 1733. Arkansas Code § 6-23-103(3)(A), concerning the  
2 definition of "authorizer" under the Arkansas Quality Charter Schools Act of  
3 2013, is amended to read as follows:

4 (A) ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and  
5 Secondary Education; or  
6

7 SECTION 1734. Arkansas Code § 6-23-105(d)(2)(A), concerning the basis  
8 and procedure for public charter school probation or charter modification,  
9 revocation, or denial of renewal, is amended to read as follows:

10 (2)(A) The hearing shall be held at the ~~Department of Education~~  
11 Division of Elementary and Secondary Education.  
12

13 SECTION 1735. Arkansas Code § 6-23-105(e), concerning the basis and  
14 procedure for public charter school probation or charter modification,  
15 revocation, or denial of renewal, is amended to read as follows:

16 (e)(1)(A) Immediately upon the revocation of a charter by the  
17 authorizer, the public charter school shall:

18 (i) Transfer to the ~~department~~ division all state  
19 funds held by the public charter school, which the ~~department~~ division shall  
20 hold in receivership; and

21 (ii) Provide to the ~~department~~ division a detailed  
22 accounting of all accounts payable due from the state funds and any  
23 additional information or records requested by the ~~department~~ division  
24 concerning the disbursement of the state funds.

25 (B) The ~~department~~ division shall hold funds received  
26 under subdivision (e)(1)(A) of this section in a separate fund and shall  
27 expend the funds only with prior approval of the Commissioner of Elementary  
28 and Secondary Education.

29 (C) If the State Board of Education reverses the  
30 revocation, the ~~department~~ division shall return any funds remaining in  
31 receivership to the public charter school.

32 (2)(A) The ~~department~~ division shall establish a procedure for a  
33 claimant to file a claim for disbursement from the state funds.

34 (B) The determination of the ~~department~~ division  
35 concerning the disbursement of the state funds is final and may not be  
36 appealed.

1 (3) If funds remain in receivership for which no legitimate,  
2 documented claim has been made to the ~~department~~ division within one (1)  
3 calendar year after the revocation, the remaining funds shall be transferred  
4 to the Public School Fund.

5 (4) The state board may promulgate rules to implement this  
6 subsection.

7  
8 SECTION 1736. Arkansas Code § 6-23-107 is amended to read as follows:  
9 6-23-107. Reporting requirements.

10 (a) Within ten (10) calendar days of the close of the first quarter of  
11 each school year, a public charter school shall submit a written report to  
12 the ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary Education  
13 that contains the following information for the current school year:

14 (1) The number of applications for enrollment received;

15 (2) The number of applicants with a disability identified under  
16 the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act, 20 U.S.C. § 1400 et seq.;  
17 and

18 (3) The number of applications for enrollment the public charter  
19 school denied and an explanation of the reason for each denial.

20 (b) Within ten (10) calendar days of the close of the fourth quarter  
21 of each school year, a public charter school shall submit a written report to  
22 the ~~department~~ division that contains the following information for the  
23 current school year:

24 (1) The number of students in each of the following categories:

25 (A) Students who dropped out of the public charter school  
26 during the school year;

27 (B) Students who were expelled during the school year by  
28 the public charter school; and

29 (C) Students who were enrolled in the public charter  
30 school but for a reason other than those cited in subdivisions (b)(1)(A) and  
31 (B) of this section did not complete the school year at the public charter  
32 school; and

33 (2)(A) For all students enrolled in the public charter school,  
34 the scores for assessments required under the Arkansas Educational Support  
35 and Accountability Act, § 6-15-2901 et seq.

36 (B) If there is any discrepancy in the number of students

1 for whom scores are reported under this subdivision (b)(2) and the number of  
2 students enrolled at the beginning of the school year, the public charter  
3 school shall explain in the report the reason for the discrepancy.

4 (c) The ~~department~~ division shall not exempt a public charter school  
5 from the reporting required under this section.

6 (d) The ~~department~~ division shall publish a copy of each report on the  
7 ~~department's~~ division's website.

8 (e) If a public charter school fails to comply with this section, the  
9 ~~department~~ division shall note the failure in the annual evaluation of the  
10 public charter school.

11  
12 SECTION 1737. Arkansas Code § 6-23-108(b)(3), concerning a school for  
13 agricultural studies, is amended to read as follows:

14 (3) A written review of the agricultural studies plan from the  
15 ~~Department~~ Division of Career and Technical Education.

16  
17 SECTION 1738. Arkansas Code § 6-23-203(b), concerning the resubmission  
18 of applications for a conversion to an open-enrollment public charter school,  
19 is amended to read as follows:

20 (b) The ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary  
21 Education may provide technical assistance to the conversion public charter  
22 school applicants in the:

23 (1) Creation of its application; and

24 (2) Modification of its application as directed by the  
25 authorizer.

26  
27 SECTION 1739. Arkansas Code § 6-23-304(b)(3), concerning open-  
28 enrollment public charter school requirements and preferences for certain  
29 districts, is amended to read as follows:

30 (3) When the district has been classified by the ~~Department of~~  
31 Education Division of Elementary and Secondary Education as in some phase of  
32 school improvement status under § 6-15-426 [repealed] or some phase of fiscal  
33 distress under the Arkansas Fiscal Assessment and Accountability Program, §  
34 6-20-1901 et seq., if the fiscal distress status is a result of  
35 administrative fiscal mismanagement, as determined by the state board.

36

1 SECTION 1740. Arkansas Code § 6-23-304(c)(1)(A), concerning open-  
2 enrollment public charter school requirements and preferences for certain  
3 districts, is amended to read as follows:

4 (c)(1)(A) The ~~department~~ division, the state board, or a combination  
5 of the ~~department~~ division and state board may grant no more than a total of  
6 twenty-four (24) charters for open-enrollment public charter schools except  
7 as provided under subdivision (c)(1)(B) of this section.

8  
9 SECTION 1741. Arkansas Code § 6-23-304(c)(1)(C), concerning open-  
10 enrollment public charter school requirements and preferences for certain  
11 districts, is amended to read as follows:

12 (C) By March 1 each year, the ~~department~~ division shall  
13 issue a commissioner's memo stating the existing limitation on the number of  
14 charters available for open-enrollment public charter schools and the number  
15 of charters available for open-enrollment public charter schools during the  
16 next application cycle.

17  
18 SECTION 1742. Arkansas Code § 6-23-305(b), concerning a notice of  
19 disapproval to an open-enrollment public charter school and assistance with  
20 resubmission of application, is amended to read as follows:

21 (b) The ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary  
22 Education may provide technical assistance to the applicant for an open-  
23 enrollment public charter school in the:

- 24 (1) Creation of its application; and  
25 (2) Modification of its application as directed by the  
26 authorizer.

27  
28 SECTION 1743. Arkansas Code § 6-23-402(c), concerning enrollment  
29 numbers and deadlines for an open-enrollment public charter school, is  
30 amended to read as follows:

31 (c) Open-enrollment public charter schools shall keep records of  
32 attendance in accordance with the law and submit quarterly attendance reports  
33 to the ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary  
34 Education.

35  
36 SECTION 1744. Arkansas Code § 6-23-404(a), concerning the evaluation

1 of an open-enrollment public charter school, is amended to read as follows:

2 (a) The ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary  
3 Education shall cause to be conducted an annual evaluation of open-enrollment  
4 public charter schools.

5  
6 SECTION 1745. Arkansas Code § 6-23-405 is amended to read as follows:

7 6-23-405. Monthly reports.

8 An open-enrollment public charter school in its initial school year of  
9 operation shall provide monthly reports on its enrollment status and  
10 compliance with its approved budget for the current school year to the  
11 ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary Education.

12  
13 SECTION 1746. Arkansas Code § 6-23-406 is amended to read as follows:

14 6-23-406. ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary  
15 Education review.

16 The ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary  
17 Education shall:

18 (1) Conduct an end-of-semester review of each open-enrollment  
19 public charter school that is in its initial school year of operation at the  
20 end of the first semester and at the end of the school year; and

21 (2) Report to the State Board of Education and the Commissioner  
22 of Elementary and Secondary Education on the open-enrollment public charter  
23 school's:

24 (A) Overall financial condition; and

25 (B) Overall condition of student enrollment.

26  
27 SECTION 1747. Arkansas Code § 6-23-501(a)(5) and (6), concerning  
28 funding for open-enrollment public charter schools, are amended to read as  
29 follows:

30 (5) The ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and  
31 Secondary Education shall distribute other categorical funding under § 6-20-  
32 2305(a) and (b) for which an open-enrollment public charter school is  
33 eligible as provided by state law and rules promulgated by the state board.

34 (6) An open-enrollment public charter school shall not be denied  
35 foundation funding, enhanced educational funding, or categorical funding in  
36 the first year or any year of operation provided that the open-enrollment

1 public charter school submits to the ~~department~~ division the number of  
2 students eligible for funding as specified in applicable rules.

3  
4 SECTION 1748. Arkansas Code § 6-23-506(b)(1), concerning the assets of  
5 a school as property of the state, is amended to read as follows:

6 (b)(1) If the open-enrollment public charter school used state funds  
7 to purchase or finance personal property, real property, or fixtures for use  
8 by the open-enrollment public charter school, the ~~Department of Education~~  
9 Division of Elementary and Secondary Education may require that the property  
10 be sold.

11  
12 SECTION 1749. Arkansas Code § 6-23-701 is amended to read as follows:

13 6-23-701. Designated public charter authorizer.

14 (a) The ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary  
15 Education is the designated public charter authorizer with jurisdiction and  
16 authority over all public charters issued in this state to take the following  
17 action on a proposed or established public charter:

- 18 (1) Approve;
- 19 (2) Reject;
- 20 (3) Renew;
- 21 (4) Non-renew;
- 22 (5) Place on probation;
- 23 (6) Modify;
- 24 (7) Revoke; or
- 25 (8) Deny.

26 (b)(1) The ~~department~~ division shall exercise authority over public  
27 charter schools under this chapter through a public charter authorizing panel  
28 established within the ~~department~~ division.

29 (2)(A) The Commissioner of Elementary and Secondary Education  
30 shall appoint a public charter authorizing panel that may consist of  
31 individuals from outside the ~~department~~ division as well as professional  
32 staff employed at the ~~department~~ division to serve at the pleasure of the  
33 commissioner.

34 (B) The commissioner may elect to serve as a member on the  
35 charter authorizing panel as the chair.

- 36 (3) The public charter authorizing panel is composed of an odd

1 number of members and consists of no less than five (5) members and no more  
2 than eleven (11) members.

3 (c) The ~~department~~ division may waive provisions of Title 6 or State  
4 Board of Education rules as allowed by law for public charters.

5 (d)(1) The ~~department~~ division shall conduct all hearings on public  
6 charter school matters as required by law, rule, and process and make final  
7 determinations as allowed by law.

8 (2)(A) A hearing under this chapter conducted by the ~~department~~  
9 division shall be an open meeting under § 25-19-106.

10 (B) For the purposes of § 25-19-106, the members of the  
11 public charter authorizing panel shall be considered a governing body only in  
12 regard to actions specifically authorized by this subchapter.

13 (3)(A) All decisions of the panel shall be made by majority vote  
14 of the quorum.

15 (B) A decision of the ~~department~~ division is final except  
16 as provided under § 6-23-703.

17 (4) The Arkansas Administrative Procedure Act, § 25-15-201 et  
18 seq., shall not apply to a hearing concerning a public charter school.

19 (e) The ~~department~~ division shall be the primary authorizer of public  
20 charters except as provided under § 6-23-703.

21

22 SECTION 1750. Arkansas Code § 6-23-702(b), concerning public charter  
23 authorizing procedures, is amended to read as follows:

24 (b)(1) The ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and  
25 Secondary Education shall notify in writing the State Board of Education,  
26 charter applicant, public charter school, and affected school districts, if  
27 any, of final decisions made by the ~~department~~ division no less than fourteen  
28 (14) calendar days before the next regularly scheduled State Board of  
29 Education meeting after the final decision is made by the ~~department~~  
30 division.

31 (2)(A) A charter applicant, public charter school, and affected  
32 school district, if any, may submit in writing a request that the state board  
33 review the final decision of the ~~department~~ division under § 6-23-703.

34 (B) The written request submitted under subdivision  
35 (b)(2)(A) of this section shall state the specific reasons supporting a  
36 review by the state board.

1 (3) The decision of whether to review a final decision of the  
2 ~~department~~ division is discretionary by the state board and the provisions of  
3 this section and § 6-23-703 do not grant any right of appeal to a charter  
4 applicant, public charter school, or affected school district.

5  
6 SECTION 1751. Arkansas Code § 6-23-703 is amended to read as follows:

7 6-23-703. State Board of Education optional review.

8 (a) On a motion approved by a majority vote, the State Board of  
9 Education may exercise a right of review of a charter determination made by  
10 the ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary Education at  
11 the next regularly scheduled state board meeting after receiving notice  
12 provided under § 6-23-702(b).

13 (b) If the state board votes to review a final decision made by the  
14 ~~department~~ division, the state board shall:

15 (1) State the specific additional information the state board  
16 requires from the ~~department~~ division, public charter school, public charter  
17 school applicant, or affected school district;

18 (2) Conduct a full hearing regarding a final decision by the  
19 ~~department~~ division under § 6-23-701(a); and

20 (3) Hold the hearing at the earlier of:

21 (A) The next regularly scheduled state board meeting  
22 following the state board meeting during which the state board voted to  
23 authorize a review; or

24 (B) A special board meeting called by the state board.

25 (c)(1) At the conclusion of the hearing, the state board may issue a  
26 final decision by state board vote.

27 (2) The state board may decide by majority vote of the quorum  
28 to:

29 (A) Affirm the decision of the ~~department~~ division;

30 (B) Take other lawful action on the public charter; or

31 (C)(i) Request additional information from the ~~department~~  
32 division, public charter school, public charter school applicant, or affected  
33 school district, if needed.

34 (ii) If the state board requests additional  
35 information under subdivision (c)(2)(C)(i) of this section, the state board  
36 shall hold a subsequent hearing at the earlier of:

1 (a) The next regularly scheduled state board  
2 meeting; or

3 (b) A special board meeting called by the  
4 state board.

5 (3) A decision made by the state board is final with no right of  
6 appeal.

7 (d) The state board may promulgate rules as necessary to implement  
8 this section.

9  
10 SECTION 1752. Arkansas Code § 6-23-907(a), concerning the failure to  
11 remit payment by an open-enrollment public charter school, is amended to read  
12 as follows:

13 (a) If an open-enrollment public charter school fails to remit payment  
14 for an outstanding loan under the Open-Enrollment Public Charter School  
15 Facilities Loan Fund, upon certification of the amount of delinquent funds by  
16 the Division of Public School Academic Facilities and Transportation, the  
17 amount of delinquent funds including penalties and interest may be deducted  
18 from the operating funds designated to the open-enrollment public charter  
19 school through the ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and  
20 Secondary Education and remitted directly by the ~~department~~ Division of  
21 Elementary and Secondary Education to the Open-Enrollment Public Charter  
22 School Facilities Loan Fund if requested by the ~~division~~ Division of Public  
23 School Academic Facilities and Transportation.

24  
25 SECTION 1753. Arkansas Code § 6-23-908(e)(1) and (2), concerning the  
26 Open-Enrollment Public Charter School Facilities Funding Aid Program, are  
27 amended to read as follows:

28 (e)(1) If an open-enrollment public charter school fails to use funds  
29 received under this section as provided under subsection (d) of this section  
30 or no longer has the need for the funds, the ~~division~~ Division of Public  
31 School Academic Facilities and Transportation shall certify and recoup the  
32 funds from the operating funds designated to the open-enrollment public  
33 charter school through the ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and  
34 Secondary Education and remitted directly by the ~~department~~ Division of  
35 Elementary and Secondary Education.

36 (2) The operating funds from which the ~~division~~ Division of

1 Public School Academic Facilities and Transportation may recoup funds from an  
2 open-enrollment public charter school are limited to:

3 (A) State funding distributed under § 6-20-2305, including  
4 without limitation state foundation funding and state categorical funding;

5 (B) Federal funding to the extent allowed under federal  
6 law; and

7 (C) The net assets of an open-enrollment public charter  
8 school deemed property of the state upon revocation or nonrenewal of the  
9 charter after all legal debts owed to third parties are satisfied.

10  
11 SECTION 1754. Arkansas Code § 6-23-1003(b), concerning the  
12 resubmission of applications, is amended to read as follows:

13 (b) The ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary  
14 Education may provide technical assistance to the adult education charter  
15 school applicant in the creation or modification of its application.

16  
17 SECTION 1755. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 6-23-1007,  
18 concerning reporting by the Department of Education, is amended to read as  
19 follows:

20 The ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary  
21 Education shall report to the Senate Committee on Education and the House  
22 Committee on Education by December 1 each year concerning:

23  
24 SECTION 1756. Arkansas Code § 6-24-106(b)(2)(A), concerning public  
25 school administrators, is amended to read as follows:

26 (2)(A) However, a member of an administrator's family or former  
27 spouse may not be initially employed as a disbursing officer of the public  
28 educational entity where the administrator is employed unless the public  
29 educational entity receives written approval from the Commissioner of  
30 Elementary and Secondary Education.

31  
32 SECTION 1757. Arkansas Code § 6-24-106(c)(3)(B)(iii), concerning  
33 public school administrators, is amended to read as follows:

34 (iii) The written resolution and other relevant data  
35 shall be sent by certified mail, return receipt requested, or other method  
36 approved by the State Board of Education to assure that adequate notice has

1 been received by the ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and  
2 Secondary Education and to provide a record for the school district board of  
3 directors sending the request for approval.

4  
5 SECTION 1758. Arkansas Code § 6-24-106(c)(6), concerning public school  
6 administrators, is amended to read as follows:

7 (6) The ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and  
8 Secondary Education and the public educational entity shall maintain, under  
9 their respective record retention policies, a record and copy of all  
10 documentation relating to an exemption from the provisions of this chapter.

11  
12 SECTION 1759. Arkansas Code § 6-24-107(b)(2)(A), concerning public  
13 school employees, is amended to read as follows:

14 (A)(i) If it appears that the total transactions with an  
15 employee for a fiscal year total, or will total, ten thousand dollars  
16 (\$10,000) or more, the superintendent or other chief administrator of the  
17 public educational entity shall forward the written resolution along with all  
18 relevant data to the Commissioner of Elementary and Secondary Education for  
19 independent review and approval.

20 (ii) The written resolution and other relevant data  
21 shall be sent by certified mail, return receipt requested, or other method  
22 approved by the State Board of Education to assure that adequate notice has  
23 been received by the ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and  
24 Secondary Education and to provide a record for the school district board of  
25 directors sending the request for approval.

26  
27 SECTION 1760. Arkansas Code § 6-24-107(c), concerning public school  
28 employees, is amended to read as follows:

29 (c) Documentation. The ~~department~~ division and the public educational  
30 entity shall maintain, under their respective record retention policies, a  
31 record and copy of all documentation relating to transactions with employees.

32  
33 SECTION 1761. Arkansas Code § 6-24-114(a)(1), concerning  
34 administrative remedies applicable to administrators and employees, is  
35 amended to read as follows:

36 (a)(1) The ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and

1 Secondary Education may review alleged violations of this chapter. If the  
2 ~~Department~~ division reviews the allegations and the Commissioner of  
3 Elementary and Secondary Education determines that there is adequate evidence  
4 of a violation, the commissioner may refer the allegations to the State Board  
5 of Education for review.

6  
7 SECTION 1762. Arkansas Code § 6-41-101 is amended to read as follows:

8 6-41-101. Services to children with disabilities in nonpublic schools.

9 (a) ~~Prior to~~ Before expending any funding for new programs for  
10 children with disabilities that include funding for evaluation, counseling,  
11 assessment, personnel, equipment, or other capital outlay in other than  
12 public schools, the ~~Department~~ Division of Career and Technical Education  
13 shall publish a public notice of the intent to provide additional special  
14 services to the disabled, specifying the services in the public notice, and  
15 inviting organizations that are recognized by the state to provide education,  
16 assessment, jobs skills training, or vocational education to children with  
17 disabilities to submit proposals to provide the additional special services.

18 (b) The ~~department~~ division may award one (1) or more contracts to any  
19 organization that can fulfill the goals and objectives of the program, or the  
20 ~~department~~ division may assume responsibility for implementing the program.

21  
22 SECTION 1763. Arkansas Code § 6-41-104(d), concerning services for  
23 children determined in another state to be eligible for services due to a  
24 behavioral disability, is amended to read as follows:

25 (d) The ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary  
26 Education shall have the authority to promulgate rules as necessary to carry  
27 out the provisions of this section.

28  
29 SECTION 1764. Arkansas Code § 6-41-203(3)(B), concerning the  
30 definition of "free appropriate public education" under the Children with  
31 Disabilities Act, is amended to read as follows:

32 (B) Meet the standards of the ~~Department of Education~~  
33 Division of Elementary and Secondary Education and the Individuals with  
34 Disabilities Education Act, 20 U.S.C. § 1400 et seq., as it existed on  
35 January 1, 2017;

36

1 SECTION 1765. Arkansas Code § 6-41-210 is amended to read as follows:

2 6-41-210. Special Education Section for children with disabilities.

3 (a) There is established in the ~~Department of Education~~ Division of  
4 Elementary and Secondary Education a Special Education Section.

5 (b) The section shall be headed by an associate director, who shall be  
6 qualified by education, training, and experience to take responsibility for,  
7 and give direction to, the programs of the ~~department~~ division relating to  
8 children with disabilities.

9 (c) Implementation of this section shall be dependent upon funds being  
10 made available to the ~~department~~ division for this purpose.

11  
12 SECTION 1766. Arkansas Code § 6-41-211(a)(1), concerning the creation  
13 of the Advisory Council for the Education of Children with Disabilities, is  
14 amended to read as follows:

15 (a)(1) There shall be an Advisory Council for the Education of  
16 Children with Disabilities, which shall advise and consult with the  
17 Commissioner of Elementary and Secondary Education and the Associate Director  
18 of the Special Education Section of the ~~Department of Education~~ Division of  
19 Elementary and Secondary Education and which shall engage in such other  
20 activities as are set forth in this section.

21  
22 SECTION 1767. Arkansas Code § 6-41-211(g), concerning the creation of  
23 the Advisory Council for the Education of Children with Disabilities, is  
24 amended to read as follows:

25 (g) The council shall:

26 (1) Advise the ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary  
27 and Secondary Education of unmet needs within the state in the education of  
28 children with disabilities;

29 (2) Comment publicly on any rules or regulations proposed by the  
30 state regarding the education of children with disabilities;

31 (3) Advise the ~~department~~ division in developing evaluations and  
32 reporting on data to the United States Secretary of Education under 20 U.S.C.  
33 § 1418;

34 (4) Advise the ~~department~~ division in developing corrective  
35 action plans to address findings identified in federal monitoring reports  
36 under Title 20, Chapter 33, Subchapter II of the United States Code; and

1 (5) Advise the ~~department~~ division in developing and  
2 implementing policies relating to the coordination of services for children  
3 with disabilities.

4  
5 SECTION 1768. Arkansas Code § 6-41-216(c)(3), concerning test,  
6 evaluations, change of child's status, and hearings, is amended to read as  
7 follows:

8 (3)(A) The Special Education Section in the ~~Department of~~  
9 ~~Education~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary Education shall establish  
10 standards and qualifications for individuals to serve as hearing officers.

11 (B) Neither an employee of the ~~Department of Education~~  
12 Division of Elementary and Secondary Education nor an employee of the local  
13 school district involved in a particular hearing may serve as a hearing  
14 officer.

15 (C) Professional service contracts with individuals made  
16 for the purpose of compensating them for services rendered in connection with  
17 hearings shall not constitute employment.

18  
19 SECTION 1769. Arkansas Code § 6-41-312 is amended to read as follows:  
20 6-41-312. Reports.

21 (a) Public school districts and entities receiving state or federal  
22 funds to provide special education programming shall keep an accurate  
23 account, in the manner and on the forms prescribed by the ~~Department of~~  
24 ~~Education~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary Education, of all moneys  
25 expended for special education programs and shall report those expenditures  
26 to the ~~department~~ division.

27 (b) A report of the average daily attendance of all students enrolled,  
28 including students receiving instruction in the homebound setting, will be  
29 made to the ~~department~~ division.

30  
31 SECTION 1770. Arkansas Code § 6-41-402 is amended to read as follows:  
32 6-41-402. Definitions.

33 As used in this subchapter:

34 (1) "Compliance citation" means a citation issued by the  
35 ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary Education that  
36 documents a school's failure to comply with state education laws;

1           ~~(2) “Department” means the Department of Education;~~ and  
2           ~~(3)~~(2) “Individualized education program” means the evaluation  
3 of the educational needs of a child with disabilities conducted pursuant to §  
4 6-41-217.

5  
6           SECTION 1771. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 6-41-  
7 403(a), concerning the assessment of student progress, is amended to read as  
8 follows:

9           (a) Each school district shall ensure that at least one (1) time per  
10 year a licensed teacher of the visually impaired, or other qualified person  
11 as determined by the ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and  
12 Secondary Education, conducts an assessment of the educational progress of  
13 each visually impaired student enrolled in that school district identified as  
14 having or suspected of having a disability pursuant to the Children with  
15 Disabilities Act of 1973, § 6-41-201 et seq. The assessment shall:

16  
17           SECTION 1772. Arkansas Code § 6-41-403(a)(1), concerning the  
18 assessment of student progress, is amended to read as follows:

19           (1) Address the student’s need for braille instruction, using  
20 procedures developed by the ~~department~~ division, and specify the learning  
21 medium most appropriate for the student’s educational progress;

22  
23           SECTION 1773. Arkansas Code § 6-41-404 is amended to read as follows:  
24 6-41-404. Braille instruction.

25           Each student who needs braille reading and writing instruction shall  
26 receive instruction from either a licensed teacher of the visually impaired  
27 or a person who is qualified in braille instruction as determined by the  
28 ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary Education.

29  
30           SECTION 1774. Arkansas Code § 6-41-405(a), concerning electronic  
31 textbooks, is amended to read as follows:

32           (a) The ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary  
33 Education shall have the authority to require publishers of textbooks to  
34 furnish electronic media for the text portion of those textbooks required by  
35 visually impaired students.

36

1 SECTION 1775. Arkansas Code § 6-41-406 is amended to read as follows:

2 6-41-406. Compliance required.

3 Failure of a school district to come into compliance with the  
4 provisions of this subchapter shall be grounds for a compliance citation from  
5 the ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary Education.

6  
7 SECTION 1776. Arkansas Code § 6-41-407 is amended to read as follows:

8 6-41-407. Accommodation for students with sensory processing  
9 difficulty.

10 When administering a state-mandated assessment or a state-mandated  
11 test, the ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary  
12 Education and each school district shall allow a student that has been  
13 evaluated through appropriate testing, including a comprehensive eye  
14 examination by an optometrist or an ophthalmologist, and identified as having  
15 difficulty with sensory processing in reaction to oversensitivity to full  
16 spectrum light to use color overlays specific to the student's  
17 oversensitivity that alter the contrast between the words and the page so  
18 that the student can visually comprehend the words on a page of a state-  
19 mandated assessment or a state-mandated test, if made available by the test  
20 developer.

21  
22 SECTION 1777. Arkansas Code § 6-41-602(5), concerning the definition  
23 of "dyslexia therapist" under the laws related to dyslexia and related  
24 disorders, is amended to read as follows:

25 (5) "Dyslexia therapist" means a professional who has completed  
26 training and obtained certification in dyslexia therapy from a dyslexia  
27 therapy training program defined by the ~~Department of Education~~ Division of  
28 Elementary and Secondary Education; and

29  
30 SECTION 1778. Arkansas Code § 6-41-603(a)(1), concerning required  
31 screening and intervention for kindergarten through second grade children, is  
32 amended to read as follows:

33 (a)(1) A school district shall screen each student in kindergarten  
34 through grade two (K-2) and others required by the ~~Department of Education~~  
35 Division of Elementary and Secondary Education rule using the Dynamic  
36 Indicators of Basic Early Literacy Skills (DIBELS) or an equivalent screener.

1  
2 SECTION 1779. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 6-41-  
3 603(b), concerning required screening and intervention for kindergarten  
4 through second grade children, is amended to read as follows:

5 (b) The ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary  
6 Education shall adopt rules to ensure that students will be screened using  
7 DIBELS or an equivalent screener:

8  
9 SECTION 1780. Arkansas Code § 6-41-605(b), concerning instructional  
10 approaches regarding dyslexia, is amended to read as follows:

11 (b) Until there are a sufficient number of graduates from a dyslexia  
12 therapy program established at the university level in Arkansas or from a  
13 dyslexia therapy program established at the university level in another state  
14 that is approved by the ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and  
15 Secondary Education, the ~~department~~ division shall allow dyslexia therapy to  
16 be provided by individuals who have received training and certification from  
17 a program approved by the ~~department~~ division.

18  
19 SECTION 1781. Arkansas Code § 6-41-607(a), concerning dyslexia  
20 specialists, is amended to read as follows:

21 (a) ~~No later than the 2015 fiscal year, the Department of Education~~  
22 The Division of Elementary and Secondary Education shall employ at least one  
23 (1) dyslexia specialist with a minimum of three (3) years of field experience  
24 in screening, identifying, and treating dyslexia and related disorders to  
25 provide technical assistance for dyslexia and related disorders to school  
26 districts across the state.

27  
28 SECTION 1782. Arkansas Code § 6-41-607(c), concerning dyslexia  
29 specialists, is amended to read as follows:

30 (c) The ~~department~~ division shall ensure that at least one (1) staff  
31 member at each education service cooperative is trained as a dyslexia  
32 specialist to provide necessary information and support to school districts.

33  
34 SECTION 1783. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 6-41-  
35 608(a), concerning dyslexia professional awareness, is amended to read as  
36 follows:

1 (a) ~~No later than the 2014-2015 school year, the Department of~~  
2 ~~Education~~ The Division of Elementary and Secondary Education shall ensure  
3 that each teacher receives professional awareness on:  
4

5 SECTION 1784. Arkansas Code § 6-41-608(b)(3), concerning dyslexia  
6 professional awareness, is amended to read as follows:

7 (3) At another venue approved by the ~~department~~ division.  
8

9 SECTION 1785. Arkansas Code § 6-41-609 is amended to read as follows:  
10 6-41-609. Dyslexia and related disorder education in teacher  
11 preparation programs.

12 ~~No later than the 2015-2016 school year, the Department of Education~~  
13 The Division of Elementary and Secondary Education shall collaborate with the  
14 ~~department~~ Division of Higher Education to ensure that all teacher education  
15 programs offered at state-supported institutions of higher education provide  
16 dyslexia professional awareness of the:

17 (1) Characteristics of dyslexia; and

18 (2) Evidence-based interventions and accommodations for  
19 dyslexia.  
20

21 SECTION 1786. Arkansas Code § 6-41-610 is amended to read as follows:  
22 6-41-610. Rules – Dyslexia resource guide.

23 (a) The ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary  
24 Education shall adopt rules to implement this subchapter.

25 (b)(1) The ~~department~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary Education  
26 shall maintain a committee for the purpose of developing and updating the  
27 Arkansas Dyslexia Resource Guide.

28 (2)(A) The committee shall include one (1) representative who  
29 has experience working in the field of dyslexia intervention from the  
30 following organizations, appointed by the Commissioner of Elementary and  
31 Secondary Education:

32 (i) The Arkansas Association of Educational  
33 Administrators;

34 (ii) The Division of Learning Services of the  
35 ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary Education;

36 (iii) The ~~Department~~ Division of Higher Education;

1 (iv) The Arkansas Education Association;  
2 (v) The Arkansas School Boards Association;  
3 (vi) The Arkansas School Psychology Association,  
4 with at least three (3) years of experience in testing for dyslexia; and  
5 (vii) An education service cooperative  
6 administrator.

7 (B) Three (3) professionals who have worked in a public  
8 school who are knowledgeable in and have expertise in dyslexia screening and  
9 interventions.

10  
11 SECTION 1787. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 6-41-  
12 611(b), concerning the rules and enforcement under the laws governing  
13 dyslexia and related disorders, is amended to read as follows:

14 (b) The ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary  
15 Education:

16  
17 SECTION 1788. Arkansas Code § 6-41-805(b)(1) and (2), concerning the  
18 responsibilities of a higher education institute that wishes to establish a  
19 Building Better Futures Program, are amended to read as follows:

20 (b)(1) The ~~Department~~ Division of Higher Education shall provide  
21 information statewide, including to each high school in the state, on the  
22 options for postsecondary education for students with intellectual  
23 disabilities.

24 (2) Each public high school in Arkansas shall provide the  
25 information distributed by the ~~Department~~ Division of Higher Education to the  
26 parent or guardian of a student with an intellectual or developmental  
27 disability enrolled in the public high school.

28  
29 SECTION 1789. Arkansas Code § 6-41-902(c), concerning student  
30 eligibility for a Succeed Scholarship, is amended to read as follows:

31 (c) The ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary  
32 Education shall approve a maximum of twenty (20) scholarships under this  
33 subchapter per academic year for students in foster care.

34  
35 SECTION 1790. Arkansas Code § 6-41-903(a)(1), concerning private  
36 school eligibility for the Succeed Scholarship Program, is amended to read as

1 follows:

2 (a)(1) A private school shall notify the ~~Department of Education~~  
3 Division of Elementary and Secondary Education of its intent to participate  
4 in the Succeed Scholarship Program.

5

6 SECTION 1791. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 6-41-  
7 903(b), concerning private school eligibility for the Succeed Scholarship  
8 Program, is amended to read as follows:

9 (b) The ~~department~~ division shall approve a private school as eligible  
10 to participate in the program if the private school:

11

12 SECTION 1792. Arkansas Code § 6-41-903(b)(2), concerning private  
13 school eligibility for the Succeed Scholarship Program, is amended to read as  
14 follows:

15 (2)(A) Demonstrates fiscal soundness by having been in operation  
16 for one (1) school year or providing the ~~department~~ division with a statement  
17 by a certified public accountant confirming that the private school is  
18 insured and the private school has sufficient capital or credit to operate in  
19 the upcoming school year.

20 (B) In lieu of a statement, a surety bond or letter of  
21 credit for the amount equal to the scholarship funds for any quarter may be  
22 filed with the ~~department~~ division;

23

24 SECTION 1793. Arkansas Code § 6-41-903(c), concerning private school  
25 eligibility for the Succeed Scholarship Program, is amended to read as  
26 follows:

27 (c) The ~~department~~ division shall maintain a list of private schools  
28 eligible to participate in the program and make the list available on the  
29 ~~department's~~ division's website.

30

31 SECTION 1794. Arkansas Code § 6-41-904(a)(1), concerning the  
32 responsibilities of Succeed Scholarship Program recipients, is amended to  
33 read as follows:

34 (1) Select the private school from the list of private schools  
35 eligible to participate in the program that is maintained by the ~~Department~~  
36 of Education Division of Elementary and Secondary Education;

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SECTION 1795. Arkansas Code § 6-41-905(c) and (d), concerning the funding and scholarship payments of the Succeed Scholarship Program, is amended to read as follows:

(c) Scholarship payments shall be disbursed in equal amounts on a monthly basis by the ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary Education or another state agency, person, firm, or corporation designated by the ~~department~~ division to administer and disburse funds.

(d) Beginning on July 1, 2015, the ~~department~~ division shall prepare a budget, including cost estimates and projections so that a separate appropriation can be made for the program for the 2016-2017 school year.

SECTION 1796. Arkansas Code § 6-42-103, concerning the creation of the Office for the Education of Gifted and Talented Children, is amended to read as follows:

6-42-103. Office for the Education of Gifted and Talented Children.

To implement the policy stated in § 6-42-101, there is established in the Division of Learning Services of the ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary Education an Office for the Education of Gifted and Talented Children to be headed by an administrator who shall be qualified by education, training, and experience to direct the state program for gifted and talented children.

SECTION 1797. Arkansas Code § 6-42-104(a)(1), concerning the creation of the Advisory Council for the Education of Gifted and Talented Children, is amended to read as follows:

(a)(1) There is established an Advisory Council for the Education of Gifted and Talented Children, which shall advise and consult with the Commissioner of Elementary and Secondary Education and the Administrator of the Office for the Education of Gifted and Talented Children and which shall engage in other activities as set forth in this section.

SECTION 1798. Arkansas Code § 6-42-104(f), concerning the creation of the Advisory Council for the Education of Gifted and Talented Children, is amended to read as follows:

(f) The ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary

1 Education shall, within available personnel, facilities, and appropriations,  
2 furnish meeting facilities and staff services for the council.

3  
4 SECTION 1799. Arkansas Code § 6-42-104(h)(5), concerning the creation  
5 of the Advisory Council for the Education of Gifted and Talented Children, is  
6 amended to read as follows:

7 (5) Participate with the staff of the ~~Department~~ division in  
8 determining the need for educational programs to serve gifted and talented  
9 children to be operated by the ~~department~~ division, in selecting the sites  
10 for educational programs, in establishing student selection criteria for  
11 participation in the programs, in selecting students to participate in the  
12 programs, and in selecting faculty and staff for the programs; and

13  
14 SECTION 1800. Arkansas Code § 6-42-104(h)(6)(B), concerning the  
15 creation of the Advisory Council for the Education of Gifted and Talented  
16 Children, is amended to read as follows:

17 (B) The programs so recognized shall be eligible to  
18 receive an award of not more than three thousand dollars (\$3,000) from funds  
19 appropriated to the ~~department~~ division for the purpose of making awards to  
20 outstanding educational programs.

21  
22 SECTION 1801. Arkansas Code § 6-42-106(a)(1) and (2), concerning the  
23 funding and eligibility of gifted and talented programs, is amended to read  
24 as follows:

25 (a)(1) Appropriations made by the General Assembly to the Public  
26 School Fund for the purposes of this subchapter shall be disbursed by the  
27 ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary Education in  
28 accordance with regulations promulgated by the State Board of Education.

29 (2) Such funds may be used to provide financial assistance to  
30 school districts operating programs for gifted and talented children and to  
31 fund supplemental programs for gifted and talented children operated by the  
32 ~~department~~ division directly or through contract with other public or private  
33 agencies.

34  
35 SECTION 1802. Arkansas Code § 6-42-108 is amended to read as follows:  
36 6-42-108. Summer residential and day programs.

1 (a) The ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary  
2 Education is authorized to establish annual summer residential and day  
3 programs to provide enriched educational offerings for junior high and high  
4 school students who have demonstrated exceptional abilities in a specific  
5 subject area.

6 (b) Each program shall offer instruction in subject areas to be  
7 designated annually by the ~~department~~ division from the subject areas of  
8 science, mathematics, computer science, social studies, arts and music,  
9 literature and communication, and foreign languages.

10 (c) The summer educational programs established pursuant to the  
11 authority of this section shall be operated by the ~~department~~ division  
12 directly or by contract with other public or private agencies and shall be  
13 funded from the appropriation to the ~~department~~ division for the operation of  
14 programs for the education of gifted and talented students.

15  
16 SECTION 1803. Arkansas Code § 6-42-109, concerning school district  
17 reports, is amended to read as follows:

18 6-42-109. Reports by school districts.

19 Each school district shall report annually to the ~~Department of~~  
20 Education Division of Elementary and Secondary Education, at a prescribed due  
21 date, the extent to which it is providing educational opportunities  
22 specifically designed to meet the educational needs of gifted and talented  
23 children.

24  
25 SECTION 1804. Arkansas Code § 6-42-303(b)(3)(A), concerning the  
26 creation of the Board of Visitors for the Arkansas School for Mathematics,  
27 Sciences, and the Arts, is amended to read as follows:

28 (3)(A) In addition to appointed members of the Board of Visitors  
29 for the Arkansas School for Mathematics, Sciences, and the Arts, six (6) ex  
30 officio nonvoting members shall also serve on the Board of Visitors for the  
31 Arkansas School for Mathematics, Sciences, and the Arts as follows:

32 (i) The Commissioner of Elementary and Secondary  
33 Education;

34 (ii) The Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of  
35 Higher Education;

36 (iii) The ~~Executive~~ Director of the Arkansas

- 1 Economic Development Commission or his or her designee;  
2 (iv) The Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of  
3 Arkansas Heritage;  
4 (v) The president of the parent association of the  
5 school; and  
6 (vi) The president of the student government of the  
7 school.

8

9 SECTION 1805. Arkansas Code § 6-42-306 is amended to read as follows:  
10 6-42-306. ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary  
11 Education regulations.

12 All ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary  
13 Education regulations shall apply to the Arkansas School for Mathematics,  
14 Sciences, and the Arts unless the ~~department~~ division determines otherwise or  
15 unless the regulations conflict with governance of the school by the Board of  
16 Trustees of the University of Arkansas and the purposes and intent of this  
17 subchapter.

18

19 SECTION 1806. Arkansas Code § 6-43-102(b)(2), concerning the powers  
20 and duties of the board of the Arkansas School for the Blind and the Arkansas  
21 School for the Deaf, is amended to read as follows:

22 (2) The board of trustees, in consultation with the Secretary of  
23 the Department of Education, shall fix the salaries of officers and employees  
24 not already fixed by law.

25

26 SECTION 1807. Arkansas Code § 6-43-103(b), concerning superintendents  
27 of the Arkansas School for the Blind and the Arkansas School for the Deaf, is  
28 amended to read as follows:

29 (b) The Board of Trustees of the Arkansas School for the Blind and the  
30 Arkansas School for the Deaf, in consultation with the Secretary of the  
31 Department of Education, shall select the superintendents of the institutions  
32 committed to its care.

33

34 SECTION 1808. Arkansas Code § 6-43-104 is amended to read as follows:  
35 6-43-104. Employees generally.

36 (a) The superintendents shall have power to select and engage all

1 employees of the schools at salaries fixed by the Board of Trustees of the  
2 Arkansas School for the Blind and the Arkansas School for the Deaf in  
3 consultation with the Secretary of the Department of Education, reporting the  
4 same for approval to the board at the next regular meeting thereof.

5 (b) The superintendents shall have the ~~sole~~ power to remove employees  
6 of the respective schools and may remove any employee at any time in their  
7 discretion for cause, but, in case of removal, the superintendent shall  
8 report the removal and the ground therefor to the board of trustees and the  
9 Secretary of the Department of Education.

10  
11 SECTION 1809. Arkansas Code § 6-43-305(b), concerning teachers for the  
12 Arkansas School for the Deaf, is amended to read as follows:

13 (b) Teachers for the sensory impaired shall be eligible for an  
14 additional step increase after being certified in teaching the vision or  
15 hearing impaired by the ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and  
16 Secondary Education.

17  
18 SECTION 1810. Arkansas Code § 6-43-308 is amended to read as follows:  
19 6-43-308. Custodian of funds – Payment of bills, warrants, etc.

20 (a) The Treasurer of State, in consultation with the Secretary of the  
21 Department of Education, shall have the custody of all moneys, notes,  
22 securities, and other obligations belonging to the Arkansas School for the  
23 Deaf and shall be responsible for them under his or her bond and oath as the  
24 Treasurer of State.

25 (b) The Treasurer of State, in consultation with the secretary, shall  
26 pay all the expenses of the school out of the funds appropriated for the use  
27 of the school, upon warrants drawn by the Auditor of State in favor of the  
28 Board of Trustees of the Arkansas School for the Deaf, who shall issue his or  
29 her warrants upon orders signed by the President of the Board of Trustees of  
30 the Arkansas School for the Deaf and at least two (2) members of the board of  
31 trustees, except as herein otherwise provided.

32  
33 SECTION 1811. Arkansas Code § 6-45-103(1), concerning the definition  
34 of "appropriate early childhood program" under the Arkansas Better Chance  
35 Program Act, is amended to read as follows:

36 (1) "Appropriate early childhood program" means a

1 developmentally appropriate program for young children, birth through five  
2 (5) years of age, approved by the ~~Department of Education~~ Division of  
3 Elementary and Secondary Education as complying with the regulatory  
4 guidelines of the early childhood state accreditation by the Department of  
5 Human Services and Arkansas Better Chance Core Quality Approval Standards of  
6 the ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary Education to  
7 be issued by the ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary  
8 Education pursuant to this chapter;

9  
10 SECTION 1812. Arkansas Code § 6-45-103(3), concerning the definition  
11 of "Arkansas Early Childhood Commission" under the Arkansas Better Chance  
12 Program Act, is amended to read as follows:

13 (3) "Arkansas Early Childhood Commission" or "commission" means  
14 a twenty-five-member advisory body appointed by the Governor to perform  
15 certain duties and responsibilities relating to the development, expansion,  
16 and coordination of early childhood programs, including, but not limited to,  
17 serving as the advisory body to the ~~Department of Education~~ Division of  
18 Elementary and Secondary Education on early childhood program issues;

19  
20 SECTION 1813. Arkansas Code § 6-45-103(5), concerning the definition  
21 of "Department" under the Arkansas Better Chance Program Act, is repealed:

22 (5) ~~"Department" means the Department of Education or its~~  
23 ~~authorized agents.~~

24  
25 SECTION 1814. Arkansas Code § 6-45-104(a)(2), concerning the  
26 construction of the laws governing the Arkansas Better Chance Program, is  
27 amended to read as follows:

28 (2) A local school is required to work with the ~~Department of~~  
29 Education Division of Elementary and Secondary Education and its local  
30 community to establish, promote, and assist in the development of a program  
31 under the Arkansas Better Chance for School Success Program to serve all  
32 children in the school as provided in § 6-45-108, if:

33 (A) The school has had seventy-five percent (75%) or more  
34 students scoring below proficiency on the Elementary benchmark exams or other  
35 exams designated by the ~~department~~ division in the preceding two (2) school  
36 years; or

1 (B) The school has been designated by the ~~department~~  
2 division as being in school improvement status under § 6-15-425 [repealed] or  
3 is located in a school district in academic distress.  
4

5 SECTION 1815. Arkansas Code § 6-45-105 is amended to read as follows:

6 6-45-105. Establishment of Arkansas Better Chance Program.

7 (a)(1)(A) The ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and  
8 Secondary Education shall establish the Arkansas Better Chance Program to  
9 assist in the establishment and funding of the appropriate early childhood  
10 programs for children from birth through five (5) years of age.

11 (B) Within the Arkansas Better Chance Program there is  
12 established the Arkansas Better Chance for School Success Program for  
13 providing appropriate early care and education programs for children three  
14 (3) years of age and four (4) years of age as identified under § 6-45-108(a).

15 (2)(A) ~~Beginning with the 1991-1992 school year, the Department~~  
16 The Division of Elementary and Secondary Education shall award grants or  
17 contracts to appropriate early childhood programs selected by the ~~department~~  
18 Division of Elementary and Secondary Education in accordance with specified  
19 programmatic standards.

20 (B)(i) These standards will be developed by the ~~department~~  
21 Division of Elementary and Secondary Education, with the advice and  
22 assistance of the Arkansas Early Childhood Commission.

23 (ii) Standards for funding the Home Instruction for  
24 Parents of Preschool Youngsters will be developed in conjunction with the  
25 Arkansas HIPPY Advisory Board.

26 (C) The Home Instruction for Parents of Preschool  
27 Youngsters Regional Technical Assistance and Training Center shall be defined  
28 and funded as an integral part of the Home Instruction for Parents of  
29 Preschool Youngsters to provide necessary training, technical assistance, and  
30 program support to program sites in Arkansas.

31 (b) The programmatic standards and other rules and regulations  
32 necessary for the implementation of the Arkansas Better Chance Program shall  
33 be adopted by the State Board of Education in accordance with the provisions  
34 of the Arkansas Administrative Procedure Act, § 25-15-201 et seq.

35 (c)(1) The ~~Department~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary Education  
36 may expend a maximum of two percent (2%) of available funds to administer the

1 Arkansas Better Chance Program and to monitor Arkansas Better Chance Program  
2 grantees to ensure compliance with programmatic standards.

3 (2) The ~~Department~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary  
4 Education may contract with the Division of Child Care and Early Childhood  
5 Education of the Department of Human Services to administer the Arkansas  
6 Better Chance Program.

7  
8 SECTION 1816. Arkansas Code § 6-45-106(a)(1)(A)(i), concerning the  
9 application process and allocation of funding for the Arkansas Better Chance  
10 Program, is amended to read as follows:

11 (a)(1)(A)(i) Any early childhood program accredited and quality-  
12 approved by the Department of Human Services according to standards approved  
13 by the ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary Education  
14 may apply for funding, regardless of the sponsorship of the program.

15  
16 SECTION 1817. Arkansas Code § 6-45-106(a)(2)(A)(i), concerning the  
17 application process and allocation of funding for the Arkansas Better Chance  
18 Program, is amended to read as follows:

19 (i) The school is in a district that has been  
20 designated by the ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and  
21 Secondary Education as being in academic distress; and

22  
23 SECTION 1818. Arkansas Code § 6-45-106(b), concerning the application  
24 process and allocation of funding for the Arkansas Better Chance Program, is  
25 amended to read as follows:

26 (b) In order to be considered, an application must contain all  
27 information required by the ~~Department of Education's~~ Division of Elementary  
28 and Secondary Education's regulatory guidelines.

29  
30 SECTION 1819. Arkansas Code § 6-45-106(c)(1), concerning the  
31 application process and allocation of funding for the Arkansas Better Chance  
32 Program, is amended to read as follows:

33 (c)(1) In allocating funding for the Arkansas Better Chance for School  
34 Success Program, priority consideration shall be given to:

35 (A) Schools that have seventy-five percent (75%) or more  
36 students scoring below proficiency on the Elementary benchmark exams or other

1 exams designated by the ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and  
2 Secondary Education in the preceding two (2) school years; and

3 (B) Schools that have been designated by the ~~Department of~~  
4 ~~Education~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary Education as being in school  
5 improvement status under § 6-15-425 [repealed] or are located in a school  
6 district in academic distress.

7  
8 SECTION 1820. Arkansas Code § 6-45-107 is amended to read as follows:

9 6-45-107. Publication of funding availability and program criteria.

10 The ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary  
11 Education shall annually provide notification to school districts and to  
12 other appropriate providers of the availability of funds under the Arkansas  
13 Better Chance Program and shall include in such notification the programmatic  
14 standards and criteria for determination of eligibility for funding under the  
15 program.

16  
17 SECTION 1821. Arkansas Code § 6-45-108 is amended to read as follows:

18 6-45-108. Criteria for determining need.

19 (a)(1) All children three (3) years of age and four (4) years of age  
20 who are members of a family with a gross family income not exceeding two  
21 hundred percent (200%) of the federal poverty guidelines are eligible to  
22 attend an Arkansas Better Chance for School Success Program if there is a  
23 program available in the school district where the child resides and if there  
24 is available space for the child to attend the program.

25 (2) The ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and  
26 Secondary Education and the Division of Child Care and Early Childhood  
27 Education may develop a fee schedule and establish eligibility based on  
28 family income for children who are not eligible under subdivision (a)(1) of  
29 this section, but priority enrollment shall be allowed to children eligible  
30 under subdivision (a)(1) of this section.

31 (b) The ~~department~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary Education and  
32 the ~~division~~ Division of Child Care and Early Childhood Education shall  
33 review various criteria for identifying and targeting the areas of the state  
34 with the greatest need for early childhood programs.

35 (c) The State Board of Education, with the advice and assistance of  
36 the ~~division~~ Division of Child Care and Early Childhood Education, shall

1 adopt the appropriate criteria for identifying Arkansas children with the  
2 greatest need to participate in Arkansas Better Chance for School Success  
3 Program-funded early childhood programs.  
4

5 SECTION 1822. Arkansas Code § 6-45-109(b), concerning the  
6 certification by the Division of Child Care and Early Childhood Education  
7 regarding the Arkansas Better Chance Program, is amended to read as follows:

8 (b) Upon certification of the child care facilities, the ~~division~~  
9 Division of Child Care and Early Childhood Education shall provide a listing  
10 of all certified facilities and their certification numbers to the ~~Director~~  
11 Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration for the purpose of  
12 the income tax credit or refund provided for in §§ 26-51-502 and 26-51-507.  
13

14 SECTION 1823. Arkansas Code § 6-45-110(a)(2)(B), concerning the  
15 assessment of children enrolled in the Arkansas Better Chance Program, is  
16 amended to read as follows:

17 (B) The ~~division~~ Division of Child Care and Early  
18 Childhood Education and the ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary  
19 and Secondary Education shall work cooperatively to ensure that the  
20 assessments are conducted as required by this section.  
21

22 SECTION 1824. Arkansas Code § 6-46-101(c), concerning the creation of  
23 the Arkansas High Technology Training Center, is amended to read as follows:

24 (c) The center shall also offer courses to adults to enhance their  
25 competencies and capabilities in high-technology careers in coordination with  
26 the Adult Education Section of the ~~Department of Career Education~~ Division of  
27 Workforce Services.  
28

29 SECTION 1825. Arkansas Code § 6-46-202 is amended to read as follows:  
30 6-46-202. Funding.

31 The Arkansas High Technology Training Center shall be funded by moneys  
32 appropriated by the General Assembly for the operation of the center and by  
33 such grants, contributions, or donations that may be received by the  
34 ~~Department~~ Division of Career and Technical Education for the support of the  
35 center.  
36

1 SECTION 1826. Arkansas Code § 6-46-302 is amended to read as follows:

2 6-46-302. Rules and regulations – Administration generally.

3 (a) The ~~Department~~ Division of Career and Technical Education shall  
4 supervise the Arkansas High Technology Training Center and is hereby  
5 authorized and empowered to promulgate rules and regulations that may be  
6 necessary to carry out the provisions of this chapter.

7 (b) The ~~department~~ division shall develop a plan for the structure,  
8 operation, and funding of the center.

9  
10 SECTION 1827. Arkansas Code § 6-46-303 is amended to read as follows:

11 6-46-303. Budget.

12 (a) The ~~Department~~ Division of Career and Technical Education shall  
13 prepare the fiscal year budget request for the Arkansas High Technology  
14 Training Center's operation, which shall be submitted to the ~~Career Education~~  
15 ~~and Workforce Development Board~~ State Board of Education for inclusion in the  
16 fiscal year budget request of the ~~department~~ Division of Career and Technical  
17 Education for funding programs from the ~~Department~~ Division of Career and  
18 Technical Education Fund Account.

19 (b) The ~~department~~ Division of Career and Technical Education is  
20 authorized and empowered to receive contributions, donations, gifts, bequests  
21 of money, other forms of financial assistance, and property, equipment,  
22 materials, or personnel, from persons, foundations, trust funds,  
23 corporations, organizations, and other sources, private or public, to be  
24 expended and utilized for the operation of the center.

25  
26 SECTION 1828. Arkansas Code § 6-46-304 is amended to read as follows:

27 6-46-304. Training contracts.

28 The ~~Department~~ Division of Career and Technical Education may contract  
29 with private or public business enterprises or other government agencies to  
30 perform customized high technology training for the benefit of those  
31 contracting parties.

32  
33 SECTION 1829. Arkansas Code § 6-46-401 is amended to read as follows:

34 6-46-401. Chief administrative officer.

35 (a) The Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of Career and Technical  
36 Education shall employ an administrator for the Arkansas High Technology

1 Training Center, who shall serve at the pleasure of the director.

2 (b) The administrator shall be the chief administrative officer of the  
3 center and shall administer the center in accordance with the policies  
4 established by the ~~Department~~ Division of Career and Technical Education.

5  
6 SECTION 1830. Arkansas Code § 6-46-402 is amended to read as follows:  
7 6-46-402. Other employees.

8 (a) The administrator and other personnel employed for the operation  
9 of the Arkansas High Technology Training Center shall be employees of the  
10 State of Arkansas, and the Department of Education.

11 (b) Faculty members and other personnel required for operation of the  
12 center shall be recommended for employment by the administrator and shall be  
13 employed by annual contract by the ~~Department~~ Division of Career and  
14 Technical Education.

15 (c) Teachers and administrators so employed shall be eligible for  
16 membership in the Arkansas Teacher Retirement System and earn credited  
17 service for such employment.

18 (d) Noneducational personnel employed by the ~~Department~~ division shall  
19 be eligible for membership in the Arkansas Public Employees' Retirement  
20 System and earn credited service for such employment.

21  
22 SECTION 1831. Arkansas Code § 6-46-501 is amended to read as follows:  
23 6-46-501. Technical assistance.

24 The ~~Department~~ Division of Career and Technical Education, the  
25 ~~Department~~ Division of Higher Education, the Arkansas Economic Development  
26 Council, and the Arkansas Economic Development Commission shall provide  
27 technical assistance to the Arkansas High Technology Training Center.

28  
29 SECTION 1832. Arkansas Code § 6-46-502 is amended to read as follows:  
30 6-46-502. Operation contracts.

31 The ~~Department~~ Division of Career and Technical Education shall also be  
32 authorized to contract with other agencies and private research centers as it  
33 may deem necessary to carry out its responsibilities for the operation of the  
34 Arkansas High Technology Training Center.

35  
36 SECTION 1839. Arkansas Code § 6-47-202 is amended to read as follows:

1 6-47-202. Administration in two-year colleges.

2 (a) The ~~Department~~ Division of Higher Education shall oversee and  
3 coordinate the implementation of distance learning in two-year colleges,  
4 four-year institutions of higher education, and universities in the state.

5 (b) The ~~Department~~ Division of Career and Technical Education shall  
6 cooperate with the ~~Department~~ Division of Higher Education in implementing  
7 the provisions of this section.

8  
9 SECTION 1833. Arkansas Code § 6-47-203 is amended to read as follows:

10 6-47-203. ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary  
11 Education and ~~Department~~ Division of Higher Education – Cooperation, report,  
12 and implementation.

13 (a) The ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary  
14 Education and the ~~Department~~ Division of Higher Education shall work together  
15 to implement distance learning throughout the state.

16 (b) The ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary  
17 Education and the ~~Department~~ Division of Higher Education shall present a  
18 report to the House Committee on Education and the Senate Committee on  
19 Education by December 31, 1999, reporting the status and progress of distance  
20 learning in Arkansas.

21 (c) The ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary  
22 Education and the ~~Department~~ Division of Higher Education shall not be  
23 required to implement the provisions of this subchapter if funds are not made  
24 available.

25  
26 SECTION 1834. Arkansas Code § 6-47-302 is amended to read as follows:

27 6-47-302. Implementation in elementary and secondary schools – Courses  
28 offered.

29 (a) The ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary  
30 Education shall plan for the statewide implementation of distance learning in  
31 elementary and secondary public schools in the state.

32 (b)(1) The elementary or secondary school may utilize courses from  
33 outside the state if the out-of-state course provider is approved by the  
34 ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary Education or the  
35 ~~Department~~ Division of Career and Technical Education before the school  
36 offers the courses through distance learning.

1 (2) A course offered through an approved out-of-state course  
2 provider under this subsection shall follow ~~Department of Education~~ Division  
3 of Elementary and Secondary Education course frameworks.

4 (c) The courses offered through distance learning may include college  
5 preparatory courses, advanced mathematics and science courses, and  
6 technological courses.

7 (d) The ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary  
8 Education shall work with the Arkansas School for Mathematics, Sciences, and  
9 the Arts, the Arkansas Educational Television Commission, the education  
10 service cooperatives, the Arkansas State Library, and other state agencies  
11 involved in distance learning.

12  
13 SECTION 1835. Arkansas Code § 6-47-303 is amended to read as follows:

14 6-47-303. Coordination at institutions of higher education.

15 The ~~Department~~ Division of Higher Education shall coordinate the  
16 implementation of distance learning at the state's public institutions of  
17 higher education.

18  
19 SECTION 1836. Arkansas Code § 6-47-304 is amended to read as follows:

20 6-47-304. ~~Department~~ Division of Career and Technical Education to  
21 cooperate with ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary  
22 Education and ~~Department~~ Division of Higher Education.

23 The ~~Department~~ Division of Career and Technical Education shall  
24 cooperate with the ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and  
25 Secondary Education and the ~~Department~~ Division of Higher Education to  
26 implement distance learning throughout the state.

27  
28 SECTION 1837. Arkansas Code § 6-47-403(2) and (3), concerning the  
29 definitions of "commission" and "department" under the laws governing  
30 distance learning, are repealed

31 ~~(2) "Commissioner" means the Commissioner of Education;~~

32 ~~(3) "Department" means the Department of Education;~~

33  
34 SECTION 1838. Arkansas Code § 6-47-404(a), concerning the creation and  
35 implementation of the Arkansas Distance Learning Development Program, is  
36 amended to read as follows:

1 (a) There is established the Arkansas Distance Learning Development  
2 Program, which shall be conducted by the ~~Department of Education~~ Division of  
3 Elementary and Secondary Education and administered through the Commissioner  
4 of Elementary and Secondary Education.

5  
6 SECTION 1839. Arkansas Code § 6-47-404(c)(3)(A), concerning the  
7 creation and implementation of the Arkansas Distance Learning Development  
8 Program, is amended to read as follows:

9 (3)(A) All donations, grants, and appropriations received shall  
10 be accounted for by the ~~department~~ division.

11  
12 SECTION 1840. Arkansas Code § 6-47-406(a)(3), concerning the public  
13 school district and the charter school distance learning program, is amended  
14 to read as follows:

15 (3) The public school or open-enrollment public charter school  
16 teaches or offers a distance learning course that has been approved by or  
17 otherwise complies with ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and  
18 Secondary Education rules and standards governing distance learning courses.

19  
20 SECTION 1841. Arkansas Code § 6-47-406(b), concerning the public  
21 school district and the charter school distance learning program, is amended  
22 to read as follows:

23 (b) The State Board of Education shall adopt rules to allow the  
24 Commissioner of Elementary and Secondary Education to waive the requirements  
25 under subdivisions (a)(1) and (2) of this section on an individual basis for  
26 a student who is unable to attend due to conditions that prevent the child  
27 from physically attending a public school or an open-enrollment public  
28 charter school.

29  
30 SECTION 1842. Arkansas Code § 6-47-406(f), concerning the public  
31 school district and the charter school distance learning program, is amended  
32 to read as follows:

33 (f)(1) Before a public school district or open-enrollment public  
34 charter school offers or teaches to public school students, home-schooled  
35 students, or private school students distance learning courses that are not  
36 part of the curriculum required by the Standards for Accreditation of

1 Arkansas Public Schools and School Districts established by the state board,  
2 the open-enrollment public school district or public charter school first  
3 shall obtain approval of the distance learning courses by the ~~department~~  
4 division.

5 (2) A course offered under this subsection shall follow  
6 ~~Department~~ division course frameworks.

7  
8 SECTION 1843. Arkansas Code § 6-47-502 is amended to read as follows:  
9 6-47-502. Distance learning grants.

10 (a)(1) The ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and  
11 Secondary Education shall develop grant standards and provide grants to  
12 education service cooperatives for acquiring equipment and receiving  
13 telecommunications services necessary for each school district to have  
14 distance learning availability.

15 (2) The grants shall be used to assist school districts that do  
16 not have distance learning capabilities and to assist school districts in  
17 upgrading existing distance learning capabilities.

18 (3) The grants shall also be used by the education service  
19 cooperatives to provide technical assistance to the school districts in  
20 implementing and maintaining distance learning as an educational tool.

21 (b)(1) The ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and  
22 Secondary Education shall:

23 (A) Establish, by rule, standards for eligible equipment  
24 and telecommunications services; and

25 (B) Oversee the efficient operation and use of the system  
26 pursuant to law.

27 (2) Each school district shall have adequate connectivity to  
28 provide quality of service for distance learning.

29 (3) The distance learning technical protocol or protocols shall  
30 be in alignment with technical standards set by the Director of the  
31 ~~Department~~ Division of Information Systems.

32 (c) Education service cooperatives and school districts shall  
33 coordinate with the ~~department~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary Education  
34 to seek to obtain the benefits of the Federal Communications Commission's E-  
35 rate program.

36

1 SECTION 1844. Arkansas Code § 6-48-101 is amended to read as follows:  
2 6-48-101. Definitions.

3 As used in this chapter:

4 (1)(A)(i) "Alternative learning environment" means an alternate  
5 class or program within a public school or school district that affords all  
6 students an environment that seeks to eliminate barriers to learning for any  
7 student whose academic and social progress is negatively affected by the  
8 student's personal characteristics or situation.

9 (ii) The ~~Department of Education~~ Division of  
10 Elementary and Secondary Education shall by rule more fully define the  
11 student's personal characteristics and situations applicable under this  
12 chapter.

13 (B) An alternative learning environment is not a punitive  
14 environment but one that is conducive to learning.

15 (C) An alternative learning environment is not a separate  
16 school for the purposes of this title even if the ~~department~~ Division of  
17 Elementary and Secondary Education assigns the alternative learning  
18 environment a separate local education agency number; and

19 (2) "Intervention services" means activities within or outside a  
20 school that will eliminate traditional barriers to learning.

21  
22 SECTION 1845. Arkansas Code § 6-48-102(a)(1), concerning the  
23 requirement for alternative learning environments and reporting, is amended  
24 to read as follows:

25 (a)(1) A school district shall provide one (1) or more alternative  
26 learning environments for all students who meet the minimum criteria  
27 established by the ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and  
28 Secondary Education.

29  
30 SECTION 1846. Arkansas Code § 6-48-102(b), concerning the requirement  
31 for alternative learning environments and reporting, is amended to read as  
32 follows:

33 (b) Annually, a school district shall submit to the ~~department~~  
34 division:

35 (1) Information on race and gender of the students educated in  
36 the alternative learning environment;

1 (2) Any other information regarding students educated in  
2 alternative learning environments that the ~~department~~ division requires by  
3 rule; and

4 (3) An assurance statement that the school district is in  
5 compliance with this chapter.

6  
7 SECTION 1847. Arkansas Code § 6-48-104 is amended to read as follows:

8 6-48-104. ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary  
9 Education responsibilities.

10 (a) The ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary  
11 Education shall promulgate rules to implement this chapter, including without  
12 limitation rules that establish:

13 (1)(A) The criteria for distributing state funding for  
14 alternative learning environment programs.

15 (B) The criteria shall identify the characteristics of  
16 students who may be counted for the purpose of funding an alternative  
17 learning environment program including without limitation that a student is  
18 educated in the alternative learning environment for a minimum of twenty (20)  
19 consecutive days.

20 (C) If a student is educated in the alternative learning  
21 environment for fewer than twenty (20) days, the ~~department~~ division may  
22 provide funding to a school district based on the actual number of days the  
23 student is educated in the alternative learning environment if the student:

24 (i) Leaves the school district to transfer to  
25 another alternative learning environment; or

26 (ii) Is placed in a residential treatment program;

27 (2)(A) The criteria for teacher training for teachers in  
28 alternative learning environments, including without limitation:

29 (i) In-service training in classroom management; and

30 (ii) Training in additional areas related to the  
31 specific needs and characteristics of students who are educated in  
32 alternative learning environments.

33 (B) The ~~department~~ division shall award professional  
34 development credit for the training under this subdivision (a)(2); and

35 (3) Measures of effectiveness for alternative learning  
36 environments that measure:

1 (A) For the students educated in the alternative learning  
2 environment the effect on the students':

3 (i) School performance;

4 (ii) Need for intervention; and

5 (iii) School attendance and dropout rate; and

6 (B) Any other characteristic of alternative learning  
7 environments deemed necessary by the ~~department~~ division.

8 (b)(1) As part of the ~~department's~~ division's accreditation review of  
9 a school district under § 6-15-202, the ~~department~~ division shall evaluate  
10 each alternative learning environment to ensure that the alternative learning  
11 environment is:

12 (A) Established and operated in compliance with this  
13 chapter; and

14 (B) Effective under the measurements established by the  
15 ~~department~~ division under this section.

16 (2) The ~~department~~ division shall identify a school district's  
17 noncompliance with this chapter on the school district's annual report card.

18 (c) The ~~department~~ division shall identify information concerning best  
19 practices for educating students in alternative learning environments and  
20 disseminate that information to teachers and administrators working in  
21 alternative learning environments.

22 (d) Annually by September 15, the ~~department~~ division shall provide to  
23 the House Committee on Education and the Senate Committee on Education a  
24 report on:

25 (1) The information reported to it under § 6-48-102; and

26 (2) The effectiveness of alternative learning environments  
27 evaluated under this chapter.

28  
29 SECTION 1848. Arkansas Code § 6-50-101 is amended to read as follows:

30 6-50-101. Contracts with private organizations.

31 The Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of Career and Technical  
32 Education is hereby authorized to enter into contracts with private  
33 organizations licensed by the State Board of ~~Career~~ Education in order to  
34 provide vocational-technical training to citizens of the State of Arkansas.

35  
36 SECTION 1849. Arkansas Code § 6-50-103(a)(1), concerning participation

1 in vocational student organizations, is amended to read as follows:

2 (a)(1) The ~~Department~~ Division of Career and Technical Education may  
3 reimburse secondary vocational centers and other public schools in Arkansas  
4 for dues, membership fees, supplies, travel, lodging, and other expenses  
5 related to a student's participation in vocational student organizations.

6  
7 SECTION 1850. Arkansas Code § 6-50-201(a), concerning the creation of  
8 the Arkansas Technical Careers Student Loan Forgiveness Program, is amended  
9 to read as follows:

10 (a) There is hereby established a program to be known as the Arkansas  
11 Technical Careers Student Loan Forgiveness Program, to be administered by the  
12 State Board of ~~Career~~ Education through the ~~Department~~ Division of Career and  
13 Technical Education.

14

15 SECTION 1851. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 6-50-203,  
16 concerning the administration of the Arkansas Technical Careers Student Loan  
17 Forgiveness Program, is amended to read as follows:

18 The State Board of ~~Career~~ Education through the ~~Department~~ Division of  
19 Career and Technical Education shall administer the Arkansas Technical  
20 Careers Student Loan Forgiveness Program and shall have the following  
21 authority with respect to the program:

22

23 SECTION 1852. Arkansas Code § 6-50-204 is amended to read as follows:  
24 6-50-204. Institutional eligibility.

25 The institution to be attended under the loan forgiveness program must  
26 be approved by the ~~Career Education and Workforce Development Board~~ State  
27 Board of Education, the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board, or the  
28 ~~Department~~ Division of Higher Education to offer training in the technical  
29 field chosen by the applicant.

30

31 SECTION 1853. Arkansas Code § 6-50-205(a), concerning the approval and  
32 priorities of educational programs for the Arkansas Technical Careers Student  
33 Loan Forgiveness Program, is amended to read as follows:

34 (a) The State Board of ~~Career~~ Education shall consider comments and  
35 suggestions from the ~~Department~~ Division of Higher Education, the Arkansas  
36 Higher Education Coordinating Board, the Arkansas Economic Development

1 Council, the ~~Department~~ Division of Workforce Services, the Arkansas State  
2 Chamber of Commerce, and other appropriate entities annually to develop and  
3 publish a list of technical education programs that are approved for this  
4 program.

5

6 SECTION 1854. Arkansas Code § 6-50-207(c), concerning the amount of  
7 loan forgiveness, is amended to read as follows:

8 (c) With input from the ~~Department~~ Division of Higher Education and  
9 other appropriate entities, the State Board of ~~Career~~ Education shall  
10 establish through rules and regulations loan forgiveness amounts for approved  
11 technical education programs for students enrolled on a less than full-time  
12 basis.

13

14 SECTION 1855. Arkansas Code § 6-50-503(a), concerning the  
15 establishment of a youth apprenticeship/work-based learning program, is  
16 amended to read as follows:

17 (a) The ~~Department~~ Division of Career and Technical Education is  
18 hereby authorized and directed to develop and implement a youth  
19 apprenticeship/work-based learning program to provide additional educational  
20 and training opportunities for noncollege-bound Arkansas high school  
21 students.

22

23 SECTION 1856. Arkansas Code § 6-50-504(a), concerning demonstration  
24 youth apprenticeship programs, is amended to read as follows:

25 (a) The ~~Department~~ Division of Career and Technical Education shall  
26 implement during the 1991-1993 biennium at least five (5) demonstration youth  
27 apprenticeship programs.

28

29 SECTION 1857. Arkansas Code § 6-50-703(a), concerning the creation and  
30 purpose of the Arkansas Existing Workforce Training Program, is amended to  
31 read as follows:

32 (a) There is hereby created the Arkansas Existing Workforce Training  
33 Program, to be administered by a governing council composed of equal  
34 representation from the ~~Department~~ Division of Higher Education, the  
35 ~~Department~~ Division of Career and Technical Education, and the Arkansas  
36 Economic Development Commission.

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SECTION 1858. Arkansas Code § 6-51-205(b), concerning the Career Education and Workforce Development Board's responsibility for school operation, personnel, and equipment, is amended to read as follows:

(b) The ~~state~~ board is authorized to employ personnel to set salaries which shall be comparable to those received by other similarly positioned personnel in the ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary Education, and to negotiate leases or purchases with any and all agencies of the ~~government of the~~ United States Government for the lease or purchase of suitable facilities, equipment, machinery, and supplies to be used for the purposes authorized by this section and §§ 6-51-201 – 6-51-203, 6-51-207, 6-51-208(a)-(c), 6-51-209, and 6-51-210.

SECTION 1859. Arkansas Code § 6-51-208(d), concerning student fees, is amended to read as follows:

(d) No secondary student or school shall be made to pay a tuition charge as a condition of his or her enrollment in any vocational program funded by the ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary Education while enrolled in a regular high school program.

SECTION 1860. Arkansas Code § 6-51-213(c)(1), concerning the administration of certain federal and state vocational education laws, is amended to read as follows:

(c)(1) The Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of Career and Technical Education, as executive officer of the board for the purpose of administering the federal act and this act, shall, by and with the advice and consent of the board, designate assistants as may be necessary to carry out properly the provisions hereof.

SECTION 1861. Arkansas Code § 6-51-401(b), concerning the course of instruction for vocational-technical training, is amended to read as follows:

(b) A prescribed course of study will be set up by the ~~Department~~ Division of Career and Technical Education in conjunction with the Plumbing and Natural Gas Section of the Department of Health and the local training committee.

1 SECTION 1862. Arkansas Code § 6-51-501(c)(1), concerning the creation  
2 of state-supported technical institutes offering courses in building trades,  
3 is amended to read as follows:

4 (c)(1) As used in this subchapter, "secondary area technical center"  
5 means a secondary area vocational center established under § 6-13-801 et seq.  
6 or as defined by the ~~Department~~ Division of Career and Technical Education.  
7

8 SECTION 1863. Arkansas Code § 6-51-502(b), concerning the approval,  
9 notification, requirements, and advance of funds for state-supported  
10 technical institutes or secondary area technical centers, is amended to read  
11 as follows:

12 (b) Upon receipt of written approval, the technical institute or  
13 secondary area technical center shall notify the ~~Department~~ Division of  
14 Career and Technical Education of its intent to undertake the construction of  
15 a single family dwelling unit or other building project under the program  
16 established in this subchapter.  
17

18 SECTION 1864. Arkansas Code § 6-51-503 is amended to read as follows:  
19 6-51-503. Procedure for purchase of lot.

20 When a technical institute is advanced funds from the Building Trades  
21 Revolving Fund by the ~~Department~~ Division of Career and Technical Education  
22 as provided in this subchapter, the technical institute shall, if it proposes  
23 to purchase a lot on which to build the dwelling unit or other building  
24 project, cause notice of the proposed purchase to be published in a newspaper  
25 of general circulation in the area where it proposes to purchase the lot in  
26 order to give persons in the area an opportunity to offer lots for sale to  
27 the school for the construction of the dwelling unit or other building  
28 project.  
29

30 SECTION 1865. Arkansas Code § 6-51-504(a), concerning dwelling unit  
31 construction, restrictions, and exemptions, is amended to read as follows:

32 (a) The ~~Department~~ Division of Career and Technical Education shall  
33 not advance funds to a technical institute from the Building Trades Revolving  
34 Fund created in this subchapter for the construction of more than one (1)  
35 dwelling unit or other building project at any one (1) time or more than one  
36 (1) dwelling unit or other building project in any twelve-month period.

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SECTION 1866. Arkansas Code § 6-51-508(a) and (b), concerning the remittance of proceeds, are amended to read as follows:

(a) All funds derived from reimbursement by a state agency or from the sale of a dwelling unit or other building project constructed under the provisions of this subchapter by a technical institute after deducting the cost of the sale shall be remitted to the ~~Department~~ Division of Career and Technical Education for deposit in the Building Trades Revolving Fund created in this subchapter.

(b) Upon the sale of a dwelling unit or other building project constructed under the provisions of this subchapter by a secondary area technical center:

(1)(A) The secondary area technical center shall remit to the ~~department~~ division the full amount of funds advanced for the project.

(B) The ~~department~~ division shall deposit the funds into the Building Trades Revolving Fund created in this subchapter; and

(2) The remaining proceeds, if any, shall be retained or any loss absorbed by the secondary area technical center.

SECTION 1867. Arkansas Code § 6-51-509, concerning the uses for the Building Trades Revolving Fund, is amended to read as follows:

6-51-509. Uses for Building Trades Revolving Fund.

All funds appropriated for the program established in this subchapter together with funds derived from the sale of property and remitted to the ~~Department~~ Division of Career and Technical Education and deposited in the Building Trades Revolving Fund shall be used exclusively for the purpose of making advances to area vocational schools for the purchase of lots, building materials, supplies, and fixtures necessary to construct dwellings or other building projects on the lots and to otherwise carry out the purposes of this subchapter.

SECTION 1868. Arkansas Code § 6-51-510 is amended to read as follows:

6-51-510. Disbursing officer.

The disbursing officer for the ~~Department~~ Division of Career and Technical Education shall be disbursing officer for funds in the Building Trades Revolving Fund.

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SECTION 1869. Arkansas Code § 6-51-604 is amended to read as follows:

6-51-604. Notice of possible violations – Responses – Injunctions.

(a) In consultation with the State Board of Private Career Education or its director acting for the board, if the ~~Department~~ Division of Higher Education has probable cause to believe that a person, agent, group, or entity has committed any acts that would be in violation of this subchapter such as fraud, misrepresentation, or unethical practices, the ~~department~~ division shall first give notice in writing by certified mail or in person to the agency or entity affected.

(b) The person, agent, or entity will have ten (10) days in which to respond to the notice of violation, unless the ~~department~~ division deems an emergency exists, in which case the entity will have up to twenty-four (24) hours in which to respond.

(c)(1) If action on the part of the person, agent, or entity in response to a notice is to seek to eliminate the violation, a further extension of time may be granted by the ~~department~~ division.

(2) Otherwise, the ~~department~~ division may order a cease and desist of such acts after a formal hearing, or the ~~department~~ division shall have the duty to request the Attorney General or district prosecuting attorney in the county where the offense was committed to seek in a court of competent jurisdiction an injunction restraining the commission of such acts.

SECTION 1870. Arkansas Code § 6-51-605 is amended to read as follows:

6-51-605. State Board of Private Career Education.

(a)(1)(A) The Governor shall appoint a State Board of Private Career Education of seven (7) members who shall serve for terms of seven (7) years.

(B) The Governor shall make appointments or reappointments to the board to provide membership of three (3) persons associated with schools and four (4) persons from the general public.

(2) The Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of Higher Education and the Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of Career and Technical Education or their designees shall serve as nonvoting, ex officio members of the board.

(b) The board may elect the necessary officers, acting by and through the Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of Higher Education. In consultation with the board, the ~~Department~~ Division of Higher Education shall have the

1 sole authority to:

2 (1) Approve all schools offering programs of study leading to or  
3 enhancing an occupational objective;

4 (2) Administer and enforce this subchapter; and

5 (3) Issue licenses to schools that have met the standards set  
6 forth for the purposes of this subchapter by the ~~Department~~ Division of  
7 Higher Education, including without limitation programs of study, adequate  
8 facilities, financial stability, qualified personnel, and legitimate  
9 operating practices.

10 (c) Upon approval by the ~~Department~~ Division of Higher Education, any  
11 such school may issue certificates or diplomas.

12 (d) The ~~Department~~ Division of Higher Education shall:

13 (1) Formulate the criteria and the standards evolved for the  
14 approval of such licensed schools;

15 (2) Provide for adequate investigation of all schools applying  
16 for a license;

17 (3) Issue licenses to those applicants meeting the standards  
18 fixed by the ~~Department~~ Division of Higher Education; and

19 (4) Maintain a list of schools approved under the provisions of  
20 this subchapter.

21 (e) The ~~Department~~ Division of Higher Education shall formulate the  
22 standards evolved under this subchapter for the approval of admissions  
23 representatives of such licensed schools and issue licenses to those  
24 applicants meeting the standards fixed by the ~~Department~~ Division of Higher  
25 Education.

26 (f) In consultation with the board, the ~~Department~~ Division of Higher  
27 Education shall promulgate standards and rules to be prescribed for the  
28 administration of this subchapter and the management and operation of the  
29 schools and admissions representatives, subject to the provisions of this  
30 subchapter.

31 (g) The ~~Department~~ Division of Higher Education shall participate in  
32 the hearings provided to schools and admissions representatives in cases of  
33 revocation or denial of licensure.

34 (h) Official meetings of the board may be called by the chair as  
35 necessary, but meetings shall be held at least four (4) times a year.

36 (i) A majority of favorable votes by the board members at an official

1 meeting is required for adoption of a recommendation.

2 (j) Board members may be reimbursed for expenses in accordance with §  
3 25-16-901 and stipends according to § 25-16-903.

4 (k) The board may adopt and use a seal, which may be used for the  
5 authentication of the recommendations of the board.

6 (l) The board shall employ a director who reports to the board.

7 (m)(1) The ~~Department~~ Division of Higher Education shall annually  
8 require background investigations for all partners or shareholders with ten  
9 percent (10%) or more ownership interest in a school when the school seeks an  
10 original license.

11 (2) The ~~Department~~ Division of Higher Education may establish a  
12 schedule for periodic background checks for partners or shareholders with ten  
13 percent (10%) or more ownership interest in a school when seeking renewal of  
14 a school license.

15 (n)(1) The partners or shareholders shall apply to the Identification  
16 Bureau of the ~~Department~~ Division of Arkansas State Police for a state and  
17 national criminal background check to be conducted by the Federal Bureau of  
18 Investigation.

19 (2) The check shall conform to the applicable federal standards  
20 and shall include the taking of fingerprints.

21 (3) The applicant shall sign a release of information to the  
22 board and shall be responsible to the ~~Department~~ Division of Arkansas State  
23 Police for the payment of any fee associated with the criminal background  
24 check.

25 (4) Upon completion of the criminal background check, the  
26 Identification Bureau of the ~~Department~~ Division of Arkansas State Police  
27 shall forward to the ~~Department~~ Division of Higher Education all information  
28 obtained concerning the person in the commission of any offense listed in §  
29 6-51-606(h)(3).

30 (5)(A) The ~~Department~~ Division of Higher Education may issue a  
31 nonrenewable temporary license pending the results of the criminal background  
32 check.

33 (B) The license shall be valid for no more than six (6)  
34 months.

35 (C) Upon receipt of information from the Identification  
36 Bureau of the ~~Department~~ Division of Arkansas State Police that only one (1)

1 of the partners or shareholders of the school holding the license has been  
2 convicted of any offense listed in § 6-51-606(h)(3), the ~~Department~~ Division  
3 of Higher Education shall revoke the license.

4 (o)(1) The provisions of § 6-51-606(h) may be waived by the ~~Department~~  
5 Division of Higher Education upon the request of:

6 (A) An affected applicant for licensure; or

7 (B) The partners or shareholders of a school holding a  
8 license subject to revocation.

9 (2) Circumstances for which a waiver may be granted shall  
10 include, but not be limited to, the following:

11 (A) The age at which the crime was committed;

12 (B) The circumstances surrounding the crime;

13 (C) The length of time since the crime;

14 (D) Subsequent work history;

15 (E) Employment references;

16 (F) Character references; and

17 (G) Other evidence demonstrating that the applicant does  
18 not pose a threat.

19 (p)(1) Any information received by the ~~Department~~ Division of Higher  
20 Education from the Identification Bureau of the ~~Department~~ Division of  
21 Arkansas State Police under this section shall not be available for  
22 examination except by:

23 (A) The affected applicant for licensure or his or her  
24 authorized representative; or

25 (B) The person whose license is subject to revocation or  
26 his or her authorized representative.

27 (2) No record, file, or document shall be removed from the  
28 custody of the ~~Department~~ Division of Arkansas State Police.

29 (q) Any information made available to the affected applicant for  
30 licensure or the person whose license is subject to revocation shall be  
31 information pertaining to that person only.

32 (r) Rights of privilege and confidentiality established in this  
33 section shall not extend to any document created for purposes other than the  
34 background check required by this section.

35 (s) In consultation with the board, the ~~Department~~ Division of Higher  
36 Education shall adopt the necessary rules to fully implement the provisions

1 of this section.

2

3 SECTION 1871. Arkansas Code § 6-51-606(a), concerning school licenses,  
4 is amended to read as follows:

5 (a) No persons shall operate, conduct, maintain, or offer to operate  
6 in this state a school as defined in this subchapter, or solicit the  
7 enrollment of students residing in the state, unless a license is first  
8 secured from the ~~Department~~ Division of Higher Education issued in accordance  
9 with the provisions of this subchapter and the rules promulgated by the  
10 ~~department~~ division in consultation with the State Board of Private Career  
11 Education.

12

13 SECTION 1872. Arkansas Code § 6-51-606(b)(1), concerning school  
14 licenses, is amended to read as follows:

15 (b)(1) Application for a license shall be filed in the manner and upon  
16 the forms prescribed and furnished by the ~~department~~ division for that  
17 purpose.

18

19 SECTION 1873. Arkansas Code § 6-51-606(d), concerning school licenses,  
20 is amended to read as follows:

21 (d) The license shall remain the property of the State of Arkansas and  
22 shall be returned to the ~~department~~ division upon cause.

23

24 SECTION 1874. Arkansas Code § 6-51-606(e)(1), concerning school  
25 licenses, is amended to read as follows:

26 (e)(1) If the ~~department~~ division, after evaluating the school as to  
27 kind and type, is unable to make a determination regarding initial approval  
28 of a licensure application within sixty (60) days of receipt of the  
29 application and required documentation, it shall issue a temporary license  
30 valid for a period of not more than six (6) months, pending an investigation.

31

32 SECTION 1875. Arkansas Code § 6-51-606(f), concerning school licenses,  
33 is amended to read as follows:

34 (f) After a license is issued to any school by the ~~department~~ division  
35 on the basis of its application, it shall be the responsibility of the school  
36 to notify immediately the ~~department~~ division of any changes in the

1 ownership, administration, location, faculty, or programs of study on the  
2 forms and in the manner prescribed by the ~~department~~ division.

3  
4 SECTION 1876. Arkansas Code § 6-51-606(h)-(1), concerning school  
5 licenses, is amended to read as follows:

6 (h) The ~~department~~ division shall have the power to deny issuing a new  
7 or renewal license, to revoke an existing license, or to place a licensee on  
8 probation, if in its discretion it determines that:

9 (1) The licensee has violated any of the provisions of this  
10 subchapter or any of the rules of the ~~department~~ division;

11 (2) The applicant or licensee has knowingly presented to the  
12 ~~department~~ division incomplete or misleading information relating to  
13 licensure;

14 (3) The applicant or licensee has pleaded guilty, entered a plea  
15 of nolo contendere, or has been found guilty in a criminal proceeding,  
16 regardless of whether or not the adjudication of guilt or sentence is  
17 withheld, deferred, or suspended by a court of this state, another state, or  
18 the federal government, of:

19 (A) Any felony; or

20 (B) Any act involving moral turpitude, gross immorality,  
21 or which is related to the qualifications, functions, and duties of a  
22 licensee;

23 (4) The applicant or licensee has intentionally failed or  
24 refused to permit the ~~department~~ division or its representatives to inspect  
25 the school or classes or has intentionally failed or refused to make  
26 available to the ~~department~~ division, at any time when requested to do so,  
27 full information pertaining to any or all items of information contained in  
28 an application for license or pertaining to the operation of the school;

29 (5) The applicant has failed or refused to submit to the  
30 ~~department~~ division an application for license or renewal in the manner and  
31 on the forms prescribed;

32 (6) A licensed admissions representative has failed or refused  
33 to display or produce his or her license when requested to do so by  
34 prospective students or designated officials of the ~~department~~ division;

35 (7) The applicant or licensee has failed to provide or maintain  
36 premises, equipment, materials, supplies, or conditions in accordance with

1 minimum standards as established by rules;

2 (8) The licensee has been found by the ~~department~~ division or a  
3 court of law to have perpetrated fraud or deceit in advertising of the school  
4 or programs of study or in presenting to prospective students information  
5 relating to the school, programs of study, employment opportunities, or  
6 opportunities for enrollment in institutions of higher education;

7 (9) The licensee has in its employ admissions representatives  
8 who have not been licensed but are actively engaged in the practice of  
9 attempting to enroll students;

10 (10) The licensee has failed to provide and maintain standards  
11 of instruction or qualified administrative, supervisory, or instructional  
12 staff as established by rules;

13 (11) The applicant or licensee is unable to provide and maintain  
14 financial resources in sufficient amount to equip and maintain the school or  
15 classes;

16 (12) The licensee has moved the school into new premises or  
17 facilities without first notifying the ~~department~~ division;

18 (13) The licensee has offered training or instruction in  
19 programs of study which have not been approved and authorized in accordance  
20 with rules;

21 (14) A licensed admissions representative has solicited  
22 prospective students to enroll in a school which has not been licensed by the  
23 ~~department~~ division or which is not listed on his or her license;

24 (15) There was a change in the ownership of the school without  
25 proper notification to and approval from the ~~department~~ division;

26 (16) The licensee has failed to notify the ~~department~~ division  
27 or to provide written documentation as to the cause that the license of a  
28 school has been suspended or revoked or the school has been placed on  
29 probation or a show cause issued in another state or by another regulatory  
30 agency;

31 (17) The licensee has failed to notify the ~~department~~ division  
32 of legal actions initiated by or against the school; or

33 (18) The licensee fails to make tuition refunds to the students  
34 or their lenders in compliance with current rules.

35 (i) The ~~department~~ division shall have the power to revoke a license  
36 if in its discretion it determines that:

1 (1) The licensee has failed to cure a deficiency leading to a  
2 license probation within the time as may be reasonably prescribed by the  
3 ~~department~~ division;

4 (2) The licensee while on probation has been found by the  
5 ~~department~~ division to have incurred an additional infraction of this  
6 subchapter; or

7 (3) The licensee has closed a school without first having  
8 completed the training of all students currently enrolled or having made  
9 tuition refunds to students or their lenders.

10 (j) The ~~department~~ division may impose sanctions under § 25-15-217.

11 (k)(1) Unless directed to do so by court order, the ~~department~~  
12 division shall not, for a period of five (5) years following revocation,  
13 reinstate the license of a school or allow an owner of any such school to  
14 seek licensure of another school.

15 (2) Upon expiration of licensure status, the school must apply  
16 for an original license in accordance with the provisions of this subchapter.

17 (1)(1) Upon closure of a school located in Arkansas and licensed under  
18 any provision of this subchapter, whether for license revocation or any other  
19 cause, all student financial aid records for the previous three (3) years and  
20 all student transcripts regardless of age must be delivered to the ~~department~~  
21 division.

22 (2) Delivered records shall be arranged in alphabetical order  
23 and stored in boxes or in data format at the discretion of the ~~department~~  
24 division.

25 (3) The ~~department~~ division shall be responsible for the proper  
26 security, storage, and maintenance of all such records.

27  
28 SECTION 1877. Arkansas Code § 6-51-607(a)(1) and (2), concerning the  
29 Private Career School Student Protection Trust Fund, is amended to read as  
30 follows:

31 (a)(1) Each school licensed under this subchapter shall pay annually a  
32 fee to be set by the ~~Department~~ Division of Higher Education in consultation  
33 with the State Board of Private Career Education.

34 (2) The fee shall be set at the amount the ~~department~~ division  
35 deems necessary to establish the Private Career School Student Protection  
36 Trust Fund and to maintain the ~~Private Career School Student Protection Trust~~

1 ~~Fund~~ fund as necessary.

2 (3) For a renewing school, the fee shall be based on the  
3 enrollment of Arkansas residents in the preceding twelve (12) months of July  
4 1 through June 30.

5 (4)(A) For an original license, the fee shall be a percentage as  
6 determined by the ~~department~~ division of the sum of the tuitions for each  
7 program offered.

8 (B) Additionally, during the first twelve (12) months of  
9 licensure, the same percentage shall be paid to the Private Career School  
10 Student Protection Trust Fund on additional new programs of study.

11

12 SECTION 1878. Arkansas Code § 6-51-607(c)(2)(A), concerning the  
13 Private Career School Student Protection Trust Fund, is amended to read as  
14 follows:

15 (2)(A) However, regardless of the balance in the ~~Private Career~~  
16 ~~School Student Protection Trust Fund~~ fund, a fee, as set by the ~~department~~  
17 division, will be assessed newly licensed schools.

18

19 SECTION 1879. Arkansas Code § 6-51-607(d)(1), concerning the Private  
20 Career School Student Protection Trust Fund, is amended to read as follows:

21 (d)(1) The assets of the ~~Private Career School Student Protection~~  
22 ~~Trust Fund~~ fund may be invested and reinvested as the ~~department~~ division may  
23 determine.

24

25 SECTION 1880. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 6-51-  
26 607(e), concerning the Private Career School Student Protection Trust Fund,  
27 is amended to read as follows:

28 (e) The ~~department~~ division may use any amounts in the ~~Private Career~~  
29 ~~School Student Protection Trust Fund~~ fund, including accumulated interest,  
30 to:

31

32 SECTION 1881. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 6-51-  
33 607(f), concerning the Private Career School Student Protection Trust Fund,  
34 is amended to read as follows:

35 (f) Any amounts in the ~~Private Career School Student Protection Trust~~  
36 ~~Fund~~ fund above the required five hundred thousand dollars (\$500,000) may be

1 used with the approval of the Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of Higher  
2 Education to:

3  
4 SECTION 1882. Arkansas Code § 6-51-607(g)(1) and (2), concerning the  
5 Private Career School Student Protection Trust Fund, are amended to read as  
6 follows:

7 (g)(1) If a school closes, the ~~department~~ division shall attempt to  
8 place each student of the school in another school.

9 (2) If the student cannot be placed in another school, the  
10 student's tuition for which education has not been received may be refunded  
11 on a prorated basis in the manner prescribed by the ~~department~~ division.  
12

13 SECTION 1883. Arkansas Code § 6-51-608(a)(1), concerning extension  
14 course sites, satellite schools, and additional school licenses, is amended  
15 to read as follows:

16 (a)(1) Any school licensed under this subchapter shall make  
17 application to the ~~Department~~ Division of Higher Education to offer a course  
18 or courses at an extension course site or satellite school.  
19

20 SECTION 1884. Arkansas Code § 6-51-608(b), concerning extension course  
21 sites, satellite schools, and additional school licenses, is amended to read  
22 as follows:

23 (b) The school will be assessed a fee as set by the ~~department~~  
24 division to be deposited in the Private Career School Student Protection  
25 Trust Fund.  
26

27 SECTION 1885. Arkansas Code § 6-51-609(a), concerning an admissions  
28 representative's license, is amended to read as follows:

29 (a) A person representing a resident, distance education, or  
30 combination school shall not solicit or sell in Arkansas any program of study  
31 for consideration or remuneration unless the admissions representative first  
32 secures a license from the ~~Department~~ Division of Higher Education.  
33

34 SECTION 1886. Arkansas Code § 6-51-609(c)(2), concerning an admissions  
35 representative's license, is amended to read as follows:

36 (2)(A) The license shall be endorsed by the Director of the

1 ~~Department~~ Division of Higher Education.

2 (B) The license shall remain the property of the State of  
3 Arkansas and shall be returned to the ~~Department~~ Division of Higher Education  
4 upon cause.

5  
6 SECTION 1887. Arkansas Code § 6-51-609(d)(6), concerning an admissions  
7 representative's license, is amended to read as follows:

8 (6) Be in compliance with any other reasonable qualifications  
9 that the ~~Department~~ Division of Higher Education may fix by rule.

10  
11 SECTION 1888. Arkansas Code § 6-51-609(e)(1), concerning an admissions  
12 representative's license, is amended to read as follows:

13 (e)(1) An applicant for an admissions representative's license shall  
14 apply to the Identification Bureau of the ~~Department~~ Division of Arkansas  
15 State Police for a state and national criminal background check to be  
16 conducted by the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

17  
18 SECTION 1889. Arkansas Code § 6-51-609(e)(3), concerning an admissions  
19 representative's license, is amended to read as follows:

20 (3) The applicant shall sign a release of information to the  
21 ~~Department~~ Division of Higher Education and shall be responsible to the  
22 ~~Department~~ Division of Arkansas State Police for the payment of any fee  
23 associated with the criminal background check.

24  
25 SECTION 1890. Arkansas Code § 6-51-609(f)(1)(A), concerning an  
26 admissions representative's license, is amended to read as follows:

27 (f)(1)(A) The ~~Department~~ Division of Higher Education may issue a  
28 nonrenewable temporary license pending the results of the criminal background  
29 check.

30  
31 SECTION 1891. Arkansas Code § 6-51-609(f)(2), concerning an admissions  
32 representative's license, is amended to read as follows:

33 (2) Upon receipt of information from the Identification Bureau  
34 of the ~~Department~~ Division of Arkansas State Police that the person holding  
35 the temporary license has been convicted of a felony, Class A misdemeanor, or  
36 a crime involving an act of violence for which a pardon has not been granted,

1 the ~~Department~~ Division of Higher Education shall immediately revoke the  
2 temporary license.

3  
4 SECTION 1892. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 6-51-  
5 609(g)(1), concerning an admissions representative's license, is amended to  
6 read as follows:

7 (g)(1) The provisions of subdivision (d)(3) of this section may be  
8 waived by the ~~Department~~ Division of Higher Education upon the request of:

9  
10 SECTION 1893. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 6-51-  
11 609(h)(1), concerning an admissions representative's license, is amended to  
12 read as follows:

13 (h)(1) Any information received by the ~~Department~~ Division of Higher  
14 Education from the Identification Bureau of the ~~Department~~ Division of  
15 Arkansas State Police under this section shall not be available for  
16 examination except by:

17  
18 SECTION 1894. Arkansas Code § 6-51-609(h)(2), concerning an admissions  
19 representative's license, is amended to read as follows:

20 (2) A record, file, or document shall not be removed from the  
21 custody of the ~~Department~~ Division of Arkansas State Police.

22  
23 SECTION 1895. Arkansas Code § 6-51-609(k), concerning an admissions  
24 representative's license, is amended to read as follows:

25 (k) In consultation with the State Board of Private Career Education,  
26 the ~~Department~~ Division of Higher Education shall adopt the necessary rules  
27 to fully implement the provisions of this section.

28  
29 SECTION 1896. Arkansas Code § 6-51-610(a), concerning fees for schools  
30 and admission representatives, is amended to read as follows:

31 (a) In consultation with the State Board of Private Career Education,  
32 the ~~Department~~ Division of Higher Education shall set fees for schools and  
33 admissions representatives.

34  
35 SECTION 1897. Arkansas Code § 6-51-611(b), concerning school license  
36 renewal, is amended to read as follows:

1 (b) The licensing period shall be determined by the ~~Department~~  
2 Division of Higher Education.

3  
4 SECTION 1898. Arkansas Code § 6-51-611(c)(1), concerning license  
5 renewal, is amended to read as follows:

6 (c)(1) Application for renewal of a school license is to be provided  
7 in the form and manner prescribed by the ~~department~~ division.

8  
9 SECTION 1899. Arkansas Code § 6-51-611(d), concerning license renewal,  
10 is amended to read as follows:

11 (d) An application for renewal of an admissions representative's  
12 license shall be made on the forms and in the manner prescribed by the  
13 ~~department~~ division.

14  
15 SECTION 1900. Arkansas Code § 6-51-614(a), concerning denial,  
16 probation, revocation, and review of school licenses, is amended to read as  
17 follows:

18 (a) The ~~Department~~ Division of Higher Education shall have the  
19 authority to refuse to issue a school license, to place on probation, or to  
20 revoke a school license theretofore issued.

21  
22 SECTION 1901. Arkansas Code § 6-51-615(b), concerning denial,  
23 suspension, review, and penalties regarding admissions representative's  
24 licenses, is amended to read as follows:

25 (b) The Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of Higher Education, upon  
26 receipt of information considered dependable which indicates fraud,  
27 misrepresentation, or unethical practices on the part of an applicant, may  
28 deny issuance of a license applied for or may suspend immediately a license  
29 already issued pending a review by the ~~Department~~ Division of Higher  
30 Education.

31  
32 SECTION 1902. Arkansas Code § 6-51-617(b)(1), concerning the Private  
33 Career Education Arbitration Panel, is amended to read as follows:

34 (b)(1) In consultation with the State Board of Private Career  
35 Education, the Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of Higher Education shall  
36 appoint the arbitration panel, which shall be composed of three (3) members.

1 One (1) member shall be from the school sector, and two (2) members shall be  
2 from the general public.

3

4 SECTION 1903. Arkansas Code § 6-51-618 is amended to read as follows:  
5 6-51-618. Fines.

6 (a) When the ~~Department~~ Division of Higher Education finds that a  
7 school is guilty of a violation of this subchapter or the rules of the  
8 ~~department~~ division, it shall have the power and authority to impose a  
9 penalty on the school.

10 (b) Prior to the imposition of any penalty, the ~~department~~ division  
11 shall hold an investigation and hearing after notice to the school.

12 (c)(1) Upon imposition of a penalty, the ~~department~~ division shall  
13 have the power and authority to require that the school pay a penalty to the  
14 ~~department~~ division with regard to the violation, with the sanction that the  
15 license may be suspended until the penalty is paid.

16 (2) No penalty imposed by the ~~department~~ division may exceed  
17 five hundred dollars (\$500) per violation.

18 (d) Any school dissatisfied with the penalties imposed may seek  
19 judicial review, provided the school files notice of appeal in Pulaski County  
20 Circuit Court within fifteen (15) calendar days immediately following the  
21 date of notification of this action by the Director of the ~~Department~~  
22 Division of Higher Education.

23 (e) The power and authority of the ~~department~~ division to impose these  
24 penalties shall not be affected by any other civil or criminal proceeding  
25 concerning the same violation.

26

27 SECTION 1904. Arkansas Code § 6-51-619 is amended to read as follows:  
28 6-51-619. Subpoenas and subpoenas duces tecum.

29 (a) The ~~Department~~ Division of Higher Education shall have the power  
30 to issue subpoenas and subpoenas duces tecum in connection with both its  
31 investigations and hearings.

32 (b) A subpoena duces tecum may require any book, writing, document, or  
33 other paper or thing which is germane to an investigation or hearing  
34 conducted by the ~~department~~ division.

35 (c)(1) Service of a subpoena shall be as provided by law for the  
36 service of subpoenas in civil cases in the circuit courts of this state, and

1 the fees and mileage of officers serving the subpoenas and of witnesses  
2 appearing in answer to the subpoenas shall be the same as provided by law for  
3 proceedings in civil cases in the circuit courts of this state.

4 (2)(A) The ~~department~~ division shall issue a subpoena or  
5 subpoena duces tecum upon the request of any party to a hearing before the  
6 ~~department~~ division.

7 (B) The fees and mileage of the officers serving the  
8 subpoena and of the witness shall be paid by the party at whose request a  
9 witness is subpoenaed.

10 (d)(1) In the event a person shall have been served with a subpoena or  
11 subpoena duces tecum as provided in this section and fails to comply  
12 therewith, the ~~department~~ division may apply to the circuit court of the  
13 county in which the ~~department~~ division is conducting its investigation or  
14 hearing for an order causing the arrest of the person and directing that the  
15 person be brought before the court.

16 (2) The court shall have the power to punish the disobedient  
17 person for contempt as provided by law in the trial of civil cases in the  
18 circuit courts of this state.

19  
20 SECTION 1905. Arkansas Code § 6-51-620(a)(2), concerning the  
21 requirement of a school to maintain a surety bond while licensed, is amended  
22 to read as follows:

23 (2) The surety bond shall be submitted to the ~~Department~~  
24 Division of Higher Education on or before the expiration date of the bond.

25  
26 SECTION 1906. Arkansas Code § 6-51-620(a)(4)(A)(i), concerning the  
27 requirement of a school to maintain a surety bond while licensed, is amended  
28 to read as follows:

29 (i) A violation of a provision of this subchapter or  
30 any rule of the ~~department~~ division by the school or its officers, admissions  
31 representatives, or employees;

32  
33 SECTION 1907. Arkansas Code § 6-51-620(a)(4)(C)(ii), concerning the  
34 requirement of a school to maintain a surety bond while licensed, is amended  
35 to read as follows:

36 (ii) The ~~department~~ division shall notify the school

1 in writing at least ten (10) days prior to release of the surety or sureties  
2 that the license is suspended until another surety bond is filed in the  
3 manner and amount required under this ~~chapter~~ subchapter.

4  
5 SECTION 1908. Arkansas Code § 6-51-620(a)(5)(A), concerning the  
6 requirement of a school to maintain a surety bond while licensed, is amended  
7 to read as follows:

8 (5)(A) The bond shall be based on gross tuition, meaning the  
9 total amount collected by a school during the most recently completed twelve-  
10 month fiscal year, reduced only by the amount of refunds paid during the  
11 fiscal year, for tuition, application fees, registration fees, and those  
12 other fees deemed appropriate by rule of the ~~department~~ division;

13  
14 SECTION 1909. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 6-51-  
15 620(a)(6), concerning the requirement of a school to maintain a surety bond  
16 while licensed, is amended to read as follows:

17 (6) The ~~department~~ division shall determine the sum of each  
18 surety bond based upon the following guidelines:

19  
20 SECTION 1910. Arkansas Code § 6-51-620(a)(6)(A), concerning the  
21 requirement of a school to maintain a surety bond while licensed, is amended  
22 to read as follows:

23 (A) Except as provided in subdivisions (a)(6)(B) and (C)  
24 of this section, a school shall procure and maintain a bond equal to ten  
25 percent (10%) of the gross tuition with a minimum bond amount of five  
26 thousand dollars (\$5,000) with the maximum bond amount to be determined by  
27 the ~~department~~ division;

28  
29 SECTION 1911. Arkansas Code § 6-51-620(b), concerning the requirement  
30 of a school to maintain a surety bond while licensed, is amended to read as  
31 follows:

32 (b) A surety bond is not required for licensees approved by the  
33 ~~department~~ division on April 10, 1995, that maintain continuous licensure.

34  
35 SECTION 1912. Arkansas Code § 6-51-622(d), concerning noncommercial  
36 driver training instruction, is amended to read as follows:

1 (d)(1) In consultation with the State Board of Private Career  
2 Education, the ~~Department~~ Division of Higher Education may promulgate  
3 reasonable rules to implement, enforce, and administer this section.

4 (2) The rules of the ~~department~~ division shall be issued in  
5 accordance with the Arkansas Administrative Procedure Act, § 25-15-201 et  
6 seq.

7  
8 SECTION 1913. Arkansas Code § 6-51-623 is amended to read as follows:  
9 6-51-623. Defensive driving instruction.

10 A person shall not be required to obtain a license from the ~~Department~~  
11 Division of Higher Education as a requirement for teaching or providing a  
12 course in defensive driving under a court-mandated defensive driving class.  
13

14 SECTION 1914. Arkansas Code § 6-51-701(a), concerning the  
15 establishment of an Associate of Applied Science Degree in Nursing Program,  
16 is amended to read as follows:

17 (a) The ~~Department of Career Education~~ Division of Higher Education is  
18 hereby authorized to establish for the technical institutes or vocational-  
19 technical schools of this state an Associate of Applied Science Degree in  
20 Nursing Program.  
21

22 SECTION 1915. Arkansas Code § 6-51-701(b)(1), concerning the  
23 establishment of an Associate of Applied Science Degree in Nursing Program,  
24 is amended to read as follows:

25 (b)(1) A nursing program shall be established by the ~~department~~  
26 division. The nursing program shall be in accordance with the standards  
27 established by the Arkansas State Board of Nursing.  
28

29 SECTION 1916. Arkansas Code § 6-51-901(3), concerning the purpose of  
30 the laws regarding postsecondary vocational and technical education, is  
31 amended to read as follows:

32 (3) Augment the ~~State Board of Career Education~~ Arkansas Higher  
33 Education Coordinating Board by increasing its membership that is  
34 representative of business and industry, including the service-oriented  
35 industries in Arkansas.  
36

1 SECTION 1917. Arkansas Code § 6-51-902(a), concerning accountability  
2 measures and performance indicators, is amended to read as follows:

3 (a)(1) All postsecondary vocational-technical schools, technical  
4 institutes, and comprehensive lifelong learning centers within the State of  
5 Arkansas shall present to the ~~State Board of Career Education~~ Arkansas Higher  
6 Education Coordinating Board and the ~~Department of Career Education Division~~  
7 of Higher Education a report reflecting a satisfactory level of performance-  
8 based system of accountability measures and performance indicators as defined  
9 in this section.

10 (2) The report shall be filed with the ~~State Board of Career~~  
11 Education Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board and the ~~department~~  
12 division annually.

13  
14 SECTION 1918. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 6-51-  
15 902(b), concerning accountability measures and performance indicators, is  
16 amended to read as follows:

17 (b) In order to promote a coordinated system of postsecondary  
18 vocational and technical education in Arkansas and to provide an effective  
19 delivery system, the ~~State Board of Career Education~~ Arkansas Higher  
20 Education Coordinating Board shall:

21  
22 SECTION 1919. Arkansas Code § 6-51-902(c)-(f), concerning  
23 accountability measures and performance indicators, are amended to read as  
24 follows:

25 (c) With the exception of a special funding appropriation, all state  
26 funds shall be requested by the ~~State Board of Career Education~~ Arkansas  
27 Higher Education Coordinating Board for the technical institutes,  
28 postsecondary vocational-technical schools, and comprehensive lifelong  
29 learning centers based on a funding formula to be developed and approved by  
30 the ~~State Board of Career Education~~ Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating  
31 Board and shall be based upon the accountability measures and performance  
32 indicators enumerated in this section.

33 (d) Upon the failure to find that satisfactory progress is being made  
34 by the school, the ~~State Board of Career Education~~ Arkansas Higher Education  
35 Coordinating Board shall dissolve the operation of the school or convert the  
36 school to an adult education center, a secondary vocational center, or

1 another appropriate role and function.

2 (e) For purposes of standardized reporting and accountability only,  
3 ~~the State Board of Career Education, after consultation with~~ the Arkansas  
4 Higher Education Coordinating Board, shall develop for all postsecondary  
5 vocational schools, technical institutes, and comprehensive lifelong learning  
6 centers a reporting system for headcount enrollment and full-time-equivalency  
7 enrollment which is consistent with policies followed by the Arkansas Higher  
8 Education Coordinating Board.

9 (f) Riverside Vocational and Technical School shall be exempt from all  
10 provisions of this subchapter except this section and shall remain a  
11 postsecondary vocational-technical school as ~~presently~~ structured under the  
12 ~~State Board of Career Education~~ Department of Corrections.

13

14 SECTION 1920. Arkansas Code § 6-51-904(a)(3), concerning the duties of  
15 local boards for technical institutes, is amended to read as follows:

16 (3) To appoint from the candidates certified by the ~~Career~~  
17 ~~Education and Workforce Development Board~~ Arkansas Higher Education  
18 Coordinating Board and approved by the Governor, the president of the  
19 technical institute or director of the comprehensive lifelong learning  
20 center;

21

22 SECTION 1921. Arkansas Code § 6-51-904(a)(5) and (6), concerning the  
23 duties of local boards for technical institutes, is amended to read as  
24 follows:

25 (5) To determine, with the approval of the ~~Career Education and~~  
26 ~~Workforce Development Board~~ Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board, the  
27 educational program of the institution; and

28 (6) Other powers and duties as provided in this subchapter ~~or as~~  
29 ~~delegated to it by the Career Education and Workforce Development Board~~  
30 including without limitation those relating to accountability measures and  
31 performance indicators under § 6-51-902.

32

33 SECTION 1922. Arkansas Code § 6-51-905(b), concerning technical  
34 institutes, is amended to read as follows:

35 (b) Each technical institute shall operate within a service area  
36 assigned by the ~~Career Education and Workforce Development Board~~ Arkansas

1 Higher Education Coordinating Board.

2  
3 SECTION 1923. Arkansas Code § 6-51-905(e)(1)(B), concerning technical  
4 institutes, is amended to read as follows:

5 (B) The plan shall be submitted annually to the local  
6 board of directors and the ~~Career Education and Workforce Development Board~~  
7 Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board for approval.

8  
9 SECTION 1924. Arkansas Code § 6-51-906(b) and (c), concerning  
10 comprehensive lifelong learning centers, are amended to read as follows:

11 (b) The ~~Career Education and Workforce Development Board~~ Arkansas  
12 Higher Education Coordinating Board shall establish criteria and program  
13 expansions which would require all remaining postsecondary vocational-  
14 technical schools to become comprehensive lifelong learning centers.

15 (c)(1) When a postsecondary vocational-technical school meets the  
16 criteria for becoming a comprehensive lifelong learning center as established  
17 by the ~~Career Education and Workforce Development Board~~ Arkansas Higher  
18 Education Coordinating Board, the school shall make application to the ~~board~~  
19 Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board seeking that it be designated as  
20 such.

21 (2) Each comprehensive lifelong learning center shall operate  
22 within a service area assigned by the ~~Career Education and Workforce~~  
23 ~~Development Board~~ Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board.

24 (3)(A) Each comprehensive lifelong learning center may operate  
25 satellite campuses apart from the campus of the main center but within the  
26 service area of the center.

27 (B) The establishment, locations, and number of satellite  
28 campuses of a center must be approved by the ~~Career Education and Workforce~~  
29 ~~Development Board~~ Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board.

30 (4) The board of directors of a comprehensive lifelong learning  
31 center may contract with existing institutions of higher education for the  
32 operation of any associate degree programs offered at the center, upon  
33 approval by the ~~Career Education and Workforce Development Board and the~~  
34 Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board.

35 (A) Any degree program at or above the associate degree  
36 level offered at a comprehensive lifelong learning center must be approved by

1 the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board and awarded by an Arkansas  
2 institution of higher education accredited by an accrediting agency  
3 recognized by the United States Department of Education.

4 (B) Any such degree program must be offered through the  
5 center's ~~Center for Collegiate Instruction~~ center for collegiate  
6 instruction.

7  
8 SECTION 1925. Arkansas Code § 6-51-906(e)(3)(A), concerning  
9 comprehensive lifelong learning centers, are amended to read as follows:

10 (A) The plan shall be submitted annually to the local  
11 board of directors and the ~~Career Education and Workforce Development Board~~  
12 Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board for approval.

13  
14 SECTION 1926. Arkansas Code § 6-51-907(c)(2), concerning college  
15 transfer courses and expanded associate degrees instruction, is amended to  
16 read as follows:

17 (2) The guidelines for establishing the memorandum of  
18 understanding shall be developed by the Arkansas Higher Education  
19 Coordinating Board ~~in conjunction with the Career Education and Workforce~~  
20 ~~Development Board~~.

21  
22 SECTION 1927. Arkansas Code § 6-52-201(8), concerning apprenticeship  
23 training programs and the definition of "vo-tech", is repealed.

24 ~~(8) "Vo Tech" means the Department of Career Education.~~

25  
26 SECTION 1928. Arkansas Code § 6-53-206 is amended to read as follows:

27 6-53-206. Equipment pool.

28 The ~~Department~~ Division of Higher Education, in coordination with the  
29 institutions, shall develop an effective means of pooling surplus equipment  
30 for redistribution to other institutions. Such equipment pool arrangement may  
31 include the crediting of equipment values to the institution for equipment  
32 acquired from a source other than the state.

33  
34 SECTION 1929. Arkansas Code § 6-53-301(f)(2), concerning the Arkansas  
35 Technical and Community College System, is amended to read as follows:

36 (2) All records, personnel, property, unexpended balances of

1 appropriations, allocations, or other funds of the technical college shall be  
2 transferred to the ~~Department~~ Division of Higher Education.

3  
4 SECTION 1930. Arkansas Code § 6-53-302(i), concerning the local  
5 administration of technical colleges, is amended to read as follows:

6 (i) The local board may contract with the ~~Department~~ Division of  
7 Career and Technical Education, with a nonprofit organization, or with a  
8 local school board within its service area to offer secondary level general  
9 academic and vocational and technical courses and programs or adult literacy  
10 courses, or both.

11  
12 SECTION 1931. Arkansas Code § 6-53-306 is amended to read as follows:

13 6-53-306. Coordination with secondary vocational-technical education  
14 and literacy programs.

15 Upon the approval of the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board,  
16 the local board may contract with the ~~Department~~ Division of Career and  
17 Technical Education, a nonprofit organization, or a local school district  
18 board of directors within its service area to offer secondary-level  
19 vocational and technical courses and programs, adult literacy courses, and  
20 industry training.

21  
22 SECTION 1932. Arkansas Code § 6-53-402(g)(2), concerning the  
23 conversion of two-year branches into technical colleges, is amended to read  
24 as follows:

25 (2) All records, personnel, property, unexpended balances of  
26 appropriations, allocations, or other funds of the technical college shall be  
27 transferred to the ~~Department~~ Division of Higher Education.

28  
29 SECTION 1933. Arkansas Code § 6-53-403(j)(2), concerning the  
30 conversion of technical colleges and two-year branches into community  
31 colleges, is amended to read as follows:

32 (2) All records, personnel, property, unexpended balances of  
33 appropriations, allocations, or other funds of the community college shall be  
34 transferred to the ~~Department~~ Division of Higher Education.

35  
36 SECTION 1934. Arkansas Code § 6-53-404(h)(2), concerning technical

1 colleges and acceptance as branch campus of community college, is amended to  
2 read as follows:

3 (2) All records, personnel, property, unexpended balances of  
4 appropriations, allocations, or other funds of the satellite campus shall be  
5 transferred to the ~~Department~~ Division of Higher Education.

6  
7 SECTION 1935. Arkansas Code § 6-54-105, concerning accreditation and  
8 abolishment of technical colleges, is amended to read as follows:

9 6-54-105. Accreditation – Abolishment.

10 If the technical college fails to achieve such accreditation within  
11 eight (8) years following the date of transfer under § 6-54-104(d), the  
12 technical college shall be abolished by the Arkansas Higher Education  
13 Coordinating Board. All records, personnel, property, unexpended balances of  
14 appropriations, allocations, or other funds of the technical college shall be  
15 transferred to the ~~Department~~ Division of Higher Education.

16

17 SECTION 1936. Arkansas Code § 6-58-112 is amended to read as follows:

18 6-58-112. Conversion of positions and maximum salaries for Quapaw  
19 Technical Institute.

20 The maximum salaries as authorized for the positions in the  
21 appropriations act for Quapaw Technical Institute shall be converted to the  
22 maximum salaries for the equivalent or similar positions as authorized in the  
23 appropriations act for ~~Garland County Community College~~ National Park  
24 College. The conversion of the maximum salaries shall be approved by the  
25 ~~Department~~ Division of Higher Education for line item salaries or by the  
26 Department of Finance and Administration for classified salaries and be  
27 reported to the Legislative Council.

28

29 SECTION 1937. Arkansas Code § 6-59-101(1), concerning the definition  
30 of "adult education program" under Arkansas Northeastern College, is amended  
31 to read as follows:

32 (1) "Adult education program" means any classes designed to  
33 assist students in preparing for a high school equivalency test and any class  
34 designed to improve performance in general basic skills, parenting, English  
35 proficiency, or other areas funded by the Adult Education Section of the  
36 Department of ~~Career Education~~ Workforce Services; and

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SECTION 1938. Arkansas Code § 6-60-203 is amended to read as follows:  
6-60-203. Off-campus enrollments.

In order to provide needed off-campus services to Arkansas citizens who do not happen to reside in the location of the main campus of a college or university, the ~~Department~~ Division of Higher Education is instructed to count and otherwise treat off-campus class enrollments consistent with the enrollments for those same classes on the main campus of the institution.

SECTION 1939. Arkansas Code § 6-60-204(b), concerning the waiver of general student fee charges for senior citizens, is amended to read as follows:

(b) Fees will be waived only for courses organized to grant credit and recognized by the ~~Department~~ Division of Higher Education for credit.

SECTION 1940. Arkansas Code § 6-60-208(d)(1), concerning the requirements for academic clemency, is amended to read as follows:

(d)(1) Conditional admissions standards for nontraditional students shall be based on the student's score on the American College Test (ACT) composite or its equivalent as defined by the ~~Department~~ Division of Higher Education, which shall issue guidelines to assist two-year and four-year institutions of higher education in developing conditional admissions standards.

SECTION 1941. Arkansas Code § 6-60-303(c) and (d), concerning the Higher Education Tuition Adjustment Fund, are amended to read as follows:

(c) Tracking and Reporting.

(1) Furthermore, the ~~Department~~ Division of Higher Education will require each institution to track and report the number of qualifying students each year.

(2)(A) A list of students who benefit from the out-of-state tuition waiver, including their social security numbers or their Arkansas taxpaying parents' or guardians' names and social security numbers, will be furnished by the ~~Department~~ Division of Higher Education to the Department of Finance and Administration for confirmation that they or their parents are employed in Arkansas at a wage in excess of five thousand five hundred

1 dollars (\$5,500) per annum.

2 (B) Documentation should be either an official W-2 form  
3 from an Arkansas employer reflecting wages of at least five thousand five  
4 hundred dollars (\$5,500) in the tax year prior to enrollment in college or  
5 official employer verification of a current year salary minimum of at least  
6 five thousand five hundred dollars (\$5,500), which the college will keep on  
7 file for enrollment audit purposes.

8 (d) Appropriation Transfer Procedures.

9 (1) The Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of Higher Education  
10 shall determine the difference between the amount of tuition revenue which  
11 would have been generated by charging the Arkansas Higher Education  
12 Coordinating Board-approved out-of-state tuition rate to the students as  
13 compared to the approved in-state or out-of-district rate.

14 (2) Upon the determination, the director shall certify to the  
15 Chief Fiscal Officer of the State and the Treasurer of State those amounts  
16 that are required to be transferred from the ~~fund~~ Higher Education Tuition  
17 Adjustment Fund.

18 (3) Upon receiving the certification, the Chief Fiscal Officer  
19 of the State and the Treasurer of State shall cause to be transferred the  
20 necessary funds and appropriation to the fund account of the institution  
21 receiving certification from the director.

22 (4) In order to provide funding for the appropriation set out in  
23 the line item entitled Tuition Adjustment in the biennial operations  
24 appropriation act for the ~~Department~~ Division of Higher Education, the Chief  
25 Fiscal Officer of the State shall transfer to the Higher Education Tuition  
26 Adjustment Fund from the Higher Education Grants Fund Account three hundred  
27 fifty thousand dollars (\$350,000) for each year of the biennium.

28

29 SECTION 1942. Arkansas Code § 6-60-703(a), concerning the  
30 Comprehensive Arkansas Higher Education Annual Report, is amended to read as  
31 follows:

32 (a)(1) The Comprehensive Arkansas Higher Education Annual Report shall  
33 be submitted by the ~~Department~~ Division of Higher Education to the House  
34 Committee on Education and the Senate Committee on Education, the President  
35 Pro Tempore of the Senate, the Speaker of the House of Representatives, and  
36 the Governor no later than December 15, 2011, and each year thereafter.

1           (2) The Comprehensive Arkansas Higher Education Annual Report  
2 shall be posted on the ~~department~~ division website for public inspection no  
3 later than January 1, 2012, and each year thereafter.

4  
5           SECTION 1943. Arkansas Code § 6-60-703(d)(2), concerning the  
6 Comprehensive Arkansas Higher Education Annual Report, is amended to read as  
7 follows:

8           (2) Include a fiscal impact on administrative costs to the  
9 ~~department~~ division.

10  
11           SECTION 1944. Arkansas Code § 6-60-704 is amended to read as follows:  
12           6-60-704. Information submitted to the ~~Department~~ Division of Higher  
13 Education for inclusion in the report.

14           (a) All higher education reports submitted to the General Assembly or  
15 other governmental bodies by individual colleges and universities, agencies,  
16 boards, or commissions shall be submitted directly to the ~~Department~~ Division  
17 of Higher Education no later than November 1, 2011, and each year thereafter  
18 for inclusion in the Comprehensive Arkansas Higher Education Annual Report.

19           (b) If an institution of higher education fails to submit the required  
20 reports to the ~~department~~ division by November 15, the institutions shall  
21 appear before the House Committee on Education and the Senate Committee on  
22 Education to explain why they failed to meet the submission deadline.

23           (c) Financial information provided by an institution of higher  
24 education is subject to review by ~~the Division of~~ Arkansas Legislative Audit,  
25 and any adjustments made to previously submitted financial information during  
26 the course of a financial audit may be revised based upon recommendations  
27 made by ~~the division~~ Arkansas Legislative Audit.

28  
29           SECTION 1945. Arkansas Code § 6-60-705 is amended to read as follows:  
30           6-60-705. Limitations.

31           (a) This subchapter does not limit the authority of the General  
32 Assembly to request additional interim reports and supplemental information  
33 from the ~~Department~~ Division of Higher Education, colleges and universities,  
34 or other entities as needed.

35           (b) The Comprehensive Arkansas Higher Education Annual Report shall  
36 take priority for the ~~department~~ division staff over a report requested under

1 subsection (a) of this section.

2

3 SECTION 1946. Arkansas Code § 6-60-806(b), concerning the rules,  
4 promulgation, and authority of the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating  
5 Board, is amended to read as follows:

6 (b)(1) The ~~Department~~ Division of Higher Education may enforce  
7 compliance with this subchapter and any rules promulgated under this  
8 subchapter by the board.

9 (2) Under the rules of the board, the ~~department~~ division may  
10 enter upon and inspect a campus at any reasonable time and in a reasonable  
11 manner.

12

13 SECTION 1947. Arkansas Code § 6-60-901(1), concerning the definition  
14 of "Arkansas Higher Education Information System" under the laws governing  
15 the Arkansas Higher Education Information System, is amended to read as  
16 follows:

17 (1) "Arkansas Higher Education Information System" means the  
18 database maintained by the ~~Department~~ Division of Higher Education containing  
19 student data files that the ~~department~~ division and institutions of higher  
20 education in Arkansas are required to collect under §§ 6-85-214, 6-85-216,  
21 and 6-85-217, other state law, and federal law; and

22

23 SECTION 1948. Arkansas Code § 6-60-902 is amended to read as follows:  
24 6-60-902. Arkansas Higher Education Information System.

25 (a) The ~~Department~~ Division of Higher Education shall develop and  
26 maintain the Arkansas Higher Education Information System.

27 (b)(1) ~~By December 31, 2011, the Department~~ The Division of Higher  
28 Education shall provide the Bureau of Legislative Research with direct read-  
29 and-report-only access to the data warehouse of the system concerning student  
30 academic data, financial aid data, and related records.

31 (2)(A) In providing the bureau with the direct read-and-report-  
32 only access required under subdivision (b)(1) of this section, the ~~Department~~  
33 Division of Higher Education shall take reasonable precautions, including  
34 electronic blocking or redacting, to prevent the disclosure of:

35 (i) Personally identifiable information of a  
36 student, unless the parent or guardian of a minor student or a student who is

1 no longer a minor consents in writing to the disclosure of personally  
2 identifiable information about that student; or

3 (ii) Information that would cause the ~~Department~~  
4 Division of Higher Education to lose funding under 20 U.S.C. § 1232g, as it  
5 existed on January 1, 2011.

6 (B) The ~~Department~~ Division of Higher Education shall:

7 (i) Work with the ~~Department of Education~~ Division  
8 of Elementary and Secondary Education to develop the method of redaction to  
9 be used with the system based on the standards used by the ~~Department of~~  
10 ~~Education~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary Education; and

11 (ii) Disclose to the bureau and to the Legislative  
12 Council the method of electronic blocking or redaction the ~~Department~~  
13 Division of Higher Education will use under this subsection.

14 (3)(A) The ~~Department~~ Division of Higher Education shall make  
15 its staff reasonably accessible for consultation with bureau staff in  
16 developing and responding appropriately to bureau requests under this  
17 section.

18 (B)(i) The bureau staff shall inform the ~~Department~~  
19 Division of Higher Education of any warehouse data used in the preparation of  
20 reports and provide the ~~Department~~ Division of Higher Education at least one  
21 (1) working day to review any student-related warehouse data used in  
22 preparation of reports before publicly releasing that student-related data  
23 without personally identifiable information of a student.

24 (ii) This subdivision (b)(3)(B) does not waive the  
25 confidentiality of a request of a member of the General Assembly under § 10-  
26 2-129.

27 (c) The ~~Department~~ Division of Higher Education shall provide other  
28 information and records requested by the bureau as soon as possible and in  
29 whatever reasonable form requested.

30 (d) To the extent possible, the ~~Department~~ Division of Higher  
31 Education, in cooperation with the ~~Department of Education~~ Division of  
32 Elementary and Secondary Education, shall maintain the system in a manner  
33 that ultimately will be compatible with implementing a P-20W student data  
34 system for the state.

35  
36 SECTION 1949. Arkansas Code § 6-60-903(a)(2), concerning compliance by

1 institutions of higher education regarding providing required data, is  
2 amended to read as follows:

3 (2) Published from time to time by the ~~Department~~ Division of  
4 Higher Education.

5  
6 SECTION 1950. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 6-60-  
7 903(b), concerning compliance by institutions of higher education regarding  
8 providing required data, is amended to read as follows:

9 (b) Within two (2) weeks of an institution of higher education's  
10 failure to comply with the requirements for submission of data published by  
11 the ~~department~~ division, the ~~department~~ division shall report to the  
12 Legislative Council:

13  
14 SECTION 1951. Arkansas Code § 6-61-105(b), concerning the requirement  
15 of a course in American history or civil government, is amended to read as  
16 follows:

17 (b) The ~~Department~~ Division of Higher Education shall see to the  
18 strict carrying out of this section and may take such steps and measures as  
19 may be necessary to effectuate its provisions.

20  
21 SECTION 1952. Arkansas Code § 6-61-112(f)(2), concerning a student or  
22 student's spouse being called into military service, is amended to read as  
23 follows:

24 (2) The ~~Department~~ Division of Higher Education shall adopt the  
25 necessary rules to ensure that state-supported scholarship, grant, and loan  
26 programs comply with the provisions of this section.

27  
28 SECTION 1953. Arkansas Code § 6-61-112(g), concerning a student or  
29 student's spouse being called into military service, is amended to read as  
30 follows:

31 (g)(1) For each fiscal year, each state-supported institution of  
32 higher education in the state shall report the type and amount of  
33 compensatory options provided under this section to the ~~department~~ division.

34 (2) The ~~department~~ division shall report to the House Committee  
35 on Aging, Children and Youth, Legislative and Military Affairs and the Senate  
36 Interim Committee on Children and Youth regarding the type and amount of

1 compensatory options provided under this section by each state-supported  
2 institution of higher education no later than October 1 of each year  
3 beginning in 2006 and each year thereafter.

4  
5 SECTION 1954. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 6-61-  
6 124(b)(1), concerning the reporting of minority students who complete an  
7 education program, is amended to read as follows:

8 (b)(1) All state-supported colleges and universities in Arkansas shall  
9 report to the ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary  
10 Education as soon as possible after each semester a list of each minority  
11 student who:

12  
13 SECTION 1955. Arkansas Code § 6-61-124(b)(1)(B), concerning the  
14 reporting of minority students who complete an education program, is amended  
15 to read as follows:

16 (B) Has signed a consent form authorizing the college or  
17 university to report such information to the ~~department~~ division.

18  
19 SECTION 1956. Arkansas Code § 6-61-124(c)(1), concerning the reporting  
20 of minority students who complete an education program, is amended to read as  
21 follows:

22 (c)(1) The ~~department~~ division shall maintain a database based upon  
23 the reports provided by each college and university under subsection (b) of  
24 this section.

25  
26 SECTION 1957. Arkansas Code § 6-61-127(a)(1), concerning the creation  
27 of the Arkansas Higher Education Performance Reporting System, is amended to  
28 read as follows:

29 (a)(1) The ~~Department~~ Division of Higher Education, in consultation  
30 with the institutions of higher education, shall develop an Arkansas Higher  
31 Education Performance Reporting System.

32  
33 SECTION 1958. Arkansas Code § 6-61-127(b) and (c), concerning the  
34 creation of the Arkansas Higher Education Performance Reporting System, are  
35 amended to read as follows:

36 (b) To the extent possible, the Arkansas Higher Education Performance

1 Reporting System will utilize information from an accrediting agency  
2 recognized by the United States Department of Education's assessment outcomes  
3 measures which are required for reaffirmation of accreditation, federal  
4 Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System report data, and data  
5 collected annually through the ~~Department~~ Division of Higher Education's  
6 Statewide Information System.

7 (c) In developing the Arkansas Higher Education Performance Reporting  
8 System, the ~~Department~~ Division of Higher Education will review and analyze  
9 higher education performance reporting systems used in other states to  
10 incorporate the best aspects of those plans.

11  
12 SECTION 1959. Arkansas Code § 6-61-129(c)(2)(A), concerning the  
13 creation of centers of excellence, is amended to read as follows:

14 (2)(A) Institutions of higher education may submit proposals to  
15 the ~~Department~~ Division of Higher Education to become centers of excellence.

16  
17 SECTION 1960. Arkansas Code § 6-61-129(d)(1), concerning the creation  
18 of centers of excellence, is amended to read as follows:

19 (d)(1) Two (2) representatives of the ~~Department~~ Division of Higher  
20 Education as designated by the Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of Higher  
21 Education, and one (1) representative of the Arkansas Economic Development  
22 Commission shall meet as needed to review applications jointly.

23  
24 SECTION 1961. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 6-61-  
25 129(d)(2), concerning the creation of centers of excellence, is amended to  
26 read as follows:

27 (2) The ~~Department~~ Division of Higher Education and the Arkansas  
28 Economic Development Commission shall jointly make a recommendation to the  
29 board regarding which institutions shall be acknowledged as centers of  
30 excellence in a particular program or field of study based on factors,  
31 including, but not limited to:

32  
33 SECTION 1962. Arkansas Code § 6-61-131(b)(2)(A), concerning student  
34 accounts receivable policies at two-year institutions of higher education, is  
35 amended to read as follows:

36 (2)(A) Review its policies and practices to ensure its

1 compliance with census reporting guidelines promulgated by the ~~Department~~  
2 Division of Higher Education.

3  
4 SECTION 1963. Arkansas Code § 6-61-131(c)(3), concerning student  
5 accounts receivable policies at two-year institutions of higher education, is  
6 amended to read as follows:

7 (3) Filed with the ~~department~~ division no later than thirty (30)  
8 days after the adoption of the policy.

9  
10 SECTION 1964. Arkansas Code § 6-61-133(b), concerning professional  
11 development for mandated reporters and licensed elementary and secondary  
12 public school personnel, is amended to read as follows:

13 (b) For each degree program at an institution of higher education in  
14 this state that is a prerequisite for licensure or certification in a  
15 profession in which the professional is a child maltreatment mandated  
16 reporter under the Child Maltreatment Act, § 12-18-101 et seq., the  
17 ~~Department~~ Division of Higher Education shall coordinate with all the  
18 institutions of higher education to ensure that before receiving a degree,  
19 each graduate receives the professional development identified in subdivision  
20 (d)(1) of this section.

21  
22 SECTION 1965. Arkansas Code § 6-61-134(a)(3)(B), concerning a  
23 mathematics requirement for an associate of applied science degree, is  
24 amended to read as follows:

25 (B) ~~Department~~ Division of Higher Education.

26  
27 SECTION 1966. Arkansas Code § 6-61-137(d), concerning the presentation  
28 of expenditure data by state-supported institutions of higher education, is  
29 amended to read as follows:

30 (d)(1) The ~~Department~~ Division of Higher Education:

31 (A) May promulgate rules necessary to implement this  
32 section; and

33 (B) Shall develop internal guidelines necessary to  
34 implement this section.

35 (2) The ~~department~~ division shall consult with the state-  
36 supported institutions of higher education in developing rules and internal

1 guidelines necessary to implement this section.

2  
3 SECTION 1967. Arkansas Code § 6-61-203 is amended to read as follows:

4 6-61-203. Director and staff – Funds – Central office.

5 (a)(1)(A) The Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board shall  
6 appoint a director through a search and selection process that includes  
7 substantial input, review, and recommendation from the Presidents Council,  
8 subject to confirmation by the Governor.

9 (B) The director shall serve at the pleasure of the  
10 Governor.

11 (C) The director shall report to the Secretary of the  
12 Department of Education.

13 ~~(2) The director shall serve as a member of the Governor's~~  
14 ~~cabinet as the advocate for higher education.~~

15 ~~(3)~~(A) The director and other staff employed by the board shall  
16 demonstrate competence in the field of institutional management or agency  
17 management, institutional finance, financial aid, or institutional research.

18 (B) The director shall exhibit advanced coordination and  
19 communication skills.

20 (b) The salary of the director and other members of the staff employed  
21 by the board or the Department of Education shall be comparable to the  
22 positions requiring similar qualifications and experience.

23 (c) The staff of the board shall be under the direction and  
24 supervision of the director.

25 (d) The board shall be provided sufficient operating funds to enable  
26 it to carry out adequately the programs and functions assigned to the  
27 ~~Department~~ Division of Higher Education.

28 (e) The central office of the ~~department~~ division shall be maintained  
29 in Little Rock.

30 (f)(1) The board shall evaluate the director annually.

31 (2) The council shall provide an evaluation report of the  
32 ~~department~~ division and the director to the board at least annually.

33  
34 SECTION 1968. Arkansas Code § 6-61-204(d)(3), concerning advisory  
35 committees and councils, is amended to read as follows:

36 (3) The ~~Department~~ Division of Higher Education employees shall

1 staff each committee.

2

3 SECTION 1969. Arkansas Code § 6-61-207(b) and (c), concerning role and  
4 scope designations of the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board, is  
5 amended to read as follows:

6 (b) To assist the board and the ~~Department~~ Division of Higher  
7 Education in their effort to promote a coordinated system of higher education  
8 in Arkansas that addresses and responds to the changing economic needs of the  
9 state and the new economy, the Arkansas Economic Development Commission shall  
10 provide the ~~Department of Higher Education~~ division a list of the state's  
11 overall and regional economic development goals within ten (10) days of  
12 August 12, 2005, and by September 1 of each year thereafter.

13 (c)(1) The ~~Department of Higher Education~~ division may retain the  
14 services of consultants or other experts as may be necessary to carry out the  
15 review, and the ~~Department of Higher Education~~ division staff shall work  
16 directly with the consultants to handle the logistics of needed discussion  
17 groups, meeting minutes, and recommendation dissemination.

18 (2) The review process shall include an opportunity for  
19 institutions to provide input, as well as a time for public and business  
20 comment.

21 (3) Upon completion of the review, the ~~Department of Higher~~  
22 ~~Education~~ division shall provide a report regarding its findings to the  
23 board, the Governor, the cochairs of the Legislative Council, and the  
24 Director of the Bureau of Legislative Research.

25 (4) The requirements for a review under this section shall be  
26 contingent upon the appropriation and availability of funding for that  
27 purpose.

28

29 SECTION 1970. Arkansas Code § 6-61-215 is amended to read as follows:

30 6-61-215. Student tuition and fees – Reporting.

31 Annually, by July 1, the ~~Department~~ Division of Higher Education shall  
32 report the tuition and mandatory fees charged to students, including all  
33 changes to tuition and mandatory fees, for each state-supported institution  
34 of higher education to the House Committee on Education and the Senate  
35 Committee on Education.

36

1 SECTION 1971. Arkansas Code § 6-61-220(b) and (c), concerning  
2 retention and graduation rate information, are amended to read as follows:

3 (b)(1)(A) The ~~Department~~ Division of Higher Education, in consultation  
4 with the colleges and universities, shall recommend a system for the  
5 collection of information as to the retention and graduation rates of  
6 students at state-supported colleges and universities to the board, the  
7 Governor, the House Committee on Education, the Senate Committee on  
8 Education, and the colleges and universities.

9 (B) In addition to retention and graduation rates for all  
10 students, the report shall also include the retention and graduation rates of  
11 all students who participate in intercollegiate athletics.

12 (2) Except as provided in subsection (c) of this section,  
13 officials of state colleges and universities shall provide to the ~~department~~  
14 division the information requested by the ~~department~~ division by December 1  
15 of each year, beginning in 2000.

16 (3)(A) For the purpose of analysis by the Bureau of Legislative  
17 Research to guide the General Assembly's evaluation of the need for  
18 adjustments to eligibility and funding levels for state-supported student  
19 financial assistance, the Office of Accountability of the ~~Department of~~  
20 Education Division of Elementary and Secondary Education shall provide  
21 annually to the bureau all individual student demographic and test result  
22 data on ACT or ACT equivalent college placement exams.

23 (B) The office shall provide the data in a database or  
24 spreadsheet format that omits personally identifiable information.

25 (c)(1) Subject to an adequate appropriation for the personnel and  
26 equipment necessary to implement the system recommended under subdivision  
27 (b)(1) of this section, the ~~department~~ division shall collect the information  
28 described in subdivision (b)(1) of this section and report its findings to  
29 the board, the Governor, the committees, and the colleges and universities by  
30 May 1 of each year, beginning in 2000.

31 (2) Notwithstanding the provisions of subdivision (c)(1) of this  
32 section, colleges and universities shall commence the collection of  
33 information as to the retention and graduation rates of all students who  
34 participate in intercollegiate athletics beginning in the fall semester of  
35 1989 and shall report this information to the ~~department~~ division by December  
36 1 of each year, beginning in 2000.

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SECTION 1972. Arkansas Code § 6-61-221 is amended to read as follows:

6-61-221. Reporting of graduates requiring postsecondary remediation.

(a)(1) The ~~Department~~ Division of Higher Education shall collect information necessary to prepare reports of college achievement of high school graduates from each state-supported institution of higher education.

(2) The ~~Department~~ Division of Higher Education may contract with appropriate organizations for the preparation of the reports.

(b) The ~~Department~~ Division of Higher Education and the Office of Accountability of the ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary Education shall work together to develop a compatible system of reporting the number of:

(1) Students who required remediation during their first year of enrollment in a state-supported institution of higher education if the enrollment occurred within two (2) years of graduation from a secondary school in this state;

(2) Students who required remediation and who graduated:

(A) With a 3.0 or higher grade point average on a 4.0 scale; and

(B) From a public high school after completing the:

(i) Program of the minimum core of high school courses recommended for preparation for postsecondary education by the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board and the State Board of Education pursuant to § 6-61-217 known as Smart Core; or

(ii) Non-Smart Core curriculum; and

(3) Attempts it takes a student to pass a postsecondary remedial course, beginning in the 2011-2012 school year.

(c)(1) The compilation report generated by the ~~Department~~ Division of Higher Education shall not include individual student information if the information is reported in a manner that would identify a particular student.

(2) Any information gathered that identifies a particular student shall be confidential.

(d)(1) The ~~Department~~ Division of Higher Education shall include the reports developed under this section annually in the Comprehensive Arkansas Higher Education Annual Report and provide an electronic copy to the:

(A) ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and

1 Secondary Education;

- 2 (B) ~~Department~~ Division of Career and Technical Education;  
3 (C) Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board;  
4 (D) Governor;  
5 (E) House Committee on Education;  
6 (F) Senate Committee on Education;  
7 (G) State Board of Education; and  
8 (H) School district administrators for each public high  
9 school.

10 (2) The reports developed under this section shall be prepared  
11 on or before October 1 each year and include the cost of remediation for each  
12 state-supported institution of higher education, which shall be submitted to  
13 the ~~Department~~ Division of Higher Education according to standards developed  
14 by the ~~Department~~ Division of Higher Education and shall include for each  
15 state-supported institution of higher education:

- 16 (A) The amount of institutional revenue spent on  
17 remediation;  
18 (B) The total general revenue subsidy spent on  
19 remediation;  
20 (C) The total institutional expenditure for remediation;  
21 and  
22 (D) The general revenue percentage of total expenditures  
23 for remediation.

24 (3) The report required under this subsection shall be separate  
25 from the uniform reporting standards report required under § 6-61-222.

26

27 SECTION 1973. Arkansas Code § 6-61-222(a)(3)(B), concerning uniform  
28 reporting standards, is amended to read as follows:

- 29 (B) "Academic program" means any program of study leading  
30 to a degree or certificate and any other program as defined by the ~~Department~~  
31 Division of Higher Education;

32

33 SECTION 1974. Arkansas Code § 6-61-226(b)(1)(A), concerning guidelines  
34 for course review, is amended to read as follows:

- 35 (b)(1)(A) The ~~Department~~ Division of Higher Education shall establish  
36 peer review project teams composed of faculty members of Arkansas

1 universities and two-year colleges.

2

3 SECTION 1975. Arkansas Code § 6-61-226(b)(2)(A), concerning guidelines  
4 for course review, is amended to read as follows:

5 (2)(A) The peer review project team for each discipline shall  
6 review and recommend to the ~~department~~ division courses in the applicable  
7 discipline to be recommended to the board for inclusion in the curriculum.

8

9 SECTION 1976. Arkansas Code § 6-61-227 is amended to read as follows:  
10 6-61-227. Annual transfer credit report.

11 All public institutions of higher education and any participating  
12 private institutions of higher education shall file a report annually with  
13 the ~~Department~~ Division of Higher Education identifying the number of  
14 students who requested transfer credit for a completed course in the state  
15 minimum core curriculum but were not given credit.

16

17 SECTION 1977. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 6-61-  
18 231(d)(1)(C)(i), concerning statewide transfer agreements, is amended to read  
19 as follows:

20 (C)(i) Policies and procedures for the ~~Department~~ Division  
21 of Higher Education to collect data from public institutions of higher  
22 education to ensure that:

23

24 SECTION 1978. Arkansas Code § 6-61-231(d)(1)(C)(ii), concerning  
25 statewide transfer agreements, is amended to read as follows:

26 (ii) The ~~department~~ division shall determine  
27 annually the data to be collected and shall establish by rule the procedures  
28 for a public institution of higher education to provide the data requested.

29

30 SECTION 1979. Arkansas Code § 6-61-234(a)(1)(A), concerning the  
31 productivity-based funding model for state-supported institutions of higher  
32 education, is amended to read as follows:

33 (a)(1)(A) The Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board shall adopt  
34 policies developed by the ~~Department~~ Division of Higher Education necessary  
35 to implement a productivity-based funding model for state-supported  
36 institutions of higher education.

1  
2 SECTION 1980. Arkansas Code § 6-61-234(d)-(f), concerning the  
3 productivity-based funding model for state-supported institutions of higher  
4 education, are amended to read as follows:

5 (d) Funds unallocated to state-supported institutions of higher  
6 education due to productivity declines shall be reserved by the ~~department~~  
7 division to address statewide needs in higher education.

8 (e) The ~~department~~ division shall review the policies every five (5)  
9 years to ensure the productivity-based funding model continues to respond to  
10 the needs and priorities of the state.

11 (f) In any fiscal year for which the aggregate general revenue funding  
12 forecast to be available for state-supported institutions of higher education  
13 is greater than two percent (2%) less than the amount provided for the  
14 immediate previous fiscal year, the ~~department~~ division shall not further  
15 implement the productivity-based funding model until the following fiscal  
16 year.

17  
18 SECTION 1981. Arkansas Code § 6-61-301(a)(3), concerning incorporation  
19 of laws from the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board, is amended to  
20 read as follows:

21 (3) Nonpublic, not-for-profit colleges and universities  
22 currently incorporated, recognized by the Arkansas Higher Education  
23 Coordinating Board as Arkansas independent institutions of higher education,  
24 and operating under the applicable laws of this state shall not be required  
25 to receive certification from the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating  
26 Board or to receive licensure from the ~~Department~~ Division of Higher  
27 Education under § 6-51-601 et seq.

28  
29 SECTION 1982. Arkansas Code § 6-61-302(b)(4), concerning incorporation  
30 and certification advisory committee to the Arkansas Higher Education  
31 Coordinating Board, is amended to read as follows:

32 (4) The Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of Career and  
33 Technical Education or his or her designated representative; and

34  
35 SECTION 1983. Arkansas Code § 6-61-304 is amended to read as follows:  
36 6-61-304. Review of existing programs of higher education.

1 In order to provide for the orderly development, coordination,  
2 financing, and expansion of the higher education program of this state, the  
3 ~~Department~~ Division of Higher Education shall review the existing programs of  
4 higher education in this state and assist in the orderly development and  
5 expansion of higher education in this state in accordance with the procedures  
6 outlined in §§ 6-61-101 – 6-61-103, 6-61-201 – 6-61-209, 6-61-211 [repealed],  
7 6-61-212 – 6-61-216, 6-61-301 – 6-61-305, 6-61-306 [repealed], 6-61-401, 6-  
8 61-402, 6-61-501 – 6-61-524, 6-61-601 – 6-61-603 and 6-61-604 – 6-61-612  
9 [repealed].

10  
11 SECTION 1984. Arkansas Code § 6-61-305 is amended to read as follows:  
12 6-61-305. Encouragement of participation by private institutions.

13 The ~~Department~~ Division of Higher Education staff and the Arkansas  
14 Higher Education Coordinating Board shall invite and encourage the  
15 participation of private colleges and universities, proprietary schools, and  
16 all other postsecondary institutions in Arkansas in planning for the programs  
17 of education beyond high school.

18  
19 SECTION 1985. Arkansas Code § 6-61-401(a), concerning the State  
20 Student Incentive Grant Program, is amended to read as follows:

21 (a) The ~~Department~~ Division of Higher Education, in accordance with  
22 policy established by the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board, shall  
23 administer the federal State Student Incentive Grant Program.

24  
25 SECTION 1986. Arkansas Code § 6-61-402(c), concerning contracts and  
26 cooperation with the Southern Regional Education Board, is amended to read as  
27 follows:

28 (c) The ~~Department~~ Division of Higher Education staff, at the  
29 direction of the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board, is empowered  
30 to conduct necessary administrative duties in connection with this program.

31  
32 SECTION 1987. Arkansas Code § 6-61-504 is amended to read as follows:  
33 6-61-504. Division of Community Junior Colleges created.

34 The Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of Higher Education shall  
35 establish a separate Division of Community Junior Colleges within the  
36 ~~Department~~ Division of Higher Education.

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SECTION 1988. Arkansas Code § 6-61-505(b), concerning the State Community College Board, is amended to read as follows:

(b) When the ~~board~~ Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board is acting as the State Community College Board, the Director of the ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary Education shall be an ex officio nonvoting member of that ~~board~~ Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board.

SECTION 1989. Arkansas Code § 6-61-803 is amended to read as follows:  
6-61-803. Arkansas Research Development Program created – Administration.

There is created a program to be known as the Arkansas Research Development Program which shall be administered by the Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of Higher Education.

SECTION 1990. Arkansas Code § 6-61-808(b)(1), concerning applications for funds for the Arkansas Research Development Program, is amended to read as follows:

(b)(1) The Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of Higher Education shall review the applications and shall approve applications in the amount he or she determines appropriate, after seeking the advice of the Legislative Council.

SECTION 1991. Arkansas Code § 6-61-901 is amended to read as follows:  
6-61-901. Purpose.

In order to enhance the public's access to performance indicators and to better measure the dividends paid on the increasing public investment in Arkansas's institutions of higher education, the General Assembly finds that a separate office of accountability should be established within the ~~Department~~ Division of Higher Education.

SECTION 1992. Arkansas Code § 6-61-902 is amended to read as follows:  
6-61-902. Office of Accountability within ~~Department~~ Division of Higher Education.

(a) There is created the Office of Accountability within the

1 ~~Department~~ Division of Higher Education.

2 (b) The office is authorized and directed to collect and analyze  
3 information that may be required to meet any state or federal requirement.

4 (c) Under the direction of the Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of  
5 Higher Education, the staff of the office shall work cooperatively with and  
6 provide any necessary assistance to the House Committee on Education and the  
7 Senate Committee on Education.

8

9 SECTION 1993. Arkansas Code § 6-61-1303(4)(C), concerning the  
10 definition of "full-time student" under the Productivity Enhancement for  
11 Undergraduate Higher Education Act, is amended to read as follows:

12 (C) Is enrolled in at least twelve (12) semester hours or  
13 some other reasonable academic equivalent as defined by the ~~Department~~  
14 Division of Higher Education;

15

16 SECTION 1994. Arkansas Code § 6-61-1403(a), concerning additions or  
17 alterations to the common course numbering system, is amended to read as  
18 follows:

19 (a) The Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of Higher Education shall  
20 recommend to the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board any additions  
21 or alterations to the common course numbering system.

22

23 SECTION 1995. Arkansas Code § 6-61-1406 is amended to read as follows:  
24 6-61-1406. Courses review.

25 The ~~Department~~ Division of Higher Education shall:

26 (1) Regularly schedule reviews of courses that are listed in the  
27 common course numbering system;

28 (2) Establish review procedures; and

29 (3) Adopt policies to carry out this section.

30

31 SECTION 1996. Arkansas Code § 6-61-1407 is amended to read as follows:  
32 6-61-1407. Data collection.

33 (a) The ~~Department~~ Division of Higher Education shall adopt policies  
34 for the collection of data to ensure that all institutions of higher  
35 education that participate in the common course numbering system comply with  
36 this subchapter.

1 (b) The ~~department~~ division shall determine the data to be collected  
2 and annually notify each participating institution of higher education in a  
3 timely manner.

4  
5 SECTION 1997. Arkansas Code § 6-61-1602(b), concerning the creation  
6 and purpose of the Institutional Energy Research Committee, is amended to  
7 read as follows:

8 (b) The ~~Department~~ Division of Higher Education, in collaboration with  
9 state-supported institutions of higher education that participate in energy  
10 research activities, shall appoint at least one (1) member of the research  
11 faculty at each state-supported institution of higher education that  
12 participates in energy research activities to serve on the Institutional  
13 Energy Research Committee.

14  
15 SECTION 1998. Arkansas Code § 6-62-105(a)(1), concerning private  
16 borrowing by institutions of higher education, is amended to read as follows:

17 (a)(1) Upon approval of the board of trustees of a state-supported  
18 institution of higher education, the ~~Department~~ Division of Higher Education,  
19 and the Chief Fiscal Officer of the State, a state-supported institution of  
20 higher education may borrow funds determined by the board to be necessary to  
21 continue the operation of the state-supported institution of higher education  
22 from a private financial institution if the Revolving Loan Fund is  
23 insufficient, as certified by the Chief Fiscal Officer of the State, for a  
24 state-supported institution of higher education to participate in the fund.

25  
26 SECTION 1999. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 6-62-  
27 105(c)(1), concerning private borrowing by institutions of higher education,  
28 is amended to read as follows:

29 (c)(1) Notwithstanding subsections (a) and (b) of this section or §  
30 19-4-705, the Chief Fiscal Officer of the State and the Director of the  
31 ~~Department~~ Division of Higher Education may authorize a state-supported  
32 institution of higher education to borrow funds from a private financial  
33 institution provided that the board certifies that borrowing funds from a  
34 private financial institution:

35  
36 SECTION 2000. Arkansas Code § 6-62-726(a), concerning the rules and

1 regulations for the Department of Higher Education appropriation for college  
2 savings bonds, is amended to read as follows:

3 (a) The ~~Department~~ Division of Higher Education or other agency to  
4 which the appropriation for college savings bonds is provided shall adopt  
5 rules and regulations for the allocation of the funds reappropriated for the  
6 development of projects at state institutions of higher education and the  
7 payment of project costs and expenses of the issuance of the bonds under this  
8 subchapter in order to ensure that funds are allocated and expended in a  
9 manner consistent with the applicable provisions of the Internal Revenue  
10 Code, 26 U.S.C. § 1 et seq.

11  
12 SECTION 2001. Arkansas Code § 6-62-803(a) and (b), concerning limits  
13 on the funding amount to be budgeted of unrestricted educational and general  
14 funds for intercollegiate athletic programs at state-supported institutions  
15 of higher education, is amended to read as follows:

16 (a) For the certification required under § 6-62-805, the amount  
17 allowed to be budgeted of unrestricted educational and general funds for  
18 intercollegiate athletic programs at state-supported institutions of higher  
19 education shall be limited to an amount established by the ~~Department~~  
20 Division of Higher Education for the fiscal year 2012-2013 or an amount of  
21 not more than two percent (2%) of the actual total unrestricted educational  
22 and general revenues of the previous fiscal year at institutions of higher  
23 education.

24 (b) The ~~department~~ division shall annually adjust the allowable  
25 transfer based upon the Consumer Price Index.

26  
27 SECTION 2002. Arkansas Code § 6-63-103(c), concerning affirmative  
28 action programs, plans, and annual reports, is amended to read as follows:

29 (c) Copies of the five-year plan and annual reports summaries of each  
30 institution of higher education shall be included in the Comprehensive  
31 Arkansas Higher Education Annual Report, filed with the Governor, the  
32 ~~Department~~ Division of Higher Education, the president and board of trustees  
33 of the institution, the board of visitors of the institution, if applicable,  
34 and the House Committee on Education and the Senate Committee on Education.

35  
36 SECTION 2003. Arkansas Code § 6-63-104(a), concerning faculty

1 performance reviews, is amended to read as follows:

2 (a) The president and chancellor of each state-supported institution  
3 of higher education in Arkansas shall work with the campus faculties to  
4 develop a framework to review faculty performance, including post-tenure  
5 review. The framework should be used to develop processes and procedures at  
6 each institution to ensure a consistently high level of performance of the  
7 faculty at Arkansas' publicly supported institutions of higher education. The  
8 effects of the review process of faculty performance should include rewarding  
9 productive faculty, redirecting faculty efforts to improve or to increase  
10 productivity, and correcting instances of substandard performance. The  
11 framework developed by each institution shall be reported to the House  
12 Committee on Education and the Senate Committee on Education, the Joint  
13 Interim Oversight Committee on Education Reform, and the ~~Department~~ Division  
14 of Higher Education no later than December 1, 1998, and shall be implemented  
15 on the respective campuses no later than January 1, 2001.

16

17 SECTION 2004. Arkansas Code § 6-63-104(d), concerning faculty  
18 performance reviews, is amended to read as follows:

19 (d) The ~~department~~ division shall be responsible for monitoring the  
20 evaluation process and shall report its findings to the Arkansas Higher  
21 Education Coordinating Board and to the Legislative Council by August 1 of  
22 each year.

23

24 SECTION 2005. Arkansas Code § 6-63-305(a)(1)(A) and (B), concerning  
25 new or additional positions for institutions of higher education, are amended  
26 to read as follows:

27 (A) A request for a specific nonclassified position,  
28 title, and salary has been requested by the institution of higher education,  
29 approved by the institution's board of trustees, recommended by the  
30 ~~Department~~ Division of Higher Education, and reported to the Legislative  
31 Council; or

32 (B) A request for a specific classified position will be  
33 assigned only after a specific position, class title, and grade are requested  
34 by the institution of higher education, approved by the institution's board,  
35 recommended by the ~~department~~ division and reported to the Legislative  
36 Council or, if the General Assembly is in session, the Joint Budget

1 Committee; and

2

3 SECTION 2006. Arkansas Code § 6-63-305(a)(3), concerning new or  
4 additional positions for institutions of higher education, are amended to  
5 read as follows:

6 (3) The source of funding for the additional positions  
7 established under this subsection shall be reported to the ~~department~~  
8 division and the Legislative Council by the institution at the time of the  
9 request.

10

11 SECTION 2007. Arkansas Code § 6-63-307(a), concerning salary  
12 restrictions and penalties of institutes of higher education, is amended to  
13 read as follows:

14 (a) An employee drawing a salary or other form of compensation from an  
15 institution of higher education shall not be paid an additional salary or  
16 receive additional compensation other than reimbursement for actual expenses  
17 from that institution or from any other agency or institution of higher  
18 education except upon written certification to and approval by the Director  
19 of the ~~Department~~ Division of Higher Education and by the head of each agency  
20 or institution that the work performed by the employee for the other agency  
21 or institution of higher education does not interfere with the proper and  
22 required performance of the employee's primary duties and that the combined  
23 salary payments from both agencies or institutions of higher education will  
24 not exceed the larger maximum annual salary of the line item position  
25 authorized for either agency from which the employee is to be paid.

26

27 SECTION 2008. Arkansas Code § 6-63-311(a)(3), concerning special  
28 authorization and contracts for the National Center for Toxicological  
29 Research, is amended to read as follows:

30 (3) The ~~Department~~ Division of Higher Education will be notified  
31 of when and in what amount the special allowance will be paid prior to  
32 activation of the special allowance.

33

34 SECTION 2009. Arkansas Code § 6-63-312 is amended to read as follows:  
35 6-63-312. Contingency appropriations – Transfers and reports.

36 (a) Upon approval by the ~~Department~~ Division of Higher Education and

1 the Chief Fiscal Officer of the State, institutions of higher education may  
2 transfer appropriation from the cash contingency appropriation to any other  
3 appropriation made to the institution from cash funds and institutions may  
4 transfer appropriation from the contingency appropriation made payable from  
5 each institution's State Treasury Fund to the state operations appropriation  
6 made payable from each institution's State Treasury Fund.

7 (b) The ~~department~~ division shall report monthly to the Legislative  
8 Council these appropriation transfers, and the report shall include, by  
9 institution, the amounts transferred, the reasons therefor, and the source of  
10 the funds.

11  
12 SECTION 2010. Arkansas Code § 6-63-316(b), concerning reporting of  
13 salaries of administrators of state-supported institution of higher  
14 education, is amended to read as follows:

15 (b)(1) A state-supported institution of higher education shall submit  
16 a report listing each administrator at the state-supported institution of  
17 higher education who earns a salary of one hundred thousand dollars  
18 (\$100,000) or more to the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board and  
19 the ~~Department~~ Division of Higher Education by July 1 each year, beginning  
20 July 1, 2010.

21 (2) The report shall be posted on the ~~department~~ division  
22 website no later than July 15 each year, beginning July 15, 2010.

23  
24 SECTION 2011. Arkansas Code § 6-65-104(b)(2), concerning rural school  
25 teachers' training department, is amended to read as follows:

26 (2) These courses shall be outlined by a committee consisting of  
27 the principal of each of the agricultural schools, the President of the  
28 University of Central Arkansas, and the Director of the ~~Department of~~  
29 Education Division of Elementary and Secondary Education and the Director of  
30 the ~~Department~~ Division of Career and Technical Education.

31  
32 SECTION 2012. Arkansas Code § 6-66-113(b), concerning the report by  
33 the Board of Trustees of Henderson State University, is amended to read as  
34 follows:

35 (b) The report shall be incorporated in the report of the Director of  
36 the ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary Education

1 and shall set forth the financial and scholastic condition of Henderson State  
2 University, furnish such suggestions as in the judgment of the board are  
3 necessary for the improvement of the university, and make any further  
4 recommendations that may to the board seem wise and expedient.

5  
6 SECTION 2013. Arkansas Code § 6-67-114(b), concerning the biennial  
7 report to the General Assembly of the Board of Trustees of the University of  
8 Central Arkansas, is amended to read as follows:

9 (b) The report shall be incorporated in the report of the Director of  
10 the ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary Education  
11 and shall set forth the financial and scholastic condition of the University  
12 of Central Arkansas, furnish such suggestions as in the board's judgment are  
13 necessary for the improvement of the university, and shall make any further  
14 recommendations that may seem wise and expedient to the board.

15  
16 SECTION 2014. Arkansas Code § 6-68-102(4), concerning an electronic  
17 version of printed instructional material, is amended to read as follows:

18 (4) Is signed by the coordinator of services for students with  
19 disabilities at the institution of higher education and by an official  
20 responsible for monitoring compliance with the Americans with Disabilities  
21 Act of 1990, 42 U.S.C. § 12101 et seq. At the request of the institution of  
22 higher education, the Division of State Services for the Blind of the  
23 Department of Human Services or the ~~Department~~ Division of Career and  
24 Technical Education may prepare and sign the certification.

25  
26 SECTION 2015. Arkansas Code § 6-80-102(a), concerning compliance with  
27 the Selective Service Act, is amended to read as follows:

28 (a) "Institution of higher education" has the meaning assigned by the  
29 ~~Department~~ Division of Higher Education.

30  
31 SECTION 2016. Arkansas Code § 6-80-102(d), concerning compliance with  
32 the Selective Service Act, is amended to read as follows:

33 (d) The ~~department~~ division shall specify by rule the form of  
34 statements of selective service status and the supporting documents to be  
35 filed to be in compliance with this section. The ~~department~~ division shall  
36 distribute to each institution of higher education a copy of all rules

1 adopted under this section.

2

3 SECTION 2017. Arkansas Code § 6-80-105(a)(1), concerning scholarship  
4 stacking and student financial aid, is amended to read as follows:

5 (1) "Cost of attendance" means the recognized cost of attendance  
6 of an institution of higher education calculated under rules established by  
7 the ~~Department~~ Division of Higher Education;

8

9 SECTION 2018. Arkansas Code § 6-80-105(a)(4), concerning scholarship  
10 stacking and student financial aid, is amended to read as follows:

11 (4) "State aid" means scholarships or grants awarded to a  
12 student from public funds, including without limitation the Arkansas Academic  
13 Challenge Scholarship under § 6-85-201 et seq., the ~~Department~~ Division of  
14 Higher Education scholarship and grant programs, state general revenues,  
15 tuition, and local tax revenue; and

16

17 SECTION 2019. Arkansas Code § 6-80-105(c), concerning scholarship  
18 stacking and student financial aid, is amended to read as follows:

19 (c) A postsecondary institution shall report to the ~~department~~  
20 division the total amount of federal aid, state aid, and other aid a student  
21 receives if the student receives an award from a ~~department~~ division  
22 scholarship or grant program, including the Arkansas Academic Challenge  
23 Scholarship under § 6-85-201 et seq.

24

25 SECTION 2020. Arkansas Code § 6-80-105(d)(2), concerning scholarship  
26 stacking and student financial aid, is amended to read as follows:

27 (2) The ~~department~~ division shall credit the excess state aid  
28 funds to the appropriate ~~department~~ division fund or trust account.

29

30 SECTION 2021. Arkansas Code § 6-80-105(e)(1), concerning scholarship  
31 stacking and student financial aid, is amended to read as follows:

32 (1) The ~~department~~ division if the ~~department~~ division awards  
33 state aid to the student; and

34

35 SECTION 2022. Arkansas Code § 6-80-107 is amended to read as follows:  
36 6-80-107. Transcripts.

1 (a)(1) As used in this section, "electronic transcript" means a  
2 student transcript that is formatted and transmitted electronically in the  
3 uniform method prescribed by the ~~Department~~ Division of Higher Education and  
4 the ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary Education  
5 for use by public schools and institutions of higher education in this state.

6 (2) An Arkansas public school shall use an electronic transcript  
7 in lieu of a paper transcript to:

8 (A) Provide to the ~~Department~~ Division of Higher Education  
9 as necessary to process state financial aid applications for students in  
10 grades nine through twelve (9-12);

11 (B) Transmit a transcript between public high schools to  
12 correctly enroll and place students in grades nine through twelve (9-12)  
13 transferring between public high schools and school districts; and

14 (C) Transmit a transcript to the ~~Department of Education~~  
15 Division of Elementary and Secondary Education.

16 (3) An institution of higher education in this state shall use  
17 an electronic transcript in lieu of a paper transcript:

18 (A) As the only method of accepting a transcript from an  
19 Arkansas public school;

20 (B) As the only method of accepting a transcript from or  
21 sending a transcript to another institution of higher education in this  
22 state;

23 (C) To provide to the ~~Department~~ Division of Higher  
24 Education as necessary to process state financial aid applications for higher  
25 education students; and

26 (D) To transmit a transcript to the ~~Department of~~  
27 Education Division of Elementary and Secondary Education.

28 (b)(1) Except as provided under subdivision (b)(2) of this section, an  
29 institution of higher education that does not comply with this section shall  
30 not receive state financial aid on behalf of students.

31 (2) An institution of higher education with less than ten (10)  
32 students who receive financial aid from a program administered by the  
33 ~~Department~~ Division of Higher Education is exempt from the requirements under  
34 subsection (a) of this section and the penalty under this subsection.

35 (c)(1) The ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and  
36 Secondary Education shall prescribe a uniform method of formatting and

1 electronically transmitting transcripts, which shall be used by all  
2 kindergarten through grade eight (K-8) public elementary or middle schools in  
3 this state.

4 (2) A public elementary or middle school shall use an electronic  
5 transcript in lieu of a paper transcript to transmit a transcript:

6 (A) Between public schools as necessary to correctly  
7 enroll and place students transferring between schools and school districts;  
8 and

9 (B) To the ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary  
10 and Secondary Education.

11

12 SECTION 2023. Arkansas Code § 6-81-603 is amended to read as follows:  
13 6-81-603. Administration.

14 (a) The Teacher Opportunity Program shall be administered by the  
15 ~~Department~~ Division of Higher Education, which shall have the authority to  
16 establish necessary rules, regulations, procedures, and selection criteria  
17 for the administration of the program and to designate necessary forms and  
18 schedules.

19 (b) The ~~department~~ division may utilize an appropriate advisory  
20 committee to assist it in its responsibilities in this program.

21

22 SECTION 2024. Arkansas Code § 6-81-604 is amended to read as follows:  
23 6-81-604. Conditions.

24 The ~~Department~~ Division of Higher Education may make initial and  
25 continuing grants to students under the following conditions:

26 (1) Grant recipients shall be bona fide residents of the State  
27 of Arkansas, as defined by the ~~Department~~ Division of Higher Education;

28 (2) Grant recipients shall maintain current certification with  
29 the ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary Education,  
30 allowing them to be employed by the public schools in Arkansas;

31 (3) Grant recipients shall be currently employed as teachers or  
32 administrators in Arkansas and declare an intention to continue that  
33 employment in Arkansas;

34 (4) Grant recipients shall be enrolled in an eligible accredited  
35 college or university in Arkansas;

36 (5) Grant recipients shall be enrolled in college-level courses

1 directly related to their employment as certified by the Commissioner of  
2 Elementary and Secondary Education; and

3 (6) Grant recipients shall maintain a grade point average in  
4 their college work of no less than 2.5 on a 4.0 scale or maintain an  
5 appropriate equivalent as determined by the ~~Department~~ Division of Higher  
6 Education.

7  
8 SECTION 2025. Arkansas Code § 6-81-605(a)(2)(C), concerning the  
9 priority of grants under the Teacher Opportunity Program, is amended to read  
10 as follows:

11 (C) All other requirements established by the ~~Department~~  
12 Division of Higher Education are met.

13  
14 SECTION 2026. Arkansas Code § 6-81-605(b), concerning the priority of  
15 grants under the Teacher Opportunity Program, is amended to read as follows:

16 (b)(1) The ~~Department~~ Division of Higher Education shall determine  
17 priorities for awarding reimbursements if there are more applicants than  
18 funds available.

19 (2) Priorities shall be determined in coordination with the  
20 ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary Education and  
21 shall be based on the needs of the state.

22  
23 SECTION 2027. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 6-81-  
24 607(1), concerning the definition of "classroom teacher" under the Teacher  
25 Opportunity Program, is amended to read as follows:

26 (1) "Classroom teacher" means an individual who is required to  
27 hold a teaching license from the ~~Department of Education~~ Division of  
28 Elementary and Secondary Education and who is:

29  
30 SECTION 2028. Arkansas Code § 6-81-608(b), concerning the Dual  
31 Licensure Incentive Program, is amended to read as follows:

32 (b) The program shall be administered by the ~~Department~~ Division of  
33 Higher Education.

34  
35 SECTION 2029. Arkansas Code § 6-81-609(a)(1)(A)(i), concerning dual  
36 licensure funding, is amended to read as follows:

1 (i) Declared to be a shortage area by the ~~Department~~  
2 ~~of Education~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary Education;

3  
4 SECTION 2030. Arkansas Code § 6-81-609(a)(1)(B)(ii), concerning dual  
5 licensure funding, is amended to read as follows:

6 (ii) The amount of the reimbursement and the number  
7 of reimbursement recipients selected by the ~~Department~~ Division of Higher  
8 Education is contingent on the appropriation and availability of funding for  
9 such a purpose.

10  
11 SECTION 2031. Arkansas Code § 6-81-609(a)(2)(B)(ii)(a), concerning  
12 dual licensure funding, is amended to read as follows:

13 (a) Has been identified as a subject area with  
14 a shortage of classroom teachers as declared by the ~~Department of Education~~  
15 Division of Elementary and Secondary Education; or

16  
17 SECTION 2032. Arkansas Code § 6-81-1101(a) and (b), concerning tuition  
18 assistance for certain professional schools, is amended to read as follows:

19 (a) The ~~Department~~ Division of Higher Education shall institute a  
20 program of making grants for the benefit of Arkansas residents to assist in  
21 paying tuition for attending certain accredited schools of dentistry,  
22 optometry, veterinary medicine, podiatry, or chiropractic located outside the  
23 State of Arkansas but within the United States.

24 (b) In addition to the Southern Regional Education Compact program for  
25 which the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board serves as agent for  
26 the state and for which the ~~department~~ division serves as disbursing agent  
27 pursuant to §§ 6-4-104 – 6-4-107, the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating  
28 Board is authorized to enter into direct contracts with selected accredited  
29 schools of dentistry, optometry, veterinary medicine, podiatry, chiropractic,  
30 or osteopathy which do not participate in the program if the Arkansas Higher  
31 Education Coordinating Board determines that the needs of the state are not  
32 being met by institutions participating in the program.

33  
34 SECTION 2033. Arkansas Code § 6-81-1101(c)(2)(E), concerning tuition  
35 assistance for certain professional schools, is amended to read as follows:

36 (E) Is a party to a currently effective written agreement

1 between the participating institution and the ~~department~~ division or the  
2 ~~Board of Control for Southern Regional Education~~ Southern Regional Education  
3 Board; and

4  
5 SECTION 2034. Arkansas Code § 6-81-1101(c)(3)(C), concerning tuition  
6 assistance for certain professional schools, is amended to read as follows:

7 (C) Has been certified under § 6-4-106 by the ~~department~~  
8 division as qualified to participate in the grant program authorized by this  
9 section and consistent with § 6-4-106.

10  
11 SECTION 2035. Arkansas Code § 6-81-1101(d)(2), concerning tuition  
12 assistance for certain professional schools, is amended to read as follows:

13 (2) For participating schools which charge the same amount of  
14 annual tuition for in-state and out-of-state students and such annual tuition  
15 is extraordinary as determined by the ~~department~~ division, the amount shall  
16 not be less than five thousand dollars (\$5,000) per student.

17  
18 SECTION 2036. Arkansas Code § 6-81-1101(e), concerning tuition  
19 assistance for certain professional schools, is amended to read as follows:

20 (e)(1) The program shall be administered by the ~~department~~ division.

21 (2) The grants shall be made upon such terms and conditions as  
22 are prescribed by the ~~department~~ division.

23 (3) The ~~department~~ division shall promulgate such rules and  
24 regulations as are necessary to implement the provisions of this section.

25  
26 SECTION 2037. Arkansas Code § 6-81-1101(f), concerning tuition  
27 assistance for certain professional schools, is amended to read as follows:

28 (f)(1) The ~~department~~ division will allocate, based upon funds  
29 appropriated, the number of eligible grant recipients to receive funds at  
30 each participating institution for each applicable academic period.

31 (2) Each participating institution will select eligible grant  
32 recipients for each applicable academic period. In the event that the number  
33 of eligible students accepted for enrollment at such participating  
34 institution exceeds the number of eligible grant recipients for whom funds  
35 have been allocated by the ~~department~~ division from funds appropriated, such  
36 participating institution shall have sole discretion in selecting the

1 eligible students to designate as eligible grant recipients.

2 (3) The ~~department~~ division shall make grants according to the  
3 allocations made by the ~~department~~ division and selections made by the  
4 participating institutions. The ~~department~~ division shall have no obligation  
5 to make any grants except to the extent that funds have been appropriated and  
6 funded for the program.

7  
8 SECTION 2038. Arkansas Code § 6-81-1103(a), concerning repayment of  
9 out-of-state tuition paid by the State of Arkansas, is amended to read as  
10 follows:

11 (a) The ~~Department~~ Division of Higher Education may provide loans from  
12 the Budget Stabilization Trust Fund in excess of the ~~Board of Control for~~  
13 ~~Southern Regional Education~~ Southern Regional Education Board grant funds to  
14 dental students enrolled in professional programs outside the state for whom  
15 any part of the out-of-state tuition is paid by the State of Arkansas if the  
16 tuition paid to the out-of-state institution exceeds the board-contracted  
17 rate.

18  
19 SECTION 2039. Arkansas Code § 6-81-1103(e)(3), concerning repayment of  
20 out-of-state tuition paid by the State of Arkansas, is amended to read as  
21 follows:

22 (3) Extraordinary circumstances as determined by the ~~department~~  
23 division.

24  
25 SECTION 2040. Arkansas Code § 6-81-1103(f), concerning repayment of  
26 out-of-state tuition paid by the State of Arkansas, is amended to read as  
27 follows:

28 (f) The loans shall be made at a rate of interest determined by the  
29 ~~department~~ division but not to exceed four percent (4%).

30  
31 SECTION 2041. Arkansas Code § 6-81-1105(a)(6)(D), concerning  
32 veterinary medicine loans, is amended to read as follows:

33 (D) Has been certified under § 6-4-106 by the ~~Department~~  
34 Division of Higher Education as qualified to participate in the loan  
35 repayment program authorized by this section and consistent with § 6-4-106.

36

1 SECTION 2042. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 6-81-  
2 1105(b), concerning veterinary medicine loans, is amended to read as follows:

3 (b) The ~~department~~ division shall institute a loan repayment program  
4 to:

5  
6 SECTION 2043. Arkansas Code § 6-81-1105(c)(1), concerning veterinary  
7 medicine loans, is amended to read as follows:

8 (c)(1) The ~~department~~ division shall administer the program.  
9

10 SECTION 2044. Arkansas Code § 6-81-1105(c)(2)(A), concerning  
11 veterinary medicine loans, is amended to read as follows:

12 (2)(A) The ~~department~~ division shall adopt rules to implement  
13 this section and address the terms and conditions of loan repayments made  
14 under this section.  
15

16 SECTION 2045. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 6-81-  
17 1105(d), concerning veterinary medicine loans, is amended to read as follows:

18 (d) The ~~department~~ division shall:  
19

20 SECTION 2046. Arkansas Code § 6-81-1105(d)(3), concerning veterinary  
21 medicine loans, is amended to read as follows:

22 (3)(A) Distribute loan repayments according to the allocations  
23 made by the ~~department~~ division.

24 (B) The ~~department~~ division shall not be obligated to make  
25 a loan repayment unless funds are appropriated.  
26

27 SECTION 2047. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 6-81-  
28 1106(b), concerning student loan repayment, is amended to read as follows:

29 (b) The ~~Department~~ Division of Higher Education shall repay federal  
30 student loans yearly for a maximum of five (5) consecutive years if the  
31 recipient:  
32

33 SECTION 2048. Arkansas Code § 6-81-1106(d)(3), concerning student loan  
34 repayment, is amended to read as follows:

35 (3) Other period of postponement agreed to by the ~~department~~  
36 division.

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SECTION 2049. Arkansas Code § 6-81-1106(e), concerning student loan repayment, is amended to read as follows:

(e) The ~~department~~ division shall adopt rules to administer this section.

SECTION 2050. Arkansas Code § 6-81-1301(a), concerning the administration and purpose of the University Assisted Teacher Recruitment and Retention Grant Program, is amended to read as follows:

(a) There is established the University Assisted Teacher Recruitment and Retention Grant Program within the ~~Department~~ Division of Higher Education.

SECTION 2051. Arkansas Code § 6-81-1301(c), concerning the administration and purpose of the University Assisted Teacher Recruitment and Retention Grant Program, is amended to read as follows:

(c)(1) Any institution of higher education in the State of Arkansas which offers a Master of Education degree may apply to the ~~Department~~ Division of Higher Education for participation in the program.

(2) Under the program, participating institutions shall collaborate with the ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary Education to identify, recruit, and place teacher education graduates, from both within the state and out of state, in school districts situated within those areas of the state where there exists a critical shortage of teachers, as designated by the ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary Education.

SECTION 2052. Arkansas Code § 6-81-1301(d)(1), concerning the administration and purpose of the University Assisted Teacher Recruitment and Retention Grant Program, is amended to read as follows:

(d)(1) The ~~Department~~ Division of Higher Education shall provide funds to participating institutions of higher learning for the purpose of awarding scholarships to qualified persons pursuing a Master of Education degree at participating institutions while rendering service to the state as a licensed teacher in a school district in a geographical area of the state where there exists a critical shortage of teachers, as approved by the State Board of

1 Education.

2

3 SECTION 2053. Arkansas Code § 6-81-1301(h)(2), concerning the  
4 administration and purpose of the University Assisted Teacher Recruitment and  
5 Retention Grant Program, is amended to read as follows:

6 (2) The ~~Department~~ Division of Higher Education shall promulgate  
7 rules and regulations necessary for the administration of the relocation  
8 expense reimbursement component of the program.

9

10 SECTION 2054. Arkansas Code § 6-81-1301(l)(1), concerning the  
11 administration and purpose of the University Assisted Teacher Recruitment and  
12 Retention Grant Program, is amended to read as follows:

13 (l)(1)(A) Students receiving an award from the program shall execute a  
14 note made payable to the ~~Department~~ Division of Higher Education for an  
15 amount equal to the award each semester that shall bear interest at the rate  
16 of ten percent (10%) per year beginning September 1 after completion of the  
17 program or immediately after termination of the student's participation in  
18 the program, whichever is earlier.

19 (B) Students in the program who receive reimbursement for  
20 moving expenses under subsection (h) of this section shall execute a note  
21 made payable to the ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and  
22 Secondary Education for an amount equal to the reimbursement that shall bear  
23 interest at the rate of ten percent (10%) per year.

24

25 SECTION 2055. Arkansas Code § 6-81-1301(m)-(p), concerning the  
26 administration and purpose of the University Assisted Teacher Recruitment and  
27 Retention Grant Program, are amended to read as follows:

28 (m) All funds received by the ~~Department of Education~~ Division of  
29 Elementary and Secondary Education from the repayment of scholarship awards  
30 and relocation expenses by program participants shall be deposited in the  
31 fund that provides funding for the program.

32 (n) The ~~Department~~ Division of Higher Education shall promulgate rules  
33 and regulations necessary for the proper administration of the program.

34 (o) The requirements of this section are contingent on the funding  
35 available for the program.

36 (p) The ~~Department~~ Division of Higher Education is authorized to

1 determine the necessary procedures for the awarding of grants should the  
2 number of eligible applicants and recipients exceed the funds available.

3  
4 SECTION 2056. Arkansas Code § 6-81-1602 is amended to read as follows:  
5 6-81-1602. Definitions.

6 As used in this subchapter:

7 (1) "Approved institution" means a state-supported institution  
8 of higher education, a nursing school, or a private nonprofit institution of  
9 higher education that:

10 (A) Maintains its Elementary headquarters in the state;

11 (B) Is eligible to receive Title IV federal student aid  
12 program funds; and

13 (C) Is approved by the ~~Department~~ Division of Higher  
14 Education as eligible to participate in the State Teacher Education Program;

15 (2) "Eligible student" means a student who:

16 (A) Meets the criteria set out in this subchapter; and

17 (B) Is found to be eligible by rules promulgated by the  
18 ~~Department~~ Division of Higher Education; and

19 (3) "Teacher education program" means a program administered by  
20 the ~~Department~~ Division of Higher Education that provides loan repayments to  
21 a licensed teacher who teaches in a subject area or a geographic area with  
22 teacher shortage as determined by the ~~Department~~ Division of Higher Education  
23 in consultation with the ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and  
24 Secondary Education.

25  
26 SECTION 2057. Arkansas Code § 6-81-1604 is amended to read as follows:  
27 6-81-1604. Administration of the program.

28 (a) The State Teacher Education Program shall be administered by the  
29 ~~Department~~ Division of Higher Education.

30 (b) The ~~department~~ division shall adopt standards for awarding the  
31 loan repayments to a public school teacher with an Arkansas teacher's license  
32 teaching in a:

33 (1) Subject area with a teacher shortage; or

34 (2) Geographic area with teacher shortage.

35 (c) The requirements of this subchapter are contingent on the funding  
36 available for the program.

1 (d) The ~~department~~ division may determine the necessary procedures for  
2 awarding the loan repayments if the number of eligible applicants and  
3 recipients exceeds available funding.

4  
5 SECTION 2058. Arkansas Code § 6-81-1605 is amended to read as follows:  
6 6-81-1605. Eligibility.

7 To be eligible for the State Teacher Education Program, an applicant  
8 shall:

9 (1) Teach full-time at a public school district in a subject  
10 area or geographic area with a teacher shortage, as identified by the  
11 ~~Department~~ Division of Higher Education in consultation with the ~~Department~~  
12 ~~of Education~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary Education;

13 (2) Hold a valid Arkansas teacher's license; and

14 (3) Meet additional continuing eligibility criteria established  
15 by the ~~Department~~ Division of Higher Education.

16  
17 SECTION 2059. Arkansas Code § 6-81-1606 is amended to read as follows:  
18 6-81-1606. Duration – Amount.

19 (a) The State Teacher Education Program shall be used to provide a  
20 loan repayment for federal student loans in the amount of:

21 (1) Three thousand dollars (\$3,000) per year for a maximum of  
22 three (3) years for a licensed teacher who graduated from a teacher education  
23 program after April 2004 and teaches in a public school in this state:

24 (A) In a subject area designated by the ~~Department~~  
25 Division of Higher Education in consultation with the ~~Department of Education~~  
26 Division of Elementary and Secondary Education as having a critical shortage  
27 of teachers; or

28 (B) Located in a geographical area of the state designated  
29 by the ~~Department~~ Division of Higher Education in consultation with the  
30 ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary Education as  
31 having a critical shortage of teachers; and

32 (2) An additional one thousand dollars (\$1,000) per year for a  
33 maximum of three (3) years for a licensed teacher who is a minority and who  
34 graduated from a teacher education program after April 2004 and teaches in a  
35 public school in this state.

36 (b) The ~~Department~~ Division of Higher Education may spend no more than

1 fifty thousand dollars (\$50,000) annually for costs associated with the  
2 administration of the program.

3 (c) The ~~Department~~ Division of Higher Education shall promulgate rules  
4 necessary for the implementation of this subchapter.

5

6 SECTION 2060. Arkansas Code § 6-81-1701 is amended to read as follows:  
7 6-81-1701. Establishment – Administration.

8 There is established a Teacher Candidate Loan Forgiveness Program to be  
9 administered by the ~~Department~~ Division of Higher Education.

10

11 SECTION 2061. Arkansas Code § 6-81-1702(a)(4) and (5), concerning  
12 eligibility for loan amounts and terms for financing the cost of attendance  
13 at an institution of higher education, is amended to read as follows:

14 (4) Is majoring in a degree program that will lead to the  
15 individual's becoming eligible for licensure as a teacher in a high-needs  
16 subject area as identified by the ~~Department of Education~~ Division of  
17 Elementary and Secondary Education; and

18 (5) Has entered into a written agreement with the ~~Department~~  
19 Division of Higher Education to:

20 (A) Teach for five (5) consecutive years in a school or  
21 school district located in a geographic area identified by the ~~Department of~~  
22 Education Division of Elementary and Secondary Education under § 6-15-403  
23 [repealed] as a critical teacher shortage area beginning immediately upon  
24 obtaining licensure; and

25 (B) Repay each loan at an interest rate and on a schedule  
26 as determined by the ~~Department~~ Division of Higher Education if the  
27 individual fails to meet the requirements under this subchapter.

28

29 SECTION 2062. Arkansas Code § 6-81-1702(b), concerning eligibility for  
30 loan amounts and terms for financing the cost of attendance at an institution  
31 of higher education, is amended to read as follows:

32 (b) If the amount of funds available for the Teacher Candidate Loan  
33 Forgiveness Program is insufficient to award loans to all qualified  
34 applicants under this subchapter, the ~~Department~~ Division of Higher Education  
35 shall award the loans on a competitive basis as determined by the ~~Department~~  
36 Division of Higher Education.

1  
2 SECTION 2063. Arkansas Code § 6-81-1703(b)(2)(B), concerning loan  
3 amounts, terms, and renewals, is amended to read as follows:

4 (B) Meets the satisfactory academic progress standards  
5 required to receive other financial aid at the institution of higher  
6 education where the individual is enrolled, as determined by the ~~Department~~  
7 Division of Higher Education in conjunction with the institution of higher  
8 education.

9  
10 SECTION 2064. Arkansas Code § 6-81-1704 is amended to read as follows:

11 6-81-1704. Loan contract – Forgiveness.

12 (a) An individual who receives a loan under this subchapter shall  
13 execute a written loan contract with the ~~Department~~ Division of Higher  
14 Education for the repayment of the loan as provided in this subchapter.

15 (b) A loan contract executed under subsection (a) of this section  
16 shall provide that the total amount of the loans awarded to the individual  
17 under this subchapter, plus accrued interest, shall be forgiven at the rate  
18 of twenty percent (20%) per year for each year that the individual teaches in  
19 a school or school district located in a geographic area identified by the  
20 ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary Education under  
21 § 6-15-403 [repealed] as a critical teacher shortage area.

22  
23 SECTION 2065. Arkansas Code § 6-81-1705 is amended to read as follows:

24 6-81-1705. Repayment – Deferment.

25 (a) An individual who receives a loan under this subchapter shall  
26 immediately begin repayment of each loan the individual received, together  
27 with interest as determined by the ~~Department~~ Division of Higher Education,  
28 if the individual:

29 (1) Ceases to be enrolled in good standing at an institution of  
30 higher education in this state, unless the individual has graduated and  
31 received a degree;

32 (2) Does not obtain licensure as a teacher from the State Board  
33 of Education within one (1) year of graduating and receiving a degree;

34 (3) Does not begin work as a licensed teacher in the academic  
35 year immediately following becoming licensed;

36 (4) Does not teach in a school or school district located in a

1 geographic area identified by the ~~Department of Education~~ Division of  
2 Elementary and Secondary Education under § 6-15-403 [repealed] as a critical  
3 teacher shortage area in the individual's first year as a licensed teacher;  
4 or

5 (5)(A) Does not teach in a school or school district located in  
6 a geographic area identified by the ~~Department of Education~~ Division of  
7 Elementary and Secondary Education under § 6-15-403 [repealed] as a critical  
8 teacher shortage area for five (5) consecutive years beginning immediately  
9 upon obtaining licensure.

10 (B) The total amount of the loans awarded to an individual  
11 that are subject to repayment under subdivision (a)(5)(A) of this section  
12 shall be reduced on a pro rata basis as required under § 6-81-1704(b).

13 (b)(1) The ~~Department~~ Division of Higher Education may defer the  
14 requirements under subdivisions (a)(3)-(5) of this section if the ~~Department~~  
15 Division of Higher Education, in consultation with the ~~Department of~~  
16 Education Division of Elementary and Secondary Education, determines that  
17 there was no employment position available that would reasonably enable the  
18 individual to meet the requirements.

19 (2) After the period of deferral, the individual shall begin or  
20 resume teaching in a school or school district located in a geographic area  
21 identified by the ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and  
22 Secondary Education under § 6-15-403 [repealed] as a critical teacher  
23 shortage area or become subject to repayment under subsection (a) of this  
24 section.

25  
26 SECTION 2066. Arkansas Code § 6-81-1706 is amended to read as follows:  
27 6-81-1706. Rules.

28 The ~~Department~~ Division of Higher Education shall promulgate rules to  
29 implement this subchapter.

30  
31 SECTION 2067. Arkansas Code § 6-82-102(a), concerning the annual  
32 review of minority scholarship or grant programs, is amended to read as  
33 follows:

34 (a) The Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board shall review  
35 annually all minority scholarship or grant programs administered by the  
36 ~~Department~~ Division of Higher Education in order to ensure that the programs

1 are in compliance with federal regulations.

2

3 SECTION 2068. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 6-82-105,  
4 concerning the administration and authority of the Department of Higher  
5 Education, is amended to read as follows:

6 The ~~Department~~ Division of Higher Education shall administer all state  
7 college financial assistance programs provided by legislation or by law and  
8 in so doing shall have the following authority and responsibility with  
9 respect to state college financial assistance programs provided by  
10 legislation or by law to:

11

12 SECTION 2069. Arkansas Code § 6-82-105(1), concerning the  
13 administration and authority of the Department of Higher Education, is  
14 amended to read as follows:

15 (1) Adopt such rules as the ~~department~~ division shall deem  
16 necessary or appropriate to carry out the purposes of this subchapter;

17

18 SECTION 2070. Arkansas Code § 6-82-105(6), concerning the  
19 administration and authority of the Department of Higher Education, is  
20 amended to read as follows:

21 (6) Require applicants to file additional information with the  
22 ~~department~~ division as necessary and appropriate to carry out the purposes of  
23 this subchapter and to prevent fraud, misrepresentation, or misleading  
24 representation by applicants;

25

26 SECTION 2071. Arkansas Code § 6-82-105(11), concerning the  
27 administration and authority of the Department of Higher Education, is  
28 amended to read as follows:

29 (11) Employ or engage such professional, administrative,  
30 clerical, and other employees as may be necessary to assist the ~~department~~  
31 division in the performance of its duties and responsibilities; and

32

33 SECTION 2072. Arkansas Code § 6-82-106 is amended to read as follows:  
34 6-82-106. Scholarship awards.

35 (a) The ~~Department~~ Division of Higher Education is authorized to award  
36 scholarships to students who are accepted to a Washington, D.C. public policy

1 academic internship, as determined by the ~~department~~ division, if funding is  
2 appropriated and available.

3 (b) The ~~department~~ division may promulgate rules to administer this  
4 section.

5  
6 SECTION 2073. Arkansas Code § 6-82-302(1), concerning the definition  
7 of "academic ability" under the laws governing the Arkansas Governor's  
8 Scholars Program, is amended to read as follows:

9 (1) "Academic ability" means the intellectual standing of a  
10 student. In determining superior academic ability, the ~~Department~~ Division of  
11 Higher Education shall examine the student's high school records, competitive  
12 examination scores, and demonstrated leadership capabilities;

13  
14 SECTION 2074. Arkansas Code § 6-82-302(4), concerning the definition  
15 of "department" under the laws governing the Arkansas Governor's Scholars  
16 Program, is repealed.

17 ~~(4) "Department" means the Department of Higher Education;~~

18  
19 SECTION 2075. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 6-82-  
20 302(5), concerning the definition of "eligible student" under the laws  
21 governing the Arkansas Governor's Scholars Program, is amended to read as  
22 follows:

23 (5) "Eligible student" means a resident of the State of Arkansas  
24 as defined by the ~~Department~~ Division of Higher Education who:

25  
26 SECTION 2076. Arkansas Code § 6-82-302(6)(B), concerning the  
27 definition of "extraordinary academic ability" under the laws governing the  
28 Arkansas Governor's Scholars Program, is amended to read as follows:

29 (B) For students graduating after December 31, 2001, the  
30 American College Test scores and Scholastic Aptitude Test scores shall be  
31 earned by December 31 prior to the application deadline in order for the  
32 scores to be considered by the ~~department~~ Division of Higher Education for a  
33 scholarship award;

34  
35 SECTION 2077. Arkansas Code § 6-82-302(7), concerning the definition  
36 of "full-time student" under the laws governing the Arkansas Governor's

1 Scholars Program, is amended to read as follows:

2 (7) "Full-time student" means a resident of Arkansas who is in  
3 attendance at an approved private or public institution and who is enrolled  
4 in at least twelve (12) credit hours the first semester and fifteen (15)  
5 hours thereafter, or other reasonable academic equivalent as defined by the  
6 ~~department~~ Division of Higher Education;

7  
8 SECTION 2078. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 6-82-304,  
9 concerning the administration and authority of the Department of Higher  
10 Education, is amended to read as follows:

11 The ~~Department~~ Division of Higher Education shall administer the  
12 Arkansas Governor's Scholars Program and shall have the following authority  
13 and responsibility with respect to the program to:

14  
15 SECTION 2079. Arkansas Code § 6-82-304(1), concerning the  
16 administration and authority of the Department of Higher Education, is  
17 amended to read as follows:

18 (1) Prepare application forms or such other forms as the  
19 ~~department~~ division shall deem necessary to properly administer and carry out  
20 the purposes of this subchapter;

21  
22 SECTION 2080. Arkansas Code § 6-82-304(8)(D)(iii), concerning the  
23 administration and authority of the Department of Higher Education, is  
24 amended to read as follows:

25 (iii) The ~~department~~ division shall release a  
26 scholarship hold if the ~~department~~ division determines that the student did  
27 not complete the commitment under the written agreement.

28  
29 SECTION 2081. Arkansas Code § 6-82-306(b)(2)(A), concerning  
30 eligibility to receive scholarships from the Arkansas Governor's Scholars  
31 Program, is amended to read as follows:

32 (2)(A) Is a bona fide resident of the state, as defined by the  
33 ~~Department~~ Division of Higher Education.

34  
35 SECTION 2082. Arkansas Code § 6-82-306(b)(5)(A), concerning  
36 eligibility to receive scholarships from the Arkansas Governor's Scholars

1 Program, is amended to read as follows:

2 (5)(A) Demonstrates proficiency in the application of knowledge  
3 and skills in reading and writing literacy and mathematics by passing the  
4 end-of-course examination as may be developed by the ~~Department of Education~~  
5 Division of Elementary and Secondary Education and as may be designated by  
6 the ~~Department~~ Division of Higher Education for this purpose.

7

8 SECTION 2083. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 6-82-  
9 306(b)(6)(A), concerning eligibility to receive scholarships from the  
10 Arkansas Governor's Scholars Program, is amended to read as follows:

11 (6)(A) Satisfies the qualifications of superior academic ability  
12 as established by the ~~Department~~ Division of Higher Education with criteria  
13 consisting of value points for academic achievement and leadership, including  
14 without limitation:

15

16 SECTION 2084. Arkansas Code § 6-82-306(b)(6)(B), concerning  
17 eligibility to receive scholarships from the Arkansas Governor's Scholars  
18 Program, is amended to read as follows:

19 (B)(i) The ~~Department~~ Division of Higher Education may  
20 alter the weight assigned to the individual criterion to more appropriately  
21 meet the needs of the state as determined by the Arkansas Higher Education  
22 Coordinating Board.

23 (ii) The ~~Department~~ Division of Higher Education  
24 shall ensure that the weight assigned to each individual criterion under this  
25 subdivision (b)(6)(B) does not place a home-schooled, public school, or  
26 private school student at a disadvantage.

27 (iii)(a) After determining qualified recipients  
28 based on the qualifications under subdivision (b)(6)(A) of this section, the  
29 ~~Department~~ Division of Higher Education shall ensure that at least one (1)  
30 recipient is selected from each of the seventy-five (75) counties in  
31 Arkansas.

32 (b) If any of the seventy-five (75) counties  
33 is not represented, the ~~Department~~ Division of Higher Education shall select  
34 a student from each nonrepresented county with the highest qualifications  
35 under subdivision (b)(6)(A) of this section who was not initially qualified.

36

1 SECTION 2085. Arkansas Code § 6-82-307 is amended to read as follows:  
2 6-82-307. Applicant's responsibilities.

3 Each applicant shall, in accordance with the provisions of this  
4 subchapter and the rules and regulations of the ~~Department~~ Division of Higher  
5 Education:

6 (1) Complete and file with the ~~department~~ division the  
7 appropriate application for the Arkansas Governor's Scholars Program and such  
8 other information and data as may be requested by the ~~department~~ division in  
9 determining the eligibility of the student;

10 (2) Furnish to the ~~department~~ division information regarding any  
11 change in status of the student or any other information that might have a  
12 direct bearing on the eligibility of the applicant; and

13 (3) Provide the ~~department~~ division with verification that the  
14 scholarship was used in accordance with the purposes of this subchapter.

15  
16 SECTION 2086. Arkansas Code § 6-82-308(b)(2) and (3), concerning the  
17 number of scholarships available for the Arkansas Governor's Scholars  
18 Program, are amended to read as follows:

19 (2) Should a shortfall of funds be projected, the ~~Department~~  
20 Division of Higher Education shall promulgate rules for the priority funding  
21 of these scholarships and submit these proposed rules to the Arkansas Higher  
22 Education Coordinating Board for a public hearing and to the Administrative  
23 Rules and Regulations Subcommittee of the Legislative Council for review  
24 before implementing the rules.

25 (3) If there are more eligible applicants than available  
26 scholarships, the ~~department~~ division may determine a procedure for awarding  
27 additional scholarships while not exceeding available funds.

28  
29 SECTION 2087. Arkansas Code § 6-82-309 is amended to read as follows:  
30 6-82-309. Award of scholarship.

31 An Arkansas Governor's Scholarship or Arkansas Governor's Distinguished  
32 Scholarship will be awarded to a student in a manner to be determined by the  
33 ~~Department~~ Division of Higher Education.

34  
35 SECTION 2088. Arkansas Code § 6-82-311(c)(4), concerning the term,  
36 renewal, and allocation of scholarships for the Arkansas Governor's Scholars

1 Program, is amended to read as follows:

2 (4) The recipient has met any other continuing eligibility  
3 criteria established by the ~~Department~~ Division of Higher Education.

4  
5 SECTION 2089. Arkansas Code § 6-82-314 is amended to read as follows:  
6 6-82-314. Withdrawal from school – Refund.

7 If a recipient of an Arkansas Governor’s Scholarship or Arkansas  
8 Governor’s Distinguished Scholarship withdraws from an approved private or  
9 public institution and under the policy of that institution the student is  
10 entitled to a refund of any tuition, fees, or other charges, the institution  
11 shall pay the refund to which the student may be entitled to the ~~Department~~  
12 Division of Higher Education to the extent of any amount the ~~department~~  
13 division has paid to the student for that academic year.

14  
15 SECTION 2090. Arkansas Code § 6-82-401(1)-(4), concerning the  
16 definitions under the Arkansas High Technology Scholarship Program, are  
17 amended to read as follows:

18 (1) “Academic ability” means the intellectual standing of a  
19 student. In determining superior academic ability, the ~~Department~~ Division of  
20 Career and Technical Education shall examine the student’s high school  
21 records, competitive examination scores, and demonstrated leadership  
22 capabilities;

23 (2) “Approved high technology program” means a course of  
24 instruction in a highly technical field offered by any postsecondary  
25 educational institution which is approved by the ~~department~~ division;

26 (3) “Approved institution” means all postsecondary educational  
27 institutions offering high technology programs which are approved by the  
28 ~~department~~ division;

29 ~~(4) “Department” means the Department of Career Education;~~

30  
31 SECTION 2091. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 6-82-403,  
32 concerning the administration and authority of the Department of Career  
33 Education, is amended to read as follows:

34 The ~~Department~~ Division of Career and Technical Education shall  
35 administer this subchapter and shall have the following authority and  
36 responsibility with respect thereto:

1  
2 SECTION 2092. Arkansas Code § 6-82-403(1), concerning the  
3 administration and authority of the Department of Career Education, is  
4 amended to read as follows:

5 (1) To prepare application forms or such other forms as the  
6 ~~department~~ division shall deem necessary to properly administer and carry out  
7 the purposes of this subchapter;

8  
9 SECTION 2093. Arkansas Code § 6-82-404(b)(4), concerning eligibility  
10 and preferences regarding the rewarding of scholarships, is amended to read  
11 as follows:

12 (4) Satisfactorily meets the qualifications of superior academic  
13 ability as established by the ~~Department~~ Division of Career and Technical  
14 Education.

15  
16 SECTION 2094. Arkansas Code § 6-82-405 is amended to read as follows:

17 6-82-405. Applicant's responsibilities.

18 Each applicant shall, in accordance with the provisions of this  
19 subchapter and the rules and regulations of the ~~Department~~ Division of Career  
20 and Technical Education:

21 (1) Complete and file with the ~~department~~ division the  
22 appropriate application for the scholarship and such other information and  
23 data as may be requested by the ~~department~~ division in determining the  
24 eligibility of the student;

25 (2) Furnish to the ~~department~~ division information regarding any  
26 change in status of the student or any other information that might have a  
27 direct bearing on the eligibility of the applicant; and

28 (3) Provide the ~~department~~ division with verification that the  
29 scholarship was used in accordance with the purposes of this subchapter.

30  
31 SECTION 2095. Arkansas Code § 6-82-406 is amended to read as follows:

32 6-82-406. Award of scholarship.

33 A scholarship shall be awarded to the student in a manner to be  
34 determined by the ~~Department~~ Division of Career and Technical Education.

35  
36 SECTION 2096. Arkansas Code § 6-82-409(c), concerning the term,

1 allocation, and renewal of scholarships, is amended to read as follows:

2 (c) A scholarship shall be awarded for one (1) academic year and  
3 renewed annually for up to three (3) additional academic years if the student  
4 maintains not less than a 3.0 grade point average on a 4.0 scholastic grading  
5 scale, or an equivalent academic standing, and meets other criteria as  
6 established by the ~~Department~~ Division of Career and Technical Education.

7

8 SECTION 2097. Arkansas Code § 6-82-410 is amended to read as follows:

9 6-82-410. Withdrawal from school – Refund.

10 If a recipient of a scholarship withdraws from an approved institution  
11 and under the policy of that institution the student is entitled to a refund  
12 of any tuition, fees, or other charges, the institution shall pay the refund  
13 to which the student may be entitled to the ~~Department~~ Division of Career and  
14 Technical Education, to the extent of any amount the ~~department~~ division has  
15 paid to the student for that academic year.

16

17 SECTION 2098. Arkansas Code § 6-82-506 is amended to read as follows:

18 6-82-506. Written application for benefits.

19 Any person claiming benefits awarded by the Arkansas State Claims  
20 Commission under the provisions of this subchapter shall make written  
21 application with the ~~Department~~ Division of Higher Education on forms  
22 provided by the ~~department~~ division.

23

24 SECTION 2099. Arkansas Code § 6-82-507(2), concerning the renewal of a  
25 scholarship, is amended to read as follows:

26 (2) Meet any other continuing eligibility criteria established  
27 by the ~~Department~~ Division of Higher Education.

28

29 SECTION 2100. Arkansas Code § 6-82-601(b), concerning the tuition  
30 waiver for dependents of certain veterans, is amended to read as follows:

31 (b) Each applicant must apply for the Survivors' and Dependents'  
32 Educational Assistance program (DEA) Chapter 35 of Title 38 of the United  
33 States Code with the United States Department of Veterans Affairs. The  
34 applicant must provide the ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of Higher Education  
35 with proof of acceptance of DEA or non-eligibility into DEA upon application  
36 to this program.

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SECTION 2101. Arkansas Code § 6-82-601(f), concerning the tuition waiver for dependents of certain veterans, is amended to read as follows:

(f) An eligible recipient shall receive a scholarship for one (1) academic year, renewable for up to three (3) additional academic years if the recipient meets continuing eligibility criteria established by the ~~Department~~ Division of Higher Education.

SECTION 2102. Arkansas Code § 6-82-601(h), concerning tuition waiver for dependents of certain veterans, is amended to read as follows:

(h) In compliance with the ~~Department~~ Division of Higher Education's scholarship stacking policy, no student's total financial aid package, which can include multiple scholarships, can exceed the recognized cost of attendance at a higher education institution.

SECTION 2103. Arkansas Code § 6-82-1503(e)(3), concerning the eligibility for scholarships and the amount, is amended to read as follows:

(3) The maximum number of awards that may be made to students attending school on a part-time basis and the maximum time period for part-time students to complete the number of academic hours necessary to obtain a baccalaureate degree in education shall be established by rules and regulations jointly promulgated by the university and the ~~Department~~ Division of Higher Education.

SECTION 2104. Arkansas Code § 6-82-1504(a), concerning the service requirement for scholarship recipients, is amended to read as follows:

(a) Except in those cases where employment positions may not be available upon completion of licensure requirements, at the beginning of the first school year in which a recipient of a Critical Needs Minority Teacher Scholarship is eligible for employment as a licensed teacher, that person shall begin to render service as a licensed teacher in a public school district in a geographical area of the state where there is a critical shortage of teachers or in the Delta, as designated by the ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary Education.

SECTION 2105. Arkansas Code § 6-82-1504(c), concerning the service

1 requirement for scholarship recipients, is amended to read as follows:

2 (c) Students receiving a scholarship shall execute a note made payable  
3 to the university for an amount equal to the scholarship award each semester  
4 that shall bear interest at a rate to be determined by the ~~Department~~  
5 Division of Higher Education beginning September 1 after completion of the  
6 program or immediately after termination of the scholarship loan, whichever  
7 is earlier.

8

9 SECTION 2106. Arkansas Code § 6-82-1505(a), concerning rules,  
10 regulations, administration, and reports regarding the Critical Needs  
11 Minority Teacher Scholarship Program, is amended to read as follows:

12 (a) The University of Arkansas at Pine Bluff and the ~~Department~~  
13 Division of Higher Education shall jointly promulgate rules and regulations  
14 necessary for the proper administration of the Critical Needs Minority  
15 Teacher Scholarship Program.

16

17 SECTION 2107. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 6-82-  
18 1801(1), concerning the definition of "approved institution of higher  
19 education" under the laws governing the Arkansas Future Grant Program, is  
20 amended to read as follows:

21 (1) "Approved institution of higher education" means an  
22 institution of higher education approved by the ~~Department~~ Division of Higher  
23 Education to participate in the Arkansas Future Grant Program and that is:

24

25 SECTION 2108. Arkansas Code § 6-82-1801(2)(E), concerning the  
26 definition of "approved state-supported school of nursing" under the laws  
27 governing the Arkansas Future Grant Program, is amended to read as follows:

28 (E) Has been approved by the ~~Department~~ Division of Higher  
29 Education as eligible to participate in the Arkansas Future Grant Program;  
30 and

31

32 SECTION 2109. Arkansas Code § 6-82-1801(5)(A), concerning the  
33 definition of "state-supported student financial assistance" under the laws  
34 governing the Arkansas Future Grant Program, is amended to read as follows:

35 (A) The ~~Department~~ Division of Higher Education; or

36

1 SECTION 2110. Arkansas Code § 6-82-1802(a), concerning the creation of  
2 and eligibility for the Arkansas Future Grant Program, is amended to read as  
3 follows:

4 (a) There is established the Arkansas Future Grant Program within the  
5 ~~Department~~ Division of Higher Education.

6  
7 SECTION 2111. Arkansas Code § 6-82-1802(b)(1)(A)(ii), concerning the  
8 creation of and eligibility for the Arkansas Future Grant Program, is amended  
9 to read as follows:

10 (ii) Received a high school equivalency diploma  
11 approved by the ~~Department of Career Education~~ Adult Education Section of the  
12 Division of Workforce Services; or

13  
14 SECTION 2112. Arkansas Code § 6-82-1803(b) and (c), concerning the  
15 Arkansas Future Grant, are amended to read as follows:

16 (b) The ~~Department~~ Division of Higher Education shall disburse the  
17 grant directly to the approved institution of higher education.

18 (c) The ~~department~~ division shall award grants under this subchapter  
19 in the order in which the ~~department~~ division receives applications from  
20 eligible students.

21  
22 SECTION 2113. Arkansas Code § 6-82-1804 is amended to read as follows:  
23 6-82-1804. Recipients.

24 (a) A student who receives an Arkansas Future Grant shall enter into a  
25 written agreement with the ~~Department~~ Division of Higher Education to:

26 (1)(A) Receive monthly mentoring from a mentor from an  
27 organization determined by the ~~Department~~ Division of Higher Education.

28 (B) A mentor under subdivision (a)(1)(A) of this section  
29 shall:

30 (i) Receive annual mentoring training:

31 (a) Developed by the ~~Department~~ Division of  
32 Higher Education; and

33 (b) Provided by a local volunteer group  
34 approved by the ~~Department~~ Division of Higher Education; and

35 (ii) Certify to the ~~Department~~ Division of Higher  
36 Education that at least one (1) time each calendar month the mentor has

1 provided mentoring services by telephone, email, or in person to each student  
2 he or she is mentoring;

3 (2)(A) Complete at least fifteen (15) hours of community service  
4 each semester the student receives a grant.

5 (B)(i) A student may select a community service project  
6 that meets requirements developed by the ~~Department~~ Division of Higher  
7 Education.

8 (ii) An approved institution of higher education may  
9 provide community services opportunities designed to benefit the approved  
10 institution of higher education community or the broader local community.

11 (C) A student shall certify his or her community service  
12 to the approved institution of higher education by the last regular day of  
13 the semester the student received the grant; and

14 (3)(A) Reside in this state for three (3) consecutive years and  
15 be employed beginning within six (6) months after receiving an associate  
16 degree or a certification.

17 (B) The ~~Department~~ Division of Higher Education may defer  
18 the requirement under subdivision (a)(3)(A) of this section if:

19 (i) The ~~Department~~ Division of Higher Education, in  
20 consultation with the ~~Department~~ Division of Workforce Services, determines  
21 that there was no employment position available that would reasonably enable  
22 the student to meet this requirement; or

23 (ii) Special circumstances as determined by the  
24 ~~Department~~ Division of Higher Education exist.

25 (C) After the period of deferral, the student shall begin  
26 or resume working in this state or become subject to repayment under  
27 subsection (b) of this section.

28 (b) The written agreement under subsection (a) of this section shall  
29 provide that the grant converts into a loan and the student shall repay the  
30 grant amount:

31 (1) On a pro rata basis at an interest rate and on a schedule as  
32 determined by the ~~Department~~ Division of Higher Education for each year the  
33 student does not reside in this state for three (3) consecutive years and  
34 become employed beginning within six (6) months after receiving an associate  
35 degree or a certification; or

36 (2) In its entirety at an interest rate and on a schedule as

1 determined by the ~~Department~~ Division of Higher Education if the recipient  
2 does not comply with the written agreement under subsection (a) of this  
3 section.

4  
5 SECTION 2114. Arkansas Code § 6-82-1805 is amended to read as follows:  
6 6-82-1805. Rules.

7 The ~~Department~~ Division of Higher Education shall promulgate rules to  
8 implement this subchapter.

9  
10 SECTION 2115. Arkansas Code § 6-82-1901(b)(3), concerning scholarships  
11 for teachers in high-needs subject areas, is amended to read as follows:

12 (3)(A) Enter into a written agreement with the ~~Department~~  
13 Division of Higher Education to teach at a public school for a minimum of  
14 five (5) consecutive years in a high-needs subject area as determined under  
15 subdivision (b)(3)(B) of this section.

16 (B) A recipient shall be deemed to be teaching in a high-  
17 needs subject area if the subject area in which the recipient is employed to  
18 teach was determined by the ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary  
19 and Secondary Education to be a high-needs subject area in:

20 (i) The year the recipient entered into the  
21 agreement with the ~~Department~~ Division of Higher Education under subdivision  
22 (b)(3)(A) of this section;

23 (ii) Any year the recipient received a scholarship  
24 award under this subchapter; or

25 (iii) The year the recipient is licensed as a  
26 teacher by the State Board of Education.

27  
28 SECTION 2116. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 6-82-  
29 1901(c), concerning scholarships for teachers in high-needs subject areas, is  
30 amended to read as follows:

31 (c) The written agreement entered into by the recipient and the  
32 ~~Department~~ Division of Higher Education under subdivision (b)(3) of this  
33 section shall provide that the recipient:

34  
35 SECTION 2117. Arkansas Code § 6-82-1901(c)(2)(A), concerning  
36 scholarships for teachers in high-needs subject areas, is amended to read as

1 follows:

2 (A) On a pro rata basis at an interest rate and on a  
3 schedule as determined by the ~~Department~~ Division of Higher Education for  
4 each year the recipient does not teach at a public school in a high-needs  
5 subject area if the recipient does not teach at a public school in a high-  
6 needs subject area as determined by the ~~Department of Education~~ Division of  
7 Elementary and Secondary Education for five (5) consecutive years after first  
8 becoming employed as a licensed teacher; or

9

10 SECTION 2118. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 6-82-  
11 1901(c)(2)(B), concerning scholarships for teachers in high-needs subject  
12 areas, is amended to read as follows:

13 (B) In its entirety at an interest rate and on a schedule  
14 as determined by the ~~Department~~ Division of Higher Education if the recipient  
15 does not:

16

17 SECTION 2119. Arkansas Code § 6-82-1901(c)(2)(B)(ii) and (iii),  
18 concerning scholarships for teachers in high-needs subject areas, are amended  
19 to read as follows:

20 (ii) Begin work at a public school as a licensed  
21 teacher in a high-needs subject area, as determined by the ~~Department of~~  
22 ~~Education~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary Education, in the academic  
23 year immediately following becoming licensed; or

24 (iii) Teach at a public school in a high-needs  
25 subject area as determined by the ~~Department of Education~~ Division of  
26 Elementary and Secondary Education in the recipient's first year as a  
27 licensed teacher.

28

29 SECTION 2120. Arkansas Code § 6-82-1901(d)(1), concerning scholarships  
30 for teachers in high-needs subject areas, is amended to read as follows:

31 (d)(1) The ~~Department~~ Division of Higher Education may defer the  
32 requirements under subdivisions (c)(2)(B)(ii) and (iii) of this section if  
33 the ~~Department~~ Division of Higher Education, in consultation with the  
34 ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary Education,  
35 determines that there was no employment position available at a public school  
36 that would reasonably enable the recipient to meet the requirements.

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SECTION 2121. Arkansas Code § 6-82-1901(e)-(h), concerning scholarships for teachers in high-needs subject areas, are amended to read as follows:

(e)(1) By March 1 of each year, the ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary Education shall provide to the ~~Department~~ Division of Higher Education a maximum on the number of scholarships that should be awarded under this subchapter for the following academic year based on the projected needs of licensed teachers at public schools in high-needs subject areas.

(2) The ~~Department~~ Division of Higher Education shall not award for an academic year more scholarships than the maximum number provided by the ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary Education under subdivision (e)(1) of this section.

(f) If the ~~Department~~ Division of Higher Education receives applications from more qualified applicants than the number of scholarships available or if funds are not available to award scholarships to all qualified applicants, the ~~Department~~ Division of Higher Education shall award the scholarships on a competitive basis as determined by the ~~Department~~ Division of Higher Education.

(g) If a recipient of a scholarship under this subchapter withdraws from an approved institution of higher education so that under the rules of that approved institution of higher education the recipient is entitled to a refund of any tuition, fees, or other charges, the approved institution of higher education shall pay the refund to which the recipient may be entitled to the ~~Department~~ Division of Higher Education to the extent of any amount the ~~Department~~ Division of Higher Education has paid to the recipient for that academic year.

(h) The ~~Department~~ Division of Higher Education shall promulgate rules to implement this subchapter.

SECTION 2122. Arkansas Code § 6-84-104(b), concerning the creation of the Arkansas Tax-Deferred Tuition Savings Program Trust, is amended to read as follows:

(b) The co-trustees of the trust shall be the Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of Higher Education, the Executive Director of the

1 Arkansas Teacher Retirement System, and the Treasurer of State.

2  
3 SECTION 2123. Arkansas Code § 6-84-105(a)(1), concerning the  
4 administration, authority, and powers of the Section 529 Plan Review  
5 Committee, is amended to read as follows:

6 (1) The Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of Higher Education;  
7

8 SECTION 2124. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 6-85-  
9 104(1), concerning the definition of "approved institution" under the laws  
10 governing the Arkansas Academic Challenge Scholarship Program – Part 1, is  
11 amended to read as follows:

12 (1) "Approved institution" means an institution of higher  
13 education approved by the ~~Department~~ Division of Higher Education to  
14 participate in the Arkansas Academic Challenge Scholarship Program that is:  
15

16 SECTION 2125. Arkansas Code § 6-85-104(2)(B), concerning the  
17 definition of "eligible student" under the laws governing the Arkansas  
18 Academic Challenge Scholarship Program, is amended to read as follows:

19 (B) Is deemed to be eligible by rules authorized by this  
20 subchapter and promulgated by the ~~Department~~ Division of Higher Education;  
21

22 SECTION 2126. Arkansas Code § 6-85-104(3), concerning the definition  
23 of "financial need" under the laws governing the Arkansas Academic Challenge  
24 Scholarship Program, is amended to read as follows:

25 (3) "Financial need" means the family income of program  
26 applicants as determined by the ~~Department~~ Division of Higher Education  
27 through evaluation of program applications and supporting documentation;  
28

29 SECTION 2127. Arkansas Code § 6-85-104(4)(A), concerning the  
30 definition of "full-time undergraduate student" under the laws governing the  
31 Arkansas Academic Challenge Scholarship Program, is amended to read as  
32 follows:

33 (4)(A) "Full-time undergraduate student" means a resident of  
34 Arkansas who attends an approved institution and who is enrolled for at least  
35 twelve (12) credit hours the first semester and fifteen (15) credit hours  
36 thereafter or the equivalent, as defined by the ~~Department~~ Division of Higher

1 Education, in a program of study that leads to or is creditable toward a  
2 baccalaureate degree, an associate degree in nursing, or a nursing school  
3 diploma.

4  
5 SECTION 2128. Arkansas Code § 6-85-105 is amended to read as follows:

6 6-85-105. Authority of ~~Department~~ Division of Higher Education.

7 (a) The ~~Department~~ Division of Higher Education is authorized by this  
8 subchapter to develop and promulgate rules for the administration of the  
9 Arkansas Academic Challenge Scholarship Program, consistent with the purposes  
10 and requirements of this subchapter.

11 (b) The rules shall include student eligibility criteria based on the  
12 provisions of this subchapter, the method for selecting scholarship  
13 recipients, rules for determining continuing eligibility, procedures for  
14 making payment to recipients, and other administrative procedures that may be  
15 necessary for the implementation and operation of the program.

16 (c) Until the end of fiscal year 2011, the ~~Department~~ Division of  
17 Higher Education is authorized to expend each year for data processing and  
18 other administrative costs of this program up to one and five-tenths percent  
19 (1.5%) of the amount appropriated for the programs.

20 (d) Applicants must certify that they are drug-free and must pledge in  
21 writing on the application form to refrain from the use or abuse of illegal  
22 substances in order to maintain eligibility for this program.

23 (e)(1) The ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and  
24 Secondary Education and the ~~Department~~ Division of Higher Education are  
25 directed to develop appropriate informational materials on the Arkansas  
26 Academic Challenge Scholarship Program and to ensure their distribution to  
27 Arkansas students in grades seven through twelve (7-12) each year as part of  
28 the packet of materials on precollegiate preparation distributed by the  
29 ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary Education as  
30 mandated by § 6-61-217.

31 (2) The distribution of information shall be accomplished  
32 through the collaboration of school counselors and other appropriate school  
33 personnel.

34 (f) The Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of Higher Education is  
35 authorized to review and evaluate the operation of the program with regard to  
36 eligibility criteria and size of the scholarship award to ensure that the

1 program's operation meets the intent of this subchapter.

2 (g) The ~~Department~~ Division of Higher Education is authorized to  
3 determine the necessary procedures for the awarding of scholarships should  
4 the number of eligible applicants exceed the funds available.

5 (h) The ~~Department~~ Division of Higher Education shall report to the  
6 General Assembly annually regarding the implementation of the provisions of  
7 this subchapter.

8

9 SECTION 2129. Arkansas Code § 6-85-106(a), concerning eligibility for  
10 the Arkansas Academic Challenge Scholarship Program, is amended to read as  
11 follows:

12 (a) Eligibility for the Arkansas Academic Challenge Scholarship  
13 Program is based on the criteria under this section and rules promulgated  
14 under this subchapter by the ~~Department~~ Division of Higher Education.

15

16 SECTION 2130. Arkansas Code § 6-85-106(b)(4), concerning eligibility  
17 for the Arkansas Academic Challenge Scholarship Program, is amended to read  
18 as follows:

19 (4) The applicant is accepted for admission at an approved  
20 institution as a full-time first-time freshman as defined by the ~~Department~~  
21 Division of Higher Education and enrolls in an approved institution within  
22 twelve (12) months of the applicant's high school graduation;

23

24 SECTION 2131. Arkansas Code § 6-85-106(b)(5)(B)(i) and (ii),  
25 concerning eligibility for the Arkansas Academic Challenge Scholarship  
26 Program, are amended to read as follows:

27 (i) Successfully completed the Smart Core curriculum  
28 as established by the ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and  
29 Secondary Education; and

30 (ii)(a) Demonstrated proficiency in the application  
31 of knowledge and skills in reading and writing literacy and mathematics by  
32 passing the end-of-course assessments developed by the ~~Department of~~  
33 Education Division of Elementary and Secondary Education.

34 (b) "End-of-course" assessments means those  
35 assessments defined in § 6-15-419.

36

1 SECTION 2132. Arkansas Code § 6-85-106(b)(5)(C)(ii), concerning  
2 eligibility for the Arkansas Academic Challenge Scholarship Program, is  
3 amended to read as follows:

4 (ii) A minimum composite score of nineteen (19) or  
5 higher on the American College Test or the equivalent as defined by the  
6 ~~Department~~ Division of Higher Education.

7  
8 SECTION 2133. Arkansas Code § 6-85-106(b)(5)(D), concerning  
9 eligibility for the Arkansas Academic Challenge Scholarship Program, is  
10 amended to read as follows:

11 (D)(i) The grade point average requirements of subdivision  
12 (b)(5)(C) of this section may be reduced to no lower than a 2.5 on a 4.0  
13 scale by a rules change by the ~~Department~~ Division of Higher Education if it  
14 is determined by the ~~Department~~ Division of Higher Education, based on the  
15 most recent evaluation of the program's operation, that the change to a 3.0  
16 or 2.75 grade point average on a 4.0 scale would unduly reduce the number of  
17 low-income or disadvantaged students who would otherwise be eligible for the  
18 program.

19 (ii) At the ~~Department~~ Division of Higher  
20 Education's discretion, the ~~Department~~ Division of Higher Education may make  
21 the reduction for admissions to institutions with a high percentage of  
22 students receiving full Pell Grants upon petition to the ~~Department~~ Division  
23 of Higher Education by the institution.

24  
25 SECTION 2134. Arkansas Code § 6-85-106(b)(5)(E)(i), concerning  
26 eligibility for the Arkansas Academic Challenge Scholarship Program, is  
27 amended to read as follows:

28 (E)(i) The ~~Department~~ Division of Higher Education may  
29 develop selection criteria through program rules that combine an applicant's  
30 American College Test or equivalent score and grade point average in the core  
31 curriculum into a selection index.

32  
33 SECTION 2135. Arkansas Code § 6-85-106(b)(6)(A), concerning  
34 eligibility for the Arkansas Academic Challenge Scholarship Program, is  
35 amended to read as follows:

36 (6)(A) An applicant shall demonstrate financial need as defined

1 by the ~~Department~~ Division of Higher Education.

2  
3 SECTION 2136. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 6-85-  
4 106(b)(6)(B), concerning eligibility for the Arkansas Academic Challenge  
5 Scholarship Program, is amended to read as follows:

6 (B) The ~~Department~~ Division of Higher Education shall use  
7 the following criteria in calculating financial need for applicants who  
8 graduated from an Arkansas high school after December 31, 2000, but before  
9 December 31, 2004:

10  
11 SECTION 2137. Arkansas Code § 6-85-106(b)(6)(B)(iv), concerning  
12 eligibility for the Arkansas Academic Challenge Scholarship Program, is  
13 amended to read as follows:

14 (iv) Any applicant whose family includes more than  
15 one (1) unemancipated child enrolled full time at an approved institution  
16 shall be entitled to an additional ten thousand dollars (\$10,000) of adjusted  
17 gross income for each additional unemancipated child enrolled full time at an  
18 approved institution when the ~~Department~~ Division of Higher Education  
19 calculates financial need.

20  
21 SECTION 2138. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 6-85-  
22 106(b)(6)(C), concerning eligibility for the Arkansas Academic Challenge  
23 Scholarship Program, is amended to read as follows:

24 (C) In calculating financial need for applicants who  
25 graduate from an Arkansas high school after December 31, 2006, a Free  
26 Application for Federal Student Aid or a subsequent application required by  
27 the United States Department of Education for federal financial aid shall be  
28 filed by the applicant or other proof of family income as defined by the  
29 ~~Department~~ Division of Higher Education. The following criteria shall be  
30 used:

31  
32 SECTION 2139. Arkansas Code § 6-85-106(b)(6)(C)(iv), concerning  
33 eligibility for the Arkansas Academic Challenge Scholarship Program, is  
34 amended to read as follows:

35 (iv) Any applicant whose family includes more than  
36 one (1) unemancipated child enrolled full time at an approved institution of

1 higher education shall be entitled to an additional ten thousand dollars  
2 (\$10,000) of adjusted gross income for each additional unemancipated child  
3 enrolled full time at an approved institution of higher education when the  
4 ~~Department~~ Division of Higher Education calculates financial need.

5  
6 SECTION 2140. Arkansas Code § 6-85-106(c)(2), concerning eligibility  
7 for the Arkansas Academic Challenge Scholarship Program, is amended to read  
8 as follows:

9 (2) Financial need criteria necessary for the selection of  
10 recipients, including those defined as emancipated or independent by federal  
11 student aid regulations, shall be established through rules issued by the  
12 ~~Department~~ Division of Higher Education.

13  
14 SECTION 2141. Arkansas Code § 6-85-106(e)(2)(C), concerning  
15 eligibility for the Arkansas Academic Challenge Scholarship Program, is  
16 amended to read as follows:

17 (C) Shall receive the prerequisite training in literacy  
18 and college readiness from an accredited Arkansas institution of higher  
19 education based on training modules developed by the ~~Department of Education~~  
20 Division of Elementary and Secondary Education; and

21  
22 SECTION 2142. Arkansas Code § 6-85-107(a)(3), concerning the duration  
23 and amount of the Arkansas Academic Challenge Scholarship Program, is amended  
24 to read as follows:

25 (3) The recipient meets any other continuing eligibility  
26 criteria established by the ~~Department~~ Division of Higher Education.

27  
28 SECTION 2143. Arkansas Code § 6-85-108 is amended to read as follows:

29 6-85-108. Nursing school eligibility.

30 (a)(1) The General Assembly recognizes that the State of Arkansas is  
31 experiencing a critical shortage of nurses.

32 (2) It is the intent of this section to allow the ~~Department~~  
33 Division of Higher Education the opportunity to include associate degree  
34 granting and diploma schools of nursing in the Arkansas Academic Challenge  
35 Scholarship Program under specific circumstances.

36 (b) The ~~department~~ division shall make awards to applicants attending

1 either an associate degree or diploma school preparing registered nurses that  
2 is approved by the Arkansas State Board of Nursing and which would not  
3 otherwise be an approved institution if:

4 (1) The nursing school is specifically recognized by the  
5 ~~department~~ division as a school of nursing eligible to participate in the  
6 Arkansas Academic Challenge Scholarship Program; and

7 (2) The recipient meets continuing eligibility requirements in §  
8 6-85-106.

9 (c) The scholarships awarded to recipients under this section shall be  
10 subject to § 6-85-105(g).

11 (d) The Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board and the  
12 ~~department~~ division shall promulgate rules necessary for the implementation  
13 of this section.

14  
15 SECTION 2144. Arkansas Code § 6-85-109 is amended to read as follows:  
16 6-85-109. Priority for teaching commitment.

17 (a) During times of funding shortages under the Arkansas Academic  
18 Challenge Scholarship Program, the ~~Department~~ Division of Higher Education  
19 shall give a priority to awards to applicants meeting all eligibility  
20 requirements under the program who agree to accept a forgivable loan, as set  
21 forth in this section, in lieu of a scholarship and who agree to teach, as  
22 required under § 6-85-110, in a:

23 (1) Subject matter area designated by the ~~Department of~~  
24 Education Division of Elementary and Secondary Education as having a critical  
25 shortage of teachers; or

26 (2) Geographical area of the state designated by the ~~Department~~  
27 of Education Division of Elementary and Secondary Education as having a  
28 critical shortage of teachers.

29 (b) The ~~Department~~ Division of Higher Education shall make awards  
30 under this subchapter as follows:

31 (1) First, to applicants who agree to the provisions of this  
32 section; and

33 (2) Then to applicants eligible under § 6-85-106(b).

34 (c) Forgivable loans awarded under this section shall be paid from  
35 appropriations to the program.

36

1 SECTION 2145. Arkansas Code § 6-85-110(a)(1)(A) and (B), concerning  
2 teaching requirements, are amended to read as follows:

3 (A) In a subject matter area designated by the ~~Department~~  
4 ~~of Education~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary Education as having a  
5 critical shortage of teachers if the recipient's award was made under § 6-85-  
6 109(a)(1); or

7 (B) In a geographical area of the state designated by the  
8 ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary Education as  
9 having a critical shortage of teachers if the recipient's award was made  
10 under § 6-85-109(a)(2).

11  
12 SECTION 2146 Arkansas Code § 6-85-110(a)(2)(B), concerning teaching  
13 requirements, is amended to read as follows:

14 (B) Any person who received a forgivable loan under § 6-  
15 85-109 in an amount less than four (4) annual awards or the equivalent of  
16 four (4) annual awards shall render one (1) year's service as a licensed  
17 teacher for each year that the person received a full-time student forgivable  
18 loan or for the number of academic hours equivalent to one (1) school year,  
19 as determined by the ~~Department~~ Division of Higher Education, for which a  
20 part-time student received a forgivable loan.

21  
22 SECTION 2147. Arkansas Code § 6-85-110(b), concerning teaching  
23 requirements, is amended to read as follows:

24 (b) Any person receiving a forgivable loan shall execute a note made  
25 payable to the ~~Department~~ Division of Higher Education for an amount equal to  
26 the scholarship award each semester that shall bear interest at a rate to be  
27 determined by the ~~Department~~ Division of Higher Education and set forth in  
28 the note after completion of the program or immediately after termination of  
29 the forgivable loan, whichever is earlier.

30  
31 SECTION 2148. Arkansas Code § 6-85-110(d), concerning teaching  
32 requirements, is amended to read as follows:

33 (d)(1) Except as provided in subdivision (d)(2) of this section, any  
34 person failing to complete the teaching obligation as required by this  
35 subchapter shall become immediately liable to the ~~Department~~ Division of  
36 Higher Education for the sum of all forgivable loan awards made to that

1 person less the corresponding amount of any awards for which service has been  
2 rendered according to the note's terms.

3 (2) The ~~Department~~ Division of Higher Education may defer  
4 payment on the note if an employment position is not immediately available  
5 upon a teacher's completion of licensure requirements or for other just cause  
6 as determined by the ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and  
7 Secondary Education.

8 (3) After the period of deferral, the person shall begin or  
9 resume teaching duties as required under this section or shall become liable  
10 to the ~~Department~~ Division of Higher Education under this section.

11  
12 SECTION 2149. Arkansas Code § 6-85-111 is amended to read as follows:

13 6-85-111. End-of-course assessment requirements.

14 The ~~Department~~ Division of Higher Education may recognize a sub-score  
15 of nineteen (19) or higher in the applicable subject area on the American  
16 College Test as meeting the requirements for passing end-of-course  
17 assessments under the Arkansas Academic Challenge Scholarship Program and the  
18 Arkansas Governor's Scholars Program for a student who:

19 (1) Has not had an opportunity to take an end-of-course  
20 assessment;

21 (2) Has not passed the end-of-course assessment; or

22 (3) Is attending a private school or home school.

23  
24 SECTION 2150. Arkansas Code § 6-85-204(2), concerning the definition  
25 of "ACT equivalent" under the laws governing the Arkansas Academic Challenge  
26 Scholarship Program – Part 2, is amended to read as follows:

27 (2) "ACT equivalent" means the Scholastic Aptitude Test (SAT),  
28 COMPASS, Accuplacer, or other nationally normed test that is correlated with  
29 the ACT and approved by the ~~Department~~ Division of Higher Education for use  
30 by institutions of higher education to assess a person's college readiness;

31  
32 SECTION 2151. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 6-85-  
33 204(3), concerning the definition of "approved institution of higher  
34 education" under the laws governing the Arkansas Academic Challenge  
35 Scholarship Program, is amended to read as follows:

36 (3) "Approved institution of higher education" means an

1 institution of higher education approved by the ~~Department~~ Division of Higher  
2 Education to participate in the Arkansas Academic Challenge Scholarship  
3 Program – Part 2 and that is:

4  
5 SECTION 2152. Arkansas Code § 6-85-204(4)(E), concerning the  
6 definition of "approved school of nursing" under the laws governing the  
7 Arkansas Academic Challenge Scholarship Program, is amended to read as  
8 follows:

9 (E) Has been approved by the ~~Department~~ Division of Higher  
10 Education as eligible to participate in the Arkansas Academic Challenge  
11 Scholarship Program; and

12  
13 SECTION 2153. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 6-85-  
14 204(5), concerning the definition of "Arkansas resident" under the laws  
15 governing the Arkansas Academic Challenge Scholarship Program, is amended to  
16 read as follows:

17 (5) "Arkansas resident" means a natural person who provides  
18 evidence deemed sufficient by the ~~Department~~ Division of Higher Education  
19 that:

20  
21 SECTION 2154. Arkansas Code § 6-85-204(20), concerning the definition  
22 of "scholarship hold" under the laws governing the Arkansas Academic  
23 Challenge Scholarship Program, is amended to read as follows:

24 (20) "Scholarship hold" means the temporary suspension of a  
25 scholarship award to a traditional student under this subchapter approved by  
26 the ~~Department~~ Division of Higher Education under § 6-85-221;

27  
28 SECTION 2155. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 6-85-  
29 204(21), concerning the definition of "semester" under the laws governing the  
30 Arkansas Academic Challenge Scholarship Program, is amended to read as  
31 follows:

32 (21) "Semester" means one-half ( $\frac{1}{2}$ ) of a traditional academic  
33 year at an institution of higher education, or an equivalent approved by the  
34 ~~Department~~ Division of Higher Education, in which a student enrolls for not  
35 less than:

36

1 SECTION 2156. Arkansas Code § 6-85-204(22)(B)(i), concerning the  
2 definition of "Smart Core" under the laws governing the Arkansas Academic  
3 Challenge Scholarship Program, is amended to read as follows:

4 (i) Established by rules of the ~~state board~~ State  
5 Board of Education in coordination with the ~~Department~~ Division of Higher  
6 Education; and

7  
8 SECTION 2157. Arkansas Code § 6-85-204(23)(A), concerning the  
9 definition of "state-supported student financial assistance" under the laws  
10 governing the Arkansas Academic Challenge Scholarship Program, is amended to  
11 read as follows:

12 (A) The ~~Department~~ Division of Higher Education; or

13  
14 SECTION 2158. Arkansas Code § 6-85-204(26)(B), concerning the  
15 definition of "traditional student" under the laws governing the Arkansas  
16 Academic Challenge Scholarship Program, is amended to read as follows:

17 (B) "Traditional student" includes a student who otherwise  
18 meets this definition but delays entering postsecondary education under a  
19 scholarship hold approved by the ~~Department~~ Division of Higher Education.

20  
21 SECTION 2159. Arkansas Code § 6-85-205 is amended to read as follows:  
22 6-85-205. Authority and duties of the ~~Department~~ Division of Higher  
23 Education.

24 (a) The ~~Department~~ Division of Higher Education shall develop and  
25 promulgate rules for the administration of the Arkansas Academic Challenge  
26 Scholarship Program consistent with the purposes and requirements of this  
27 subchapter.

28 (b) The rules developed and promulgated by the ~~Department~~ Division of  
29 Higher Education under this section shall pertain to:

30 (1) Student eligibility criteria based on this subchapter;

31 (2) The method for selecting scholarship recipients and for  
32 determining continuing eligibility;

33 (3) The procedures for making payment to an approved institution  
34 of higher education where the recipient is enrolled; and

35 (4) Other administrative procedures that may be necessary for  
36 the implementation and operation of the program.

1 (c) The ~~Department~~ Division of Higher Education shall implement a  
2 complete financial aid management system that uses a single application form  
3 that may be accessed as a web-based application for all Arkansas state-  
4 supported student financial assistance administered by the ~~Department~~  
5 Division of Higher Education, including:

6 (1) Scholarships awarded under this subchapter or other state  
7 law that are funded with net proceeds from the state lottery; and

8 (2) Scholarships, grants, or other financial assistance for  
9 higher education students funded with nonlottery state educational resources.

10 (d)(1) The ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and  
11 Secondary Education and the ~~Department~~ Division of Higher Education are  
12 directed to develop appropriate informational materials on the Arkansas  
13 Academic Challenge Scholarship Program and to ensure distribution of the  
14 materials to Arkansas students in grade seven through grade twelve (7-12)  
15 each year as a part of the packet of materials on precollegiate preparation  
16 distributed by the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board under § 6-61-  
17 217 and by the ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary  
18 Education under the Higher Education Awareness Act of 1993, § 6-5-401 et seq.

19 (2) The distribution of informational materials under this  
20 section shall be accomplished through the collaboration of school counselors  
21 and other appropriate public school or ~~Department~~ Division of Higher  
22 Education personnel.

23 (3) The ~~Department~~ Division of Higher Education shall provide a  
24 copy of the informational materials developed under this section to the  
25 Legislative Council for review.

26 (e) The Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of Higher Education shall  
27 review and evaluate the operation of the program with regard to eligibility  
28 criteria and size of the scholarship award to ensure that the program's  
29 operation meets the intent of this subchapter.

30 (f) The ~~Department~~ Division of Higher Education may determine the  
31 necessary procedures for the awarding of scholarships if the number of  
32 eligible applicants exceeds the funds available based on the criteria under  
33 this subchapter.

34 (g)(1)(A) By July 15 of each year, the Director of the ~~Department~~  
35 Division of Higher Education shall provide a report to the Legislative  
36 Council on:

1 (i) The implementation of this subchapter;  
2 (ii) The number of recipients that either:  
3 (a) Dropped out during the academic year; or  
4 (b) Lost the scholarship during the academic  
5 year; and  
6 (iii) Any additional information requested by the  
7 Legislative Council.

8 (B) The Legislative Council shall include the information  
9 reported under this subsection in its annual report to the General Assembly  
10 under § 6-85-220.

11 (2) By August 1 of each year, the ~~Department~~ Division of Higher  
12 Education shall provide to the Legislative Council an unaudited financial  
13 report on the administration of the Arkansas Academic Challenge Scholarship  
14 Program for the fiscal year just ended.

15  
16 SECTION 2160. Arkansas Code § 6-85-206(1)(C)(i), concerning basic  
17 eligibility requirements for an award from the Arkansas Academic Challenge  
18 Scholarship Program – Part 2, is amended to read as follows:

19 (C)(i) To be considered an Arkansas resident, an applicant  
20 shall demonstrate residency by evidence deemed sufficient to the ~~Department~~  
21 Division of Higher Education.

22  
23 SECTION 2161. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 6-85-  
24 206(1)(D), concerning basic eligibility requirements for an award from the  
25 Arkansas Academic Challenge Scholarship Program – Part 2, is amended to read  
26 as follows:

27 (D) During the twelve (12) months immediately preceding  
28 the date an applicant will enroll in an approved institution of higher  
29 education if the person for whom the twelve-month period is calculated under  
30 subdivision (1)(A) or subdivision (1)(B) of this section is deployed outside  
31 of Arkansas under military orders, the ~~Department~~ Division of Higher  
32 Education shall calculate the twelve (12) months by:

33  
34 SECTION 2162. Arkansas Code § 6-85-206(3)(B) and (C), concerning basic  
35 eligibility requirements for an award from the Arkansas Academic Challenge  
36 Scholarship Program – Part 2, are amended to read as follows:

1 (B) A full-time student shall enroll in at least twenty-  
2 seven (27) semester hours the first academic year and thirty (30) semester  
3 hours per academic year thereafter or the equivalent, as described in this  
4 subchapter, or the equivalent as defined by the ~~Department~~ Division of Higher  
5 Education.

6 (C) A part-time student shall complete at least six (6)  
7 semester hours but less than the minimum number of semester hours for a full-  
8 time student, as defined by the ~~Department~~ Division of Higher Education;  
9

10 SECTION 2163. Arkansas Code § 6-85-207(3)(B), concerning additional  
11 eligibility requirements for traditional students, is amended to read as  
12 follows:

13 (B) In the year in which the student would have been a  
14 junior or senior in high school, completed the requirements for high school  
15 graduation and obtained a high school equivalency diploma approved by the  
16 ~~Department of Career Education~~ Adult Education Section of the Division of  
17 Workforce Services instead of receiving a diploma; or  
18

19 SECTION 2164. Arkansas Code § 6-85-208(1)(B), concerning additional  
20 eligibility requirements for a nontraditional student, is amended to read as  
21 follows:

22 (B) Graduated from an Arkansas public high school, a  
23 private high school, an out-of-state high school, a home school high school,  
24 or obtained a high school equivalency diploma approved by the ~~Department of~~  
25 ~~Career Education~~ Adult Education Section of the Division of Workforce  
26 Services and had a minimum composite score of nineteen (19) on the ACT or the  
27 equivalent score on an ACT equivalent; or  
28

29 SECTION 2165. Arkansas Code § 6-85-209(a)(2)(A)(ii), concerning  
30 additional eligibility requirements for a current achiever student, is  
31 amended to read as follows:

32 (ii) In calculating continuous enrollment under this  
33 section, the ~~Department~~ Division of Higher Education may include one (1) or  
34 more courses taken during the summer that meet the criteria for a course  
35 under subdivision (a)(2)(B)(ii) of this section;  
36

1 SECTION 2166. Arkansas Code § 6-85-209(b), concerning additional  
2 eligibility requirements for a current achiever student, is amended to read  
3 as follows:

4 (b) The ~~department~~ division may waive the requirements of subdivision  
5 (a)(1)(B) or subdivision (a)(2) of this section for eligibility under this  
6 section if an applicant does not meet those eligibility requirements due to  
7 the applicant's full-time duty in the active uniformed service of the United  
8 States, including members of the National Guard and reserve components of the  
9 United States Armed Forces on active duty orders.

10  
11 SECTION 2167. Arkansas Code § 6-85-210(b)(2)(A)(i), concerning  
12 continuing eligibility for scholarships, is amended to read as follows:

13 (2)(A)(i) A recipient shall meet the satisfactory academic  
14 progress standards required to receive other financial aid at the approved  
15 institution of higher education where the recipient is enrolled, as  
16 determined by the ~~Department~~ Division of Higher Education in conjunction with  
17 the institution of higher education where the recipient is enrolled.

18  
19 SECTION 2168. Arkansas Code § 6-85-210(b)(2)(A)(ii)(b), concerning  
20 continuing eligibility for scholarships, is amended to read as follows:

21 (b) The ~~department~~ division shall notify the  
22 recipient of the loss of eligibility under this subdivision (b)(2)(A)(ii).

23  
24 SECTION 2169. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 6-85-  
25 210(b)(2)(B), concerning continuing eligibility for scholarships, is amended  
26 to read as follows:

27 (B) The ~~department~~ division may approve a leave of absence  
28 for a reason that includes without limitation:

29  
30 SECTION 2170. Arkansas Code § 6-85-210(b)(2)(B)(iv)(c), concerning  
31 continuing eligibility for scholarships, is amended to read as follows:

32 (c) The ~~department~~ division shall release a  
33 scholarship hold if the ~~department~~ division determines that the student did  
34 not complete the commitment under the written agreement; or

35  
36 SECTION 2171. Arkansas Code § 6-85-210(b)(2)(B)(v), concerning

1 continuing eligibility for scholarships, is amended to read as follows:

2 (v) Any other reason approved by the ~~department~~  
3 division;

4  
5 SECTION 2172. Arkansas Code § 6-85-210(b)(6), concerning continuing  
6 eligibility for scholarships, is amended to read as follows:

7 (6) A recipient shall meet any other continuing eligibility  
8 criteria established by the ~~department~~ division.

9  
10 SECTION 2173. Arkansas Code § 6-85-210(d), concerning continuing  
11 eligibility for scholarships, is amended to read as follows:

12 (d) If a recipient is subject to losing a scholarship under subsection  
13 (c) of this section due to a catastrophic event experienced by the recipient  
14 or a family member of the recipient, the ~~department~~ division may waive the  
15 requirements of this section and determine the appropriate requirements for  
16 the recipient to either retain or regain the scholarship.

17  
18 SECTION 2174. Arkansas Code § 6-85-211(b), concerning literacy  
19 tutoring, is amended to read as follows:

20 (b) A recipient who agrees to volunteer as a literacy tutor under this  
21 section shall receive the prerequisite training in literacy and college  
22 readiness from an approved institution of higher education based on training  
23 modules developed by the ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and  
24 Secondary Education.

25  
26 SECTION 2175. Arkansas Code § 6-85-212(e)(1)(B)-(D), concerning  
27 scholarship award amounts, is amended to read as follows:

28 (B) The ~~Department~~ Division of Higher Education shall not  
29 accept new applications for scholarships for current achiever students under  
30 § 6-85-209 after June 1, 2012.

31 (C)(i) To determine the correct scholarship award amount  
32 based on credit hours, a first-time recipient shall submit a current college  
33 or university transcript if the first-time recipient has earned any semester  
34 credit hours to the ~~Department~~ Division of Higher Education no later than a  
35 date determined by the ~~Department~~ Division of Higher Education prior to the  
36 academic year for which the first-time recipient will receive an initial

1 scholarship award.

2 (ii) A first-time recipient who does not submit a  
3 transcript to the ~~Department~~ Division of Higher Education on or before June 1  
4 shall receive the award amount under subdivision (e)(1)(A)(i) of this  
5 section.

6 (D)(i) An applicant may elect for the earned semester  
7 credit hours under subdivision (e)(1)(A) of this section to be only those  
8 semester credit hours earned after graduating from high school or obtaining a  
9 high school equivalency diploma approved by the ~~Department of Career~~  
10 ~~Education~~ Adult Education Section of the Division of Workforce Services.

11 (ii) If an applicant makes the election under  
12 subdivision (e)(1)(D)(i) of this section, any semester credit hours earned  
13 through concurrent credit or any other method before graduating high school  
14 or obtaining a high school equivalency diploma approved by the ~~Department of~~  
15 ~~Career Education~~ Adult Education Section of the Division of Workforce  
16 Services shall not be counted as earned semester credit hours for the  
17 purposes of determining a recipient's scholarship award amount under  
18 subdivision (e)(1)(A) of this section.

19

20 SECTION 2176. Arkansas Code § 6-85-212(e)(2) and (3), concerning  
21 scholarship award amounts, is amended to read as follows:

22 (2)(A) The ~~Department~~ Division of Higher Education shall award  
23 an aggregate amount of scholarship awards to nontraditional students  
24 beginning with the 2017-2018 academic year of up to fifteen million dollars  
25 (\$15,000,000).

26 (B)(i) The ~~Department~~ Division of Higher Education shall  
27 return to the Office of the Arkansas Lottery the excess funding, if any, for  
28 scholarship awards under this subchapter the ~~Department~~ Division of Higher  
29 Education received under § 23-115-801.

30 (ii) The office shall deposit any funds received  
31 from the ~~Department~~ Division of Higher Education under this subdivision  
32 (e)(2)(B) into a trust account established under § 23-115-801(b).

33 (C) Priority for scholarships awarded to nontraditional  
34 students and current achiever students is based on:

35 (i) The applicant's level of progress toward  
36 completion of a certificate, an associate degree, a nursing diploma, a

1 baccalaureate degree, or a graduate-level or professional degree; or  
2 (ii) Other criteria established by the ~~Department~~  
3 Division of Higher Education.

4  
5 SECTION 2177. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 6-85-  
6 212(e)(6), concerning scholarship award amounts, is amended to read as  
7 follows:

8 (6) The ~~Department~~ Division of Higher Education shall give  
9 priority for a scholarship award to a full-time or part-time student:

10  
11 SECTION 2178. Arkansas Code § 6-85-212(i)(1), concerning scholarship  
12 award amounts, is amended to read as follows:

13 (i)(1) If the ~~Department~~ Division of Higher Education has less than a  
14 sufficient amount from net proceeds from the state lottery to provide for the  
15 scholarship commitments under this subchapter, the ~~Department~~ Division of  
16 Higher Education shall give priority for continued financial support under  
17 this subchapter to a student with continuing eligibility superior to first-  
18 time applicants.

19  
20 SECTION 2179. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 6-85-  
21 212(i)(2), concerning scholarship award amounts, is amended to read as  
22 follows:

23 (2) If the funding is insufficient to fully fund the  
24 scholarships for students with continuing eligibility created under this  
25 subchapter, the ~~Department~~ Division of Higher Education shall award  
26 scholarships based upon the following criteria to students with continuing  
27 eligibility as follows:

28  
29 SECTION 2180. Arkansas Code § 6-85-212(i)(2)(A)(i), concerning  
30 scholarship award amounts, is amended to read as follows:

31 (i) In an area of critical workforce need as  
32 determined by the ~~Department~~ Division of Higher Education; or

33  
34 SECTION 2181. Arkansas Code § 6-85-212(i)(3), concerning scholarship  
35 award amounts, is amended to read as follows:

36 (3)(A) If after funding all students with continuing eligibility

1 under this section funding is insufficient to fund all qualified first-time  
2 applicants, the ~~Department~~ Division of Higher Education shall award  
3 scholarships to first-time applicants in order of priority based upon the  
4 applicants' highest ACT or ACT equivalent scores.

5 (B) If after prioritizing first-time applicants based upon  
6 the applicants' ACT or ACT equivalent scores funding is insufficient to fund  
7 all applicants with like ACT or ACT equivalent scores, the ~~Department~~  
8 Division of Higher Education shall determine who receives an award by random  
9 drawing.

10

11 SECTION 2182. Arkansas Code § 6-85-213 is amended to read as follows:  
12 6-85-213. Nursing school eligibility.

13 (a)(1) The General Assembly recognizes that the State of Arkansas is  
14 experiencing a critical shortage of nurses.

15 (2) It is the intent of this section to allow the ~~Department~~  
16 Division of Higher Education the opportunity, under specific circumstances,  
17 to include an approved school of nursing that would not otherwise be an  
18 approved institution of higher education in the Arkansas Academic Challenge  
19 Scholarship Program.

20 (b) The ~~department~~ division shall make awards to applicants attending  
21 an approved school of nursing under this section if the recipient meets  
22 continuing eligibility requirements in § 6-85-210.

23 (c) The ~~department~~ division shall pay scholarship awards under this  
24 section only from nonlottery state educational resources.

25

26 SECTION 2183. Arkansas Code § 6-85-216 is amended to read as follows:  
27 6-85-216. Institution report to the ~~department~~ division.

28 (a)(1) An approved institution of higher education that enrolls  
29 students receiving scholarships under this subchapter annually shall provide  
30 information and semiannually provide updated information to the ~~Department~~  
31 Division of Higher Education regarding all state-supported student financial  
32 assistance whether or not the state-supported student financial assistance is  
33 awarded under this subchapter.

34 (2) The information shall be provided in the form of individual  
35 student records and shall include without limitation information regarding:

36 (A) State-supported student financial assistance;

- 1 (B) Demographic student data; and  
2 (C) Disaggregated data on remedial courses.
- 3 (3)(A) An approved institution of higher education shall  
4 undertake the procedures necessary to ensure the collection and reporting of  
5 student information under this section.
- 6 (B) An approved institution of higher education may lose  
7 its approved status for receiving scholarship funds on behalf of a recipient  
8 under this subchapter if it fails to make a good-faith effort to comply with  
9 this section.
- 10 (C) In addition to the provisions of subdivision (a)(3)(B)  
11 of this section, an institution of higher education that does not comply with  
12 this section shall not be eligible to accept state aid from the Higher  
13 Education Grants Fund Account on behalf of a student.
- 14 (b) The ~~department~~ division shall establish by rule the:  
15 (1) Specific data required;  
16 (2) Manner of reporting the information required; and  
17 (3) Technology or software required for reporting.
- 18 (c) The ~~department~~ division shall use the information provided under  
19 this section to conduct the research and analysis needed to support the  
20 annual report of the Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of Higher Education  
21 to the Legislative Council under § 6-85-205.

22

23 SECTION 2184. Arkansas Code § 6-85-217 is amended to read as follows:  
24 6-85-217. Information provided to the Bureau of Legislative Research  
25 by the ~~Department~~ Division of Higher Education.

26 The ~~Department~~ Division of Higher Education shall provide the following  
27 data to the Bureau of Legislative Research through the Arkansas Higher  
28 Education Information System under § 6-60-901 et seq., for the purpose of  
29 assisting the General Assembly with evaluation and analysis under this  
30 subchapter:

- 31 (1) Existing individual student data;  
32 (2) Institutional data;  
33 (3) Financial data;  
34 (4) Aggregate student scholarship and grant application and  
35 award data;  
36 (5) Remedial course data; and

1 (6) Other data needed to track scholarship and grant students  
2 receiving state-supported student financial assistance from year to year.

3  
4 SECTION 2185. Arkansas Code § 6-85-219 is amended to read as follows:  
5 6-85-219. Reports to legislative committees.

6 (a)(1) Annually by November 1, the ~~Department~~ Division of Higher  
7 Education shall report to the Legislative Council in the manner and format  
8 that the Legislative Council requires on all state-supported student  
9 financial assistance awarded by the ~~department~~ division and awarded by  
10 approved institutions of higher education.

11 (2) The information provided shall include without limitation:

12 (A) Current year expenditures for scholarships and grants  
13 under the Arkansas Academic Challenge Scholarship Program – Part 2;

14 (B) Projected obligations for succeeding years from each  
15 scholarship or grant funding source;

16 (C) Fund balances for the:

17 (i) Higher Education Grants Fund Account; and

18 (ii) Trust accounts maintained by the Director of  
19 the ~~Department~~ Division of Higher Education to hold the net proceeds from the  
20 state lottery;

21 (D) An evaluation of whether the net proceeds from the  
22 state lottery available for the program supplement and do not supplant  
23 nonlottery state educational resources; and

24 (E) Other information that the Legislative Council or the  
25 General Assembly requests.

26 (b) Annually by December 1, the ~~department~~ division shall report to  
27 the Legislative Council its recommendations for changes to the program,  
28 including without limitation:

29 (1) Adjustments to the eligibility requirements of the program;  
30 and

31 (2) Increases or decreases in the amounts awarded for a  
32 scholarship under the program based on the amount of net proceeds from the  
33 state lottery available.

34 (c) Annually by December 31, the ~~department~~ division shall report to  
35 the Legislative Council the following information on recipients of the  
36 Arkansas Academic Challenge Scholarship Program – Part 2 who applied as of

1 June 1:

2 (1) Race;

3 (2) Grade point average;

4 (3) Composite score on the ACT or the equivalent score on an ACT  
5 equivalent; and

6 (4) Family or individual income as reported on the student's  
7 Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA).

8

9 SECTION 2186. Arkansas Code § 6-85-220(a)(4), concerning the annual  
10 report by the Legislative Council, is amended to read as follows:

11 (4) Review the annual report of the Director of the ~~Department~~  
12 Division of Higher Education under § 6-85-219;

13

14 SECTION 2187. Arkansas Code § 6-85-221(a)(1), concerning a scholarship  
15 hold for a traditional student, is amended to read as follows:

16 (a)(1) The ~~Department~~ Division of Higher Education may approve a  
17 scholarship hold for a traditional student for a period of twenty-four (24)  
18 months or less.

19

20 SECTION 2188. Arkansas Code § 6-85-221(a)(2)(D)(iii), concerning a  
21 scholarship hold for a traditional student, is amended to read as follows:

22 (iii) The ~~department~~ division shall release a  
23 scholarship hold if the ~~department~~ division determines that the student did  
24 not complete the commitment under the written agreement.

25

26 SECTION 2189. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 6-85-  
27 302(1), concerning the definition of "approved institution of higher  
28 education" under the laws governing the Arkansas Workforce Challenge  
29 Scholarship Program, is amended to read as follows:

30 (1) "Approved institution of higher education" means an  
31 institution of higher education approved by the ~~Department~~ Division of Higher  
32 Education to participate in the Arkansas Workforce Challenge Scholarship  
33 Program and that is:

34

35 SECTION 2190. Arkansas Code § 6-85-303(a)(2)(A), concerning funding  
36 for Arkansas Workforce Challenge Scholarships, is amended to read as follows:

1 (A) Transfers the funds requested by the ~~Department~~  
2 Division of Higher Education under § 23-115-801(c)(2); and

3  
4 SECTION 2191. Arkansas Code § 6-85-303(b)(1)(B), concerning funding  
5 for Arkansas Workforce Challenge Scholarships, is amended to read as follows:

6 (B) The ~~department~~ division received a loan from the  
7 Scholarship Shortfall Reserve Trust Account under § 23-115-802 for the  
8 Arkansas Academic Challenge Scholarship Program – Part 2, § 6-85-201 et seq.,  
9 for the previous academic year.

10  
11 SECTION 2192. Arkansas Code § 6-85-305 is amended to read as follows:  
12 6-85-305. Distribution – Award amounts.

13 (a) If funds are available, the ~~Department~~ Division of Higher  
14 Education shall distribute Arkansas Workforce Challenge Scholarships to all  
15 students who meet the requirements under § 6-85-304.

16 (b)(1) The ~~department~~ division shall distribute scholarships from the  
17 funds available in an equal amount to every student eligible to receive a  
18 scholarship under this subchapter.

19 (2) Except as provided in subsection (c) of this section, the  
20 maximum scholarship award a student may receive in an academic year shall be  
21 the lesser of:

22 (A) Eight hundred dollars (\$800); or

23 (B)(i) The cost of the certificate program or program of  
24 study.

25 (ii) The cost of a certificate program or program of  
26 study shall include:

27 (a) Tuition, fees, or other charges;

28 (b) Textbooks or other course materials; and

29 (c) Equipment needed for a course.

30 (3) The scholarship awards may be used for expenses included in  
31 the cost of the certificate program or program of study.

32 (4) A scholarship under this section shall be only for the  
33 academic year for which it is awarded.

34 (c)(1) If the ~~department~~ division has funds remaining after making the  
35 distributions under subsection (b) of this section, the ~~department~~ division  
36 shall distribute scholarships to students for the summer term of the academic

1 year.

2 (2) If funds are available under subdivision (c)(1) of this  
3 section, a student shall apply for a scholarship for a summer term by a date  
4 determined by the ~~department~~ division preceding the summer term.

5 (3)(A) The ~~department~~ division shall distribute scholarships for  
6 a summer term in the same manner as under subsection (b) of this section.

7 (B) Scholarships for a summer term may be used in the same  
8 manner as under subsection (b) of this section.

9 (4) A student who received a scholarship under subsection (b) of  
10 this section may also receive a scholarship for a summer term.

11 (d) The ~~department~~ division shall disburse scholarship awards on  
12 behalf of an eligible student directly to the approved institution of higher  
13 education.

14

15 SECTION 2193. Arkansas Code § 6-85-307 is amended to read as follows:  
16 6-85-307. Rules.

17 The ~~Department~~ Division of Higher Education shall promulgate rules to  
18 implement this subchapter.

19

20 SECTION 2194. Arkansas Code § 9-27-330(a)(4)(B)(i) and (ii),  
21 concerning the disposition, delinquency, and alternatives regarding a  
22 juvenile, are amended to read as follows:

23 (B)(i) In addition, the court shall have the right as a  
24 term of probation to require the juvenile to attend school or make  
25 satisfactory progress toward attaining a high school equivalency diploma  
26 approved by the ~~Department of Career Education~~ Adult Education Section of the  
27 Division of Workforce Services.

28 (ii) The court shall have the right to revoke  
29 probation if the juvenile fails to regularly attend school or if satisfactory  
30 progress toward attaining a high school equivalency diploma approved by the  
31 ~~Department of Career Education~~ Adult Education Section of the Division of  
32 Workforce Services is not being made;

33

34 SECTION 2195. Arkansas Code § 9-27-332(a)(6)(A), concerning  
35 disposition and family in need services, is amended to read as follows:

36 (6)(A) Place the juvenile on supervision terms, including

1 without limitation requiring the juvenile to attend school or make  
2 satisfactory progress toward attaining a high school equivalency diploma  
3 approved by the ~~Department of Career Education~~ Adult Education Section of the  
4 Division of Workforce Services, requiring the juvenile to observe a curfew,  
5 and prohibiting the juvenile from possessing or using any alcohol or illegal  
6 drugs.

7

8 SECTION 2196. Arkansas Code § 9-28-113(a)(2)(A)(iii), concerning the  
9 continuity of educational services to foster children, is amended to read as  
10 follows:

11 (iii) The ~~Department of Education~~ Division of  
12 Elementary and Secondary Education;

13

14 SECTION 2197. Arkansas Code § 9-28-113(c)(2), concerning the  
15 continuity of educational services to foster children, is amended to read as  
16 follows:

17 (2) Each school district shall forward the name of each foster  
18 care liaison and the contact information to the Special Education Section of  
19 the ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary Education at  
20 the beginning of each school year.

21

22 SECTION 2198. Arkansas Code § 9-28-113(c)(3)(C)(ii), concerning the  
23 continuity of educational services to foster children, is amended to read as  
24 follows:

25 (ii) When a foster child changes school placement,  
26 the foster care liaison in the new school district shall request the child's  
27 educational record, as defined by rule of the ~~Department of Education~~  
28 Division of Elementary and Secondary Education, from the foster care liaison  
29 in the child's previous school district within three (3) school days.

30

31 SECTION 2199. Arkansas Code § 9-28-203(a)(10), concerning the powers  
32 and duties of the Division of Youth Services, is amended to read as follows:

33 (10) Provide a system of education in residential facilities  
34 operated by the ~~division~~ Division of Youth Services that conform to the  
35 guidelines established by the ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary  
36 and Secondary Education and as set forth in § 9-28-205; and

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SECTION 2200. Arkansas Code § 9-28-205(c)(1) and (2), concerning youth services centers, are amended to read as follows:

(c)(1)(A) The ~~division~~ Division of Youth Services shall establish a system of education that shall conform to the guidelines established by the ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary Education.

(B) The ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary Education shall establish guidelines for the ~~division's~~ Division of Youth Services' system of education ~~no later than July 1, 2009~~.

(C)(i) The ~~division~~ Division of Youth Services, with the support and assistance of the ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary Education, shall conduct an education program assessment of each ~~division~~ Division of Youth Services facility and provide a written report of assessment findings to the ~~division~~ Division of Youth Services ~~no later than December 1, 2009~~.

(ii) The ~~division~~ Division of Youth Services, with the support and assistance of the ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary Education, shall submit a corrective action plan for each ~~division~~ Division of Youth Services facility to the Director of the Division of Youth Services, if needed, ~~no later than December 1, 2009~~.

(iii) The ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary Education shall monitor the ~~division's~~ Division of Youth Services' system of education to ensure that the guidelines established by the ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary Education are satisfied by the ~~division's~~ Division of Youth Services' system of education.

(2) A student enrolled in the ~~division's~~ Division of Youth Services' system of education shall receive credit for courses that meet the guidelines established by the ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary Education.

SECTION 2201. Arkansas Code § 9-28-205(d)-(f), concerning the youth services centers, are amended to read as follows:

(d) The ~~division~~ Division of Youth Services, the ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary Education, and the ~~Department~~ Division of Career and Technical Education shall work collaboratively to

1 prepare courses of study for the ~~division's~~ Division of Youth Services'  
2 system of education, including courses in career and technical education  
3 suited to the age and capacity of the youths.

4 (e) The Department of Human Services, the ~~Department of Education~~  
5 Division of Elementary and Secondary Education, and the ~~Department~~ Division  
6 of Career and Technical Education may promulgate rules as necessary to  
7 administer the requirements of this section.

8 (f) The Department of Human Services and the ~~Department of Education~~  
9 Division of Elementary and Secondary Education shall report annually,  
10 beginning on March 1, 2010, to the House Committee on Aging, Children and  
11 Youth, Legislative and Military Affairs and to the Senate Interim Committee  
12 on Children and Youth on the state of the ~~division's~~ Division of Youth  
13 Services' system of education.

14  
15 SECTION 2202. Arkansas Code § 9-28-208(a)(4), concerning an order of  
16 commitment to the Division of Youth Services, is amended to read as follows:

17 (4) The committed juvenile's school or current educational  
18 setting shall transmit the education record, as defined by rule of the  
19 ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary Education, to  
20 the ~~division~~ Division of Youth Services within ten (10) school days from the  
21 request from the ~~division~~ Division of Youth Services.

22  
23 SECTION 2203. Arkansas Code § 9-28-402(5)(A), concerning the  
24 definition of "boarding school" under the Child Welfare Agency Licensing Act,  
25 is amended to read as follows:

26 (A) The institution is in operation for a period of time  
27 not to exceed the minimum number of weeks of classroom instruction required  
28 of schools accredited by the ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary  
29 and Secondary Education;

30  
31 SECTION 2204. Arkansas Code § 9-28-402(12)(C), concerning the  
32 definition of "boarding school" under the Child Welfare Agency Licensing Act,  
33 is amended to read as follows:

34 (C) A facility or program owned or operated by or under  
35 contract with the ~~Department~~ Division of Correction;

36

1 SECTION 2205. Arkansas Code § 9-28-407(a)(5)(A)(iv), concerning the  
2 requirement and issuance of a license for the operation of a child welfare  
3 agency, is amended to read as follows:

4 (iv) The licensee is operating a nontraditional  
5 program that is approved by the ~~Department of Education~~ Division of  
6 Elementary and Secondary Education.

7  
8 SECTION 2206. Arkansas Code § 9-28-407(h)(2)(E), concerning the  
9 requirement and issuance of a license for the operation of a child welfare  
10 agency, is amended to read as follows:

11 (E) To the Division of Children and Family Services of the  
12 Department of Human Services and the ~~Department of Education~~ Division of  
13 Elementary and Secondary Education, including child welfare agency licensing  
14 specialists;

15  
16 SECTION 2207. Arkansas Code § 9-28-1201(b)(2)(C), concerning the  
17 creation and membership of the Youth Justice Reform Board, is amended to read  
18 as follows:

19 (C) Representatives from the ~~Department of Education~~  
20 Division of Elementary and Secondary Education, ~~Department~~ Division of  
21 Workforce Services, the Division of Children and Family Services of the  
22 Department of Human Services, and the Division of Aging, Adult, and  
23 Behavioral Health Services of the Department of Human Services;

24  
25 SECTION 2208. Arkansas Code § 10-2-127(a)(2), concerning a fiscal  
26 impact statement developed by the Office of Economic and Tax Policy, is  
27 amended to read as follows:

28 (2) The fiscal impact statement shall be developed by the Office  
29 of Economic and Tax Policy with the assistance of the ~~Department of Education~~  
30 Division of Elementary and Secondary Education within the guidelines adopted  
31 by the House Committee on Education and the Senate Committee on Education, as  
32 applicable.

33  
34 SECTION 2209. Arkansas Code § 10-3-317 is amended to read as follows:

35 10-3-317. Disclosure of school district information and records -  
36 Access to electronic databases of the ~~Department of Education~~ Division of

1 Elementary and Secondary Education.

2 (a)(1) The ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and  
3 Secondary Education shall provide the Bureau of Legislative Research with  
4 direct read-and-report-only access to the ~~department's~~ division's data  
5 warehouse concerning school districts and related records.

6 (2) In providing the bureau with the direct read-and-report-only  
7 access required under subdivision (a)(1) of this section, the ~~department~~  
8 division shall take reasonable precautions, including electronic blocking or  
9 redacting, to prevent the disclosure of:

10 (A) Personally identifiable information of a student  
11 unless the parent or guardian of a minor student or a student who is no  
12 longer a minor consents in writing to the disclosure of personally  
13 identifiable information about that student; or

14 (B) Information that would cause the ~~department~~ division  
15 to lose funding under the provisions of 20 U.S.C. § 1232g, as it existed on  
16 January 1, 2007.

17 (3)(A) The ~~department~~ division shall make its staff reasonably  
18 accessible for consultation with bureau staff in developing and responding  
19 appropriately to bureau requests under this section.

20 (B) The bureau staff shall inform the ~~department~~ division  
21 of any warehouse data used in the preparation of reports and provide the  
22 ~~department~~ division at least one (1) working day to review any student-  
23 related warehouse data used in preparation of reports prior to publicly  
24 releasing that student-related data without individually identifiable  
25 information.

26 (b) The ~~department~~ division shall provide other information and  
27 records requested by the bureau as soon as possible and in whatever  
28 reasonable form requested.

29

30 SECTION 2210. Arkansas Code § 10-3-1003 is amended to read as follows:

31 10-3-1003. Routine collaboration with ~~Department of Education~~ Division  
32 of Elementary and Secondary Education, ~~Department~~ Division of Career and  
33 Technical Education, and ~~Department~~ Division of Higher Education.

34 (a) The House Committee on Education and the Senate Committee on  
35 Education between legislative sessions shall continually and routinely:

36 (1) Assess the needs and problems of:

- 1 (A) The public school districts of this state;  
2 (B) Technical institutes and vocational-technical schools;  
3 and  
4 (C) Institutions of higher education; and  
5 (2) Engage in a constant dialogue with the:  
6 (A) ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and  
7 Secondary Education;  
8 (B) ~~Department~~ Division of Career and Technical Education;  
9 and  
10 (C) ~~Department~~ Division of Higher Education.

11 (b) In order to assist the General Assembly, the ~~Department of~~  
12 Education Division of Elementary and Secondary Education, the ~~Department~~  
13 Division of Career and Technical Education, and the ~~Department~~ Division of  
14 Higher Education shall not only respond to the inquiries of the House  
15 Committee on Education and the Senate Committee on Education, but shall of  
16 their own motion alert the membership of the House Committee on Education and  
17 the Senate Committee on Education to problems and needs of, and  
18 recommendations concerning, all public education endeavors in Arkansas.  
19

20 SECTION 2211. Arkansas Code § 10-3-1405(d), concerning  
21 interdepartmental cooperation and assistance, is amended to read as follows:

22 (d)(1) The ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and  
23 Secondary Education shall cooperate with and assist the office in carrying  
24 out its responsibilities by providing:

- 25 (A) The office with information requested by the office;  
26 and  
27 (B) Assistance to the office as requested.

28 (2) The ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and  
29 Secondary Education shall provide the office with any information regarding  
30 changes in the calculation of state aid to public school districts within  
31 seven (7) working days of a change.  
32

33 SECTION 2212. Arkansas Code § 10-3-1602(2), concerning the duties of  
34 the Joint Interim Oversight Committee on Education Reform, is amended to read  
35 as follows:

- 36 (2) Reviewing policy issues affecting educational reform on or

1 before November 15 of the year preceding a regular session and making  
2 recommendations concerning any necessary legislative changes proposed by  
3 school districts, cooperatives, institutions of higher education, the  
4 ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary Education, the  
5 State Board of Education, the ~~Department~~ Division of Career and Technical  
6 Education, the State Board of ~~Career~~ Education, the ~~Department~~ Division of  
7 Higher Education, the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board, the  
8 Governor's office, and private institutions;

9  
10 SECTION 2213. Arkansas Code § 10-3-1602(4), concerning the duties of  
11 the Joint Interim Oversight Committee on Education Reform, is amended to read  
12 as follows:

13 (4) Reviewing and assuring coordination between the school  
14 districts, cooperatives, institutions of higher education, the ~~Department of~~  
15 ~~Education~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary Education, the State Board of  
16 Education, the ~~Department~~ Division of Career and Technical Education, ~~the~~  
17 ~~State Board of Career Education,~~ the Career Education and Workforce  
18 Development Board, the ~~Department~~ Division of Higher Education, the Arkansas  
19 Higher Education Coordinating Board, the Governor's office, and private  
20 institutions; and

21  
22 SECTION 2214. Arkansas Code § 10-3-2102(a)(4), concerning duties of  
23 the House Committee on Education and the Senate Committee on Education, is  
24 amended to read as follows:

25 (4) Evaluate the effectiveness of any program implemented by a  
26 school, a school district, an education service cooperative, the ~~Department~~  
27 ~~of Education~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary Education, or the State  
28 Board of Education and recommend necessary changes;

29  
30 SECTION 2215. Arkansas Code § 10-3-2102(c), concerning duties of the  
31 House Committee on Education and the Senate Committee on Education, is  
32 amended to read as follows:

33 (c) The ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary  
34 Education, the ~~Department~~ Division of Career and Technical Education, and the  
35 ~~Department~~ Division of Higher Education shall provide the House Committee on  
36 Education and the Senate Committee on Education with assistance and

1 information as requested by the House Committee on Education and the Senate  
2 Committee on Education.

3  
4 SECTION 2216. Arkansas Code § 10-3-2102(f)(2), concerning duties of  
5 the House Committee on Education and the Senate Committee on Education, is  
6 amended to read as follows:

7 (2) Reviewing the Arkansas academic standards developed by the  
8 ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary Education;

9  
10 SECTION 2217. Arkansas Code § 10-3-2103(a)(5) and (6), concerning the  
11 authority to investigate by the House Committee on Education and the Senate  
12 Committee on Educations, are amended to read as follows:

13 (5) The ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and  
14 Secondary Education or its successors; or

15 (6) The State Board of Education or any ~~department~~ division  
16 under the board's authority.

17  
18 SECTION 2218. Arkansas Code § 10-3-2203(a), concerning assistance to  
19 the Academic Facilities Oversight Committee, is amended to read as follows:

20 (a) The ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary  
21 Education, the ~~Department~~ Division of Career and Technical Education, the  
22 ~~Department~~ Division of Higher Education, the Division of Public School  
23 Academic Facilities and Transportation, and the Division of Public School  
24 Accountability shall provide the Academic Facilities Oversight Committee with  
25 assistance as requested by the Academic Facilities Oversight Committee.

26  
27 SECTION 2219. Arkansas Code § 10-3-2602(b)(3), concerning the creation  
28 of the Arkansas Legislative Task Force on Autism, is amended to read as  
29 follows:

30 (3) One (1) member who is an employee of the Division of Medical  
31 Services of the Department of Human Services, appointed by the ~~Director~~  
32 Secretary of the Department of Human Services;

33  
34 SECTION 2220. Arkansas Code § 10-3-2602(b)(7), concerning the creation  
35 of the Arkansas Legislative Task Force on Autism, is amended to read as  
36 follows:

1 (7) The Behavior Intervention Coordinator of the ~~Department of~~  
2 ~~Education~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary Education;

3  
4 SECTION 2221. Arkansas Code § 10-3-2602(b)(12) and (13), concerning  
5 the creation of the Arkansas Legislative Task Force on Autism, are amended to  
6 read as follows:

7 (12) The Behavior Intervention Services Coordinator for the  
8 ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary Education;

9 (13) The Associate Director of Special Education of the  
10 ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary Education;

11  
12 SECTION 2222. Arkansas Code § 11-10-220(b)(2), concerning educational  
13 institutions, is amended to read as follows:

14 (2) Which is approved, licensed, or issued a permit to operate  
15 as a school by the ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and  
16 Secondary Education or other government agency that is authorized within the  
17 state to approve, license, or issue a permit for the operation of a school;

18  
19 SECTION 2223. Arkansas Code § 12-18-909(d)(2) and (3), concerning the  
20 availability of true reports of child maltreatment from the central registry,  
21 is amended to read as follows:

22 (2) However, the person or agency is permitted to consult his or  
23 her or its own attorney regarding information provided by the Department of  
24 Human Services and the ~~Department~~ Division of Arkansas State Police.

25 (3) However, a local educational agency or a school counselor  
26 shall forward all true reports of child maltreatment received from the  
27 Department of Human Services and the ~~Department~~ Division of Arkansas State  
28 Police when a child transfers from one (1) local educational agency to  
29 another and shall notify the Department of Human Services and the ~~Department~~  
30 Division of Arkansas State Police of the child's new school and address, if  
31 known.

32  
33 SECTION 2224. Arkansas Code § 12-18-909(d)(5), concerning the  
34 availability of true reports of child maltreatment from the central registry,  
35 is amended to read as follows:

36 (5) This section does not prohibit the disclosure and discussion

1 of confidential data, records, reports, or documents created, collected, or  
2 compiled by or on behalf of the Department of Human Services, the ~~Department~~  
3 Division of Arkansas State Police, or other entity authorized under this  
4 chapter to perform investigations or provide services to children,  
5 individuals, or families in closed meetings conducted by the Child  
6 Maltreatment Investigations Oversight Committee under § 10-3-3201 et seq.

7  
8 SECTION 2225. Arkansas Code § 12-18-909(e)(1), concerning the  
9 availability of true reports of child maltreatment from the central registry,  
10 is amended to read as follows:

11 (e)(1) The Department of Human Services and the ~~Department~~ Division of  
12 Arkansas State Police may provide information, including protected health  
13 information, to a person or agency that provides services such as medical  
14 examination of, an assessment interview with, or diagnosis of, care for,  
15 treatment of, or supervision of a victim of child maltreatment, a juvenile  
16 offender, or an underaged juvenile offender.

17  
18 SECTION 2226. Arkansas Code § 12-18-909(g)(6)(A), concerning the  
19 availability of true reports of child maltreatment from the central registry,  
20 is amended to read as follows:

21 (6)(A) A person, agency, or organization engaged in a bona fide  
22 research or evaluation project having value as determined by the Department  
23 of Human Services and the ~~Department~~ Division of Arkansas State Police in  
24 future planning for programs for maltreated children or in developing policy  
25 directions.

26  
27 SECTION 2227. Arkansas Code § 12-18-909(g)(23)(D), concerning the  
28 availability of true reports of child maltreatment from the central registry,  
29 is amended to read as follows:

30 (D) The ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and  
31 Secondary Education;

32  
33 SECTION 2228. Arkansas Code § 12-62-502(1), concerning the definition  
34 of "approved institution" under the Arkansas National Guard Student Loan  
35 Repayment Program, is amended to read as follows:

36 (1) "Approved institution" means an Arkansas public or private

1 postsecondary institution that is accredited or has achieved candidacy status  
2 from the North Central Association's Commission on Institutions of Higher  
3 Education or is a technical institute or comprehensive lifelong learning  
4 center under the supervision of the ~~Department of Workforce Education~~  
5 Division of Higher Education;

6  
7 SECTION 2229. Arkansas Code § 12-62-502(4)(G), concerning the  
8 definition of "approved institution" under the Arkansas National Guard  
9 Student Loan Repayment Program, is amended to read as follows:

10 (G) Meets the current scholastic criteria of and is  
11 currently approved to receive a student loan under any state or federal  
12 program approved by the ~~Department~~ Division of Higher Education, and is, or  
13 will be upon approval of such loan, enrolled as a full-time student in good  
14 standing at an approved institution.

15  
16 SECTION 2230. Arkansas Code § 12-62-505(b) and (c), concerning  
17 regulations regarding the Arkansas National Guard Student Loan Repayment  
18 Program, are amended to read as follows:

19 (b) In establishing regulations relating to academic qualification,  
20 certification, recertification, and payment, the Adjutant General shall  
21 obtain the advice of the ~~Department~~ Division of Higher Education.

22 (c) To the extent possible, the ~~department~~ division shall include the  
23 program among other existing financial aid programs and shall monitor the  
24 program and enforce policies, as necessary, to conform with ~~department~~  
25 division regulations.

26  
27 SECTION 2231. Arkansas Code § 13-2-203(b), concerning the creation of  
28 the Arkansas State Library, is amended to read as follows:

29 (b) The library shall function within the ~~department~~ Department of  
30 Education in the same manner as provided by agencies transferred ~~to the~~  
31 ~~principal Department of government by a type 1 transfer under the provisions~~  
32 ~~of § 25-2-104 pursuant to a cabinet-level transfer under § 25-43-105 and~~  
33 which shall be adequately funded and properly housed in a designated building  
34 at the seat of state government.

35  
36 SECTION 2232. Arkansas Code § 13-2-204(a), concerning the

1 qualifications of the State Librarian, is amended to read as follows:

2 (a) The Arkansas State Library shall be headed by the State Librarian,  
3 to be appointed by the State Library Board, in consultation with the  
4 Secretary of the Department of Education. The State Librarian shall serve for  
5 such time and for such terms as the board may prescribe.

6

7 SECTION 2233. Arkansas Code § 13-2-206(d), concerning meetings of the  
8 State Library Board, is amended to read as follows:

9 (d) The State Librarian shall serve as ~~Executive Secretary~~ secretary  
10 of the State Library Board, but without a vote thereon, and shall attend all  
11 of the board meetings and keep records thereof.

12

13 SECTION 2234. Arkansas Code § 13-2-207(8), concerning the powers and  
14 duties of the Arkansas State Library, is amended to read as follows:

15 (8) Cooperate with the ~~Department of Education~~ Division of  
16 Elementary and Secondary Education and the ~~Department~~ Division of Higher  
17 Education in devising plans for the development of libraries, in aiding  
18 librarians in their administration, in certification policies, and in  
19 formulating rules and regulations for the use of libraries;

20

21 SECTION 2235. Arkansas Code § 13-2-1002 is amended to read as follows:  
22 13-2-1002. Creation.

23 (a)(1) The ~~Department~~ Division of Higher Education and the Arkansas  
24 State Library shall develop a digitized collection of information that  
25 includes information that is in the public domain, cleared for public  
26 distribution over the Internet, and to which students of public postsecondary  
27 schools in Arkansas have access.

28 (2) The digitized information under this subchapter shall be  
29 available for public access in at least one (1) location in each Arkansas  
30 county.

31 (b)(1) The ~~department~~ division and the library shall develop criteria  
32 regarding the:

- 33 (A) Selection of materials to be digitized;  
34 (B) Need for public access; and  
35 (C) Means of cataloging or indexing the materials and  
36 digitizing them.

1 (2) Materials to be digitized may include:

- 2 (A) Print documents;  
3 (B) Texts;  
4 (C) Manuscripts;  
5 (D) Photographs;  
6 (E) Art reproductions;  
7 (F) Postcards;  
8 (G) Illustrations;  
9 (H) Sound;  
10 (I) Film; and  
11 (J) Video.

12 (c) The ~~department~~ division shall make grants under this subchapter to  
13 assist public postsecondary institutions and other public or private entities  
14 in:

15 (1) Selecting and digitizing information; and

16 (2) Developing and providing access to the digital collection in  
17 at least one (1) location in each Arkansas county.

18 (d)(1) Each postsecondary public institution in Arkansas shall  
19 cooperate with the ~~department~~ division in developing the digitized collection  
20 under this subchapter.

21 (2) Each postsecondary public institution and any entity  
22 receiving a grant under this subchapter shall develop a plan to inform the  
23 public regarding the use of the resources made available under this  
24 subchapter.

25 (3) Funds made available under this subchapter may be used by  
26 the receiving entities to obtain matching funds from federal programs.  
27

28 SECTION 2236. Arkansas Code § 14-14-904(b)(1)(B), concerning time and  
29 place of the quorum court assembly, is amended to read as follows:

30 (B) The Director of the Assessment Coordination ~~Department~~  
31 Division may authorize an extension of up to sixty (60) days of the date for  
32 levy of taxes upon application by the county judge and county clerk of any  
33 county for good cause shown resulting from reappraisal or rollback of taxes.  
34

35 SECTION 2237. Arkansas Code § 14-14-904(b)(5), concerning time and  
36 place of the quorum court assembly, is amended to read as follows:

1 (5) If a determination is made under this subchapter or § 26-80-  
2 101 et seq. that the taxes levied by the quorum court are out of compliance  
3 with Arkansas Constitution, Article 14, § 3, as amended by Arkansas  
4 Constitution, Amendment 11, Arkansas Constitution, Amendment 40, and Arkansas  
5 Constitution, Amendment 74, then upon notice from the Director of the  
6 ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary Education, the  
7 county court shall immediately issue an order directing the county clerk to  
8 change the millage levy to bring the taxes levied into compliance with  
9 Arkansas Constitution, Article 14, § 3, as amended by Arkansas Constitution,  
10 Amendment 11, Arkansas Constitution, Amendment 40, and Arkansas Constitution,  
11 Amendment 74.

12  
13 SECTION 2238. Arkansas Code § 14-144-103(1), concerning the definition  
14 of "accredited institution of higher education" under the Research Park  
15 Authority Act, is amended to read as follows:

16 (1) "Accredited institution of higher education" means a four-  
17 year public college or university that offers bachelor's degrees and is  
18 recognized by the ~~Department~~ Division of Higher Education for credit;

19  
20 SECTION 2239. Arkansas Code § 17-26-403(b)(2), concerning an  
21 application to operate and license for a school of cosmetology, is amended to  
22 read as follows:

23 (2) The ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and  
24 Secondary Education shall not be required to apply to the Department of  
25 Health for approval.

26  
27 SECTION 2240. Arkansas Code § 17-27-103(b)(1), concerning exemptions  
28 regarding a licensed professional counselor, is amended to read as follows:

29 (1) The professional pursuits of administrators, teachers, and  
30 school counselors certified by the ~~Department of Education~~ Division of  
31 Elementary and Secondary Education within the scope of their duties in  
32 recognized public and private schools;

33  
34 SECTION 2241. Arkansas Code § 17-27-403(a)(1), concerning exemptions  
35 regarding licensed alcoholism and drug abuse counselors, is amended to read  
36 as follows:

1 (a)(1) Nothing contained in this subchapter shall be applicable to  
2 employees of the ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary  
3 Education or local boards of education who meet the certification as  
4 established or which may be established by the State Board of Education.

5  
6 SECTION 2242. Arkansas Code § 17-53-106(a)(5), concerning the  
7 construction and applicability of the Health Educator Practice Act, is  
8 amended to read as follows:

9 (5) A teacher of health education in an elementary or secondary  
10 school who meets the certification requirements as set forth by the  
11 ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary Education;

12  
13 SECTION 2243. Arkansas Code § 17-86-303(a)(4)(A), concerning licensing  
14 of a massage therapist, is amended to read as follows:

15 (4)(A) Present a high school diploma, high school equivalency  
16 diploma approved by the ~~Department of Career Education~~ Adult Education  
17 Section of the Division of Workforce Services, or college transcript and  
18 credentials issued by a massage therapy school accepted by the Department of  
19 Health or a like institution with no less than five hundred (500) hours of  
20 in-classroom instruction.

21  
22 SECTION 2244. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 17-87-  
23 402(b), concerning institutions of higher education, challenge examinations,  
24 and validation examinations, is amended to read as follows:

25 (b) The ~~Department~~ Division of Higher Education shall:

26  
27 SECTION 2245. Arkansas Code § 17-87-402(c), concerning institutions of  
28 higher education, challenge examinations, and validation examinations, is  
29 amended to read as follows:

30 (c) All institutions of higher education in this state shall use  
31 standardized validation and challenge examinations or devise their own. All  
32 challenge examinations and all validation examinations shall be submitted to  
33 the ~~department~~ division for its approval. Upon the successful passing of a  
34 validation examination or challenge examination, the examinee shall be given  
35 credit for the course which is the subject of the test.

36

1 SECTION 2246. Arkansas Code § 17-90-111(a), concerning loans to  
2 optometry students, is amended to read as follows:

3 (a) The ~~Department~~ Division of Higher Education shall provide a loan  
4 from the Higher Education Grants Fund Account that is in excess of the  
5 Southern Regional Education Board grant funds to any optometry student:  
6

7 SECTION 2247. Arkansas Code § 17-90-111(b)(2)(B), concerning loans to  
8 optometry students, is amended to read as follows:

9 (B) At a rate of interest determined by the ~~department~~  
10 division, but not to exceed four percent (4%);  
11

12 SECTION 2248. Arkansas Code § 17-90-111(b)(4)(C), concerning loans to  
13 optometry students, is amended to read as follows:

14 (C) Extraordinary circumstances as determined by the  
15 ~~department~~ division; and  
16

17 SECTION 2249. Arkansas Code § 17-91-101(a)(5), concerning the  
18 licensing requirements of an osteopathic physician, is amended to read as  
19 follows:

20 (5) Is a graduate of an osteopathic college of medicine whose  
21 course of study has been recognized by the ~~Department of Education~~ Division  
22 of Elementary and Secondary Education of the American Osteopathic  
23 Association; and  
24

25 SECTION 2250. Arkansas Code § 17-97-307(b)(4)(A), concerning  
26 professional titles, is amended to read as follows:

27 (4)(A) Individuals who have been certified as school psychology  
28 specialists by the ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and  
29 Secondary Education shall be permitted to use the title "school psychology  
30 specialist".  
31

32 SECTION 2251. Arkansas Code § 17-100-104(4)(A), concerning exemptions  
33 regarding the Licensure Act of Speech-Language Pathologists and Audiologists,  
34 is amended to read as follows:

35 (4)(A) A person from performing speech-language pathology or  
36 audiology services solely within the confines or under the jurisdiction of a

1 public school system if that person holds a valid and current certificate as  
2 a speech therapist or speech-language pathologist issued by the ~~Department of~~  
3 ~~Education~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary Education.

4  
5 SECTION 2252. Arkansas Code § 19-1-701(b), concerning fiscal impact  
6 statements, is amended to read as follows:

7 (b) A fiscal impact statement shall be developed with the guidance of  
8 the Office of Economic and Tax Policy of the Bureau of Legislative Research  
9 and with the approval of the ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary  
10 and Secondary Education.

11  
12 SECTION 2253. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 19-4-  
13 604(d), concerning state-supported institutions of higher education, is  
14 amended to read as follows:

15 (d) The Chief Fiscal Officer of the State, with the advice and consent  
16 of the ~~Department~~ Division of Higher Education, shall approve requested  
17 revisions in the proposed quarterly allotments if he or she shall determine  
18 that:

19  
20 SECTION 2254. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 19-4-  
21 604(i), concerning state-supported institutions of higher education, is  
22 amended to read as follows:

23 (i) The ~~Department~~ Division of Higher Education shall coordinate with  
24 the Chief Fiscal Officer of the State for administering the provisions of  
25 this section.

26  
27 SECTION 2255. Arkansas Code § 19-4-1402 is amended to read as follows:  
28 19-4-1402. Contracts to be filed.

29 (a) Executed counterparts of all contracts entered into by any state  
30 agency with respect to proposed projects for new improvements or major  
31 repairs or additions to existing buildings and facilities shall be approved  
32 by and filed with the Building Authority Division ~~of the Department of~~  
33 ~~Finance and Administration~~ before the issuance of any vouchers making  
34 payments under the contract, unless the contract is exempted from the  
35 jurisdiction of the ~~division~~ Building Authority Division by a law or a  
36 regulation promulgated under the Arkansas Administrative Procedure Act, § 25-

1 15-201 et seq.

2 (b)(1) The boards of trustees of the University of Arkansas, Arkansas  
3 State University, University of Central Arkansas, Henderson State University,  
4 Arkansas Tech University, and Southern Arkansas University, respectively, are  
5 exempt from the requirements of this section requiring the filing of the  
6 contracts with the ~~division~~ Building Authority Division.

7 (2) The governing boards of all other public institutions of  
8 higher education shall be exempt from the requirement for approval and filing  
9 of the contracts with the ~~division~~ Building Authority Division:

10 (A) Upon approval of the ~~Department~~ Division of Higher  
11 Education; and

12 (B) If, prior to granting approval, the ~~Department~~  
13 Division of Higher Education shall have reviewed and approved policies and  
14 procedures adopted by the governing boards of the public institutions of  
15 higher education with respect to bidding and construction of capital  
16 improvement projects.

17 (3) Nothing in this section shall prevent a public institution  
18 of higher education exempt under this subsection from entering into an  
19 agreement with the ~~division~~ Building Authority Division to file its contracts  
20 with the ~~division~~ Building Authority Division.

21 (c)(1) All contracts for new improvements or major repairs or  
22 additions to existing buildings and facilities under this subchapter shall  
23 include a project disclosure statement prepared by the agency, board,  
24 commission, or public institution of higher education.

25 (2) The disclosure statement shall provide the estimated  
26 timeline, scope, and cost of the total project.

27 (3) The disclosure statement shall not be construed as  
28 authorizing any:

29 (A) Additional work which is beyond the scope of the bid  
30 documents; or

31 (B) Payment exceeding the contract amount.

32 (d) Nothing in this section shall prohibit any agency, board,  
33 commission, or public institution of higher education from executing contract  
34 amendments.

35

36 SECTION 2256. Arkansas Code § 19-4-1416(e), concerning job order

1 contracting, is amended to read as follows:

2 (e)(1) Executed counterparts of a contract entered into by a state  
3 agency with respect to job order projects shall be approved by and filed with  
4 the Building Authority Division ~~of the Department of Finance and~~  
5 ~~Administration~~ before the issuance of any vouchers making payments under the  
6 contract.

7 (2)(A) The boards of trustees of the University of Arkansas,  
8 Arkansas State University, University of Central Arkansas, Henderson State  
9 University, Arkansas Tech University, and Southern Arkansas University are  
10 exempt from the requirements of this section regarding the approval and  
11 filing of the contracts with the ~~division~~ Building Authority Division.

12 (B)(i) With the exception of those boards of trustees  
13 listed in subdivision (e)(2)(A) of this section, the governing board of a  
14 public institution of higher education is exempt from filing the contracts  
15 with the ~~division~~ Building Authority Division if it receives the approval of  
16 the ~~Department~~ Division of Higher Education.

17 (ii) Before granting approval, the ~~department~~  
18 Division of Higher Education shall review and approve the policies and  
19 procedures regarding bidding and construction of capital improvement projects  
20 as adopted by the governing board of the public institution of higher  
21 education.

22 (3) A public institution of higher education that is exempt  
23 under this section may enter into an agreement with the ~~division~~ Building  
24 Authority Division to file its contracts with the ~~division~~ Building Authority  
25 Division.

26

27 SECTION 2257. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 19-4-  
28 1604(c), concerning receiving a salary from two agencies, is amended to read  
29 as follows:

30 (c) A person drawing a salary or other compensation from a state  
31 agency or institution of higher education shall not be paid a salary or  
32 compensation from another institution of higher education except upon the  
33 written certification to and approval by the Director of the ~~Department~~  
34 Division of Higher Education that the:

35

36 SECTION 2258. Arkansas Code § 19-4-1808 is amended to read as follows:

1 19-4-1808. Federal funds for vocational schools.

2 Reimbursements of federal funds to the ~~Department~~ Division of Career  
3 and Technical Education Fund Account shall be construed to be income of the  
4 fiscal year in which the reimbursements were received.

5  
6 SECTION 2259. Arkansas Code § 19-5-304 is amended to read as follows:

7 19-5-304. Education Fund.

8 The Education Fund shall consist of the following funds and fund  
9 accounts made available for the support of the ~~Department of Education~~  
10 Division of Elementary and Secondary Education and the ~~Department the~~  
11 Division of Career and Technical Education, the Adult Education Section of  
12 the Division of Workforce Services, and the Office of Skills Development, and  
13 shall be used for the same purposes as set out for the following fund  
14 accounts:

15 (1) ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary  
16 Education Fund Account.

17 (A) The ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and  
18 Secondary Education Fund Account shall be used to provide for the  
19 maintenance, operation, and improvement of the ~~Department of Education~~  
20 Division of Elementary and Secondary Education as created by § 6-10-101 et  
21 seq., and any other laws imposing functions, powers, and duties upon the  
22 State Board of Education, the ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary  
23 and Secondary Education, and the Commissioner of Elementary and Secondary  
24 Education, including, but not necessarily limited to, history textbooks  
25 expenses, the Publishing Revolving Account, audio-visual services, textbooks  
26 operation, compact for education, including the state's membership, and the  
27 state's contribution to the Southern Regional Education Board.

28 (B) The ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and  
29 Secondary Education Fund Account shall consist of:

30 (i) Those general revenues as may be provided by the  
31 Revenue Stabilization Law, § 19-5-101 et seq.; and

32 (ii) Nonrevenue income derived from services  
33 provided by those programs supported from the ~~Department of Education~~  
34 Division of Elementary and Secondary Education Fund Account, including any  
35 rental property located on the State Capitol grounds owned by the ~~Department~~  
36 of Education Division of Elementary and Secondary Education;

1                   (2) ~~Department~~ Division of Career and Technical Education Fund  
2 Account.

3                   (A) The ~~Department~~ Division of Career and Technical  
4 Education Fund Account shall be used to provide support for those programs  
5 placed under the direction of the Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of  
6 Career and Technical Education as authorized by §§ 6-11-101, 6-11-102, 25-6-  
7 101, 25-6-102, and Acts 1981, No. 64, § 4, and any other laws imposing  
8 functions, powers, and duties upon the ~~Career Education and Workforce~~  
9 ~~Development Board~~ State Board of Education with respect to career and  
10 technical education, including without limitation the following:

11                                 (i) Vocational, technical, and adult education;  
12                                 (ii) Adult basic education;  
13                                 (iii) Manpower training;  
14                                 (iv) Vocational standards;  
15                                 (v) Industry training programs; and  
16                                 (vi) Those functions, programs, and responsibilities  
17 transferred to the ~~Department~~ Division of Career and Technical Education, the  
18 Adult Education Section of the Division of Workforce Services, and the Office  
19 of Skills Development, as authorized by these statutes.

20                   (B) The ~~Department~~ Division of Career and Technical  
21 Education Fund Account shall consist of those general revenues as may be  
22 provided by the Revenue Stabilization Law, § 19-5-101 et seq.;

23                   (3) Educational Television Fund Account.

24                   (A) The Educational Television Fund Account shall be used  
25 for the maintenance, operation, and improvement required by the Educational  
26 Television Division of the ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and  
27 Secondary Education in carrying out those powers, functions, and duties of  
28 the Arkansas Educational Television Commission as set out in § 6-3-101 et  
29 seq. or other duties imposed by law upon the commission.

30                   (B) The Educational Television Fund Account shall consist  
31 of those general revenues as may be provided by law and nonrevenue income  
32 derived from services provided by the Educational Television Division and any  
33 other nonfederal grant funds provided by law;

34                   (4) State Library Fund Account.

35                   (A) The State Library Fund Account shall be used for the  
36 maintenance, operation, and improvement required by the Library Division of

1 the Department of Education in carrying out the powers, functions, and duties  
2 as set out in § 13-2-201 et seq. or any other duties imposed by law upon the  
3 State Library Commission, which were transferred to the Department of  
4 Education by §§ 6-11-101, 6-11-102, and 25-6-102.

5 (B) The State Library Fund Account shall consist of those  
6 general revenues as may be provided by law and nonrevenue income derived from  
7 services provided by the Library Division of the Department of Education and  
8 any other nonfederal grant funds provided by law;

9 (5) School for the Blind Fund Account.

10 (A) The School for the Blind Fund Account shall be used  
11 for the maintenance, operation, and improvement required by the Arkansas  
12 School for the Blind in carrying out those powers, functions, and duties as  
13 set out in § 6-43-101 et seq. and § 6-43-201 et seq.

14 (B) The School for the Blind Fund Account shall consist of  
15 those general revenues as may be provided by law and nonrevenue income  
16 derived from services provided by the Arkansas School for the Blind and any  
17 other nonfederal grant funds provided by law.

18 (C) Federal reimbursement funds received on account of  
19 vocational education programs conducted by the Arkansas School for the Blind  
20 shall not be deposited into the School for the Blind Fund Account;

21 (6) School for the Deaf Fund Account.

22 (A) The School for the Deaf Fund Account shall be used for  
23 the maintenance, operation, and improvement required by the Arkansas School  
24 for the Deaf in carrying out the powers, functions, and duties as set out in  
25 § 6-43-301 et seq. or other duties imposed by law upon the Arkansas School  
26 for the Deaf, which were transferred to the Department of Education by §§ 6-  
27 11-101, 6-11-102, and 25-6-102.

28 (B) The School for the Deaf Fund Account shall consist of  
29 those general revenues as may be provided by law and nonrevenue income  
30 derived from services provided by the Arkansas School for the Deaf and any  
31 other nonfederal grant funds provided by law.

32 (C) Federal reimbursement funds received on account of  
33 vocational education programs conducted by the Arkansas School for the Deaf  
34 shall not be deposited into the School for the Deaf Fund Account;

35 (7) Rehabilitation Services Fund Account.

36 (A) The Rehabilitation Services Fund Account shall be used

1 for the maintenance, operation, and improvement required by the Arkansas  
2 Rehabilitation Services of the ~~Department of Career Education~~ Division of  
3 Workforce Services in carrying out the powers, functions, and duties as set  
4 out in § 6-52-101 et seq., the Rehabilitation Act of Arkansas, § 20-79-201 et  
5 seq., and § 25-30-201 et seq., and for the adult handicapped program at the  
6 Arkansas Health Center.

7 (B) The Rehabilitation Services Fund Account shall consist  
8 of:

9 (i) Those general revenues as may be provided by  
10 law;

11 (ii) Nonrevenue income derived from services  
12 provided by rehabilitation programs of the Arkansas Rehabilitation Services  
13 of the ~~Department of Career Education~~ Division of Workforce Services; and

14 (iii) Any other nonfederal grant funds provided by  
15 law;

16 (8) Technical Institute and Other Education Fund Accounts.

17 (A) The Crowley's Ridge Technical Institute Fund Account  
18 shall be used for the maintenance, operation, and improvement of Crowley's  
19 Ridge Technical Institute. The Crowley's Ridge Technical Institute Fund  
20 Account shall consist of:

21 (i) Those general revenues as may be provided by  
22 law; and

23 (ii) Any other funds made available for the support  
24 of Crowley's Ridge Technical Institute which are required to be deposited  
25 into the State Treasury by law.

26 (B) The Northwest Technical Institute Fund Account shall  
27 be used for the maintenance, operation, and improvement of Northwest  
28 Technical Institute. The Northwest Technical Institute Fund Account shall  
29 consist of:

30 (i) Those general revenues as may be provided by  
31 law; and

32 (ii) Any other funds made available for the support  
33 of Northwest Technical Institute which are required to be deposited into the  
34 State Treasury by law.

35 (C) The Riverside Vocational Technical School Fund Account  
36 shall be used for the maintenance, operation, and improvement of Riverside

1 Vocational and Technical School. The Riverside Vocational Technical School  
2 Fund Account shall consist of:

3 (i) Those general revenues as may be provided by  
4 law; and

5 (ii) Any other funds made available for the support  
6 of Riverside Vocational Technical School which are required to be deposited  
7 into the State Treasury by law;

8 (9) Educational Facilities Partnership Fund Account.

9 (A) The Educational Facilities Partnership Fund Account  
10 shall be used for distribution of grants for programs providing academic  
11 school facility and transportation assistance to the public school districts  
12 as may be provided by law.

13 (B) The Educational Facilities Partnership Fund Account  
14 shall consist of:

15 (i) Those general revenues as may be provided by  
16 law;

17 (ii) Moneys transferred from the General Improvement  
18 Fund; and

19 (iii) Any other moneys as may be provided by law;  
20 and

21 (10) Division of Public School Academic Facilities and  
22 Transportation Fund Account.

23 (A) The Division of Public School Academic Facilities and  
24 Transportation Fund Account shall be used for the maintenance, operation, and  
25 improvement required by the Division of Public School Academic Facilities and  
26 Transportation of the ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and  
27 Secondary Education as may be provided by law.

28 (B) The Division of Public School Academic Facilities and  
29 Transportation Fund Account shall consist of:

30 (i) Those general revenues as may be provided by  
31 law; and

32 (ii) Any other funds made available for the support  
33 of the Division of Public School Academic Facilities and Transportation of  
34 the ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary Education.

35

36 SECTION 2260. Arkansas Code § 19-5-305 is amended to read as follows:

1 19-5-305. Public School Fund.

2 (a) The Public School Fund shall consist of the following fund  
3 accounts and funds made available for the support of the ~~Department of~~  
4 ~~Education~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary Education, the Arkansas State  
5 Library of the ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary  
6 Education, and the ~~Department~~ Division of Career and Technical Education and  
7 shall be used for the same purposes as set out for the following fund  
8 accounts:

9 (1) ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary  
10 Education Public School Fund Account. The ~~Department of Education~~ Division  
11 of Elementary and Secondary Education Public School Fund Account shall be  
12 used for grants and aids for the programs administered by the ~~Department of~~  
13 ~~Education~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary Education as authorized by  
14 law;

15 (2) ~~Department~~ Division of Career and Technical Education Public  
16 School Fund Account. The ~~Department~~ Division of Career and Technical  
17 Education Public School Fund Account shall be used for grants and aids for  
18 the programs administered by the ~~Department~~ Division of Career and Technical  
19 Education, Adult Education Section of the Division of Workforce Services,  
20 Office of Skills Development, consisting of, but not limited to:

21 (A) General adult education grants;  
22 (B) Adult basic education grants;  
23 (C) Manpower development and training grants;  
24 (D) Vocational-technical and adult education; and  
25 (E) Such other grants and aids as may be authorized by law  
26 for disbursement by the ~~Department~~ Division of Career and Technical  
27 Education, Adult Education Section of the Division of Workforce Services,  
28 Office of Skills Development; and

29 (3) State Library Public School Fund Account. The State Library  
30 Public School Fund Account shall be used for State Aid to Public Libraries as  
31 administered by the Arkansas State Library of the ~~Department of Education~~  
32 Division of Elementary and Secondary Education.

33 (b) The Public School Fund shall consist of those moneys as may be  
34 provided by:

35 (1) The Revenue Stabilization Law, § 19-5-101 et seq.;

36 (2) Any federal mineral leasing funds, federal forest reserve

1 funds, federal flood control funds, or any other similar turnback funds in  
2 the State Treasury for which the eligible county or school district cannot be  
3 identified;

4 (3) Fines collected pursuant to § 6-21-410 under the Free  
5 Textbook Act of 1975, § 6-21-401 et seq.;

6 (4) Funds remitted by county treasurers for those school  
7 districts which have local revenue per student in excess of the local base  
8 per student, as set out in § 26-80-101(c);

9 (5) Amusement machine revenues up to and including thirty  
10 thousand dollars (\$30,000), as set out in § 26-57-407;

11 (6) Twenty-five percent (25%) of additional rental vehicle tax  
12 revenues under § 26-63-302, to be used exclusively for teacher salaries; and

13 (7) Such other funds as may be authorized by law.

14 (c)(1) There is authorized a transfer of up to two hundred thousand  
15 dollars (\$200,000) per year from the Public School Fund to the ~~Department of~~  
16 ~~Education~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary Education Fund Account or the  
17 ~~Department~~ Division of Career and Technical Education Fund Account, or a  
18 portion thereof to both, by the Treasurer of State and the Chief Fiscal  
19 Officer of the State, upon certification as to the amount required by the  
20 Commissioner of Elementary and Secondary Education or by the Director of the  
21 ~~Department~~ Division of Career and Technical Education, or both, to the Chief  
22 Fiscal Officer of the State.

23 (2) This transfer shall be used to provide additional support  
24 for the administration of the handicapped children program and the  
25 vocational-technical and adult education program.

26  
27 SECTION 2261. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 19-5-  
28 501(b)(1)(E), concerning the Budget Stabilization Trust Fund, is amended to  
29 read as follows:

30 (E) Temporary loans may be made to the institutions of  
31 higher education for operational purposes. In making these loans, the  
32 following procedures shall be applicable. The institutions of higher  
33 education shall submit requests for loans to both the Director of the  
34 ~~Department~~ Division of Higher Education and the Chief Fiscal Officer of the  
35 State setting forth the need for the loan. The requests shall include at  
36 least the following:

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34

SECTION 2262. Arkansas Code § 19-5-501(b)(1)(F), concerning the Budget Stabilization Trust Fund, is amended to read as follows:

(F) The Chief Fiscal Officer of the State and the Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of Higher Education shall review the request for the loan. The Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of Higher Education shall recommend, in writing, the approval or disapproval of the loan and the reasons for the recommendation to the Chief Fiscal Officer of the State. The Chief Fiscal Officer of the State shall review the institution's request, the funds available in the Budget Stabilization Trust Fund, and the recommendation of the Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of Higher Education. The Chief Fiscal Officer of the State may request such additional information as is deemed necessary to make a determination as to whether the request should be approved. If the Chief Fiscal Officer of the State determines that the request is proper and necessary for the operation of the institution and that sufficient funds are available, the Chief Fiscal Officer of the State shall approve the request and establish a repayment schedule for the loan. If the Chief Fiscal Officer of the State determines that the loan is not necessary or required, or that funds are not available, the Chief Fiscal Officer of the State shall deny the request. The Chief Fiscal Officer of the State shall communicate in writing to the institution and to the Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of Higher Education the reasons for disapproval of the requested loan. All loans made to the institutions of higher education under the provisions of this section shall be repaid in full by June 30 of the fiscal year in which the loan was made. In the event an agency or program is established by the General Assembly which is to be supported solely from other than general revenues or federal funds, the Chief Fiscal Officer of the State may make a temporary loan from the Budget Stabilization Trust Fund to the agency or program to the extent necessary for carrying out the intent of the enabling legislation. The amount of the loan shall be determined by the Chief Fiscal Officer of the State, and the loans shall be repaid in full by June 30 of the fiscal year in which the loan was made;

SECTION 2263. Arkansas Code § 19-5-501(b)(3), concerning the Budget Stabilization Trust Fund, is amended to read as follows:

1           (3) Making transfers to the ~~State Military Department~~ Department  
2 of the Military Fund Account of the State General Government Fund as  
3 established in § 19-5-302(2)(A)-(C) for the purpose of providing  
4 reimbursement or immediate funding for expenses incurred by the ~~State~~  
5 ~~Military Department~~ Department of the Military on behalf of the Arkansas  
6 National Guard emergency call-up appropriation;

7  
8           SECTION 2264. Arkansas Code § 19-5-502(c), concerning loans from the  
9 Budget Stabilization Trust Fund, is amended to read as follows:

10           (c) The ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary  
11 Education shall have no authority to request loans from the Budget  
12 Stabilization Trust Fund to provide moneys for distribution to public school  
13 districts in this state, nor to write warrants payable from any funds  
14 borrowed from the Budget Stabilization Trust Fund, for making monthly  
15 payments to school districts in this state earlier than the fifth day prior  
16 to the end of the month.

17  
18           SECTION 2265. Arkansas Code § 19-5-907(b), concerning the Revolving  
19 Loan Fund, is amended to read as follows:

20           (b) The fund shall consist of the repayment of moneys loaned or  
21 invested through the Revolving Loan Program of the ~~Department of Education~~  
22 Division of Elementary and Secondary Education.

23  
24           SECTION 2266. Arkansas Code § 19-5-960(b), concerning the Private  
25 Career School Student Protection Trust Fund, is amended to read as follows:

26           (b) The fund shall consist of a fee to be set by the ~~Department~~  
27 Division of Higher Education in consultation with the State Board of Private  
28 Career Education as provided in § 6-51-607, there to be used for paying  
29 claims and other expenses as set out in § 6-51-607.

30  
31           SECTION 2267. Arkansas Code § 19-5-1004(c), concerning the General  
32 Revenue Allotment Reserve Fund, is amended to read as follows:

33           (c) Any funds that remain in the ~~Department~~ Division of Career and  
34 Technical Education Fund Account or the fund accounts created in § 19-5-  
35 304(8) at the end of a fiscal year due to the provisions of this section  
36 shall be transferred by the Chief Fiscal Officer of the State to the General

1 Improvement Fund or its successor fund or fund accounts, there to be used  
2 exclusively to provide additional funding for appropriations for the  
3 applicable vocational and technical schools, technical institutes, or  
4 comprehensive lifelong learning centers, that are made payable from the  
5 General Improvement Fund or its successor fund or fund accounts.

6  
7 SECTION 2268. Arkansas Code § 19-5-1018(d), concerning the creation of  
8 the Higher Education Building Maintenance Fund, is amended to read as  
9 follows:

10 (d) Those funds accruing to the Higher Education Building Maintenance  
11 Fund under the provisions of this section shall be disbursed by the Director  
12 of the ~~Department~~ Division of Higher Education in accordance with the  
13 recommendations of the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board, but only  
14 after the board shall determine the projects and priorities for which the  
15 funds shall be used, and after the board shall have sought the advice of the  
16 Legislative Council with respect to them.

17  
18 SECTION 2269. Arkansas Code § 19-5-1036(b), concerning the Research  
19 Development Fund, is amended to read as follows:

20 (b) The Research Development Fund shall consist of funds transferred  
21 from the Higher Education Building Maintenance Fund and any other moneys  
22 provided by the General Assembly, there to be used for the administration and  
23 operations of the Arkansas Research Development Program of the ~~Department~~  
24 Division of Higher Education, as set out in the Arkansas Research Development  
25 Act, § 6-61-801 et seq.

26  
27 SECTION 2270. Arkansas Code § 19-5-1076(c)(2) and (3), concerning the  
28 intent of the Higher Education Tuition Adjustment Fund, are amended to read  
29 as follows:

30 (2) Further, the ~~Department~~ Division of Higher Education will  
31 require each institution to track and report the number of qualifying  
32 students each year.

33 (3) A list of students who benefit from the out-of-state tuition  
34 waiver, including their Social Security number or their Arkansas taxpaying  
35 parents' or guardians' names and Social Security numbers, will be furnished  
36 by the ~~Department~~ Division of Higher Education to the Department of Finance

1 and Administration for confirmation that they or their parents are employed  
2 in Arkansas at a wage in excess of five thousand five hundred dollars  
3 (\$5,500) per annum.  
4

5 SECTION 2271. Arkansas Code § 19-5-1076(d), concerning the Higher  
6 Education Tuition Adjustment Fund, is amended to read as follows:

7 (d)(1) The Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of Higher Education  
8 shall determine the difference between the amount of tuition revenue which  
9 would have been generated by charging the Arkansas Higher Education  
10 Coordinating Board-approved out-of-state tuition rate to said students as  
11 compared to approved in-state or out-of-district rates.

12 (2) Upon such determination, the Director of the ~~Department~~  
13 Division of Higher Education shall certify to the Chief Fiscal Officer of the  
14 State and the Treasurer of State such amounts as are required to be  
15 transferred from the Higher Education Tuition Adjustment Fund.

16 (3) Upon receiving such certification, the Chief Fiscal Officer  
17 of the State and the Treasurer of State shall cause to be transferred the  
18 necessary funds and appropriation to the fund account of the institution  
19 receiving such certification from the Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of  
20 Higher Education.  
21

22 SECTION 2272. Arkansas Code § 19-5-1114(b)(2), concerning the Arkansas  
23 Construction Industry Craft Training Trust Fund, is amended to read as  
24 follows:

25 (2) The fund shall be used to support training programs set out  
26 in the Arkansas Construction Industry Craft Training Act, § 6-55-101 et seq.,  
27 administered by the ~~Department of Career Education~~ Office of Skills  
28 Development and the State Apprenticeship Coordination Steering Committee.  
29

30 SECTION 2273. Arkansas Code § 19-5-1227(c) and (d), concerning the  
31 Educational Adequacy Fund, are amended to read as follows:

32 (c)(1) The Chief Fiscal Officer of the State will determine, from time  
33 to time, the amount of funds required from the Educational Adequacy Fund  
34 which, when added to other resources available to the ~~Department of Education~~  
35 Division of Elementary and Secondary Education Public School Fund Account of  
36 the Public School Fund and the ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary

1 and Secondary Education Fund Account of the Education Fund, is needed to  
2 fulfill the financial obligation of the state to provide an adequate  
3 educational system as authorized by law and shall certify the amounts to the  
4 Treasurer of State.

5 (2) At the end of each month, the Treasurer of State shall  
6 transfer all moneys available from the Educational Adequacy Fund to the  
7 ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary Education Public  
8 School Fund Account of the Public School Fund and to the ~~Department of~~  
9 ~~Education~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary Education Fund Account of the  
10 Education Fund until the sum of all transfers from the Educational Adequacy  
11 Fund equals the amounts determined in subdivision (c)(1) of this section,  
12 there to be used as determined by law.

13 (d) In the event the Chief Fiscal Officer of the State determines that  
14 the transfers from the Educational Adequacy Fund, when added to the other  
15 resources available to the ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and  
16 Secondary Education Public School Fund Account of the Public School Fund, are  
17 not sufficient to meet the state's financial obligation to provide an  
18 adequate educational system as authorized by law, the additional amount  
19 required shall be transferred from the other funds and fund accounts, except  
20 the Educational Facilities Partnership Fund Account, within §§ 19-5-402 and  
21 19-5-404(a) [repealed] based upon the proportion that each of the remaining  
22 fund and fund accounts, excluding the Educational Facilities Partnership Fund  
23 Account, bears to the total of the remaining funds and fund accounts in §§  
24 19-5-402 and 19-5-404(a) [repealed].

25

26 SECTION 2274. Arkansas Code § 19-5-1257(c), concerning the Workforce  
27 Initiative Act of 2015 Fund, is amended to read as follows:

28 (c) The fund shall be used by the ~~Department~~ Division of Higher  
29 Education for distributing grants to programs identified under § 6-60-107.

30

31 SECTION 2275. Arkansas Code § 19-6-462 is amended to read as follows:  
32 19-6-462. Private Career Education Fund.

33 The Private Career Education Fund shall consist of those special  
34 revenues as specified in § 19-6-301(24), there to be used for the maintenance  
35 and operations of the ~~Department~~ Division of Higher Education concerning the  
36 State Board of Private Career Education in carrying out the functions,

1 powers, and duties as set out in § 6-51-601 et seq.

2  
3 SECTION 2276. Arkansas Code § 19-7-103(b)(1) and (2), concerning the  
4 control of college study programs and basic educational grants, are amended  
5 to read as follows:

6 (b)(1) The ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and  
7 Secondary Education shall issue rules for the purpose of administering the  
8 funds received for college work-study programs and basic educational  
9 opportunity grants for the vocational-technical schools.

10 (2) The ~~Department~~ Division of Higher Education shall issue  
11 rules for the purpose of administering the funds received by state colleges  
12 and universities.

13  
14 SECTION 2277. Arkansas Code § 19-11-1004(c)(3)(A), concerning the  
15 restrictions on contracts, is amended to read as follows:

16 (A) The institution of higher education requests and  
17 receives written approval from the Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of  
18 Higher Education concerning the amount of additional compensation to be paid  
19 to any employee; and

20  
21 SECTION 2278. Arkansas Code § 20-7-134(c), concerning the powers and  
22 duties of the Child Health Advisory Committee, is amended to read as follows:

23 (c) The committee shall examine the progress of the Arkansas  
24 Coordinated School Health Program and make recommendations to the ~~Department~~  
25 ~~of Education~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary Education and the  
26 Department of Health concerning the implementation of the Arkansas  
27 Coordinated School Health Program.

28  
29 SECTION 2279. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 20-7-  
30 135(b), concerning the implementation of nutrition and physical activity  
31 standards, is amended to read as follows:

32 (b) The Department of Health in consultation with the ~~Department of~~  
33 ~~Education~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary Education shall:

34  
35 SECTION 2280. Arkansas Code § 20-7-135(b)(2), concerning the  
36 implementation of nutrition and physical activity standards, is amended to

1 read as follows:

2 (2) Employ one (1) statewide health promotion consultant to be  
3 housed within the ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and  
4 Secondary Education if funds are available;

5

6 SECTION 2281. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 20-7-  
7 135(d), concerning the implementation of nutrition and physical activity  
8 standards, is amended to read as follows:

9 (d) The ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary  
10 Education shall:

11

12 SECTION 2282. Arkansas Code § 20-7-135(d)(1), concerning the  
13 implementation of nutrition and physical activity standards, is amended to  
14 read as follows:

15 (1) Begin the implementation of standards developed by the  
16 ~~committee~~ Child Health Advisory Committee and approved by the ~~Department of~~  
17 ~~Education~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary Education; and

18

19 SECTION 2283. Arkansas Code § 20-7-135(e)(1)(B)(i), concerning the  
20 implementation of nutrition and physical activity standards, is amended to  
21 read as follows:

22 (i) Assisting with the implementation of nutrition  
23 and physical activity standards developed by the school nutrition and  
24 physical activity advisory committee with the approval of the ~~Department of~~  
25 ~~Education~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary Education and the State Board  
26 of Health;

27

28 SECTION 2284. Arkansas Code § 20-7-135(e)(2), concerning the  
29 implementation of nutrition and physical activity standards, is amended to  
30 read as follows:

31 (2) Begin the implementation of standards developed by the  
32 ~~committee~~ Child Health Advisory Committee with the approval of the ~~Department~~  
33 ~~of Education~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary Education and the State  
34 Board of Health; and

35

36 SECTION 2285. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 20-7-

1 .135(f)(1), concerning the implementation of nutrition and physical activity  
2 standards, is amended to read as follows:

3 (f)(1) The ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and  
4 Secondary Education and the Department of Health shall report annually on  
5 progress in implementing nutrition and physical education standards to the:

6  
7 SECTION 2286. Arkansas Code § 20-15-902 is amended to read as follows:  
8 20-15-902. Counseling – Seminars.

9 The ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary  
10 Education, the University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences, and the  
11 Department of Health shall jointly provide counseling and shall also conduct  
12 public seminars designed to educate the public regarding acquired immune  
13 deficiency syndrome (AIDS).

14  
15 SECTION 2287. Arkansas Code § 20-15-1106 is amended to read as  
16 follows:

17 20-15-1106. Coordination of services.

18 The Department of Health, the ~~Department of Education~~ Division of  
19 Elementary and Secondary Education, and the Department of Human Services  
20 shall work cooperatively and develop a plan to coordinate early educational  
21 and rehabilitative services for newborn infants identified as hearing  
22 impaired.

23  
24 SECTION 2288. Arkansas Code § 20-27-1501(3)(D), concerning body  
25 piercing, branding, and tattooing, is amended to read as follows:

26 (D) Is a registered instructor for the specified field of  
27 *body art with the Department of ~~Higher Education~~ Health*;

28  
29 SECTION 2289. Arkansas Code § 20-27-1503(a)(2), concerning the powers  
30 of the Department of Health to license, regulate, and inspect for health  
31 hazards, is amended to read as follows:

32 (2) A body art training facility shall be licensed by the  
33 *Department of Health as an establishment and ~~by the Department of Higher~~*  
34 *~~Education~~ as an approved body art training facility.*

35  
36 SECTION 2290. Arkansas Code § 20-27-1507(a) and (b), concerning the

1 education of an artist in training, are amended to read as follows:

2 (a) An artist trainer shall be a registered instructor in a school  
3 *licensed by the Department of ~~Higher Education under § 6-51-601 et seq~~*  
4 *Health*.

5 (b) In consultation with the State Board of Private Career Education,  
6 the ~~Department~~ Division of Higher Education shall develop standards to  
7 determine:

8 (1) The maximum number of artists in training in a training  
9 facility at one time; and

10 (2) The length of the program in hours and across a range of  
11 months.

12

13 SECTION 2291. Arkansas Code § 20-27-1507(c)(2)(A), concerning the  
14 education of an artist in training, is amended to read as follows:

15 (2)(A) The artist trainer shall maintain a training log of the  
16 clock hours completed by the artist in training on forms approved by the  
17 *Department of ~~Higher Education~~ Health*.

18

19 SECTION 2292. Arkansas Code § 20-27-1507(e), concerning the education  
20 of an artist in training, is amended to read as follows:

21 (e) *The Department of ~~Higher Education~~ Health shall adopt a minimum*  
22 *curriculum for each area of body art training that shall be followed by all*  
23 *artist trainers, artists in training, and body art training facilities.*

24

25 SECTION 2293. Arkansas Code § 20-45-302(c)(3), concerning the creation  
26 and purpose of the Arkansas Suicide Prevention Council, is amended to read as  
27 follows:

28 (3) A representative of the ~~Department of Education~~ Division of  
29 Elementary and Secondary Education, to be designated by the Commissioner of  
30 Elementary and Secondary Education;

31

32 SECTION 2294. Arkansas Code § 20-45-302(c)(6) and (7), concerning the  
33 creation and purpose of the Arkansas Suicide Prevention Council, are amended  
34 to read as follows:

35 (6) A representative of law enforcement, to be designated by the  
36 Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of Arkansas State Police;

1 (7) A representative from higher education, to be designated by  
2 the Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of Higher Education;

3  
4 SECTION 2295. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 20-47-  
5 505(a)(2), concerning the creation of the Child and Adolescent Service System  
6 Program Coordinating Council, is amended to read as follows:

7 (2) The council shall include the following persons to be  
8 selected and appointed by the Commissioner of Elementary and Secondary  
9 Education and the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Human Services:

10  
11 SECTION 2296. Arkansas Code § 20-47-505(a)(2)(E)(i), concerning the  
12 creation of the Child and Adolescent Service System Program Coordinating  
13 Council, is amended to read as follows:

14 (E)(i) One (1) or more representatives from specific  
15 divisions or agencies in the Department of Human Services and the ~~Department~~  
16 ~~of Education~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary Education.

17  
18 SECTION 2297. Arkansas Code § 20-47-508(e), concerning the evaluation  
19 and treatment of children suspected of having emotional disturbances, is  
20 amended to read as follows:

21 (e) If after screening and assessment or collaborative evaluations it  
22 is determined that a child with emotional disturbance needs multiagency  
23 services, then initial and subsequent individualized multiagency service  
24 plans for the child and the child's family shall be jointly developed by the  
25 appropriate local or regional representatives of the community mental health  
26 centers, of the Department of Human Services county office, of the Department  
27 of Health, of the Special Education Section of the ~~Department of Education~~  
28 Division of Elementary and Secondary Education, of the local school district,  
29 and of any other service provider identified to meet the needs of the child  
30 and his or her family. The individualized service plan shall reflect an  
31 integrated service delivery that specifies services or programs with funding  
32 to be provided by each agency. The service plan shall also designate  
33 responsibility for case management.

34  
35 SECTION 2298. Arkansas Code § 20-64-704(3), concerning the powers and  
36 duties of the Division of Aging, Adult, and Behavioral Health Services of the

1 Department of Human Services, is amended to read as follows:

2 (3) Promote or conduct educational programs on alcoholism,  
3 purchase and provide books, films, and other educational material, furnish  
4 funds or grants to the ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and  
5 Secondary Education, institutions of higher education, and medical schools  
6 for study and research, and modernize instruction regarding the problems of  
7 alcoholism;

8

9 SECTION 2299. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 20-64-  
10 704(5), concerning the powers and duties of the Division of Aging, Adult, and  
11 Behavioral Health Services, is amended to read as follows:

12 (5) While the ~~division~~ Division of Aging, Adult, and Behavioral  
13 Health Services of the Department of Human Services necessarily must, and  
14 does, have discretion as to proportions in which it allocates funds to the  
15 various aspects of this problem, it is contemplated and intended that the  
16 ~~division~~ Division of Aging, Adult, and Behavioral Health Services of the  
17 Department of Human Services shall make every reasonable effort not to  
18 concentrate too largely on any one (1) phase of the problem at the expense or  
19 to the detriment of other phases. For example, but not limited to, the  
20 following phases:

21

22 SECTION 2300. Arkansas Code § 20-76-112 is amended to read as follows:  
23 20-76-112. Human Services Workers in the Schools Program.

24 (a) The Human Services Workers in the Schools Program is established  
25 as a collaborative effort among the Division of Children and Family Services  
26 of the Department of Human Services, the Arkansas Workforce Development  
27 Board, the ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary  
28 Education, and local school districts. The Human Services Workers in the  
29 Schools Program is designed to help children and families by:

30 (1) Promoting safety of children and strengthening of families;

31 (2) Supporting the community's capacity to produce children who  
32 are healthy, children who are in supportive, nurturing, and healthy families,  
33 and children who succeed in school; and

34 (3) Promoting the ~~division's~~ Division of Children and Family  
35 Services' family preservation philosophy and family-centered practice.

36 (b) Upon approval of the board, the ~~division~~ Division of Children and

1 Family Services shall enter into contracts with local school districts to  
2 provide funding for the maximum number of human services workers.

3 (c) A human services worker shall have a bachelor's degree or a  
4 master's degree in social work or a related field and shall provide the  
5 following services according to skills and training:

- 6 (1) Crisis intervention;
- 7 (2) School conferences and in-service training;
- 8 (3) Home visits;
- 9 (4) Transportation for family and student group counseling;
- 10 (5) Parent training and activities;
- 11 (6) Supportive service referrals;
- 12 (7) Individualized coping and conflict management skills; and
- 13 (8) Assessment of family and student needs.

14 (d)(1) Funding for human services workers shall be targeted to schools  
15 with eighty percent (80%) or more of their children eligible for the Free and  
16 Reduced Lunch Program under the National School Lunch Act, 42 U.S.C. § 1751  
17 et seq.

18 (2) The ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and  
19 Secondary Education and the ~~division~~ Division of Children and Family Services  
20 shall develop criteria to prioritize eligibility for the Human Services  
21 Workers in the Schools Program.

22 (e) The Coordinated Health Services Section of the ~~Department of~~  
23 ~~Education~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary Education shall evaluate the  
24 Human Services Workers in the Schools Program annually in coordination with  
25 the ~~division~~ Division of Children and Family Services, the board, and the  
26 local school districts that hold contracts.

27 (f) A parent or a student has the option to refuse any services  
28 recommended under the Human Services Workers in the Schools Program.

29

30 SECTION 2301. Arkansas Code § 20-77-1604(c)(1)(A), concerning the  
31 creation of the Arkansas Youth Suicide Prevention Task Force, is amended to  
32 read as follows:

33 (c)(1)(A) The Governor shall consult the ~~Department of Education~~  
34 Division of Elementary and Secondary Education before appointing a student  
35 member.

36

1 SECTION 2302. Arkansas Code § 20-77-1606(a)(2), concerning the  
2 Arkansas Youth Suicide Prevention Task Force meetings, is amended to read as  
3 follows:

4 (2) The Commissioner of Elementary and Secondary Education shall  
5 call the first meeting of the task force no later than thirty (30) days after  
6 all of the members are appointed to the task force.

7  
8 SECTION 2303. Arkansas Code § 20-77-1606(e)(1), concerning the  
9 Arkansas Youth Suicide Prevention Task Force meetings, is amended to read as  
10 follows:

11 (e)(1) The ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and  
12 Secondary Education shall provide staff and office space to the task force.

13  
14 SECTION 2304. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 20-78-  
15 205(a), concerning the creation of the Division of Child Care and Early  
16 Childhood Education, is amended to read as follows:

17 (a) There is created the Division of Child Care and Early Childhood  
18 Education within the Department of Human Services. In creating the ~~division~~  
19 Division of Child Care and Early Childhood Education, the General Assembly  
20 intends for the following to be maintained and enhanced:

21  
22 SECTION 2305. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 20-78-  
23 205(b), concerning the creation of the Division of Child Care and Early  
24 Childhood Education, is amended to read as follows:

25 (b) The ~~division~~ Division of Child Care and Early Childhood Education  
26 shall have the following duties:

27  
28 SECTION 2306. Arkansas Code § 20-78-205(b)(2), concerning the creation  
29 of the Division of Child Care and Early Childhood Education, is amended to  
30 read as follows:

31 (2) Administration of the Arkansas Better Chance Program, under  
32 interagency agreement with the ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary  
33 and Secondary Education;

34  
35 SECTION 2307. Arkansas Code § 20-78-205(c)(1), concerning the creation  
36 of the Division of Child Care and Early Childhood Education, is amended to

1 read as follows:

2 (c)(1) In addition to any other rights, powers, functions, and duties  
3 granted by law to the ~~division~~ Division of Child Care and Early Childhood  
4 Education, the Department of Human Services is hereby authorized to promote  
5 and cooperate in the establishment of a foundation under the Arkansas  
6 nonprofit corporation law and to accept support and assistance in the form of  
7 money, property, or otherwise from the foundation to be used to enhance  
8 quality, affordability, and availability of child care and early education  
9 for all children in the state.

10

11 SECTION 2308. Arkansas Code § 20-78-502(a)(6), concerning the duties  
12 of the Arkansas Early Childhood Commission, is amended to read as follows:

13 (6) Advising the ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary  
14 and Secondary Education and other appropriate state agencies on the  
15 development of programmatic standards for early childhood programs to be  
16 funded with funds appropriated to the ~~department~~ Division of Elementary and  
17 Secondary Education or to such other state agencies as may receive  
18 appropriations for such purposes;

19

20 SECTION 2309. Arkansas Code § 20-78-502(b), concerning the duties of  
21 the Arkansas Early Childhood Commission, is amended to read as follows:

22 (b) The ~~division~~ Division of Child Care and Early Childhood Education  
23 shall assist the commission in carrying out its duties and responsibilities.

24

25 SECTION 2310. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 21-5-  
26 223(b)(1), concerning severance pay, is amended to read as follows:

27 (b)(1) If the head of an institution of higher education determines  
28 that it is necessary to implement the state workforce reduction policy due to  
29 institution organization structure change, budgetary reductions, abolishment  
30 of positions or duties, loss of functional responsibility by the institution,  
31 or the loss of federal funding, grants, or other special funds, the head of  
32 the institution, upon approval by the Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of  
33 Higher Education, may authorize the payment of funds on a regular payroll  
34 schedule as severance pay to full-time, part-time, and job sharing classified  
35 employees in regular positions affected by the workforce reduction on the  
36 basis of the following pro rata lump sum for completed years of service,

1 including any formally implemented probationary period:

2  
3 SECTION 2311. Arkansas Code § 21-5-1001(b)(2), concerning the  
4 legislative intent regarding employee performance evaluations, is amended to  
5 read as follows:

6 (2) Institution of higher education employees shall be evaluated  
7 using an instrument approved by the ~~Department~~ Division of Higher Education.

8  
9 SECTION 2312. Arkansas Code § 21-5-1203(b), concerning the  
10 compensation of public school district employees and emergency activities, is  
11 amended to read as follows:

12 (b) The ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary  
13 Education shall establish appropriate procedures for the administration of  
14 this section.

15  
16 SECTION 2313. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 21-5-  
17 1402(7)(B), concerning the Higher Education Uniform Classification and  
18 Compensation Act, is amended to read as follows:

19 (B) The ~~Department~~ Division of Higher Education may  
20 authorize a temporary crossgrade through a change in the classification of a  
21 position from the classification authorized in an institution's appropriation  
22 act between legislative sessions to assure correct classification and for  
23 other purposes with the following restrictions:

24  
25 SECTION 2314. Arkansas Code § 21-5-1402(7)(B)(iii) and (iv),  
26 concerning the Higher Education Uniform Classification and Compensation Act,  
27 are amended to read as follows:

28 (iii) Positions that have been crossgraded may be  
29 restored to the original authorized class during the fiscal year with the  
30 approval of the ~~department~~ division for those positions within the same  
31 occupational group;

32 (iv) Position classifications may be crossgraded or  
33 restored to their original classifications only after the review and approval  
34 of the ~~department~~ division;

35  
36 SECTION 2315. Arkansas Code § 21-5-1402(13)(A)(ii), concerning the

1 Higher Education Uniform Classification and Compensation Act, is amended to  
2 read as follows:

3 (ii) The ~~department~~ division may authorize job  
4 sharing for any regular full-time position.

5  
6 SECTION 2316. Arkansas Code § 21-5-1402(13)(B), concerning the Higher  
7 Education Uniform Classification and Compensation Act, is amended to read as  
8 follows:

9 (B) The Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of Higher  
10 Education or his or her designee shall promulgate necessary rules to carry  
11 out this subdivision (13);

12

13 SECTION 2317. Arkansas Code § 21-5-1402(20)(E), concerning the Higher  
14 Education Uniform Classification and Compensation Act, is amended to read as  
15 follows:

16 (E) Interim reclassifications approved by the ~~department~~  
17 division shall be implemented through the crossgrading of existing positions  
18 within an institution of higher education or through the acquisition of pool  
19 positions as authorized in § 21-5-1414(a)(1).

20

21 SECTION 2318. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 21-5-  
22 1405(a), concerning the duties of the Department of Higher Education, is  
23 amended to read as follows:

24 (a) The ~~Department~~ Division of Higher Education shall perform the  
25 following administrative duties with respect to the institution of higher  
26 education classification and compensation plan, subject to this subchapter:

27

28 SECTION 2319. Arkansas Code § 21-5-1405(a)(3)(A), concerning the  
29 duties of the Department of Higher Education, is amended to read as follows:

30 (3)(A) Authorize the temporary reclassification of positions in  
31 an institution affected by this subchapter in cases in which it has been  
32 determined by the ~~department~~ division that there are material changes in the  
33 duties and responsibilities assigned to the position when there is no  
34 available vacant position having the proper classification and when it is  
35 impracticable to restructure the duties of the position to the proper  
36 classification.

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SECTION 2320. Arkansas Code § 21-5-1405(a)(4)(B), concerning the duties of the Department of Higher Education, is amended to read as follows:

(B) When necessary, the ~~department~~ division shall confer with the staff of the Legislative Council on the development of and revisions to uniform classification and compensation systems.

SECTION 2321. Arkansas Code § 21-5-1405(a)(6)(C), concerning the duties of the Department of Higher Education, is amended to read as follows:

(C) The procedure under subdivision (a)(6)(A) of this section shall require the final approval of the Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of Higher Education, with the review of the Legislative Council or, if the General Assembly is in session, the Joint Budget Committee;

SECTION 2322. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 21-5-1405(a)(7)(B), concerning the duties of the Department of Higher Education, is amended to read as follows:

(B) Unqualified appointments shall be reported by the ~~department~~ division to the Legislative Council unless one (1) of the following actions is taken:

SECTION 2323. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 21-5-1405(b), concerning the duties of the Department of Higher Education, is amended to read as follows:

(b) To ensure and provide for the accuracy and efficiency of this subchapter and to provide for an efficient and equitable system of personnel management, the ~~department~~ division, with the review of the Legislative Council, shall:

SECTION 2324. Arkansas Code § 21-5-1409(a), concerning the implementation procedure for grade changes and salary, is amended to read as follows:

(a) The ~~Department~~ Division of Higher Education has administrative responsibility for enforcing compliance by institutions of higher education affected by this subchapter in implementing classification and grade changes.

1 SECTION 2325. Arkansas Code § 21-5-1409(b)(1)(A)(i), concerning the  
2 implementation procedure for grade changes and salary, is amended to read as  
3 follows:

4 (i) By a percentage up to two percent (2%) with  
5 written approval by the Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of Higher  
6 Education; or

7  
8 SECTION 2326. Arkansas Code § 21-5-1409(e), concerning the  
9 implementation procedure for grade changes and salary, is amended to read as  
10 follows:

11 (e) All percentage calculations stipulated in this subchapter or any  
12 other law affecting salaries of employees of institutions of higher education  
13 may be rounded to the nearest even-dollar amount by the ~~Department~~ Division  
14 of Higher Education when making the increases to employee salaries as  
15 provided under subdivision (b)(1) of this section.

16  
17 SECTION 2327. Arkansas Code § 21-5-1410(a)(1)(B)(i), concerning new  
18 appointment to positions in an institution of higher education and other  
19 compensation plan provisions, is amended to read as follows:

20 (B)(i) An institution may request a special rate of pay  
21 for a specific classification due to prevailing market rates of pay to hire a  
22 new employee up to the midpoint pay level of the appropriate grade of a  
23 classification on the appropriate pay plan with the written approval of the  
24 Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of Higher Education.

25  
26 SECTION 2328. Arkansas Code § 21-5-1410(a)(1)(B)(iii) and (iv),  
27 concerning new appointment to positions in an institution of higher education  
28 and other compensation plan provisions, are amended to read as follows:

29 (iii) A special rate of pay shall not be approved  
30 under this section unless the classification is properly reviewed and the  
31 special rate of pay is approved as a market-rate classification for the grade  
32 and listed on a register of such pay levels by classification maintained by  
33 the ~~Department~~ Division of Higher Education.

34 (iv) The ~~department~~ division shall file a report of  
35 all such classifications with the Legislative Council, or if the General  
36 Assembly is in session, the Joint Budget Committee, within the month

1 following the approval.

2

3 SECTION 2329. Arkansas Code § 21-5-1410(a)(1)(C)(ii), concerning new  
4 appointment to positions in an institution of higher education and other  
5 compensation plan provisions, is amended to read as follows:

6 (ii) The ~~department~~ division shall file a report of  
7 all the employee salary adjustments under subdivision (a)(1)(C)(i) of this  
8 section with the Legislative Council or, if the General Assembly is in  
9 session, the Joint Budget Committee, within the month following the approval;  
10 or

11

12 SECTION 2330. Arkansas Code § 21-5-1410(c)(1), concerning new  
13 appointment to positions in an institution of higher education and other  
14 compensation plan provisions, is amended to read as follows:

15 (1) Employee meets or exceeds the eligibility requirements  
16 approved by the ~~department~~ division after review by the Legislative Council  
17 or, if the General Assembly is in session, the Joint Budget Committee, which  
18 shall include at a minimum:

19

20 SECTION 2331. Arkansas Code § 21-5-1410(f)(2), concerning new  
21 appointment to positions in an institution of higher education and other  
22 compensation plan provisions, is amended to read as follows:

23 (2) An employee who is placed in a lower-graded position on  
24 either compensation plan because the original position has expired due to  
25 lack of funding, program changes, or withdrawal of federal grant funds may  
26 continue to be paid at the same rate as the employee was being paid in the  
27 higher-graded position upon approval of the ~~department~~ division after seeking  
28 the review of the Legislative Council or, if the General Assembly is in  
29 session, the Joint Budget Committee.

30

31 SECTION 2332. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 21-5-  
32 1411(a)(1), concerning shift differentials, is amended to read as follows:

33 (a)(1) Upon the approval of the ~~Department~~ Division of Higher  
34 Education, an employee whose working hours do not conform to normal state  
35 business hours shall be eligible for additional compensation up to twelve  
36 percent (12%) of the hourly rate for which he or she is eligible under this

1 subchapter as a shift differential if:

2

3 SECTION 2333. Arkansas Code § 21-5-1411(c)(3)(B), concerning shift  
4 differentials, is amended to read as follows:

5 (B) The shift schedule, classifications, positions, and  
6 the percentage of shift differential for which the class titles are eligible  
7 shall be submitted to the ~~department~~ division for approval by the Director of  
8 the ~~Department~~ Division of Higher Education.

9

10 SECTION 2334. Arkansas Code § 21-5-1411(e), concerning shift  
11 differentials, is amended to read as follows:

12 (e) The ~~department~~ division shall report all shift differential  
13 approvals to the Legislative Council or, if the General Assembly is in  
14 session, the Joint Budget Committee.

15

16 SECTION 2335. Arkansas Code § 21-5-1412(b)(1)(D), concerning  
17 compensation differentials, is amended to read as follows:

18 (D) Compensation differential plan has been approved by  
19 the ~~Department~~ Division of Higher Education after review by the Legislative  
20 Council or, if the General Assembly is in session, the Joint Budget  
21 Committee.

22

23 SECTION 2336. Arkansas Code § 21-5-1412(c)(2)(B) and (C), concerning  
24 compensation differentials, are amended to read as follows:

25 (B) The positions shall be certified by the head of the  
26 institution as having been assigned to a work environment that poses an  
27 increased risk of personal injury and shall be submitted as part of the plan  
28 for payment of hazardous duty differential to the ~~department~~ division for  
29 approval by the Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of Higher Education after  
30 review and approval of the Legislative Council or, if the General Assembly is  
31 in session, the Joint Budget Committee.

32

33 (C) Subsequent changes to the facility or unit, location,  
34 and eligible positions or classifications within the facility or unit on file  
35 with the ~~department~~ division shall receive prior approval by the director  
36 after review and approval of the Legislative Council or, if the General  
Assembly is in session, the Joint Budget Committee.

1  
2 SECTION 2337. Arkansas Code § 21-5-1413(a)(1)(D), concerning salary  
3 administration grids, is amended to read as follows:

4 (D) Salary administration grid has been approved by the  
5 Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of Higher Education after review by the  
6 Legislative Council or, if the General Assembly is in session, the Joint  
7 Budget Committee.

8  
9 SECTION 2338. Arkansas Code § 21-5-1413(a)(2)(E), concerning salary  
10 administration grids, is amended to read as follows:

11 (E) A plan of implementation and salary progression shall  
12 be approved by the ~~Department~~ Division of Higher Education on a biennial  
13 basis.

14  
15 SECTION 2339. Arkansas Code § 21-5-1413(a)(3), concerning salary  
16 administration grids, is amended to read as follows:

17 (3) An approved salary administration grid may be amended only  
18 upon approval by the ~~department~~ division after review by the Legislative  
19 Council or, if the General Assembly is in session, the Joint Budget  
20 Committee.

21  
22 SECTION 2340. Arkansas Code § 21-5-1413(b)(3), concerning salary  
23 administration grids, is amended to read as follows:

24 (3) The ~~department~~ division shall promulgate rules regarding the  
25 implementation and use of a salary administration grid with the review of the  
26 Legislative Council or, if the General Assembly is in session, the Joint  
27 Budget Committee.

28  
29 SECTION 2341. Arkansas Code § 21-5-1415(a), concerning position pools  
30 to be established and maintained by the Department of Higher Education, is  
31 amended to read as follows:

32 (a) The ~~Department~~ Division of Higher Education shall establish and  
33 maintain a central pool of four hundred (400) positions to be used to  
34 establish additional positions in an institution of higher education when an  
35 institution does not have sufficient positions available to meet  
36 unanticipated enrollment growth, industry training demands, or its mandated

1 responsibilities.

2

3 SECTION 2342. Arkansas Code § 21-5-1415(d) and (e), concerning  
4 position pools to be established and maintained by the Department of Higher  
5 Education, are amended to read as follows:

6 (d) The institution shall provide justification to the ~~department~~  
7 division for the need to allocate positions from the central pool.

8 (e) Titles shall not be assigned to the institution from the central  
9 pool until specific positions are requested by the institution, recommended  
10 by the ~~department~~ division, and reviewed by the Legislative Council or, if  
11 the General Assembly is in session, the Joint Budget Committee.

12

13 SECTION 2343. Arkansas Code § 21-5-1416(b), concerning annual career  
14 service recognition payments for employees of institutions of higher  
15 education, is amended to read as follows:

16 (b) The ~~Department~~ Division of Higher Education shall establish and  
17 publish policies and procedures for the administration of career service  
18 recognition payments to employees of institutions upon a determination by the  
19 Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of Higher Education that the respective  
20 institution has sufficient funds available for that purpose.

21

22 SECTION 2344. Arkansas Code § 21-5-1417(a), concerning the Merit  
23 Increase Pay System, is amended to read as follows:

24 (a) The ~~Department~~ Division of Higher Education may develop and  
25 implement a merit increase pay system in accordance with the performance  
26 evaluation process under § 21-5-1001 for the employees of all institutions  
27 covered by this subchapter.

28

29 SECTION 2345. Arkansas Code § 21-5-1417(d), concerning the Merit  
30 Increase Pay System, is amended to read as follows:

31 (d) Merit payments may be awarded to employees who satisfy performance  
32 evaluation-based criteria developed by institutions in accordance with rules  
33 and policies developed and approved by the ~~Department~~ Division of Higher  
34 Education after review by the Legislative Council.

35

36 SECTION 2346. Arkansas Code § 21-6-406(a)(52), concerning clerks of

1 county courts and miscellaneous fees, is amended to read as follows:

2 (52) For each abstract forwarded to the Auditor of State and to  
3 the Director of the ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and  
4 Secondary Education 1.00

5  
6 SECTION 2347. Arkansas Code § 23-4-805(b), concerning exemptions and  
7 certain officials permitted to accept and use passes regarding railroads and  
8 transportation companies, is amended to read as follows:

9 (b) The Commissioner of Elementary and Secondary Education and the  
10 Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of Career and Technical Education and the  
11 prosecuting attorneys and judges of the circuit courts of the several  
12 judicial districts of this state shall be permitted to accept and use a free  
13 pass on any railroad in this state without incurring any penalty prescribed  
14 under § 23-4-803 [repealed].

15  
16 SECTION 2348. Arkansas Code § 23-39-505(b)(2)(A), concerning  
17 qualifications for licensure and issuance regarding the Fair Mortgage Lending  
18 Act, is amended to read as follows:

19 (2)(A) Have received a high school diploma or a high school  
20 equivalency diploma approved by the ~~Department of Career Education~~ Adult  
21 Education Section of the Division of Workforce Services.

22  
23 SECTION 2349. Arkansas Code § 23-64-607(a)(2), concerning the  
24 qualifications of a counselors for licensure or certification and issuance of  
25 license, is amended to read as follows:

26 (2) Have received a high school diploma or a high school  
27 equivalency diploma approved by the ~~Department of Career Education~~ Adult  
28 Education Section of the Division of Workforce Services;

29  
30 SECTION 2350. Arkansas Code § 23-115-103(11), concerning the  
31 definition of "lobbying" under the Arkansas Scholarship Lottery Act, is  
32 amended to read as follows:

33 (11) "Lobbying" means communicating directly or soliciting  
34 others to communicate with the Director of the Office of the Arkansas  
35 Lottery, the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and  
36 Administration, any employee of the office, or a member of the Legislative

1 Council with the purpose of influencing the actions of the office or the  
2 Legislative Council;

3

4 SECTION 2351. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 23-115-  
5 103(22)(I), concerning the definition of "operating expenses" under the  
6 Arkansas Scholarship Lottery Act, is amended to read as follows:

7 (I) Payments to the ~~Department~~ Division of Higher  
8 Education to:

9

10 SECTION 2352. Arkansas Code § 23-115-103(22)(I)(i) and (ii),  
11 concerning the definition of "operating expenses" under the Arkansas  
12 Scholarship Lottery Act, are amended to read as follows:

13 (i) Reimburse the ~~Department~~ Division of Higher  
14 Education for the costs of administering scholarship awards funded with net  
15 proceeds; and

16 (ii) Replenish nonlottery state educational  
17 resources expended by the ~~Department~~ Division of Higher Education on  
18 scholarship awards otherwise funded with net proceeds;

19

20 SECTION 2353. Arkansas Code § 23-115-103(22)(M), concerning the  
21 definition of "operating expenses" under the Arkansas Scholarship Lottery  
22 Act, is amended to read as follows:

23 (M) Management fees charged by a financial institution to  
24 manage a trust account or fund maintained by the ~~Department~~ Division of  
25 Higher Education or the office;

26

27 SECTION 2354. Arkansas Code § 23-115-104(c)(2), concerning the  
28 requirement of a fiscal impact statement to accompany a proposed bill, is  
29 amended to read as follows:

30 (2) The ~~Department~~ Division of Higher Education or the office,  
31 as applicable, shall assist in the preparation of the fiscal impact  
32 statement.

33

34 SECTION 2355. Arkansas Code § 23-115-205(a)(22)(B), concerning the  
35 powers of the Office of the Arkansas Lottery, is amended to read as follows:

36 (B) The office shall seek the advice of the ~~Department~~

1 Division of Higher Education when advertising to promote scholarships and  
2 grants funded by net proceeds;

3

4 SECTION 2356. Arkansas Code § 23-115-603(a)(3), concerning the  
5 fidelity fund, retailer fee, reserve account to cover losses, and a retailer  
6 bond, is amended to read as follows:

7 (3) At the end of each fiscal year, the office shall pay to the  
8 trust account managed and maintained by the ~~Department~~ Division of Higher  
9 Education any amount in the fidelity fund that exceeds five hundred thousand  
10 dollars (\$500,000), and the funds shall be considered net proceeds from a  
11 lottery.

12

13 SECTION 2357. Arkansas Code § 23-115-1101(a)(4), concerning the duties  
14 of the Legislative Council, is amended to read as follows:

15 (4) Review reports filed with the Legislative Council by the  
16 ~~Department~~ Division of Higher Education, including without limitation reports  
17 filed under §§ 6-85-205 and 6-85-220;

18

19 SECTION 2358. Arkansas Code § 24-1-301(2)(F)(i) and (ii), concerning  
20 the forfeiture of public retirement system benefits, are amended to read as  
21 follows:

22 (i) A college, university, or the ~~Department~~  
23 Division of Higher Education provided for under § 24-7-801 et seq.; and

24 (ii) A vocational-technical school or the ~~Department~~  
25 Division of Career and Technical Education, Adult Education Section of the  
26 Division of Workforce Services, and the Office of Skills Development,  
27 provided for under § 24-7-901 et seq.;

28

29 SECTION 2359. Arkansas Code § 24-2-302(2), concerning the  
30 classification of members in the Arkansas Public Employees' Retirement  
31 System, is amended to read as follows:

32 (2) All eligible employees of the ~~Department~~ Division of  
33 Arkansas State Police shall be members of the State Police Retirement System;

34

35 SECTION 2360. Arkansas Code § 24-2-302(3)(D), concerning the  
36 classification of members in the Arkansas Public Employees' Retirement

1 System, is amended to read as follows:

2 (D) Any person employed in a position requiring  
3 professional training or certification with an area vocational-technical  
4 school or employed by the Arkansas Educational Television Commission, except  
5 that employees of area vocational-technical schools and the ~~Department~~  
6 Division of Career and Technical Education, Adult Education Section of the  
7 Division of Workforce Services, and the Office of Skills Development, who  
8 have elected to participate in an alternate retirement plan established by §§  
9 24-7-901 and 24-7-903 – 24-7-908 shall be active members of the alternate  
10 retirement plan; and

11

12 SECTION 2361. Arkansas Code § 24-2-302(3)(E)(i), concerning the  
13 classification of members in the Arkansas Public Employees' Retirement  
14 System, is amended to read as follows:

15 (E)(i) Any person employed in a position requiring  
16 professional training or certification with the Arkansas Rehabilitation  
17 Services of the ~~Department of Career Education~~ Division of Workforce  
18 Services, the Division of State Services for the Blind of the Department of  
19 Human Services, or the Division of Youth Services of the Department of Human  
20 Services except those employees who have elected coverage under § 24-4-101 et  
21 seq.

22

23 SECTION 2362. Arkansas Code § 24-2-401(3)(F)(i) and (ii), concerning  
24 the Arkansas Public Employees' Retirement System, are amended to read as  
25 follows:

26 (i) A college, university, or the ~~Department~~  
27 Division of Higher Education provided for under § 24-7-801 et seq.; or

28 (ii) A vocational-technical school or the ~~Department~~  
29 Division of Career and Technical Education, Adult Education Section of the  
30 Division of Workforce Services, and the Office of Skills Development,  
31 provided for under § 24-7-901 et seq.; or

32

33 SECTION 2363. Arkansas Code § 24-2-401(4)(D)(i) and (ii), concerning  
34 the Arkansas Public Employees' Retirement System, are amended to read as  
35 follows:

36 (i) A college, university, or the ~~Department~~

1 Division of Higher Education whose employees are covered by an alternate  
2 retirement plan provided for under § 24-7-801 et seq.; or

3 (ii) A vocational-technical school or the ~~Department~~  
4 Division of Career and Technical Education, Adult Education Section of the  
5 Division of Workforce Services, and the Office of Skills Development, whose  
6 employees are covered by an alternate retirement plan provided for under §  
7 24-7-901 et seq.

8

9 SECTION 2364. Arkansas Code § 24-2-703(b)(1), concerning tax  
10 exemptions regarding the Arkansas Public Employees' Retirement System, is  
11 amended to read as follows:

12 (b)(1) It is the purpose of this section to provide equitable tax  
13 treatment to persons receiving benefits from alternate publicly supported  
14 retirement or annuity plans of the state's colleges and universities and the  
15 ~~Department~~ Division of Higher Education.

16

17 SECTION 2365. Arkansas Code § 24-4-101(17)(A)(i)(a), concerning the  
18 Arkansas Public Employees' Retirement System, is amended to read as follows:

19 (17)(A)(i)(a) "Employees" means all officers and employees of  
20 any office, agency, board, commission, including the ~~Department~~ Division of  
21 Higher Education, or ~~Department~~ department of a public employer whose  
22 compensations were or are payable from funds appropriated by the public  
23 employer and all otherwise eligible employees whose compensations were or are  
24 payable in whole or part from federal funds, as well as the official court  
25 reporters and stenographers of the circuit and chancery courts of the state  
26 and all of the prosecuting attorneys of the judicial districts of Arkansas.

27

28 SECTION 2366. Arkansas Code § 24-4-101(34)(B)(i)(b), concerning the  
29 definition of "public safety member" under the laws of the Arkansas Public  
30 Employees' Retirement System, is amended to read as follows:

31 (b) "Police officer" includes a wildlife  
32 officer of the Arkansas State Game and Fish Commission, a drug enforcement  
33 officer of a judicial drug taskforce, a civilian firefighter of the ~~State~~  
34 ~~Military Department~~ Department of the Military covered under § 24-4-1004, and  
35 all officers and the Chief of the State Capitol Police within the office of  
36 the Secretary of State.

1  
2 SECTION 2367. Arkansas Code § 24-4-522(c)(2), concerning the  
3 applicability of benefit provisions of the Arkansas Public Employees'  
4 Retirement System, is amended to read as follows:

5 (2)(A) Employees of the Department of Human Services and  
6 employees of the Arkansas Rehabilitation Services of the ~~Department of Career~~  
7 ~~Education~~ Division of Workforce Services shall be entitled to the benefit  
8 amount computed by applying the benefit provisions prescribed by this chapter  
9 for all credited service rendered before and after January 1, 1978, except  
10 that benefit amounts based upon employment before January 1, 1978, shall not  
11 be less than benefit amounts computed in accordance with benefit provisions  
12 in effect December 31, 1977.

13 (B) On and after January 1, 1993, employees of the  
14 Arkansas Rehabilitation Services of the ~~Department of Career Education~~  
15 Division of Workforce Services who elected to be covered by the provisions of  
16 this subsection and who are still active employees on January 1, 1993, shall  
17 be entitled to the benefit amount computed by applying the benefit provisions  
18 prescribed by this chapter for all credited service rendered before and after  
19 January 1, 1978, except that benefit amounts based upon employment before  
20 January 1, 1978, shall be computed in accordance with current benefit  
21 provisions in effect for the Arkansas Teacher Retirement System at the time  
22 of their retirement.

23  
24 SECTION 2368. Arkansas Code § 24-4-901(d)(6), concerning credited  
25 service and reciprocity of the Arkansas Retirement Plan, is amended to read  
26 as follows:

27 (6) An alternate retirement plan for a college, university, or  
28 the ~~Department~~ Division of Higher Education provided for under § 24-8-101 et  
29 seq. or for a vocational-technical school or the ~~Department~~ Division of  
30 Career Services, Adult Education Section of the Division of Workforce  
31 Services, and the Office of Skills Development, provided for under § 24-9-201  
32 et seq.; and

33  
34 SECTION 2369. Arkansas Code § 24-7-202(17)(B)(ii), concerning the  
35 definition of "employment with a school" under the laws governing the  
36 Arkansas Teacher Retirement System, is amended to read as follows:

1 (ii) Area vocational-technical schools, except those  
2 employees of area vocational schools and the ~~Department~~ Division of Career  
3 Services, Adult Education Section of the Division of Workforce Services, and  
4 the Office of Skills Development, who have elected to participate in an  
5 alternate retirement plan established by §§ 24-7-901 and 24-7-903 – 24-7-908;  
6

7 SECTION 2370. Arkansas Code § 24-7-202(17)(C), concerning the  
8 definition of "employment with a school" under the laws governing the  
9 Arkansas Teacher Retirement System, is amended to read as follows:

10 (C) Employment by the Arkansas Rehabilitation Services of  
11 the ~~Department of Career Education~~ Division of Workforce Services except  
12 those employees who have elected to participate in the Arkansas Public  
13 Employees' Retirement System;  
14

15 SECTION 2371. Arkansas Code § 24-7-801(1), concerning the definition  
16 of "alternate retirement plan" under the laws providing for an alternate  
17 retirement plan for state colleges, is amended to read as follows:

18 (1) "Alternate retirement plan" means a retirement plan based on  
19 the purchase of contracts providing retirement and death benefits for the  
20 employees of Arkansas State University, the ~~department~~ Division of Higher  
21 Education employees, and employees of Arkansas' state-supported universities,  
22 colleges, or junior colleges that are not a part of the University of  
23 Arkansas System;  
24

25 SECTION 2372. Arkansas Code § 24-7-801(4), concerning the definition  
26 of "department employees" under the laws providing for an alternate  
27 retirement plan for state colleges, is amended to read as follows:

28 (4) "~~Department~~ Division employees" means the Director of the  
29 ~~Department~~ Division of Higher Education and the professional education  
30 employees of the ~~Department~~ Division of Higher Education;  
31

32 SECTION 2373. Arkansas Code § 24-7-804 is amended to read as follows:

33 24-7-804. Establishment and administration of plan.

34 (a) The board of any college and the Arkansas Higher Education  
35 Coordinating Board may establish and maintain an alternate retirement plan  
36 which shall authorize the purchase of contracts providing retirement and

1 death benefits for staff members and employees of the ~~Department~~ Division of  
2 Higher Education.

3 (b) Under the plan, staff members and ~~department~~ division employees  
4 shall contribute, to the extent authorized or required, toward the purchase  
5 of the contracts, which shall be issued to and become the property of the  
6 participants.

7 (c) The board of any college which elects to establish and maintain an  
8 alternate retirement plan and the Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of  
9 Higher Education, if it elects to establish and maintain a plan, shall have  
10 authority to administer the plan and to perform or authorize the performance  
11 of all such functions as may be reasonably appropriate in its administration.  
12

13 SECTION 2374. Arkansas Code § 24-7-805(b) and (c), concerning the  
14 methods of providing benefits and an agent for service of process for the  
15 alternate retirement plan for state colleges, are amended to read as follows:

16 (b) The benefits to be provided for or on behalf of staff members and  
17 employees of the ~~Department~~ Division of Higher Education under an alternate  
18 retirement plan may be provided through insurance policies and annuity  
19 contracts, both fixed and variable in nature, or a combination thereof, as  
20 specified in the plan, which insurance policies and annuity contracts may be  
21 obtained from any insurance company authorized to do business in this state  
22 or from any nonprofit company organized and operated exclusively for the  
23 purpose of aiding and strengthening educational or scientific institutions by  
24 issuing insurance or annuity contracts only to or for the benefit of such  
25 institutions or individuals engaged in their services.

26 (c) In any action brought by a staff member or ~~department~~ division  
27 employee on a policy or contract, any official of the college or the Director  
28 of the ~~Department~~ Division of Higher Education shall be deemed to be the  
29 agent of the nonprofit company only for the purpose of service of process on  
30 the contract or policy, and for no other purpose.  
31

32 SECTION 2375. Arkansas Code § 24-7-806(a), concerning the procedure  
33 for designation of companies to provide benefit contracts for the alternate  
34 plan for state colleges, is amended to read as follows:

35 (a) The board of each college or university, or the Arkansas Higher  
36 Education Coordinating Board of the ~~Department~~ Division of Higher Education,

1 shall designate the companies from which contracts are to be purchased under  
2 the alternate retirement plan and shall approve the form and contents of the  
3 contracts.

4  
5 SECTION 2376. Arkansas Code § 24-7-807(5)(A) and (B), concerning  
6 participation in an alternate retirement plan for state colleges, is amended  
7 to read as follows:

8 (5)(A)(i) Any ~~Department~~ Division of Higher Education employee  
9 who transferred from another state department or division covered by a state-  
10 supported retirement system may elect to participate in an alternate  
11 retirement plan.

12 (ii) The employee shall file written notice of his  
13 or her election with the Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of Higher  
14 Education.

15 (B)(i) Any ~~department~~ division employee with five (5) or  
16 more years of actual service who elects to participate only in the alternate  
17 retirement plan and who has left his or her contributions in the retirement  
18 system shall be eligible to receive an annuity on or after attaining the  
19 normal retirement age and on his or her retirement from covered employment.

20 (ii) The amount of the annuity shall be determined  
21 by the benefit formula of the retirement system at the time of his or her  
22 retirement.

23  
24 SECTION 2377. Arkansas Code § 24-7-808 is amended to read as follows:  
25 24-7-808. Contributions.

26 (a)(1) Any college or university which elects to establish and  
27 maintain an alternate retirement plan, and the Arkansas Higher Education  
28 Coordinating Board if it so elects, shall contribute to that plan on behalf  
29 of each staff member who elects to participate in the alternate retirement  
30 plan, or employee of the ~~Department~~ Division of Higher Education, six percent  
31 (6%) of his or her total regular compensation during the continuance of his  
32 or her employment.

33 (2) Each staff member who elects to participate in the alternate  
34 retirement plan, or ~~department~~ division employee, at the discretion of the  
35 college or university, shall also contribute thereto six percent (6%) of his  
36 or her total regular compensation.

1 (b)(1) At its discretion, the ~~department~~ division, college, or  
2 university may contribute a minimum of an additional four percent (4%) of the  
3 staff member's total regular compensation.

4 (2) The ~~department~~ division, college, or university may  
5 contribute an amount so that the percentage rate in subdivision (a)(1) of  
6 this section plus the additional rate in subdivision (b)(1) of this section  
7 equals the total employer contribution rate under the Arkansas Teacher  
8 Retirement System if the college or university determines that sufficient  
9 funds are available to pay that contribution rate.

10 (3) Each staff member may be required to match that additional  
11 contribution by contributing a percentage of his or her total regular  
12 compensation as determined by the ~~department~~ division, college, or  
13 university.

14 (c) In addition to the contributions defined in subsections (a) and  
15 (b) of this section, the ~~department~~ division or any college or university  
16 which elects to establish and maintain an alternate retirement plan may  
17 permit a newly eligible employee who elects to establish and maintain an  
18 alternate retirement plan and may permit a newly eligible employee who elects  
19 to participate in an alternate retirement plan to make incremental increases  
20 in plan contributions to reach the required contribution level by completion  
21 of the fourth year of participation in the alternate retirement plan.

22 (d) Payment of contributions authorized by this section shall be made  
23 by the disbursing officer of the college or university and by the state  
24 official charged with the duty of paying salaries to ~~department~~ division  
25 employees to the designated companies in accordance with the provisions of  
26 this section.

27  
28 SECTION 2378. Arkansas Code § 24-7-907(4)(B), concerning participation  
29 in an alternate retirement plan for vocational-technical schools, is amended  
30 to read as follows:

31 (B) The notice of election shall be in writing on a form  
32 established by the division and filed with both the Director of the  
33 ~~Department of Career Education~~ Division of Higher Education and the  
34 retirement system.

35  
36 SECTION 2379. Arkansas Code § 24-7-1601(a)(2), concerning the Arkansas

1 Teacher Retirement System, is amended to read as follows:

2 (2) Confusion about the intent of the General Assembly  
3 concerning the coverage of employees of state-supported universities,  
4 colleges, junior colleges, and vocational-technical schools, the Arkansas  
5 Higher Education Coordinating Board, the ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of  
6 Career and Technical Education, Adult Education Section, Office of Skills  
7 Development, and Arkansas Rehabilitation Services, and any other entity  
8 offering both the Arkansas Teacher Retirement System retirement plan and an  
9 alternate retirement plan create uncertainty in the administration of law,  
10 and legislative clarification of the law is needed.

11

12 SECTION 2380. Arkansas Code § 25-4-125(b)(1)(A), concerning the State  
13 Broadband Manager, is amended to read as follows:

14 (A) State agencies, boards, commissions, and  
15 constitutional officers, including without limitation the Governor,  
16 Department of Education, ~~Department of Higher Education~~, and Arkansas  
17 Department of Transportation;

18

19 SECTION 2381. Arkansas Code § 25-6-101 is amended to read as follows:  
20 25-6-101. Purpose.

21 It is intended that all authority and responsibility of the State Board  
22 of Education be administered through the ~~Department of Education~~ Division of  
23 Elementary and Secondary Education under the direction and supervision of the  
24 Commissioner of Elementary and Secondary Education.

25

26 SECTION 2382. Arkansas Code § 25-6-102(a), concerning the organization  
27 and Commissioner of the Department of Education, is amended to read as  
28 follows:

29 (a) The ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary  
30 Education shall consist of:

31 (1) The State Board of Education;

32 (2) The ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and  
33 Secondary Education under the direction and supervision of the Commissioner  
34 of Elementary and Secondary Education; and

35 (3) Any divisions or subdivisions as presently exist within the  
36 ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary Education or as

1 may be created by the State Board of Education or as created by law and  
2 placed under the ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary  
3 Education.

4  
5 SECTION 2383. Arkansas Code § 25-6-107(a)(1), concerning the local  
6 education agency numbers, is amended to read as follows:

7 (a)(1) The ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and  
8 Secondary Education is the sole and official issuer of local education agency  
9 numbers to educational entities in the state.

10  
11 SECTION 2384. Arkansas Code § 25-7-101 is amended to read as follows:  
12 25-7-101. Creation – Director – Organization – Personnel.

13 (a) There is created a ~~Department~~ Division of Higher Education.

14 (b)(1) The executive head of the ~~department~~ division shall be the  
15 Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of Higher Education.

16 (2) The director shall be appointed, in consultation with the  
17 Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board, by the Governor and shall serve  
18 at the pleasure of the Governor.

19 (3) The director shall report to the Secretary of the Department  
20 of Education.

21 (c) The ~~department~~ division shall consist of the Arkansas Higher  
22 Education Coordinating Board and any other divisions which may be created by  
23 law and placed under the ~~department~~ Division of Higher Education.

24 (d) The director, with the advice and consent of the Governor, and the  
25 Secretary of the Department of Education, shall appoint the heads of the  
26 respective divisions. All of the personnel of the ~~department~~ Division of  
27 Higher Education shall be employed by and serve at the pleasure of the  
28 director. Provided, nothing in this section shall be so construed as to  
29 reduce any right which an employee shall have under any civil service or  
30 merit system.

31 (e) Each division of the ~~department~~ Division of Higher Education shall  
32 be under the direction, control, and supervision of the director. The  
33 director may delegate his or her functions, powers, and duties to various  
34 divisions of the Department as he or she shall deem desirable or necessary  
35 for the effective and efficient operation of the ~~department~~ Division of  
36 Higher Education.

1 (f) The several institutions of higher education in this state shall  
2 be requested to cooperate with the ~~department~~ Division of Higher Education in  
3 an effort to coordinate their programs.

4  
5 SECTION 2385. Arkansas Code § 25-10-144(b)(1), concerning the creation  
6 of the Governor's Advisory Commission on National Service and Volunteerism,  
7 is amended to read as follows:

8 (1) Assist the community engagement program and staff of the  
9 Director's Office of the ~~Department of Human Services~~ Division of Higher  
10 Education in setting goals, establishing priority activities, performing an  
11 advocacy role, and assisting in funding and resource development and  
12 publicity and recognition and awards programs; and

13  
14 SECTION 2386. Arkansas Code § 25-10-144(c)(2)(H) and (I), concerning  
15 the creation of the Governor's Advisory Commission on National Service and  
16 Volunteerism, are amended to add an additional subdivision and to read as  
17 follows:

18 (H) One (1) or more members representing a national  
19 service program described in 42 U.S.C. § 12572, as it existed on January 1,  
20 2015; ~~and~~

21 (I) The Commissioner of Elementary and Secondary Education  
22 or his or her designee; ~~and~~

23 (J) One (1) or more members representing the volunteer  
24 sector.

25  
26 SECTION 2387. Arkansas Code § 25-24-103 is amended to read as follows:  
27 25-24-103. Staff of commission.

28 (a)(1) The Governor shall appoint ~~an executive director~~ the Director  
29 of the Martin Luther King, Jr. Commission.

30 (2) The ~~executive~~ director shall serve at the pleasure of the  
31 Governor.

32 (3) The director shall report to the Secretary of the Department  
33 of Education.

34 (b) The ~~commission~~ Department of Education may employ staff and  
35 consultants on behalf of the commission as authorized by law and fix their  
36 compensation, duties, authority, and responsibilities.

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SECTION 2388. Arkansas Code § 25-30-102(a)(2), concerning the powers and duties of the Career Education and Workforce Development Board, is amended to read as follows:

(2) All policy issues affecting the public schools will be developed by the ~~Career Education and Workforce Development Board after consultation with the~~ State Board of Education and implemented in coordination with the ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary Education or the education service cooperatives, or both.

SECTION 2389. Arkansas Code § 25-30-104 is amended to read as follows:  
25-30-104. Coordination with State Board of Education and ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary Education.

The ~~Career Education and Workforce Development Board and the~~ State Board of Education shall coordinate their activities to ensure that academic, workplace, and technical skills create opportunities for a strong comprehensive education regardless of the student's ultimate career choice.

SECTION 2390. Arkansas Code § 25-30-106 is amended to read as follows:  
25-30-106. ~~Department~~ Division of Career and Technical Education.

(a) There is created the ~~Department~~ Division of Career and Technical Education within the Department of Education.

(b)(1) ~~The Arkansas Rehabilitation Services as an agency responsible to the Career Education and Workforce Development Board and as a part of the Department of Career Education shall function as an agency in accordance with § 6-52-101 et seq. and § 25-30-201 et seq.~~

(2) ~~This subchapter shall assure that the Arkansas Rehabilitation Services functions organizationally at a level at least equal to that of any division or entity of the Department of Career Education.~~

(c) ~~The Governor shall appoint a director of the Department of Career Education who shall:~~

(1) ~~Be a member of the Governor's cabinet;~~

(2) ~~Be confirmed by the Governor; and~~

(3)(2) ~~Serve at the pleasure of the Governor.~~

(d) ~~The director shall devote all of his or her time to the duties of his or her office, shall act as agent of the board, and shall perform such~~

1 ~~other duties as are designated by the board or by statute.~~

2 ~~(e) The director shall serve as the ex officio secretary of the board~~  
3 ~~without vote.~~

4 ~~(f) The person selected as director shall:~~

5 ~~(1) Be of good moral character;~~

6 ~~(2) Be recognized as a leader in the field of vocational or~~  
7 ~~workforce education;~~

8 ~~(3) Have a bachelor's degree from an accredited institution; and~~

9 ~~(4) Be qualified technically and by experience to direct the~~  
10 ~~work of the Department of Career Education.~~

11 ~~(g) No person who is related within the fourth degree of consanguinity~~  
12 ~~or affinity to any member of the board shall be eligible to serve as director~~  
13 ~~of the Department of Career Education.~~

14  
15 SECTION 2391. Arkansas Code § 25-30-107 is amended to read as follows:

16 25-30-107. Powers and duties of the ~~Department~~ Division of Career and  
17 Technical Education.

18 (a)(1) All personnel of the ~~Department~~ Division of Career and  
19 Technical Education shall be employed by and serve at the pleasure of the  
20 ~~Director of the Department of Career Education~~ Secretary of the Department of  
21 Education.

22 (2) However, this section does not reduce any rights or benefits  
23 of employees, including retirement benefits, that they had when employed by  
24 the Department of Career Education.

25 (b)(1) The authority and responsibility of the ~~Career Education and~~  
26 ~~Workforce Development Board~~ State Board of Education and the ~~department~~  
27 division shall include general control and supervision of all programs of  
28 vocational, technical, and occupational education in secondary institutions.

29 (2) This authority shall apply to programs in:

30 ~~(A) State technical institutes;~~

31 ~~(B) State postsecondary vocational schools;~~

32 ~~(C) State area vocational high school centers;~~

33 ~~(D)~~ (B) State public schools; and

34 ~~(E)~~ (C) Any other public educational facility or  
35 institution now in existence or hereafter established in the state with the  
36 exception of technical colleges, community colleges, universities, and

1 colleges.

2

3 SECTION 2392. Arkansas Code § 25-30-108 is repealed.

4 ~~25-30-108. Authority of Director of the Department of Career Education~~  
5 ~~to enter into contracts.~~

6 ~~The Director of the Department of Career Education may enter into~~  
7 ~~contracts with private organizations licensed by the State Board of Education~~  
8 ~~or the Department of Career Education in order to provide vocational-~~  
9 ~~technical training to needy citizens of the State of Arkansas.~~

10

11 SECTION 2393. Arkansas Code § 26-18-303(a), concerning records held by  
12 the Department of Finance and Administration, the confidentiality of those  
13 records, and privilege and exceptions, is amended to read as follows:

14 (a)(1) The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and  
15 Administration is the official custodian of all records and files required by  
16 any state tax law to be filed with the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department  
17 of Finance and Administration and is required to take all steps necessary to  
18 maintain their confidentiality.

19 (2)(A)(i) Except as otherwise provided by this chapter, the  
20 records and files of the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and  
21 Administration concerning the administration of any state tax law are  
22 confidential and privileged.

23 (ii) These records and files and any information  
24 obtained from these records or files or from any examination or inspection of  
25 the premises or property of any taxpayer shall not be divulged or disclosed  
26 by the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration or  
27 any other person who may have obtained these records and files.

28 (B) It is the specific intent of this chapter that all tax  
29 returns, audit reports, and information pertaining to any tax returns,  
30 whether filed by individuals, corporations, partnerships, or fiduciaries,  
31 shall not be subject to the provisions of the Freedom of Information Act of  
32 1967, § 25-19-101 et seq.

33

34 SECTION 2394. Arkansas Code § 26-36-303(1)(A)(vi), concerning a setoff  
35 against state tax refunds, is amended to read as follows:

36 (vi) The ~~Department~~ Division of Higher Education;

1  
2 SECTION 2395. Arkansas Code § 26-36-303(1)(A)(xi), concerning a setoff  
3 against state tax refunds, is amended to read as follows:

4 (xi) The Office of Personnel Management ~~of the~~  
5 ~~Department of Finance and Administration;~~

6  
7 SECTION 2396. Arkansas Code § 26-36-303(4), concerning a setoff  
8 against state tax refunds, is repealed.

9 ~~(4) "Division" means the Revenue Division of the Department of~~  
10 ~~Finance and Administration;~~

11  
12 SECTION 2397. Arkansas Code § 26-36-303(5), concerning a setoff  
13 against state tax refunds, is amended to read as follows:

14 (5) "Refund" means the Arkansas income tax refund that the  
15 ~~division~~ Revenue Division of the Department of Finance and Administration  
16 determines to be due any individual taxpayer less any amounts determined by  
17 the ~~division~~ Revenue Division of the Department of Finance and Administration  
18 to be due to the ~~division~~ Revenue Division of the Department of Finance and  
19 Administration for payment of any state tax as defined in the Arkansas Tax  
20 Procedure Act, § 26-18-101 et seq.; and

21  
22 SECTION 2398. Arkansas Code § 26-51-509(c)(1)(B), concerning youth  
23 apprenticeship programs, is amended to read as follows:

24 (B) If the apprentice is employed as described in  
25 subdivision (a)(2) of this section, the ~~Department of Career Education Office~~  
26 of Skills Development.

27  
28 SECTION 2399. Arkansas Code § 26-51-509(g)(2), concerning youth  
29 apprenticeship programs, is amended to read as follows:

30 (2) The Department of Finance and Administration shall consult  
31 with the ~~office~~ United States Office of Apprenticeship and the ~~Department of~~  
32 ~~Career Education Office of Skills Development~~ during the promulgation of the  
33 rules.

34  
35 SECTION 2400. Arkansas Code § 26-51-1101(1), concerning the definition  
36 of "accredited institution of higher education" under the laws governing

1 donations or sales of equipment to educational institutions, is amended to  
2 read as follows:

3 (1) "Accredited institution of higher education" means a four-  
4 year public college or university that offers bachelor's degrees and is  
5 recognized by the ~~Department~~ Division of Higher Education for credit;

6  
7 SECTION 2401. Arkansas Code § 26-51-1101(5), concerning the definition  
8 of "qualified education program" under the laws governing donations or sales  
9 of equipment to educational institutions, is amended to read as follows:

10 (5) "Qualified education program" means a program conducted by a  
11 qualified educational institution under rules prescribed by the ~~Department~~  
12 Division of Higher Education for programs in colleges, universities, or  
13 junior colleges, by the ~~Department of Workforce Education~~ Division of Career  
14 and Technical Education for programs in vocational technical training schools  
15 and by the ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary  
16 Education for programs in elementary or secondary schools, all of which  
17 programs are for the purpose of promoting the use of new machinery and  
18 equipment for classroom, laboratory, and other educational instruction;

19  
20 SECTION 2402. Arkansas Code § 26-51-1101(8), concerning the definition  
21 of "qualified research program" under the laws governing donations or sales  
22 of equipment to educational institutions, is amended to read as follows:

23 (8) "Qualified research program" means a program of applied or  
24 basic research undertaken by a qualified educational institution pursuant to  
25 rules jointly prescribed by the Division of Science and Technology of the  
26 Arkansas Economic Development Commission and the ~~Department~~ Division of  
27 Higher Education under § 15-3-110;

28  
29 SECTION 2403. Arkansas Code § 26-80-101(b)(4)(A)(ii)(b), concerning a  
30 uniform rate of tax, is amended to read as follows:

31 (b) ~~Department~~ Division of Elementary and  
32 Secondary Education; and

33  
34 SECTION 2404. Arkansas Code § 26-80-101(b)(4)(A)(vi), concerning a  
35 uniform rate of tax, is amended to read as follows:

36 (vi) The ~~Department~~ Division of Elementary and

1 Secondary Education shall notify the Assessment Coordination ~~Department~~  
2 Division if a county treasurer violates subdivision (b)(4)(A)(ii) of this  
3 section and withholding of reappraisal funding under this subdivision  
4 (b)(4)(A) is authorized.

5  
6 SECTION 2405. Arkansas Code § 26-80-102(a)(3)(B), concerning approval  
7 of taxes at elections, is amended to read as follows:

8 (B) However, if the rate approved has been modified  
9 pursuant to the uniform rate of tax calculated by the ~~Department~~ Division of  
10 Elementary and Secondary Education, then the tax shall be collected at the  
11 modified rate until another rate is approved.

12  
13 SECTION 2406. Arkansas Code § 26-80-403 is amended to read as follows:

14 26-80-403. Establishment of compliance.

15 Compliance with the uniform rate of tax shall be established by the  
16 ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary Education in  
17 coordination with the Assessment Coordination ~~Department~~ Division.

18  
19 SECTION 2407. Arkansas Code § 26-80-404 is amended to read as follows:

20 26-80-404. Calculation of compliance with the uniform rate of tax.

21 (a) On or before October 1 of each year, the ~~Department of Education~~  
22 Division of Elementary and Secondary Education, in conjunction with the  
23 Assessment Coordination ~~Department~~ Division, shall monitor each school  
24 district's compliance with the uniform rate of tax.

25 (b)(1) The ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and  
26 Secondary Education and the Assessment Coordination ~~Department~~ Division  
27 shall determine compliance with the uniform rate of tax by analyzing the  
28 millage rate levied for maintenance and operation millage from the most  
29 recent school election in a school district in which the ad valorem tax rate  
30 was voted upon.

31 (2) If the millage rate levied for maintenance and operation  
32 millage is equal to or greater than twenty-five (25) mills, then the school  
33 district is in compliance with the uniform rate of tax and Arkansas  
34 Constitution, Amendment 74.

35  
36 SECTION 2408. Arkansas Code § 27-16-701(e), concerning an application

1 for a commercial or noncommercial driver's license or instruction permit and  
2 restricted permits, is amended to read as follows:

3 (e) The ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary  
4 Education shall develop guidelines for use by school districts to provide a  
5 certified exemption from the "C" average requirement of subdivisions (d)(1)-  
6 (3) of this section to a student found to be performing at his or her fullest  
7 level of capability although that may be below a "C" average.

8  
9 SECTION 2409. Arkansas Code § 27-20-109 is amended to read as follows:  
10 27-20-109. Operator instruction.

11 (a) The ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary  
12 Education is authorized to prescribe and offer a course in motorcycle and  
13 motor-driven cycle operator instruction to be conducted as a part of the  
14 driver education program.

15 (b)(1) The course in motorcycle and motor-driven cycle operation may  
16 be conducted both at the elementary and high school levels.

17 (2) The course should include classroom instruction, actual  
18 operation of a motorcycle or motor-driven cycle, and other matters that the  
19 ~~department~~ division may determine to be necessary to properly equip the  
20 student to safely operate a motorcycle.

21  
22 SECTION 2410. Arkansas Code § 27-24-1102(4), concerning agriculture  
23 education, is amended to read as follows:

24 (4) Certifies to the ~~Department~~ Division of Higher Education  
25 that its students are accepted for transfer at institutions accredited by an  
26 accrediting agency recognized by the ~~federal~~ United States Department of  
27 Education; and

28  
29 SECTION 2411. Arkansas Code Title 25, Chapter 43, is amended to add an  
30 additional subchapter to read as follows:

31 Subchapter 6 – Department of Energy and Environment

32  
33 25-43-601. Department of Energy and Environment.

34 There is created the Department of Energy and Environment as a cabinet-  
35 level department.

1 25-43-602. State entities transferred to Department of Energy and  
2 Environment.

3 (a) The administrative functions of the following state entities are  
4 transferred to the Department of Energy and Environment by a cabinet level  
5 transfer:

6 (1) The Advisory Committee on Petroleum Storage Tanks, created  
7 under § 8-7-904;

8 (2) The Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality, now to be  
9 known as the Division of Environmental Quality, created under § 25-43-604;

10 (3) The Arkansas Geological Survey, created under § 15-55-201;

11 (4) The Arkansas Pollution Control and Ecology Commission,  
12 created under § 8-4-104;

13 (5) The Liquefied Petroleum Gas Board, created under § 15-75-  
14 201;

15 (6) The Nutrient Water Quality Trading Advisory Panel, created  
16 under § 8-4-233; and

17 (7) The Oil and Gas Commission, created under § 15-71-101.

18 (b) Unless otherwise provided by law, a cabinet-level department  
19 transfer under subsection (a) of this section includes all state entities  
20 under a state entity transferred to the Department of Energy and Environment  
21 under subsection (a) of this section, including without limitation a  
22 division, office, program, or other unit of a state entity transferred to the  
23 Department of Energy and Environment under subsection (a) of this section.

24 (c) Unless otherwise provided by law, a state entity whose  
25 administrative functions have been transferred to the Department of Energy  
26 and Environment under subsection (a) of this section shall otherwise continue  
27 to exercise the duties of the state entity under the administration of the  
28 cabinet-level Department of Energy and Environment in the same manner as  
29 before the creation of the cabinet-level department.

30  
31 25-43-603. Secretary of the Department of Energy and Environment.

32 (a) The executive head of the Department of Energy and Environment  
33 shall be the Secretary of the Department of Energy and Environment.

34 (b) The secretary shall be appointed by the Governor, subject to  
35 confirmation by the Senate, and shall serve at the pleasure of the Governor.

36 (c) Each division of the department shall be under the direction,

1 control, and supervision of the secretary.

2 (d) The secretary may delegate his or her functions, powers, and  
3 duties to various divisions or employees of the department as he or she shall  
4 deem desirable and necessary for the effective and efficient operation of the  
5 department.

6 (e) The secretary may, unless otherwise provided by law:

7 (1) Hire department personnel;

8 (2) Perform or assign duties assigned to the department; and

9 (3) Serve as the director, or the administrative or executive  
10 head of any state entity under the administrative control of the department,  
11 if the secretary also meets all statutory requirements for the position.

12  
13 25-43-604. Division of Environmental Quality.

14 (a) There is created the Division of Environmental Quality.

15 (b) The Division of Environmental Quality shall consist of the  
16 divisions transferred from the Arkansas Pollution Control and Ecology  
17 Commission as of July 1, 1971, and all other divisions, programs, and offices  
18 under the Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality as of June 30, 2019.

19 (c) All other departments, divisions, agencies, and commissions within  
20 this state shall cooperate with the Division of Environmental Quality in  
21 fulfilling the Division of Environmental Quality's responsibilities as  
22 defined in this subchapter.

23 (d) All personnel of the Division of Environmental Quality shall be  
24 employed by Department of Energy and Environment and serve at the pleasure of  
25 the Secretary of the Department of Energy and Environment. This subsection  
26 does not reduce any right which an employee in the Division of Environmental  
27 Quality shall have under any civil service or merit system.

28  
29 25-43-605. Director of the Division of Environmental Quality.

30 (a)(1) The executive head of the Division of Environmental Quality  
31 shall be the Director of the Division of Environmental Quality.

32 (2) The director shall be appointed by the Governor with the  
33 advice and consent of the Senate, and shall serve at the pleasure of the  
34 Governor.

35 (3) The director shall report to the Secretary of the Department  
36 of Energy and Environment.

1       (b) The director, with the advice and consent of the secretary, may  
2 organize the Division of Environmental Quality into divisions, offices, or  
3 units which may be necessary to effectively and efficiently administer the  
4 statutory responsibilities of the Division of Environmental Quality.

5       (c) The director, with the advice and consent of the secretary, shall  
6 appoint the heads of the respective divisions, offices, or units of the  
7 Division of Environmental Quality.

8       (d) Each division, office, or unit of the Division of Environmental  
9 Quality shall be under the direction, control, and supervision of the  
10 director. The director may delegate his or her functions, powers, and duties  
11 to various divisions, offices, or units of the Division of Environmental  
12 Quality as he or she shall deem desirable and necessary for the effective and  
13 efficient operation of the Division of Environmental Quality.

14       (e)(1) The director shall be the executive officer and active  
15 administrator of all pollution control activities.

16       (2) All of the powers of the Arkansas Pollution Control and  
17 Ecology Commission under §§ 8-4-201(b)(5), 8-4-203, and 8-4-204 relating to  
18 plans and specifications for disposal systems and permits for the discharge  
19 of sewage, industrial wastes, or other wastes into the waters of the state  
20 are vested in the director.

21  
22       SECTION 2412. Arkansas Code § 2-15-404(b)(6)(A), concerning the State  
23 Plant Board research program, is amended to read as follows:

24               (A) Coordinate with the Arkansas Energy Office of the  
25 ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of Environmental Quality to study the use of  
26 industrial hemp in new energy technologies, including without limitation:

27                       (i) Evaluation of the use of industrial hemp to  
28 generate electricity, and to produce biofuels and other forms of energy  
29 resources;

30                       (ii) Growth of industrial hemp on reclaimed mine  
31 sites;

32                       (iii) Use of hemp seed oil in the production of  
33 fuels; and

34                       (iv) Assessment of the production costs,  
35 environmental issues, and costs and benefits involved with the use of  
36 industrial hemp for energy; and

1  
2 SECTION 2413. Arkansas Code § 2-15-404(b)(8), concerning the State  
3 Plant Board research program, is amended to read as follows:

4 (8) The board shall notify the ~~Department~~ Division of Arkansas  
5 State Police and each local law enforcement agency with jurisdiction of the  
6 duration, size, and location of all industrial hemp demonstration plots.  
7

8 SECTION 2414. Arkansas Code § 2-15-404(b)(10), concerning the State  
9 Plant Board research program, is amended to read as follows:

10 (10) By December 31, 2018, and annually thereafter, the board  
11 shall report on the status and progress of the industrial hemp research  
12 program to the Governor and to the ~~Arkansas Agriculture~~ Department of of  
13 Agriculture.  
14

15 SECTION 2415. Arkansas Code § 2-40-406 is amended to read as follows:

16 2-40-406. ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of Environmental Quality -  
17 Jurisdiction unimpaired.

18 This subchapter shall not be interpreted as denying or preempting the  
19 regulatory or enforcement jurisdiction of the ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of  
20 Environmental Quality.  
21

22 SECTION 2416. Arkansas Code § 2-40-1302(a)(2), concerning disposal of  
23 large animal carcasses, is amended to read as follows:

24 (2) However, no large animal carcass shall be buried or  
25 otherwise disposed of in any landfill operated under a permit issued by the  
26 ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of Environmental Quality.  
27

28 SECTION 2417. Arkansas Code § 8-1-101(a), concerning purpose of the  
29 Arkansas Pollution Control and Ecology Commission, is amended to read as  
30 follows:

31 (a) It is the purpose of this chapter to authorize the Arkansas  
32 Pollution Control and Ecology Commission to establish a system of fees for  
33 the issuance of permits required by §§ 8-4-101 - 8-4-106, 8-4-201 - 8-4-229,  
34 8-4-301 - 8-4-314, 8-6-201 - 8-6-212, 8-6-213 [repealed], 8-6-214, 8-6-215 -  
35 8-6-217 [superseded], and 8-9-403, to defray costs of other services provided  
36 and to authorize the ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of Environmental Quality to

1 collect and enforce these fees.

2

3 SECTION 2418. Arkansas Code § 8-1-102(3) and (4), concerning the  
4 definitions of "department" and "director" regarding the Arkansas Pollution  
5 Control and Ecology Commission, are repealed.

6 ~~(3) "Department" means the Arkansas Department of Environmental~~  
7 ~~Quality;~~

8 ~~(4) "Director" means the executive head and active administrator~~  
9 ~~of the Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality;~~

10

11 SECTION 2419. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 8-1-103,  
12 concerning the powers and duties of the Arkansas Department of Environmental  
13 Quality and the Arkansas Pollution Control and Ecology Commission, is amended  
14 to read as follows:

15 The ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of Environmental Quality and the  
16 Arkansas Pollution Control and Ecology Commission shall have the following  
17 powers and duties, respectively:

18

19 SECTION 2420. Arkansas Code § 8-1-103(1)(B)(ii), concerning the powers  
20 and duties of the Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality and the  
21 Arkansas Pollution Control and Ecology Commission, is amended to read as  
22 follows:

23 (ii) Should the amount of permit fees levied on and  
24 received from permits existing prior to June 30, 1995, exceed the amounts  
25 specified in subdivision (1)(B)(i) of this section in a fiscal year, the  
26 overcollections may be retained by the ~~department~~ division to be used to  
27 reduce permit fees in subsequent years by relative amounts.

28

29 SECTION 2421. Arkansas Code § 8-1-103(2)(D), concerning the powers and  
30 duties of the Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality and the Arkansas  
31 Pollution Control and Ecology Commission, is amended to read as follows:

32 (D) Notwithstanding other provisions of this subchapter  
33 and other applicable laws, the commission is authorized to promulgate and the  
34 ~~department~~ division is authorized to collect annual fees from facilities  
35 electing to operate under the terms and conditions of a pollution prevention  
36 plan in lieu of an air permit. The annual pollution prevention plan fee shall

1 be equal to the fee otherwise applicable to facilities operating under an air  
2 permit;

3

4 SECTION 2422. Arkansas Code § 8-1-103(3)-(5), concerning the powers  
5 and duties of the Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality and the  
6 Arkansas Pollution Control and Ecology Commission, are amended to read as  
7 follows:

8 (3) The ~~department~~ division shall collect the permit fees as  
9 established by the commission and shall deny the issuance of an initial  
10 permit, a renewal permit, or a modification permit if and when any facility  
11 subject to control by the ~~department~~ division fails or refuses to pay the  
12 fees after reasonable notice as established by the regulations promulgated  
13 under this chapter;

14 (4) The ~~department~~ division shall require that any fee defined  
15 in this chapter shall be paid prior to the issuance of any permit; and

16 (5) The ~~department~~ division is hereby authorized to promulgate  
17 such rules and regulations necessary to administer the fees, rates, tolls, or  
18 charges for services established by this section and is directed to prescribe  
19 and collect such fees, rates, tolls, or charges for the services delivered by  
20 the ~~department~~ division in such manner as may be necessary to support the  
21 programs of the ~~department~~ division as directed by the Governor and the  
22 General Assembly.

23

24 SECTION 2423. Arkansas Code § 8-1-104 is amended to read as follows:  
25 8-1-104. Existing rules and regulations.

26 All existing rules and regulations of the ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division  
27 of Environmental Quality not inconsistent with the provisions of this chapter  
28 relating to subjects embraced within this chapter shall remain in full force  
29 and effect until expressly repealed, amended, or superseded if the rules and  
30 regulations do not conflict with the provisions of this chapter.

31

32 SECTION 2424. Arkansas Code § 8-1-105 is amended to read as follows:  
33 8-1-105. ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of Environmental Quality Fee

34 Trust Fund.

35 (a) ~~An Arkansas Department~~ A Division of Environmental Quality Fee  
36 Trust Fund is established on the books of the Treasurer of State, the Auditor

1 of State, and the Chief Fiscal Officer of the State.

2 (b) All interest earnings and fees collected under the provisions of  
3 all laws administered by the ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of Environmental  
4 Quality shall be deposited into this fund unless otherwise provided by law.  
5 The ~~department~~ division shall use these funds to defray the costs of  
6 operating the ~~department~~ division.

7 (c) The ~~department~~ division is hereby authorized to promulgate such  
8 rules and regulations as are necessary to administer the fees, rates, tolls,  
9 or charges for services established by this section and is directed to  
10 prescribe and collect such fees, rates, tolls, or charges for the services  
11 delivered by the ~~department~~ division in such manner as may be necessary to  
12 support the programs of the ~~department~~ division as directed by the Governor  
13 and the General Assembly.

14

15 SECTION 2425. Arkansas Code § 8-1-106(a)(2)(F), concerning disclosure  
16 statements, denial of application, appeal, and regulations, is amended to  
17 read as follows:

18 (F) Any other information the Director of the ~~Arkansas~~  
19 ~~Department~~ Division of Environmental Quality may require that relates to the  
20 competency, reliability, or responsibility of the applicant and affiliated  
21 persons; and

22

23 SECTION 2426. Arkansas Code § 8-1-106(b)(1), concerning disclosure  
24 statements, denial of application, appeal, and regulations, is amended to  
25 read as follows:

26 (b)(1) Except as provided in subdivisions (b)(2) and (4) of this  
27 section, all applicants for the issuance or transfer of any permit, license,  
28 certification, or operational authority issued by the ~~Arkansas Department~~  
29 Division of Environmental Quality shall file a disclosure statement with  
30 their applications. Deliberate falsification or omission of relevant  
31 information from disclosure statements shall be grounds for civil or criminal  
32 enforcement action or administrative denial of a permit, license,  
33 certification, or operational authorization.

34

35 SECTION 2427. Arkansas Code § 8-1-106(b)(2)(B), concerning disclosure  
36 statements, denial of application, appeal, and regulations, is amended to

1 read as follows:

2 (B) Applicants for a general permit to be issued by the  
3 ~~department~~ division pursuant to its authority to implement the National  
4 Pollutant Discharge Elimination System for storm water discharge or any other  
5 person or entity the Arkansas Pollution Control and Ecology Commission may by  
6 rule exempt from the submissions of a disclosure statement.

7

8 SECTION 2428. Arkansas Code § 8-1-106(b)(5)(B), concerning disclosure  
9 statements, denial of application, appeal, and regulations, is amended to  
10 read as follows:

11 (B) Submits the information on forms developed by the  
12 ~~department~~ division.

13

14 SECTION 2429. Arkansas Code § 8-1-107 is amended to read as follows:

15 8-1-107. Inspections – Definitions – Investigations – Inspection  
16 warrant – Exceptions – Penalties.

17 (a) General. Whenever it shall be necessary for the purpose of  
18 implementing or monitoring the enforcement of any law charged to the  
19 authority of the ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of Environmental Quality, any  
20 authorized employee or agent of the ~~department~~ division may enter upon any  
21 public or private property for the purpose of obtaining information or  
22 conducting investigations or inspections, subject to the following  
23 provisions.

24 (b) Definitions. As used in this section, the following terms shall  
25 have these ascribed meanings:

26 (1) “Administrative inspections” means investigation by  
27 ~~department~~ division personnel at facilities operating within the ~~department’s~~  
28 division’s apparent regulatory jurisdiction;

29 (2) “Facility” means the public or private area, premises,  
30 curtilage, building, or conveyance described as the subject of administrative  
31 inspection;

32 (3) “Pervasively regulated facility or activity” means the  
33 activity or facility that is the location of activity authorized by the  
34 ~~department~~ division through a permit, license, certification, or operational  
35 status approval; and

36 (4)(A) “Probable cause” means showing that an administrative

1 search limited in scope is necessary to ensure compliance with or enforcement  
2 of laws, regulations, or orders charged to the ~~department~~ division for  
3 implementation.

4 (B) For the purpose of conducting administrative  
5 inspections or applying for administrative warrants, probable cause may be  
6 provided to the ~~department~~ division through complaints or other means that  
7 reasonably justify a limited and controlled administrative inspection.

8 (c) Administrative Inspections.

9 (1)(A) Whenever the ~~department~~ division obtains information that  
10 supports reasonable cause to believe that a violation of any law within its  
11 regulatory authority is being or has been violated, or that unauthorized  
12 regulated conduct is occurring or has occurred, ~~department~~ division personnel  
13 or its agents may demand entry onto any property, public or private, to  
14 inspect any facility.

15 (B) The ~~department's~~ division's investigation or  
16 inspection shall be limited to that necessary to confirm or deny the cause  
17 which prompted the investigation or inspection, and shall be conducted during  
18 daylight, during regular business hours, or, under emergency or extraordinary  
19 circumstances, at a time necessary to observe the suspected violation or  
20 unauthorized conduct.

21 (C) Except under emergency circumstances, the ~~department~~  
22 division shall inform such facility's owner or agent of all information which  
23 forms the basis of its probable cause at the time of the inspection.

24 (2) Nothing in this subsection shall be construed as requiring  
25 the ~~department~~ division to forfeit the element of surprise in its inspection  
26 efforts.

27 (3) Also, nothing in this section shall be construed as limiting  
28 the frequency of the periodic or random inspections of pervasively regulated  
29 facilities or activities.

30 (4) For the purpose of this section, a rebuttable presumption  
31 concerning the jurisdiction of the ~~department's~~ division's regulatory  
32 authority is established as it regards the ~~department's~~ division's authority  
33 to inspect any facility.

34 (d) Administrative Inspection Warrants. If consent to inspect is  
35 denied, the ~~department~~ division may obtain an administrative inspection  
36 warrant from a judicial officer. Issuance and execution of administrative

1 inspection warrants shall be as follows:

2 (1) Any judicial officer otherwise authorized to issue search  
3 warrants within his or her jurisdiction may, upon proper oath or affirmation  
4 showing probable cause as defined by this section, issue warrants for the  
5 purpose of conducting administrative inspections authorized by any law or  
6 regulation administered by the ~~department~~ division;

7 (2) A warrant shall issue only upon an affidavit of a ~~department~~  
8 division official, employee, or agent having knowledge of the facts alleged,  
9 sworn to before the judge or magistrate and establishing the grounds for  
10 issuing the warrant. If the judge or magistrate is satisfied that grounds for  
11 the application exist or that there is probable cause to believe they exist,  
12 he or she shall issue a warrant identifying the facility to be inspected, and  
13 the purpose of the inspection. The warrant shall:

14 (A) State the grounds for its issuance and the name of  
15 each person whose affidavit has been taken in support thereof;

16 (B) Be directed to a ~~department~~ division officer or  
17 employee;

18 (C) Command the person to whom it is directed to inspect  
19 the area, premises, building, or conveyance identified for the purpose  
20 specified;

21 (D) Specifically identify any documents or samples to be  
22 gathered during the inspection;

23 (E) Direct that it be served during normal business hours  
24 unless emergency or extraordinary circumstances compel otherwise; and

25 (F) Designate the judge or magistrate to whom it shall be  
26 returned;

27 (3) If appropriate, the warrant may authorize the review and  
28 copying of documents which may be relevant to the purpose of the inspection.  
29 If documents must be seized for the purpose of copying, the person serving  
30 the warrant shall prepare an inventory of documents taken. The inventory  
31 shall be made in the presence of the person executing the warrant and of the  
32 person from whose possession or facility the documents were taken, if  
33 present, or in the presence of at least one (1) credible person other than  
34 the person executing the warrant. A copy of the inventory shall be delivered  
35 to the person from whom or from whose facility the documents were taken. The  
36 seized documents shall be copied as soon as feasible under circumstances

1 preserving their authenticity, then returned to the person from whom the  
2 documents were taken;

3 (4) The warrant may authorize the taking of samples of materials  
4 generated, stored, or treated at the facility, or of the water, air, or soils  
5 within the facility's control or that may have been affected by the  
6 facility's operations. The person executing the warrant shall prepare an  
7 inventory of all samples taken. In any inspection conducted pursuant to an  
8 administrative warrant in which such samples are taken, the ~~department~~  
9 division shall make split samples available to the person whose facility is  
10 being inspected;

11 (5) A warrant issued pursuant to this section must be executed  
12 and returned within ten (10) days of its date unless, upon a showing of a  
13 need for additional time, the court orders otherwise. The return of the  
14 warrant shall be made promptly, accompanied by a written inventory of any  
15 documents or samples taken;

16 (6) The judge or magistrate who has issued a warrant shall  
17 attach thereto a copy of the return and all papers returnable in connection  
18 therewith and file them with the clerk of the circuit court for the judicial  
19 district in which the inspection was made;

20 (7) This subsection does not prevent the inspection without a  
21 warrant of books and records pursuant to an administrative subpoena issued in  
22 accordance with duly adopted administrative procedures; and

23 (8) A copy of the warrant and all supporting affidavits shall be  
24 provided to the person served, or left at the entry of the facility  
25 inspected.

26 (e) Administrative Inspection Warrants – Exceptions. Notwithstanding  
27 the previous subsection, an administrative warrant shall not be required for  
28 any inspection, including the review and copying of documents and taking of  
29 samples, under the following circumstances:

30 (1) For pervasively regulated facilities or activities as  
31 defined by this section whose permit, license, certification, or operational  
32 approval from the ~~department~~ division provides notice that the ~~department~~  
33 division may inspect regulated activities to assure compliance. If the  
34 ~~department~~ division has reason to believe that a violation of any law has or  
35 is occurring, the basis for such belief shall be communicated at the time of  
36 the inspection;

1 (2) If the owner, operator, or agent in charge of the facility  
2 consents;

3 (3) In situations presenting imminent danger to public health  
4 and safety or the environment;

5 (4) In situations involving inspection of conveyances, if there  
6 is reasonable cause to believe that the mobility of the conveyance makes it  
7 impracticable to obtain a warrant;

8 (5) In any other exception or emergency circumstance when time  
9 or opportunity to apply for a warrant is lacking;

10 (6) In situations involving conditions that may be observed in  
11 an open field, from an area practically open to public access, or in plain  
12 view; or

13 (7) In all other situations in which a warrant is not  
14 constitutionally required.

15 (f) Penalties. Any willful and unjustified refusal of right of entry  
16 and inspection to ~~department~~ division personnel as set out in this section  
17 shall constitute a misdemeanor subject to a fine of up to twenty-five  
18 thousand dollars (\$25,000) or civil penalties up to twenty-five thousand  
19 dollars (\$25,000).

20  
21 SECTION 2430. Arkansas Code § 8-1-201 is amended to read as follows:  
22 8-1-201. Legislative intent.

23 (a) The General Assembly recognizes that since 1949, when the  
24 precursor of the Arkansas Pollution Control and Ecology Commission was first  
25 created, significant changes have occurred in the responsibilities charged to  
26 the state's environmental agency. This subchapter intends to clarify and  
27 supersede prior law that does not comport with this delineation of  
28 responsibility between the ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of Environmental  
29 Quality and the commission.

30 (b) Further, in delineating the responsibility between the ~~department~~  
31 division and the commission, it is the intent of the General Assembly neither  
32 to expand nor to diminish any rights of property owners of this state under  
33 Arkansas Constitution, Article 2, § 22.

34  
35 SECTION 2431. Arkansas Code § 8-1-202 is amended to read as follows:  
36 8-1-202. Powers of the Director of the ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of

1 Environmental Quality.

2 ~~(a) The executive head of the Arkansas Department of Environmental~~  
3 ~~Quality shall be the Director of the Arkansas Department of Environmental~~  
4 ~~Quality, who shall be appointed by the Governor with the consent of the~~  
5 ~~Senate. The director shall serve at the pleasure of the Governor.~~

6 ~~(b)(1)(a)~~ The Director of the Division of Environmental  
7 Quality shall be the executive officer and active administrator of all  
8 pollution control activities in the state.

9 ~~(2)(b)~~ As such, the director's duties shall include:

10 ~~(A)(i)(1)(A)~~ The administration of permitting, licensing,  
11 certification, and grants programs deemed necessary to protect the  
12 environmental integrity of the state.

13 ~~(ii)(B)~~ The director, or his or her delegatee within  
14 his or her staff, shall serve as the issuing authority for the state;

15 ~~(B)(i)(2)(A)~~ Initiation and settlement of civil or  
16 administrative enforcement actions to compel compliance with laws, orders,  
17 and regulations charged to the responsibility of the ~~department~~ Division of  
18 Environmental Quality.

19 ~~(ii)(B)~~ In this regard, the director may propose the  
20 assessment of civil penalties as provided by law and take all actions  
21 necessary to collect such penalties;

22 ~~(C)(3)~~ Issuance of orders in such circumstances that  
23 reasonably require emergency measures to be taken to protect the environment  
24 or the public health and safety, except to the extent that the matter  
25 involved is reserved to the jurisdiction or orders of the Arkansas Pollution  
26 Control and Ecology Commission for rulemaking procedures in § 8-4-202;

27 ~~(D)(4)~~ Day-to-day administration of all activities that  
28 the ~~department~~ division is empowered by law to perform, including, but not  
29 limited to, the employment and supervision of such technical, legal, and  
30 administrative staff, within approved appropriations and with the approval of  
31 the Secretary of the Department of Energy and Environment, as is necessary to  
32 carry out the responsibilities vested with the ~~department~~ division;

33 ~~(E)(5)~~ Providing technical and legal expertise and  
34 assistance in the field of environmental protection to other agencies and  
35 subdivisions of the state as appropriate;

36 ~~(F)(6)~~ Day-to-day administration of environmental programs

1 delegated to the State of Arkansas by the responsible agencies of the United  
2 States Government;

3 ~~(G)~~(7) The supervision of the Arkansas Energy Office of  
4 the ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of Environmental Quality under the Arkansas  
5 Energy Reorganization and Policy Act of 1981, § 15-10-201 et seq.; ~~and~~

6 ~~(H)~~(8) Any other power or duty specifically vested with  
7 the director or ~~department~~ division by the General Assembly or the secretary;  
8 and

9 (9) The supervision of the Division of Environmental  
10 Preservation or the successor division, office, or unit responsible for  
11 reviewing and making specific ecologically oriented recommendations on all  
12 plans, programs, and projects of all other state departments, divisions,  
13 agencies, and commissions and on all federal plans, programs, and projects  
14 affecting this state.

15

16 SECTION 2432. Arkansas Code § 8-1-203(b)(1)(A), concerning the powers  
17 and responsibilities of the Arkansas Pollution Control and Ecology  
18 Commission, is amended to read as follows:

19 (1)(A) Promulgation of rules and regulations implementing the  
20 substantive statutes charged to the ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of  
21 Environmental Quality for administration.

22

23 SECTION 2433. Arkansas Code § 8-1-203(b)(4), concerning the powers and  
24 responsibilities of the Arkansas Pollution Control and Ecology Commission, is  
25 amended to read as follows:

26 (4) In the case of permitting or grants decisions, providing the  
27 right to appeal a permitting or grants decision rendered by the Director of  
28 the ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of Environmental Quality or his or her  
29 delegatee;

30

31 SECTION 2434. Arkansas Code § 8-1-203(b)(7), concerning the powers and  
32 responsibilities of the Arkansas Pollution Control and Ecology Commission, is  
33 amended to read as follows:

34 (7) Make recommendations to the director regarding overall  
35 policy and administration of the ~~department~~ division. However, the director  
36 shall always remain within the plenary authority of the Governor; and

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SECTION 2435. Arkansas Code § 8-1-204 is amended to read as follows:

8-1-204. Administrative law judge.

(a) The Arkansas Pollution Control and Ecology Commission shall employ a full-time administrative law judge to perform functions and duties that the commission shall direct and, in particular, to advise the commission on matters of law and procedure that may arise during the conduct of commission duties and responsibilities as outlined in §§ 8-1-203, 8-4-201, 8-4-202, 8-4-311, 8-5-205, and 8-6-207, or as otherwise provided by law.

(b) The administrative law judge shall be selected and hired by the commission and shall be independent of and not an employee of the ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of Environmental Quality.

(c) The expenses of the administrative law judge shall be paid from the ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of Environmental Quality Fee Trust Fund or from other sources as provided by law.

(d) The office space for the administrative law judge shall be at a location other than the offices of the ~~department~~ division.

(e) An administrative assistant II shall be supervised by and provide assistance to the administrative law judge authorized in this section.

(f) The disbursing officer of the ~~department~~ division shall disburse the funds appropriated for the commission's administrative law judge.

SECTION 2436. Arkansas Code § 8-1-302(2), concerning the definition of "director" under the laws regarding the Arkansas Pollution Control and Ecology Commission and the Director of the Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality, is repealed.

~~(2) "Director" means the Director of the Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality;~~

SECTION 2437. Arkansas Code § 8-1-305(1)(C), concerning exceptions to the environmental audit privilege, is amended to read as follows:

(C) A determination, a permit, or an order made or issued by the commission or the Director of the ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of Environmental Quality; or

SECTION 2438. Arkansas Code § 8-1-307(a)(3)(C), concerning disclosure

1 in civil or administrative proceedings, is amended to read as follows:

2 (C) A determination, permit, or order issued by the  
3 commission or the Director of the ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of  
4 Environmental Quality; and

5  
6 SECTION 2439. Arkansas Code § 8-1-307(b)(2)(A), concerning disclosure  
7 in civil or administrative proceedings, is amended to read as follows:

8 (2)(A) In the event additional time is required to prepare a  
9 permit application, the person shall, within ninety (90) days, submit a  
10 schedule to the ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of Environmental Quality that  
11 identifies the activities required to complete the application, and, if the  
12 schedule is acceptable to the ~~department~~ division, the filing of the  
13 application pursuant to the submitted schedule shall constitute reasonable  
14 diligence to achieve compliance for a failure to obtain a required permit.

15  
16 SECTION 2440. Arkansas Code § 8-2-202 is amended to read as follows:  
17 8-2-202. Purpose.

18 This subchapter authorizes the ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of  
19 Environmental Quality to establish and administer an environmental laboratory  
20 accreditation program so that laboratories that submit data and analyses to  
21 the ~~department~~ division may be accredited by the ~~department~~ division as  
22 having demonstrated acceptable compliance with laboratory standards so that  
23 the validity of scientific data submitted to the ~~department~~ division may be  
24 further assured.

25  
26 SECTION 2441. Arkansas Code § 8-2-203(1) and (2), concerning the  
27 definition of "acceptable results" and "accreditation" under the  
28 Environmental Laboratory Accreditation Program Act, are amended to read as  
29 follows:

30 (1) "Acceptable results" means results within limits determined  
31 on the basis of statistical procedures as prescribed by the ~~Arkansas~~  
32 ~~Department~~ Division of Environmental Quality;

33 (2) "Accreditation" means the process by which the ~~department~~  
34 division recognizes a laboratory as meeting certain predetermined  
35 qualifications or standards, thereby accrediting the laboratory;

36

1 SECTION 2442. Arkansas Code § 8-2-203(4), concerning the definition of  
2 "certificate" under the Environmental Laboratory Accreditation Program Act,  
3 is amended to read as follows:

4 (4) "Certificate" means a document issued by the ~~department~~  
5 division showing the analytes for which a laboratory has received  
6 accreditation;

7  
8 SECTION 2443. Arkansas Code § 8-2-203(7)(A), concerning the definition  
9 of "laboratory" under the Environmental Laboratory Accreditation Program Act,  
10 is amended to read as follows:

11 (7)(A) "Laboratory" means any facility that performs analyses to  
12 determine the chemical, physical, or biological properties of air, water,  
13 solid waste, hazardous waste, wastewater, or soil or subsoil materials or  
14 that performs any other analyses related to environmental quality evaluations  
15 required by the ~~department~~ division or which will be submitted to the  
16 ~~department~~ division.

17  
18 SECTION 2444. Arkansas Code § 8-2-204(a), concerning the powers and  
19 duties of the Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality, is amended to  
20 read as follows:

21 (a) The ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of Environmental Quality shall  
22 have the following powers and duties under this subchapter:

23 (1) To establish and administer the Environmental Laboratory  
24 Accreditation Program for laboratories applying for accreditation by the  
25 ~~department~~ division;

26 (2) To enforce the provisions of this subchapter and all laws,  
27 rules, and regulations relating to the program and to environmental testing;

28 (3) To issue, deny, revoke, or suspend the accreditation of a  
29 laboratory for cause; and

30 (4) To refuse to accept analytical results from a laboratory  
31 when the ~~department~~ division reasonably determines that the results do not  
32 meet reasonable criteria for validation, regardless of whether the laboratory  
33 is accredited.

34  
35 SECTION 2445. Arkansas Code § 8-2-206 is amended to read as follows:

36 8-2-206. Accreditation – Criteria and procedure.

1 (a)(1)(A)(i) All consulting laboratories performing analyses for which  
2 results are to be submitted to the ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of  
3 Environmental Quality shall obtain a laboratory accreditation under this  
4 subchapter.

5 (ii) An analyte, method, or matrix for which the  
6 Environmental Laboratory Accreditation Program does not provide accreditation  
7 shall be evaluated by the ~~department~~ division for acceptance.

8 (B) The ~~department~~ division, in its sole discretion, may  
9 refuse to accept results of analyses performed by a consulting laboratory  
10 that does not hold a laboratory accreditation under the program for the  
11 reason that the laboratory is not accredited.

12 (2) Accreditation for laboratories other than consulting  
13 laboratories shall not be mandatory.

14 (b) Applications for accreditation shall be made in the form and  
15 manner established by the ~~department~~ division.

16 (c) Upon receipt of an application for accreditation, the ~~department~~  
17 division shall evaluate and act upon the application in accordance with the  
18 following procedures and criteria:

19 (1)(A) The laboratory must successfully complete an evaluation.

20 (B) The ~~department~~ division shall establish evaluation  
21 criteria on proper analytical techniques, quality assurance, recordkeeping,  
22 and reporting methods and procedures and facilities, equipment, and personnel  
23 requirements; and

24 (2) The laboratory must submit to the ~~department~~ division  
25 acceptable results from its analysis of proficiency test samples for the  
26 specific analytes, methods, and matrices selected for accreditation.

27 (d) Upon completion of the laboratory evaluation and the review of the  
28 proficiency test sample results, the ~~department~~ division shall notify the  
29 laboratory of its determination to award or deny accreditation.

30 (e)(1) If the adequacy of the laboratory's capability and its  
31 recordkeeping have been sufficiently established to the satisfaction of the  
32 ~~department~~ division, a certificate will be issued to the laboratory for the  
33 evaluated categories of analytes, methods, and matrices.

34 (2) If accreditation is denied, the ~~department~~ division shall  
35 set forth, in writing, the reasons for denial.

36

1 SECTION 2446. Arkansas Code § 8-2-207(b), concerning the  
2 accreditation, duration, and renewal of a certificate of accreditation, is  
3 amended to read as follows:

4 (b) Accreditation may be renewed for additional periods of one (1)  
5 year's duration upon application for renewal made to the ~~Arkansas Department~~  
6 Division of Environmental Quality.

7  
8 SECTION 2447. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 8-2-208(a),  
9 concerning laboratory accreditation and revocation by the Arkansas Department  
10 of Environmental Quality, is amended to read as follows:

11 (a) After a laboratory is accredited, the laboratory's accreditation  
12 may be revoked or suspended by the ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of  
13 Environmental Quality for:

14  
15 SECTION 2448. Arkansas Code § 8-2-208(b)(1) and (2), concerning  
16 laboratory accreditation and revocation by the Arkansas Department of  
17 Environmental Quality, are amended to read as follows:

18 (1) To knowingly falsify any data submitted to the ~~department~~  
19 division or any data related to laboratory analysis;

20 (2) To knowingly make any false statement, representation, or  
21 certification in any application, record, report, plan, or other document  
22 issued by or sent to the ~~department~~ division or related to laboratory  
23 analysis;

24  
25 SECTION 2449. Arkansas Code § 8-2-209(a)(1), concerning fees collected  
26 by the Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality, is amended to read as  
27 follows:

28 (a)(1) The ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of Environmental Quality may  
29 assess and collect reasonable fees from participating laboratories for the  
30 administrative costs of the Environmental Laboratory Accreditation Program.

31  
32 SECTION 2450. Arkansas Code § 8-3-102(b)(1), concerning ambient air  
33 quality and hydrogen sulfide, is amended to read as follows:

34 (b)(1) Before the commission proposes an ambient standard or  
35 regulatory mechanism concerning hydrogen sulfide that will result in more  
36 stringent or restrictive control provisions than are currently provided by

1 ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of Environmental Quality permitting practices,  
2 the commission shall direct the ~~department~~ division to prepare, with the  
3 assistance and cooperation of state agencies with appropriate expertise, an  
4 economic impact and environmental benefit analysis justifying more stringent  
5 or restrictive operating conditions.

6  
7 SECTION 2451. Arkansas Code § 8-3-102(b)(2)(C), concerning ambient air  
8 quality and hydrogen sulfide, is amended to read as follows:

9 (C) Cost to the regulated community and the ~~department~~  
10 division.

11  
12 SECTION 2452. Arkansas Code § 8-3-103(b), concerning hydrogen sulfide  
13 emissions, is amended to read as follows:

14 (b) Method of Prediction. All estimates of ambient concentrations  
15 required under this section shall be performed by the ~~Arkansas Department~~  
16 Division of Environmental Quality or performed by the facility and approved  
17 by the ~~department~~ division based on the facility's potential to emit hydrogen  
18 sulfide, the applicable air quality models, databases, and other requirements  
19 specified in the "Guideline on Air Quality Models (Revised)" (1986),  
20 supplement A (1987) and supplement B (1993).

21  
22 SECTION 2453. Arkansas Code § 8-3-103(d)(2)(C), concerning hydrogen  
23 sulfide emissions, is amended to read as follows:

24 (C) A facility that is not subject to one (1) of the  
25 technology limits listed in subdivision (d)(2)(B) of this section and that  
26 wishes to apply appropriate hydrogen sulfide control technology may apply to  
27 the ~~department~~ division for a determination of appropriateness at any time,  
28 but no later than ninety (90) days after a determination that the ambient  
29 standard has been exceeded. The application shall be made on such forms and  
30 contain such information as the ~~department~~ division may require and shall  
31 include a reasonable time schedule for implementation. When making a  
32 determination of appropriateness, the ~~department~~ division shall follow the  
33 procedures used for making permitting decisions, including public  
34 participation requirements.

35  
36 SECTION 2454. Arkansas Code § 8-3-202(3), concerning the definition of

1 "state plan" under the laws regarding state emission plans, is amended to  
2 read as follows:

3 (3) "State plan" means a plan to establish and enforce carbon  
4 dioxide emission control measures that the ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of  
5 Environmental Quality may adopt to implement the obligations of the state  
6 under the federal emission guidelines.

7

8 SECTION 2455. Arkansas Code § 8-3-203(a)(1), concerning the state  
9 emission plan's being dependent on federal emission guidelines, is amended to  
10 read as follows:

11 (a)(1) This subchapter does not require the ~~Arkansas Department~~  
12 Division of Environmental Quality to develop a state plan to regulate carbon  
13 dioxide emissions from existing fossil-fuel-fired electric generating units  
14 under § 111(d) of the Clean Air Act, 42 U.S.C. § 7411(d).

15

16 SECTION 2456. Arkansas Code § 8-3-204 is amended to read as follows:  
17 8-3-204. Appeal of state plan – Adjudicatory process.

18 (a) If the ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of Environmental Quality  
19 proposes to finalize a state plan submittal for review and approval by the  
20 United States Environmental Protection Agency, the ~~department~~ division shall  
21 comply with the procedural requirements for notice and public comment  
22 specified in § 8-4-317.

23 (b)(1) Only a person or an organization that submits comments on the  
24 record during the public comment period has standing to appeal the final  
25 decision of the ~~department~~ division to the Arkansas Pollution Control and  
26 Ecology Commission upon written application made within thirty (30) days  
27 after the service of notice made under § 8-4-317(b)(2)(A).

28 (2) An appeal under subdivision (b)(1) of this section shall be  
29 processed as a permit appeal under § 8-4-205.

30

31 SECTION 2457. Arkansas Code § 8-3-205(a), concerning assessing the  
32 effects of the state emission plan, is amended to read as follows:

33 (a) Before preparing a petition to initiate rulemaking for the  
34 development of regulations implementing a state plan for regulating carbon  
35 dioxide emissions from covered electric generating units, the ~~Arkansas~~  
36 ~~Department~~ Division of Environmental Quality shall prepare a report that

1 takes into account the factors specified in § 8-4-312 and the Clean Air Act,  
2 42 U.S.C. § 7401 et seq., as applicable.

3  
4 SECTION 2458. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 8-3-  
5 205(b)(1), concerning assessing the effects of the state emission plan, is  
6 amended to read as follows:

7 (b)(1) In addition to the report specified in subsection (a) of this  
8 section, the ~~department~~ division shall coordinate with the Arkansas Public  
9 Service Commission in the preparation of a report that assesses the effects  
10 of the state plan on the electric power sector, including without limitation:

11  
12 SECTION 2459. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 8-3-  
13 205(b)(2), concerning assessing the effects of the state emission plan, is  
14 amended to read as follows:

15 (2) The ~~department~~ division shall further coordinate with the  
16 Arkansas Economic Development Commission in the preparation of a report that  
17 assesses the effects of the state plan on the electricity consumers within  
18 the state, including without limitation:

19  
20 SECTION 2460. Arkansas Code § 8-3-205(c), concerning assessing the  
21 effects of the state emission plan, is amended to read as follows:

22 (c) The reports required by this section shall be included with any  
23 petition filed by the ~~department~~ division to initiate rulemaking for  
24 regulations that implement a state plan for regulating carbon dioxide  
25 emissions from covered electric generating units.

26  
27 SECTION 2461. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 8-3-206(a),  
28 concerning submission of the state emission plan, is amended to read as  
29 follows:

30 (a) The ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of Environmental Quality shall  
31 not submit a state plan to the United States Environmental Protection Agency  
32 under § 8-3-207 if the state plan:

33  
34 SECTION 2462. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 8-3-206(b),  
35 concerning submission of the state emission plan, is amended to read as  
36 follows:

1 (b) The ~~department~~ division shall not submit a state plan to the  
2 United States Environmental Protection Agency until:

3  
4 SECTION 2463. Arkansas Code § 8-3-207(a), concerning procedures for  
5 approval of the state emission plan, is amended to read as follows:

6 (a) Not later than fifteen (15) days after adopting a state plan, the  
7 ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of Environmental Quality shall transmit to the  
8 cochairs of the Legislative Council a copy of the state plan and the  
9 accompanying report developed under § 8-3-205.

10  
11 SECTION 2464. Arkansas Code § 8-3-207(c), concerning procedures for  
12 approval of the state emission plan, is amended to read as follows:

13 (c) If the Legislative Council fails to approve a state plan under  
14 subsection (b) of this section, the ~~department~~ division may submit a revised  
15 version of the state plan, with an accompanying revised report, to the  
16 cochairs of the Legislative Council for approval under this section.

17  
18 SECTION 2465. Arkansas Code § 8-3-207(d)(1), concerning procedures for  
19 approval of the state emission plan, is amended to read as follows:

20 (1) Sufficient time has passed for the Legislative Council to  
21 consider a state plan submitted by the ~~department~~ division for legislative  
22 approval;

23  
24 SECTION 2466. Arkansas Code § 8-3-208 is amended to read as follows:  
25 8-3-208. Rate and reliability safety valve.

26 (a) If a state plan approved under this subchapter would result in a  
27 significant increase in the total electric or natural gas bill annually for  
28 any customer class, the ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of Environmental Quality  
29 shall reopen the proceeding under § 8-3-204 and, after the opportunity for a  
30 hearing, revise the state plan to satisfy § 8-3-206(a)(1) and transmit the  
31 revised state plan to the cochairs of the Legislative Council for approval  
32 under § 8-3-207.

33 (b)(1) Each year the ~~department~~ division shall evaluate the impact of  
34 electricity rate increases on the energy-intensive-trade-exposed  
35 manufacturers and the resulting greenhouse gas leakage.

36 (2) If increased electric rates are found to be contributing to

1 increased manufacturing greenhouse gas leakage, the ~~department~~ division shall  
2 reopen the proceeding under § 8-3-204 and, after the opportunity for a  
3 hearing, revise the state plan to avoid manufacturing greenhouse gas leakage  
4 and transmit the revised state plan to the cochairs of the Legislative  
5 Council for approval under § 8-3-207.

6  
7 SECTION 2467. Arkansas Code § 8-4-103(a)(1)(A), concerning criminal,  
8 civil, and administrative penalties of the Arkansas Pollution Control and  
9 Ecology Commission and the Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality, is  
10 amended to read as follows:

11 (1)(A) Any person that violates any provision of this chapter,  
12 that commits any unlawful act under it, or that violates any rule,  
13 regulation, or order of the Arkansas Pollution Control and Ecology Commission  
14 or the ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of Environmental Quality shall be guilty  
15 of a misdemeanor.

16  
17 SECTION 2468. Arkansas Code § 8-4-103(a)(2)(A)(i), concerning  
18 criminal, civil, and administrative penalties of the Arkansas Pollution  
19 Control and Ecology Commission and the Arkansas Department of Environmental  
20 Quality, is amended to read as follows:

21 (i) Violate any provision of this chapter, commit  
22 any unlawful act under it, or violate any rule, regulation, or order of the  
23 commission or ~~department~~ the Division of Environmental Quality and leave the  
24 state or remove his or her person from the jurisdiction of this state;

25  
26 SECTION 2469. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 8-4-103(b),  
27 concerning criminal, civil, and administrative penalties of the Arkansas  
28 Pollution Control and Ecology Commission and the Arkansas Department of  
29 Environmental Quality, is amended to read as follows:

30 (b) Civil Penalties. The ~~department~~ Division of Environmental Quality  
31 may institute a civil action in any court of competent jurisdiction to  
32 accomplish any of the following:

33  
34 SECTION 2470. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 8-4-  
35 103(b)(3), concerning criminal, civil, and administrative penalties of the  
36 Arkansas Pollution Control and Ecology Commission and the Arkansas Department

1 of Environmental Quality, is amended to read as follows:

2 (3) Recover all costs, expenses, and damages to the ~~department~~  
3 Division of Environmental Quality and any other agency or division of the  
4 state in enforcing or effectuating the provisions of this chapter, including,  
5 but not limited to, natural resource damages;

6  
7 SECTION 2471. Arkansas Code § 8-4-103(c)(2)(C), concerning criminal,  
8 civil, and administrative penalties of the Arkansas Pollution Control and  
9 Ecology Commission and the Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality, is  
10 amended to read as follows:

11 (C) These administrative procedures may also be used to  
12 recover all costs, expenses, and damages to the ~~department~~ Division of  
13 Environmental Quality and any other agency or subdivision of the state in  
14 enforcing or effectuating the provisions of this chapter, including, but not  
15 limited to, natural resource damages.

16  
17 SECTION 2472. Arkansas Code § 8-4-103(d)(1)(A), concerning criminal,  
18 civil, and administrative penalties of the Arkansas Pollution Control and  
19 Ecology Commission and the Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality, is  
20 amended to read as follows:

21 (d)(1)(A) Before assessing a civil penalty under subsection (c) of  
22 this section, the Director of the ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of  
23 Environmental Quality shall provide public notice of and a reasonable  
24 opportunity to comment on the proposed issuance of the order.

25  
26 SECTION 2473. Arkansas Code § 8-4-103(f)(1), concerning criminal,  
27 civil, and administrative penalties of the Arkansas Pollution Control and  
28 Ecology Commission and the Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality, is  
29 amended to read as follows:

30 (f)(1) All moneys collected as reimbursement for expenses, costs, and  
31 damages to the ~~department~~ Division of Environmental Quality shall be  
32 deposited into the operating fund of the ~~department~~ Division of Environmental  
33 Quality.

34  
35 SECTION 2474. Arkansas Code § 8-4-103(f)(3)(B) and (C), concerning  
36 criminal, civil, and administrative penalties of the Arkansas Pollution

1 Control and Ecology Commission and the Arkansas Department of Environmental  
2 Quality, are amended to read as follows:

3 (B) The violator may provide in-kind services or cash  
4 contributions as directed by the ~~department~~ Division of Environmental Quality  
5 by utilizing the violator's own expertise, by hiring and compensating  
6 subcontractors to perform the services, by arranging and providing financing  
7 for the services, or by other financial arrangements initiated by the  
8 ~~department~~ Division of Environmental Quality in which the violator and the  
9 ~~department~~ Division of Environmental Quality retain no monetary benefit,  
10 however remote.

11 (C) The services shall not duplicate or augment services  
12 already provided by the ~~department~~ Division of Environmental Quality through  
13 appropriations of the General Assembly.  
14

15 SECTION 2475. Arkansas Code § 8-4-103(1)(3)(A), concerning criminal,  
16 civil, and administrative penalties of the Arkansas Pollution Control and  
17 Ecology Commission and the Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality, is  
18 amended to read as follows:

19 (3)(A) The ~~department~~ Division of Environmental Quality may  
20 seize any cleaning agent held for sale or distribution in violation of this  
21 chapter.  
22

23 SECTION 2476. Arkansas Code § 8-4-104(b)-(g), concerning the members  
24 of the Arkansas Pollution Control and Ecology Commission, are amended to read  
25 as follows:

26 (b) The Arkansas Pollution Control and Ecology Commission shall be  
27 composed of ~~thirteen (13)~~ fifteen (15) members:

28 (1)(A) The Governor, by and with the advice and consent of the  
29 Senate, shall appoint ~~seven (7)~~ eight (8) members.

30 (B) Each congressional district shall be represented on  
31 the Arkansas Pollution Control and Ecology Commission by at least one (1)  
32 member, and no district shall have more than two (2) members of the ~~seven (7)~~  
33 eight (8) appointees.

34 (C)(i) The Governor shall not appoint a member to  
35 represent any specific or special interest group, organization, or  
36 philosophy.

1 (ii) However, in making appointments to the Arkansas  
2 Pollution Control and Ecology Commission, the Governor shall appoint  
3 individuals who have knowledge or expertise in matters within the  
4 jurisdiction of the Arkansas Pollution Control and Ecology Commission,  
5 including government, business or industry, agriculture and livestock,  
6 forestry, health, ecology, recreation and tourism, and geology.

7 (D) Each member appointed by the Governor shall be  
8 appointed for a term of four (4) years; and

9 (2) The other ~~six (6)~~ seven (7) members of the Arkansas  
10 Pollution Control and Ecology Commission shall be:

11 (A) ~~The Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Health, or  
12 his or her designee; ~~and~~

13 ~~(B)(i) The directors of the Arkansas State Game and Fish~~  
14 ~~Commission, the Arkansas Forestry Commission, the Arkansas Natural Resources~~  
15 ~~Commission, the Oil and Gas Commission, and the Arkansas Geological Survey.~~  
16 The Secretary of the Department of Agriculture, or his or her designee;

17 ~~(ii) Any director specified in subdivision~~  
18 ~~(b)(2)(B)(i) of this section may designate the agency's deputy director or~~  
19 ~~assistant director to serve in lieu of the director.~~

20 (C) The Director of the Arkansas State Game and Fish  
21 Commission, or his or her designee;

22 (D) The State Forester, or his or her designee on behalf  
23 of the Arkansas Forestry Commission;

24 (E) The Director of the Oil and Gas Commission, or his or  
25 her designee;

26 (F) The Director of the Arkansas Natural Resources  
27 Commission, or his or her designee; and

28 (G) The State Geologist, or his or her designee, on behalf  
29 of the Arkansas Geological Survey.

30 (c) Elected city, county, and state officials shall not serve on the  
31 Arkansas Pollution Control and Ecology Commission after the expiration of any  
32 current member's term.

33 (d) In the event of a vacancy in the membership of the Arkansas  
34 Pollution Control and Ecology Commission, the Governor shall appoint a person  
35 to fill the vacancy temporarily who shall serve until the next meeting of the  
36 Senate, when some person shall be appointed by the Governor, by and with the

1 consent and approval of the Senate, to serve the remainder of the unexpired  
2 term.

3 (e)(1) The chair and vice chair shall be elected annually.

4 (2) The members of the Arkansas Pollution Control and Ecology  
5 Commission representing the state agencies shall not serve as chair or vice  
6 chair.

7 (f)(1)(A) The Arkansas Pollution Control and Ecology Commission shall  
8 hold at least four (4) regular meetings in each calendar year at times and  
9 places to be fixed by the Arkansas Pollution Control and Ecology Commission  
10 and such other meetings as may be necessary.

11 (B) Special meetings may be called at the discretion of  
12 the chair, and they shall be called by him or her upon written request of two  
13 (2) members of the Arkansas Pollution Control and Ecology Commission by  
14 delivery of written notice to each member of the Arkansas Pollution Control  
15 and Ecology Commission.

16 (2) Nine (9) members of the Arkansas Pollution Control and  
17 Ecology Commission shall constitute a quorum to transact business in both  
18 regular and special meetings.

19 (g)(1) Each member of the Arkansas Pollution Control and Ecology  
20 Commission representing state agencies shall receive no additional salary or  
21 per diem for services as a member of the Arkansas Pollution Control and  
22 Ecology Commission but may receive expense reimbursement in accordance with §  
23 25-16-901 et seq.

24 (2) The other seven (7) members appointed by the Governor may  
25 receive expense reimbursement and stipends in accordance with § 25-16-901 et  
26 seq.

27

28 SECTION 2477. Arkansas Code § 8-4-105 is repealed.

29 ~~8-4-105. Director of the Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality.~~

30 ~~(a)(1) The executive head of the Arkansas Department of Environmental~~  
31 ~~Quality shall be the Director of the Arkansas Department of Environmental~~  
32 ~~Quality, who shall be appointed by the Governor with the advice and consent~~  
33 ~~of the Senate, and shall serve at the pleasure of the Governor.~~

34 ~~(2) The director, with the advice and consent of the Governor,~~  
35 ~~shall appoint the heads of the divisions of the department, including the~~  
36 ~~Division of Water Pollution Control, the Division of Air Pollution Control,~~

1 ~~the Division of Solid Waste Management, the Division of Environmental~~  
2 ~~Preservation, the Division of Administration, and such other divisions as may~~  
3 ~~be established.~~

4 ~~(3) All of the personnel of the department shall be employed by~~  
5 ~~and serve at the pleasure of the director. However, nothing in this~~  
6 ~~subdivision (a)(3) shall be construed to reduce any right which an employee~~  
7 ~~shall have under any civil service or merit system.~~

8 ~~(b)(1) The director shall be the executive officer and active~~  
9 ~~administrator of all pollution control activities.~~

10 ~~(2) All of the powers of the Arkansas Pollution Control and~~  
11 ~~Ecology Commission under §§ 8-4-201(b)(5), 8-4-203, and 8-4-204 relating to~~  
12 ~~plans and specifications for disposal systems and permits for the discharge~~  
13 ~~of sewage, industrial wastes, or other wastes into the waters of the state~~  
14 ~~are vested in the director.~~

15  
16 SECTION 2478. Arkansas Code § 8-4-106 is amended to read as follows:

17 8-4-106. Technical and other services and public assistance.

18 (a) Technical, scientific, legal, or other services may be performed,  
19 insofar as practicable, by personnel of other state agencies and educational  
20 institutions and the Attorney General. However, the personnel of these state  
21 agencies shall receive no additional salary or wages for their services to  
22 the ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of Environmental Quality.

23 (b) The Director of the ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of Environmental  
24 Quality, however, may employ and compensate, within appropriations available,  
25 consultants and such assistants and employees as may be necessary to carry  
26 out the provisions of this chapter and prescribe their powers and duties.

27  
28 SECTION 2479. Arkansas Code § 8-4-107 is amended to read as follows:

29 8-4-107. Prosecution of public nuisance actions.

30 In any legal action arising from, relating to, or including violations  
31 of laws or regulations charged to the enforcement authority of the ~~Arkansas~~  
32 ~~Department~~ Division of Environmental Quality that also alleges the existence  
33 of a public nuisance at common law, the Attorney General or the ~~department~~  
34 division may serve as the instrumentality of the state authorized to initiate  
35 and prosecute such action.

36

1 SECTION 2480. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 8-4-201(a),  
2 concerning the powers and duties of the Arkansas Department of Environmental  
3 Quality and the Arkansas Pollution Control and Ecology Commission, is amended  
4 to read as follows:

5 (a) The ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of Environmental Quality or its  
6 successor is given and charged with the following powers and duties:

7  
8 SECTION 2481. Arkansas Code § 8-4-201(b)(1)(A), concerning the powers  
9 and duties of the Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality and the  
10 Arkansas Pollution Control and Ecology Commission, is amended to read as  
11 follows:

12 (1)(A) Promulgation of rules and regulations, including water  
13 quality standards and the classification of the waters of the state and  
14 moratoriums or suspensions of the processing of types or categories of  
15 permits, implementing the substantive statutes charged to the ~~department~~  
16 division for administration.

17  
18 SECTION 2482. Arkansas Code § 8-4-201(b)(3) and (4), concerning the  
19 powers and duties of the Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality and the  
20 Arkansas Pollution Control and Ecology Commission, are amended to read as  
21 follows:

22 (3) Promulgation of rules and regulations governing  
23 administrative procedures for challenging or contesting ~~department~~ division  
24 actions;

25 (4) In the case of permitting or grants decisions, provide the  
26 right to appeal a permitting or grants decision rendered by the Director of  
27 the ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of Environmental Quality or his or her  
28 delegatee;

29  
30 SECTION 2483. Arkansas Code § 8-4-201(b)(7), concerning the powers and  
31 duties of the Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality and the Arkansas  
32 Pollution Control and Ecology Commission, is amended to read as follows:

33 (7) Make recommendations to the director regarding overall  
34 policy and administration of the ~~department~~ division, provided, however, that  
35 the director shall always remain within the plenary authority of the Governor  
36 and the Secretary of the Department of Energy and Environment; and

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SECTION 2484. Arkansas Code § 8-4-202(a), concerning the rules and regulations of the Arkansas Pollution Control and Ecology Commission, is amended to read as follows:

(a) The Arkansas Pollution Control and Ecology Commission is given and charged with the power and duty to adopt, modify, or repeal, after notice and public hearings, rules and regulations implementing or effectuating the powers and duties of the ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of Environmental Quality and the commission under this chapter.

SECTION 2485. Arkansas Code § 8-4-202(d)(4)(A)(iii), concerning the rules and regulations of the Arkansas Pollution Control and Ecology Commission, is amended to read as follows:

(iii) In all other cases, the ~~department~~ division must provide its own justification with appropriate references to the scientific and engineering literature or written studies conducted by the ~~department~~ division;

SECTION 2486. Arkansas Code § 8-4-202(e)(3), concerning the rules and regulations of the Arkansas Pollution Control and Ecology Commission, is amended to read as follows:

(3) The imminent loss of federal funding, certification, or authorization for any program administered by the ~~department~~ division shall establish a prima facie case of imminent peril to the public health, safety, or welfare.

SECTION 2487. Arkansas Code § 8-4-203 is amended to read as follows:

8-4-203. Permits generally – Definitions.

(a) The ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of Environmental Quality or its successor is given and charged with the power and duty to issue, continue in effect, revoke, modify, or deny permits, under such conditions as it may prescribe:

- (1) To prevent, control, or abate pollution;
- (2) For the discharge of sewage, industrial waste, or other wastes into the waters of the state, including the disposal of pollutants into wells; and

1 (3) For the installation, modification, or operation of disposal  
2 systems or any part of them.

3 (b)(1)(A) The ~~department~~ division shall not issue, modify, renew, or  
4 transfer a National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System permit or state  
5 permit for a nonmunicipal domestic sewage treatment works without the permit  
6 applicant first:

7 (i) Paying the trust fund contribution fee required  
8 under subdivision (b)(4) of this section;

9 (ii) Submitting the assessment required by  
10 subdivision (b)(1)(D) of this section; and

11 (iii) Certifying that the permit applicant has  
12 complied with applicable local ordinances and regulations, including without  
13 limitation:

14 (a) Local zoning ordinances;

15 (b) Local planning authority regulations; and

16 (c) Local permitting requirements.

17 (B) As used in this section, "nonmunicipal domestic sewage  
18 treatment works" means a device or system operated by an entity other than a  
19 city, town, or county that treats, in whole or in part, waste or wastewater  
20 from humans or household operations and must continuously operate to protect  
21 human health and the environment despite a permittee's failure to maintain or  
22 operate the device or system.

23 (C) The following are specifically exempted from the  
24 requirements of this subsection:

25 (i) State or federal facilities;

26 (ii) Schools;

27 (iii) Universities and colleges;

28 (iv) Entities that continuously operate due to a  
29 connection with a city, town, or county; and

30 (v) A commercial or industrial entity that treats  
31 domestic sewage from its operations and does not accept domestic sewage from  
32 other entities or residences.

33 (D) Each application for the initial permit and any  
34 subsequent permit renewal, modification, or transfer for a nonmunicipal  
35 domestic sewage treatment works submitted under this section shall be  
36 accompanied by an assessment developed by a professional engineer licensed by

1 the state that includes:

2 (i) A cost estimate for a third party to operate and  
3 maintain the nonmunicipal domestic sewage treatment works for five (5) years;

4 (ii) A list of all necessary capital expenditures,  
5 system upgrades, or significant repairs and a milestone schedule for  
6 completion within five (5) years; and

7 (iii) A financial plan that demonstrates to the  
8 ~~department's~~ division's satisfaction the permittee's financial ability to  
9 operate and maintain the nonmunicipal domestic sewage treatment works each  
10 year for five (5) years.

11 (E)(i) Except as provided under subdivision (b)(1)(E)(ii)  
12 of this section, the ~~department~~ division shall not issue, renew, or transfer  
13 permit coverage for nonmunicipal domestic sewage treatment works to property  
14 owners' associations or homeowners' associations after January 1, 2018.

15 (ii) A property owners' association or homeowners'  
16 association with permit coverage before December 31, 2017, may retain permit  
17 coverage if the property owners' association or homeowners' association  
18 complies with this section.

19 (2) Until January 1, 2016, the ~~department~~ Arkansas Department of  
20 Environmental Quality or the Division of Environmental Quality may reduce or  
21 waive the amount of the required financial assurance if the permit applicant  
22 can demonstrate to the department's or division's satisfaction that:

23 (A) For a renewal permit, during the five (5) years  
24 preceding the application for a renewal permit, the nonmunicipal domestic  
25 sewage treatment works has:

26 (i) Maintained the nonmunicipal domestic sewage  
27 treatment works in continuous operation;

28 (ii) Maintained the nonmunicipal domestic sewage  
29 treatment works in substantial compliance with the existing discharge permit  
30 issued by the department or division, which shall be demonstrated by  
31 submitting the following:

32 (a) All discharge monitoring reports;

33 (b) Evidence that the nonmunicipal domestic  
34 sewage treatment works has not exceeded the same permit effluent criteria in  
35 any two (2) consecutive monitoring periods during the previous three (3)  
36 years;

1 (c) Evidence that no more than ten percent  
2 (10%) of the nonmunicipal domestic sewage treatment works' submitted  
3 discharge monitoring reports show effluent violations; and

4 (d) Evidence that there have not been any  
5 administrative or judicial orders entered against the owner or operator for  
6 violations of state or federal environmental laws, rules, or regulations or  
7 permits issued by the department or division;

8 (iii) Maintained the services of a certified  
9 wastewater treatment operator, where applicable;

10 (iv)(a) Remained financially solvent, which shall be  
11 demonstrated by either:

12 (1) The nonmunicipal domestic sewage  
13 treatment works' federal tax returns for the five (5) years preceding the  
14 application for a renewal permit and a sworn affidavit from a corporate  
15 official or other responsible official representing the nonmunicipal domestic  
16 sewage treatment works that lists all assets and liabilities for the  
17 nonmunicipal domestic sewage treatment works; or

18 (2) An independent certified public  
19 accountant's report on the owner's or operator's independently reviewed  
20 financial statements.

21 (b) The review of financial statements under  
22 subdivision (b)(2)(A)(iv)(a)(2) of this section shall be conducted in  
23 accordance with the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants'  
24 Professional Standards, as they existed on January 1, 2013; and

25 (v) Operated the nonmunicipal domestic sewage  
26 treatment works to prevent the discharge of waterborne pollutants in  
27 unacceptable concentrations to the surface waters or groundwater of the state  
28 as defined in the permit or as defined in the state's water quality  
29 standards; or

30 (B) For a new permit:

31 (i) The reduction or waiver is necessary to  
32 accommodate important economic or social development in the area of the  
33 proposed nonmunicipal domestic sewage treatment works; and

34 (ii) The applicant has shown a history of financial  
35 responsibility and compliance with regulatory requirements.

36 (3) The ~~department~~ division may withdraw a reduction or waiver

1 granted under this subsection at any time if the permittee has a permit  
2 violation in three (3) or more consecutive discharge monitoring periods.

3 (4)(A) A permittee shall pay the trust fund contribution fee  
4 determined by the ~~department~~ division under this subdivision (b)(4) to the  
5 ~~department~~ division.

6 (B)(i) The ~~department~~ division shall determine the  
7 required initial and annual trust fund contribution fees for each  
8 nonmunicipal domestic sewage treatment works based on each nonmunicipal  
9 domestic sewage treatment works' design treatment capacity according to the  
10 National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System permit or the state permit  
11 and existing and projected number of residential end users.

12 (ii)(a) The ~~department~~ division shall require an  
13 initial trust fund contribution fee for each construction permit for a new  
14 nonmunicipal domestic sewage treatment works or any modification to an  
15 existing nonmunicipal domestic sewage treatment works resulting in an  
16 increase in design treatment capacity according to the National Pollutant  
17 Discharge Elimination System permit or the state permit.

18 (b) The initial trust fund contribution fee  
19 required by the ~~department~~ division for a new nonmunicipal domestic sewage  
20 treatment works is ten percent (10%) of the estimated cost of construction of  
21 the new nonmunicipal domestic sewage treatment works as certified by the  
22 engineer of record.

23 (c) The initial trust fund contribution fee  
24 required by the ~~department~~ division for modifications to existing  
25 nonmunicipal domestic sewage treatment works is ten percent (10%) of the  
26 estimated cost of construction for the modification of the nonmunicipal  
27 domestic sewage treatment works as certified by the engineer of record.

28 (d) The ~~department~~ division shall reduce the  
29 initial trust fund contribution fee if:

30 (1) The nonmunicipal domestic sewage  
31 treatment works is subject to an enforcement action; and

32 (2) The corrective actions approved by  
33 the ~~department~~ division would require the nonmunicipal domestic sewage  
34 treatment works to make an initial trust fund contribution.

35 (e) The ~~department~~ division shall not require  
36 an initial trust fund contribution fee if the design treatment capacity

1 according to the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System permit or  
2 the state permit is not increased.

3 (iii) The annual trust fund contribution fee  
4 required by the ~~department~~ division shall not exceed one thousand dollars  
5 (\$1,000) per year for no-discharge permits or five thousand dollars (\$5,000)  
6 per year for discharge permits.

7 (iv)(a) Except as otherwise provided in this  
8 subsection, a nonmunicipal domestic sewage treatment works may apply for  
9 reimbursement for a maximum of fifty percent (50%) of the costs for capital  
10 expenditures necessary to maintain permit compliance made to the nonmunicipal  
11 domestic sewage treatment facility in the previous five (5) years if:

12 (1) Funding is available and  
13 appropriated; and

14 (2) The ~~department~~ division has issued  
15 that nonmunicipal domestic sewage treatment facility's third permit renewal  
16 following its initial trust fund contribution.

17 (b) Applications for reimbursement under this  
18 subdivision (b)(4)(B) shall include a statement certified by a professional  
19 engineer licensed by the State of Arkansas identifying the necessary capital  
20 costs expended.

21 (v) Reimbursements from the Nonmunicipal Domestic  
22 Sewage Treatment Works Trust Fund are subject to the following restrictions:

23 (a) Over the lifetime of a nonmunicipal  
24 domestic sewage treatment facility, the reimbursement to a nonmunicipal  
25 domestic sewage treatment works shall not exceed seventy-five percent (75%)  
26 of that nonmunicipal domestic sewage treatment facility's initial trust fund  
27 contribution fee;

28 (b) If the Director of the ~~Arkansas Department~~  
29 Division of Environmental Quality determines that a nonmunicipal domestic  
30 sewage treatment works is in a state of chronic noncompliance, that  
31 nonmunicipal domestic sewage treatment works shall not receive reimbursement  
32 from the Nonmunicipal Domestic Sewage Treatment Works Trust Fund; and

33 (c) The ~~department~~ division shall reimburse a  
34 nonmunicipal domestic sewage treatment works based on a pro rata share of  
35 each submitted request compared to the total remaining funding available if  
36 there are insufficient moneys available in a fiscal year to make

1 reimbursements for all submitted requests under this subsection after:

2 (1) Deducting the moneys required to  
3 make payments to third-party contractors hired by the ~~department~~ division  
4 from the fund;

5 (2) Calculating the total remaining  
6 funding available; and

7 (3) Allocating the moneys available for  
8 reimbursement to each applicant for reimbursement.

9 (vi) The Arkansas Pollution Control and Ecology  
10 Commission may promulgate regulations to implement this subsection.

11 (C) The trust fund contribution fee required under this  
12 subdivision (b)(4):

13 (i) May be collected in conjunction with any other  
14 permit fees;

15 (ii) Shall be paid before a permit is issued or  
16 renewed; and

17 (iii) Shall be deposited into the fund.

18 (D) If the total amount in the fund equals or exceeds two  
19 million one hundred thousand dollars (\$2,100,000), additional trust fund  
20 contribution fees shall not be collected by the ~~department~~ division until the  
21 total amount of the fund equals or is less than one million five hundred  
22 thousand dollars (\$1,500,000), at which time the collection of required trust  
23 fund contribution fees shall resume.

24 (5)(A) A permittee is responsible for ensuring that the required  
25 trust fund contribution fee is received by the ~~department~~ division by the due  
26 date determined by the ~~department~~ division.

27 (B) If the ~~department~~ division does not timely receive the  
28 required trust fund contribution fees for a nonmunicipal domestic sewage  
29 treatment works, the ~~department~~ division may initiate procedures to suspend  
30 or revoke the permit under which the nonmunicipal domestic sewage treatment  
31 works is operated.

32 (C) A permit applicant's or permit transfer applicant's  
33 failure to pay the required trust fund contribution fee assessed by the  
34 ~~department~~ division under this section is:

35 (i) Grounds for denying the permit or the permit  
36 transfer; and

1 (ii) A violation of this chapter and subjects the  
2 applicant to the penalties described in § 8-4-103.

3 (6) Sanctions for violating this subsection may include without  
4 limitation civil penalties and suspension or revocation of a permit.

5 (7) The ~~department~~ division may seek cost recovery from an owner  
6 or operator and reimbursement to the fund of any moneys expended under this  
7 section, including without limitation the institution of a civil action  
8 against the owner or operator.

9 (8) The ~~department~~ division shall not directly operate or be  
10 responsible for the operation of a nonmunicipal domestic sewage treatment  
11 works.

12 (9)(A) The director or the director's designee may send a signed  
13 statement to each water service provider that serves all or a portion of the  
14 service area of a nonmunicipal domestic sewage treatment works certifying  
15 that the director finds that the nonmunicipal domestic sewage treatment  
16 works:

17 (i) Is the subject of an enforcement action by the  
18 ~~department~~ division;

19 (ii) Has not complied with the requirements of this  
20 section, including payment of the nonmunicipal domestic sewage treatment  
21 works trust fund contribution; or

22 (iii) Otherwise failed to comply with its permit.

23 (B) The ~~department~~ division shall include a legal  
24 description of the service area for the nonmunicipal domestic sewage  
25 treatment works with the signed statement under subdivision (b)(9)(A) of this  
26 section.

27 (C) Upon receipt of a signed statement that includes a  
28 legal description of the service area for the nonmunicipal domestic sewage  
29 treatment works, the water service provider shall not establish new  
30 connections or initiate service to existing connections for water service in  
31 the service area of the nonmunicipal domestic sewage treatment works as  
32 defined by the legal description.

33 (D) If the director or the director's designated  
34 representative finds that the nonmunicipal domestic sewage treatment works is  
35 no longer subject to an enforcement action or has remedied the noncompliance  
36 that formed the basis for the signed statement under subdivision (b)(9)(A) of

1 this section, the director or the director's designated representative shall  
2 send a signed statement of the finding to each water service provider that  
3 received the prior statement.

4 (E) Upon receipt of the signed statement required under  
5 subdivision (b)(9)(D) of this section, the water service provider may resume  
6 installation of new connections or resume initiation of service to existing  
7 connections for water service.

8 (c)(1)(A)(i) All facilities that engage in land application or storage  
9 of fluids generated or utilized during exploration or production phases of  
10 oil or gas operations shall be closed in a manner that ensures protection of  
11 human health and the environment.

12 (ii) As used in this subsection, "land application  
13 or storage of fluids generated or utilized during exploration or production  
14 phases of oil or gas operations" means land farming through the controlled  
15 and repeated application of drilling fluids to a soil surface or the practice  
16 of receiving and storing said fluids from offsite for waste management.

17 (iii) Surface facilities associated with Class II  
18 injection wells are specifically excluded from the requirements of this  
19 subsection.

20 (iv) Land applications at the drilling or  
21 exploration site that are authorized under any general permit issued by the  
22 ~~department~~ division are excluded from the requirements of this subsection.

23 (B) By October 1, 2009, each existing permitted facility  
24 regulated under this subsection shall submit to the ~~department~~ division the  
25 following:

26 (i) A plan to close the permitted facility and make  
27 any site restoration deemed necessary by the ~~department~~ division;

28 (ii) A detailed cost estimate to close and restore  
29 the permitted facility that meets the requirements of this subsection and is  
30 approved by the ~~department~~ division; and

31 (iii) A financial mechanism that demonstrates to the  
32 ~~department's~~ division's satisfaction the permittee's financial ability to  
33 ensure adequate closure and any necessary restoration of the permitted  
34 facility in accordance with the requirements of this subsection.

35 (C) The ~~department~~ division shall not issue, modify, or  
36 renew a permit for facilities regulated under this subsection without the

1 permit applicant first demonstrating to the ~~department's~~ division's  
2 satisfaction the applicant's financial ability to ensure adequate closure and  
3 any necessary restoration of the permitted facility in accordance with the  
4 requirements of this subsection.

5 (D)(i) The amount of any financial assurance required  
6 under this subsection shall be equal to or greater than the detailed cost  
7 estimate for a third party to close the permitted facility in accordance with  
8 closure plans approved by the ~~department~~ division.

9 (ii) The detailed cost estimate shall be prepared by  
10 an independent professional consultant.

11 (iii) On or before August 15 of each year, a  
12 permittee shall submit to the ~~department~~ division for approval a detailed  
13 cost estimate to close and restore the permitted facility in accordance with  
14 closure plans that have been approved by the ~~department~~ division.

15 (E)(i) For new permits, the applicant shall submit to the  
16 ~~department~~ division for approval a detailed cost estimate to close and  
17 restore the facility based on the proposed operation and capacity of the  
18 facility from the date the permit is issued through the following October 1.

19 (ii) For renewal or modification applications, the  
20 permittee shall submit to the ~~department~~ division for approval a detailed  
21 cost estimate to close and restore the permitted facility based on closure  
22 plans that have been approved by the ~~department~~ division.

23 (F)(i) For each permit, the financial assurance mechanism  
24 shall be renewed on October 1 of each year.

25 (ii) For each permit, documentation that the  
26 required financial assurance mechanism has been renewed beginning October 1  
27 of that year shall be received by the ~~department~~ division by September 15 of  
28 each year or the ~~department~~ division shall initiate procedures to:

29 (a) Take possession of the funds guaranteed by  
30 the financial assurance mechanism; and

31 (b)(1) Suspend or revoke the permit under  
32 which the facility is operated.

33 (2) A permit shall remain suspended  
34 until a financial assurance mechanism is provided to the ~~department~~ division  
35 in accordance with this subsection.

36 (iii) The permittee is responsible for ensuring that

1 documentation of annual renewal is received by the ~~department~~ division by its  
2 due date.

3 (2) The permittee or applicant shall demonstrate financial  
4 ability to adequately close or restore the land application or storage  
5 facility by:

6 (A) Obtaining insurance that specifically covers closure  
7 and restoration costs;

8 (B) Obtaining a letter of credit;

9 (C) Obtaining a bond or other surety instrument;

10 (D) Creating a trust fund or an escrow account;

11 (E) Combining any of the instruments in subdivisions  
12 (c)(2)(A)-(D) of this section; or

13 (F) Any other financial instrument approved by the  
14 director.

15 (3) A financial instrument required by this subsection shall:

16 (A) Be posted to the benefit of the ~~department~~ division;

17 (B) Provide that the financial instrument cannot be  
18 canceled without sixty (60) days' prior written notice addressed to the  
19 ~~department's~~ division's legal division chief as evidenced by a signed,  
20 certified mail with a return receipt request; and

21 (C) Be reviewed by the ~~department~~ division upon receipt of  
22 the cancelation notice to determine whether to initiate procedures to revoke  
23 or suspend the facility's permit and whether to initiate procedures to take  
24 possession of the funds guaranteed by the financial assurance mechanism.

25 (4) Before the ~~department~~ division may release a financial  
26 assurance mechanism, the ~~department~~ division shall receive a certification by  
27 a professional engineer that the permitted facility has been closed and  
28 restored in accordance with closure plans that have been approved by the  
29 ~~department~~ division.

30 (5) The ~~department~~ division is not responsible for the  
31 operation, closure, or restoration of a facility regulated under this  
32 subsection.

33 (d)(1) When an application for the issuance of a new permit or a major  
34 modification of an existing permit is filed with the ~~department~~ division, the  
35 ~~department~~ division shall cause notice of the application to be published in  
36 a newspaper of general circulation in the county in which the proposed

1 facility is to be located.

2 (2) The notice required by subdivision (d)(1) of this section  
3 shall advise that any interested person may request a public hearing on the  
4 permit application by giving the ~~department~~ division a written request within  
5 ten (10) days of the publication of the notice.

6 (3)(A) If the ~~department~~ division determines that a hearing is  
7 necessary or desires such a hearing, the ~~department~~ division shall schedule a  
8 public hearing.

9 (B)(i) If the ~~department~~ division schedules a public  
10 hearing, the ~~department~~ division shall notify the applicant and all persons  
11 who have submitted comments of the date, time, and place of the public  
12 hearing.

13 (ii) The notice shall be provided using one (1) of  
14 the following methods based on the contact information available for the  
15 applicant or the person and the director's discretion:

16 (a) First class mail; or

17 (b) Email.

18 (e)(1)(A) Whenever the ~~department~~ division proposes to grant or deny  
19 any permit application, it shall cause notice of its proposed action to be  
20 published in either:

21 (i) A newspaper of general circulation in the county  
22 in which the facility that is the subject of the application is located; or

23 (ii) In the case of a statewide permit, in a  
24 newspaper of general circulation in the state.

25 (B) The notice shall afford any interested party thirty  
26 (30) calendar days in which to submit comments on the proposed permit action.

27 (C)(i) At the conclusion of the public comment period, the  
28 ~~department~~ division shall provide a final written permitting decision  
29 regarding the permit application.

30 (ii) The final written permitting decision shall be  
31 published on the ~~department's~~ division's website.

32 (iii) The ~~department~~ division shall provide the  
33 applicant the final permitting decision using one (1) of the following  
34 methods based on the contact information available and the director's  
35 discretion:

36 (a) First class mail; or

1 (b) Email.

2 (iv) The ~~department~~ division shall provide notice of  
3 the final permitting decision to all persons who have submitted comments  
4 using one (1) of the following methods based on the contact information  
5 available and the director's discretion:

6 (a) First class mail; or

7 (b) Email.

8 (2)(A)(i) The ~~department's~~ division's final decision shall  
9 include a response to each issue raised in any public comments received  
10 during the public comment period. The response shall manifest reasoned  
11 consideration of the issues raised by the public comments and shall be  
12 supported by appropriate legal, scientific, or practical reasons for  
13 accepting or rejecting the substance of the comment in the ~~department's~~  
14 division's permitting decision.

15 (ii) For the purposes of this section, response to  
16 comments by the ~~department~~ division should serve the roles of both developing  
17 the record for possible judicial review of an individual permitting action  
18 and as a record for the public's review of the ~~department's~~ division's  
19 technical and legal interpretations on long-range regulatory issues.

20 (iii) Nothing in this section, however, shall be  
21 construed as limiting the ~~department's~~ division's authority to raise all  
22 relevant issues of regulatory concern upon adjudicatory review of the  
23 commission of a particular permitting action.

24 (B)(i) In the case of any discharge limit, emission limit,  
25 environmental standard, analytical method, or monitoring requirements, the  
26 record of the proposed action and the response shall include a written  
27 explanation of the rationale for the proposal, demonstrating that any  
28 technical requirements or standards are based upon generally accepted  
29 scientific knowledge and engineering practices.

30 (ii) For any standard or requirement that is  
31 identical to an applicable regulation, this demonstration may be satisfied by  
32 reference to the regulation. In all other cases, the ~~department~~ division must  
33 provide its own justification with appropriate reference to the scientific  
34 and engineering literature or written studies conducted by the ~~department~~  
35 division.

36 (f)(1) All costs of publication of notices of applications and notices

1 of proposals to grant permits under this section shall be the responsibility  
2 of the applicant.

3 (2) All costs of publication of notices of proposals to deny a  
4 permit under this section shall be the responsibility of the ~~department~~  
5 division.

6 (3) Any moneys received under this subsection shall be  
7 classified as refunds to expenditures.

8 (g) Only those persons that submit comments on the record during the  
9 public comment period and the applicant shall have standing to appeal the  
10 decision of the ~~department~~ division to the commission.

11 (h)(1) Permits for the discharge of pollutants into the waters of the  
12 state or for the prevention of pollution of the waters of the state shall  
13 remain freely transferable if the applicant for the transfer:

14 (A) Notifies the director at least thirty (30) days in  
15 advance of the proposed transfer date;

16 (B) Submits a disclosure statement as required under § 8-  
17 1-106;

18 (C) Provides any replacement financial assurance required  
19 under this section; and

20 (D) Ensures that all past and currently due annual permit  
21 fees and the trust fund contribution fees for the nonmunicipal domestic  
22 sewage treatment works have been paid.

23 (2) Only the reasons stated in §§ 8-1-103(4), 8-1-106(b)(1), 8-  
24 1-106(c), and this section constitute grounds for denial of a transfer.

25 (3) The permit is automatically transferred to the new permittee  
26 unless the director denies the request within thirty (30) days of the receipt  
27 of the disclosure statement.

28 (i) In the event of voluminous comments, including without limitation  
29 a petition, the ~~department~~ division may require the designation of a  
30 representative to accept any notices required by this section.

31 (j) The notice provisions of subsections (d) and (e) of this section  
32 do not apply to permit transfers or minor modifications of existing permits.

33 (k) This section in no way restricts local and county government  
34 entities from enacting more stringent ordinances regulating nonmunicipal  
35 domestic treatment sewage systems in Arkansas.

36 (l) The commission may promulgate rules to establish a permit-by-rule.

1 A permit-by-rule is subject to the public notice requirements and procedural  
2 provisions under § 8-4-202 et seq. but is not subject to the public notice  
3 requirements and procedural provisions under this section and §§ 8-4-204 and  
4 8-4-205.

5 (m)(1)(A)(i) The ~~department~~ division may issue general permits under  
6 subsection (a) of this section.

7 (ii) A general permit is a statewide permit for a  
8 category of facilities or sources that:

9 (a) Involve the same or substantially similar  
10 types of operations or activities;

11 (b) Discharge or release the same type of  
12 wastes or engage in the same type of disposal practices;

13 (c) Require the same limitations, operating  
14 conditions, or standards;

15 (d) Require the same or similar monitoring  
16 requirements; and

17 (e) In the opinion of the director, may be  
18 regulated under a general permit.

19 (B)(i) Facilities or sources eligible to construct or  
20 operate under a general permit may obtain coverage by submitting a notice of  
21 intent to the ~~department~~ division.

22 (ii) The director may require a person who has been  
23 granted coverage under a general permit to apply for and obtain an individual  
24 permit.

25 (2)(A) A general permit is subject to the public notice  
26 requirements for statewide permits and the procedures under subsection (e) of  
27 this section.

28 (B) The ~~department~~ division shall pay the costs of  
29 publication of notice of a draft permitting decision to issue a general  
30 permit.

31 (C) General permit coverage is not transferable unless the  
32 general permit provides for transfer.

33 (3)(A)(i) Before the submittal to public comment of a general  
34 permit that has not been previously issued, the ~~department~~ division shall  
35 consider the economic impact and environmental benefit of the general permit  
36 and its terms and conditions upon the people of the State of Arkansas,

1 including those entities that may apply for coverage under the general  
2 permit.

3 (ii) This requirement does not apply to general  
4 permits or terms or conditions that adopt the language of state or federal  
5 statutes or regulations without substantive change.

6 (B) If the terms and conditions of a previously issued  
7 general permit are revised upon renewal, the economic impact and  
8 environmental benefit of only the proposed changes shall be considered.

9 (C) A general permit for which costs are specifically  
10 prohibited from being considered by state or federal law or regulation is  
11 exempt from the requirements of this subsection.

12 (D) The ~~department~~ division may rely upon readily  
13 available information for its consideration of the economic impact and  
14 environmental benefit of the general permit and its terms and conditions.

15 (4)(A) Only those persons that submit comments on the record  
16 during the public comment period shall have standing to appeal the decision  
17 of the ~~department~~ division to the commission.

18 (B) The final permitting decision of the ~~department~~  
19 division on the general permit is subject to a hearing before the commission  
20 under §§ 8-4-205, 8-4-212, 8-4-213, 8-4-214, and the administrative  
21 procedures promulgated by the commission.

22 (5)(A)(i) When a general permit includes an expiration date  
23 later than July 1, 2012, the ~~department~~ Arkansas Department of Environmental  
24 Quality or the Division of Environmental Quality shall publish the notice of  
25 intent to renew or not renew the general permit at least three hundred sixty-  
26 five (365) days before the expiration of the general permit.

27 (ii) When a general permit includes an expiration  
28 date earlier than July 1, 2012, the department or the division shall publish  
29 the notice of intent to renew or not renew the general permit as soon as  
30 reasonably possible.

31 (B) The department or the division shall publish its final  
32 permitting decision to renew or not renew the general permit at least one  
33 hundred eighty (180) days before the expiration date of the general permit.

34 (C) If the general permit expires before the final  
35 decision to renew or not renew the general permit, the terms and conditions  
36 of the general permit shall remain in effect, and all persons who obtained

1 coverage under the general permit before its expiration shall retain coverage  
2 under the general permit until there has been a final permit decision on the  
3 general permit.

4 (D) In the event the department or the division makes a  
5 decision to not renew the general permit, existing coverage under the general  
6 permit shall continue under the terms of the expired permit until a final  
7 decision is reached for an individual permit.

8 (6)(A) If a general permit is appealed and the general permit  
9 expires before the final decision by the director or by the commission to  
10 renew or not renew the general permit, the terms and conditions of the  
11 general permit shall remain in effect.

12 (B) All persons who obtained coverage under the general  
13 permit before its expiration shall retain coverage under the general permit  
14 until there has been a final administrative decision on the general permit.

15 (C) The director shall not approve new coverage under an  
16 expired general permit for any facility for which a notice of intent was not  
17 filed before expiration of the general permit.

18 (n)(1) When an application for the issuance of a new permit for a  
19 liquid animal waste system or a modification of an existing permit for a  
20 liquid animal waste system is filed, the ~~department~~ division shall give  
21 notice of its proposed action in accordance with subdivision (e)(1)(A) of  
22 this section within one hundred twenty (120) days of receipt of the  
23 application.

24 (2)(A) At the conclusion of the public comment period, the  
25 ~~department~~ division shall announce in writing within sixty (60) days its  
26 final decision regarding the permit application in accordance with  
27 subdivision (e)(2)(A) of this section.

28 (B) For a modification that the ~~department~~ division  
29 considers to be minor in nature, the ~~department~~ division shall make its final  
30 decision regarding the permit application within thirty (30) days after  
31 receipt of the application.

32 (3) An applicant may waive in writing to the ~~department~~ division  
33 the timeliness requirement under subdivisions (n)(1) and (2) of this section.

34 (o)(1) If an application for modification of an existing state permit  
35 for a liquid animal waste management system is filed with the ~~department~~  
36 division, only those permit conditions subject to the modification are open

1 for review.

2 (2)(A) Except as provided in subdivision (o)(2)(B) of this  
3 section, an existing state permit for a liquid animal waste management system  
4 that is in good standing is not subject to review or third-party appeal for  
5 siting or location issues that were not raised during the applicable review  
6 or appeal period at the time of permit issuance.

7 (B) Subdivision (o)(2)(A) of this section does not limit  
8 the authority of the ~~department~~ division to address or enforce a violation of  
9 permit conditions or applicable law.

10

11 SECTION 2488. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 8-4-204,  
12 concerning permits and revocation by the Arkansas Department of Environmental  
13 Quality, is amended to read as follows:

14 8-4-204. Permits – Revocation.

15 The ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of Environmental Quality or its  
16 successor is given and charged with the power and duty to revoke, modify, or  
17 suspend, in whole or in part, for cause any permit issued under this chapter,  
18 including without limitation:

19

20 SECTION 2489. Arkansas Code § 8-4-205(a), concerning permits, hearings  
21 upon denial, revocation, or modification of permit by the Arkansas Department  
22 of Environmental Quality, is amended to read as follows:

23 (a) Any person that is denied a permit by the Director of the ~~Arkansas~~  
24 ~~Department~~ Division of Environmental Quality or that has a permit revoked or  
25 modified or a request for permit transfer or modification denied shall be  
26 afforded an opportunity for a hearing by the Arkansas Pollution Control and  
27 Ecology Commission in connection therewith, upon written application made  
28 within thirty (30) days after service of notice of the denial, revocation, or  
29 modification.

30

31 SECTION 2490. Arkansas Code § 8-4-205(b)(1), concerning permits,  
32 hearings upon denial, revocation, or modification of permit by the Arkansas  
33 Department of Environmental Quality, is amended to read as follows:

34 (b)(1) Only those interested persons, other than the applicant, that  
35 have submitted comments on the record regarding a proposed permit action  
36 during the public comment period shall have standing to request a hearing by

1 the commission in connection therewith, upon written application made within  
2 thirty (30) days after the date of the ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of  
3 Environmental Quality's final decision regarding the permit action.

4  
5 SECTION 2491. Arkansas Code § 8-4-206 is amended to read as follows:

6 8-4-206. State water pollution control agency – General authority.

7 (a) In addition to any other powers which it may have under this  
8 chapter or any other legislative act, the ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of  
9 Environmental Quality is authorized and empowered to act as the “state water  
10 pollution control agency” for the State of Arkansas for the purposes of the  
11 Federal Water Pollution Control Act Amendments of 1972.

12 (b) As the state water pollution control agency, the ~~department~~  
13 division may, among other things, approve projects for the construction of  
14 disposal systems for the purposes of loans and grants from the United States  
15 Environmental Protection Agency or any other federal agency and may take any  
16 other action necessary or appropriate to secure for the state the benefits of  
17 the Federal Water Pollution Control Act, as amended.

18  
19 SECTION 2492. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 8-4-207,  
20 concerning the powers and duties of the state water pollution control agency,  
21 is amended to read as follows:

22 Without limiting the generality of the provisions of this chapter or of  
23 the powers which the Director of the ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of  
24 Environmental Quality and the Arkansas Pollution Control and Ecology  
25 Commission may have under this or any other legislative act:

26  
27 SECTION 2493. Arkansas Code § 8-4-207(6)(A)(ii), concerning the powers  
28 and duties of the state water pollution control agency, is amended to read as  
29 follows:

30 (ii) However, information submitted to the ~~Arkansas~~  
31 ~~Department~~ Division of Environmental Quality may be claimed as confidential  
32 if its disclosure would divulge trade secrets.

33  
34 SECTION 2494. Arkansas Code § 8-4-207(6)(B), concerning the powers and  
35 duties of the state water pollution control agency, is amended to read as  
36 follows:

1 (B) The ~~department~~ division shall deny any claim for  
2 confidentiality for the name and address of any permit applicant or permittee  
3 or for any National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System permit  
4 applications, National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System permits, and  
5 effluent data.

6  
7 SECTION 2495. Arkansas Code § 8-4-207(6)(D), concerning the powers and  
8 duties of the state water pollution control agency, is amended to read as  
9 follows:

10 (D) Any person adversely affected by a determination by  
11 the ~~department~~ division on a claim of confidentiality may appeal the  
12 determination as provided in §§ 8-4-222 and 8-4-223.

13  
14 SECTION 2496. Arkansas Code § 8-4-208 is amended to read as follows:  
15 8-4-208. State water pollution control agency – Administration of  
16 permit program generally.

17 (a) The ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of Environmental Quality is  
18 authorized, subject to the approval of the Governor, to administer on behalf  
19 of the state its own permit program for discharges into navigable waters  
20 within its jurisdiction in lieu of that of the United States Environmental  
21 Protection Agency. The ~~department~~ division is also authorized to submit to  
22 the Administrator of the United States Environmental Protection Agency for  
23 approval a full and complete description of the program which the ~~department~~  
24 division proposes to establish and administer under state law, as provided by  
25 § 402(b) of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act Amendments of 1972, 33  
26 U.S.C. § 1342(b). To that end, the ~~department~~ division and the Arkansas  
27 Pollution Control and Ecology Commission are vested with all necessary  
28 authority and power to meet the requirements of § 402(b) of the Federal Water  
29 Pollution Control Act Amendments of 1972, 33 U.S.C. § 1342(b), and the  
30 guidelines promulgated by the United States Environmental Protection Agency  
31 pursuant to § 304(h)(2) of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act Amendments  
32 of 1972, 33 U.S.C. § 1314(h), to engage in an approved continuing planning  
33 process under § 303(e) of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act Amendments  
34 of 1972, 33 U.S.C. § 1313(e), and to perform any and all acts necessary to  
35 carry out the purposes and requirements of the Federal Water Pollution  
36 Control Act Amendments of 1972 relating to this state's participation in the

1 National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System established under the Federal  
2 Water Pollution Control Act Amendments of 1972, subject to all restrictions  
3 contained in the Federal Water Pollution Control Act Amendments of 1972 and  
4 guidelines.

5 (b) The ~~department~~ division shall further have the authority to accept  
6 a delegation of authority from the Administrator of the United States  
7 Environmental Protection Agency under the Federal Water Pollution Control Act  
8 Amendments of 1972 and to exercise and enforce the authority delegated.

9 (c) Any public hearing that may be held by the Director of the  
10 ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of Environmental Quality preliminary to acting  
11 on a permit application as required by the Federal Water Pollution Control  
12 Act Amendments of 1972 and guidelines, unless otherwise designated in the  
13 notice of hearing, shall be for informational purposes only and shall not be  
14 deemed a hearing before the commission within the meaning of § 8-4-205. No  
15 appeal may be taken therefrom.

16

17 SECTION 2497. Arkansas Code § 8-4-209 is amended to read as follows:

18 8-4-209. State water pollution control agency – Participation of  
19 certain persons prohibited in approval of permit applications.

20 Any provision of state law to the contrary notwithstanding, no member  
21 of the ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of Environmental Quality or the Arkansas  
22 Pollution Control and Ecology Commission or other state agency who receives  
23 or has during the previous two (2) years received a significant portion of  
24 his or her income directly or indirectly from permit holders or applicants  
25 for a permit shall participate in the approval of the National Pollutant  
26 Discharge Elimination System permit applications or portions thereof.

27

28 SECTION 2498. Arkansas Code § 8-4-210(e), concerning investigations  
29 and hearings by the Arkansas Pollution Control and Ecology Commission, is  
30 amended to read as follows:

31 (e) In accordance with the powers set forth in subsections (a)-(d) of  
32 this section, the commission is authorized to conduct adjudicatory hearings  
33 providing an aggrieved person with standing a forum for contesting any  
34 decision of the ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of Environmental Quality. For  
35 the purposes of such hearings, the commission's jurisdiction shall be  
36 construed as including all regulatory programs vested with the ~~department~~

1 division.

2

3 SECTION 2499. Arkansas Code § 8-4-211(a), concerning delcaratory  
4 orders by the Arkansas Pollution Control and Ecology Commission is amended to  
5 read as follows:

6 (a) Any permittee or person subject to regulation may petition the  
7 Arkansas Pollution Control and Ecology Commission for a declaratory order as  
8 to the application of any rule, statute, permit, or order enforced by the  
9 ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of Environmental Quality or the commission.

10

11 SECTION 2500. Arkansas Code § 8-4-212(a), concerning orders and  
12 adjudicatory hearings by the Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality and  
13 the Arkansas Pollution Control and Ecology Commission, is amended to read as  
14 follows:

15 (a) No final order resolving a contested decision of the ~~Arkansas~~  
16 ~~Department~~ Division of Environmental Quality shall be issued until the  
17 Arkansas Pollution Control and Ecology Commission has provided aggrieved  
18 persons that have standing the opportunity for an adjudicatory hearing upon  
19 the matter.

20

21 SECTION 2501. Arkansas Code § 8-4-215 is amended to read as follows:  
22 8-4-215. Intergovernmental cooperation.

23 (a) The ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of Environmental Quality or its  
24 successor and the Arkansas Pollution Control and Ecology Commission, so far  
25 as it is not inconsistent with its duties under the laws of this state, may  
26 assist and cooperate with any agency of another state or the United States in  
27 any matter relating to water pollution control.

28 (b)(1) The commission or the ~~department~~ division may receive and  
29 accept money, property, or services from any person or from any agency  
30 described in subsection (a) of this section or from any other source for any  
31 water pollution control purpose within the scope of its functions under this  
32 chapter.

33 (2) All moneys so received shall be used for the operation and  
34 activities of the commission or ~~department~~ division and for no other  
35 purposes.

36 (c)(1) The ~~department~~ division or its successor may enter into

1 agreements with the responsible authorities of the United States or other  
2 states, subject to approval by the Governor, relative to policies, methods,  
3 means, and procedures to be employed to control pollution of any interstate  
4 waters and may carry out these agreements by appropriate general and special  
5 orders.

6 (2)(A) This power shall not be deemed to extend to the  
7 modification of any agreement with any other state concluded by direct  
8 legislative act.

9 (B) However, unless otherwise provided, the ~~department~~  
10 division shall be the agency for the administration and enforcement of any  
11 such legislative agreement.

12  
13 SECTION 2502. Arkansas Code § 8-4-216 is amended to read as follows  
14 8-4-216. Information and inspections.

15 (a) The owner or operator of or any contributor of sewage, industrial  
16 wastes, or other wastes to any disposal system or an industrial user of a  
17 publicly owned treatment system, when requested by the Director of the  
18 ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of Environmental Quality, shall furnish to the  
19 ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of Environmental Quality any information that is  
20 relevant to the subject of this chapter. The owner or operator shall  
21 establish and maintain such records, make such reports, install, use, and  
22 maintain such monitoring equipment or methods, including, when appropriate,  
23 biological monitoring methods, sample such effluents, and provide such other  
24 information as the director may reasonably require.

25 (b) The ~~department~~ division or any authorized employee or agent of the  
26 ~~department~~ division may examine and copy any book, papers, records, or  
27 memoranda pertaining to the operation of a disposal system.

28 (c) Whenever it shall be necessary for the purpose of this chapter,  
29 the ~~department~~ division or any authorized member, employee, or agent of the  
30 ~~department~~ division may enter upon any public or private property for the  
31 purpose of obtaining information or conducting surveys or investigations.

32  
33 SECTION 2503. Arkansas Code § 8-4-217(a)(3), concerning unlawful  
34 actions under the laws of the Arkansas Pollution Control and Ecology  
35 Commission and the Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality, is amended  
36 to read as follows:

1 (3) Violate any provisions of this chapter or of any rule,  
2 regulation, or order adopted by the Arkansas Pollution Control and Ecology  
3 Commission under this chapter or of a permit issued under this chapter by the  
4 ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of Environmental Quality;

5  
6 SECTION 2504. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 8-4-  
7 217(a)(6)(A)(iii), concerning unlawful actions under the laws of the Arkansas  
8 Pollution Control and Ecology Commission and the Arkansas Department of  
9 Environmental Quality, is amended to read as follows:

10 (iii) A substance the ~~department~~ division excludes  
11 from the phosphorus limitations of this section based on a finding that  
12 compliance with this section would:

13  
14 SECTION 2505. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 8-4-  
15 217(b)(1), concerning unlawful actions under the laws of the Arkansas  
16 Pollution Control and Ecology Commission and the Arkansas Department of  
17 Environmental Quality, is amended to read as follows:

18 (b)(1) It shall be unlawful for any person to engage in any of the  
19 following acts without having first obtained a written permit from the  
20 ~~department~~ division:

21  
22 SECTION 2506. Arkansas Code § 8-4-217(b)(2), concerning unlawful  
23 actions under the laws of the Arkansas Pollution Control and Ecology  
24 Commission and the Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality, is amended  
25 to read as follows:

26 (2) The ~~department~~ division may require the submission of such  
27 plans, specifications, and other information as it deems relevant in  
28 connection with the issuance of disposal permits.

29  
30 SECTION 2507. Arkansas Code § 8-4-218(a), concerning the notice of  
31 violations, orders, rules, and hearings by the Arkansas Department of  
32 Environmental Quality, is amended to read as follows:

33 (a) Whenever the ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of Environmental Quality  
34 or its successor determines that there are reasonable grounds to believe that  
35 there has been a violation of any of the provisions of this chapter or any  
36 order, rule, or regulation of the Arkansas Pollution Control and Ecology

1 Commission, it may give written notice to the alleged violator specifying the  
2 causes of complaint.

3

4 SECTION 2508. Arkansas Code § 8-4-220(a), concerning an order of the  
5 Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality without a hearing in an  
6 emergency, is amended to read as follows:

7 (a) When the ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of Environmental Quality or  
8 its successor finds that an emergency exists requiring immediate action to  
9 protect the public health or welfare it may, without notice or hearing, issue  
10 an order reciting the existence of such emergency and requiring that such  
11 action be taken as it deems necessary to meet the emergency.

12

13 SECTION 2509. Arkansas Code § 8-4-230(a), concerning temporary  
14 variances and interim authority granted by the Director of the Department of  
15 Environmental Quality, is amended to read as follows:

16 (a)(1) Unless otherwise expressly prohibited by federal law, the  
17 Director of the ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of Environmental Quality may,  
18 for compelling reasons and good cause shown, grant:

19 (A) A temporary variance from the requirements of a permit  
20 issued by the ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of Environmental Quality; or

21 (B) Interim authority to construct or operate during the  
22 application review and permit issuance process.

23 (2) Such temporary variances or interim authority shall not  
24 exceed a period of ninety (90) days, except when a longer period is justified  
25 by circumstances beyond the applicant's control. The ~~department~~ division may  
26 grant a request for an extension of a temporary variance or interim authority  
27 at any time prior to the expiration date.

28 (3) The ~~department~~ division may require an initial processing  
29 fee of two hundred dollars (\$200) for a request for a temporary variance or  
30 an interim authority request. This fee shall not be required for requests for  
31 an extension of any temporary variance or interim authority.

32

33 SECTION 2510. Arkansas Code § 8-4-230(e)(1), concerning temporary  
34 variances and interim authority granted by the Director of the Department of  
35 Environmental Quality, is amended to read as follows:

36 (e)(1) The director's decision to grant or deny a temporary variance

1 or interim authority to construct or operate shall be issued within ten (10)  
2 days of receipt of the request for the temporary variance or interim  
3 authority and shall be publicly noticed in a newspaper of general circulation  
4 in the state within five (5) business days of the director's decision. The  
5 applicant shall be responsible for the expense of the publication of a  
6 decision to grant a temporary variance or interim authority. The ~~department~~  
7 division shall be responsible for the expense of the publication of a  
8 decision to deny a temporary variance or interim authority.

9  
10 SECTION 2511. Arkansas Code § 8-4-232(b)(2)(E), concerning nutrient  
11 water quality trading programs, is amended to read as follows:

12 (E)(i) The establishment of a schedule of user fees to be  
13 collected by the ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of Environmental Quality from  
14 persons or entities utilizing nutrient water quality trades or offsets to  
15 comply with permit limits.

16 (ii) The user fees shall be based on a record  
17 calculating the reasonable costs to the ~~department~~ division of implementing  
18 and enforcing each nutrient water quality trading, credit, or offset program.

19  
20 SECTION 2512. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 8-4-232(c),  
21 concerning nutrient water quality trading programs, is amended to read as  
22 follows:

23 (c) Under regulations adopted by the commission under subsection (b)  
24 of this section, the ~~department~~ division may:

25  
26 SECTION 2513. Arkansas Code § 8-4-233(f), concerning the creation,  
27 members, and duties of the Nutrient Water Quality Trading Advisory Panel, is  
28 amended to read as follows:

29 (f) The ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of Environmental Quality shall  
30 provide meeting space and administrative services for the panel.

31  
32 SECTION 2514. Arkansas Code § 8-4-233(g)(1), concerning the creation,  
33 members, and duties of the Nutrient Water Quality Trading Advisory Panel, is  
34 amended to read as follows:

35 (1) Advise the ~~department~~ division and the Arkansas Natural  
36 Resources Commission regarding the desirability, design, and operation of

1 nutrient water quality trading programs; and

2  
3 SECTION 2515. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 8-4-  
4 234(a)(1), concerning short-term activity authorization by the Director of  
5 the Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality, is amended to read as  
6 follows:

7 (a)(1) The Director of the ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of  
8 Environmental Quality may authorize short-term activities that have potential  
9 to affect compliance with Arkansas water quality standards if:

10  
11 SECTION 2516. Arkansas Code § 8-4-234(b)(1), concerning short-term  
12 activity authorization by the Director of the Arkansas Department of  
13 Environmental Quality, is amended to read as follows:

14 (b)(1) The ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of Environmental Quality may  
15 collect a processing fee for a short-term activity authorization.

16  
17 SECTION 2517. Arkansas Code § 8-4-234(b)(4)(A), concerning short-term  
18 activity authorization by the Director of the Arkansas Department of  
19 Environmental Quality, is amended to read as follows:

20 (4)(A) The ~~department~~ division shall enter into an agreement  
21 with a state agency, board, or commission or municipality, city, or county  
22 that creates an alternative payment structure in lieu of fees authorized  
23 under subdivision (b)(2) of this section.

24  
25 SECTION 2518. Arkansas Code § 8-4-234(b)(4)(B)(ii), concerning short-  
26 term activity authorization by the Director of the Arkansas Department of  
27 Environmental Quality, is amended to read as follows:

28 (ii) A process under which the ~~department~~ division  
29 provides notice to the state agency, board, or commission or municipality,  
30 city, or county of planned actions under this section that affect the state  
31 agency, board, or commission or municipality, city, or county.

32  
33 SECTION 2519. Arkansas Code § 8-4-234(b)(5), concerning short-term  
34 activity authorization by the Director of the Arkansas Department of  
35 Environmental Quality, is amended to read as follows:

36 (5) The ~~department~~ division shall waive twenty-five percent

1 (25%) of a fee assessed under this section to a state agency, board, or  
2 commission or municipality, city, or county in a fiscal year.

3  
4 SECTION 2520. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 8-4-  
5 234(c)(2), concerning short-term activity authorization by the Director of  
6 the Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality, is amended to read as  
7 follows:

8 (2) A state agency, board, or commission or municipality, city,  
9 or county that submits a request for a waiver of the short-term activity  
10 authorization fee under subdivision (c)(1) of this section shall provide the  
11 ~~department~~ division:

12  
13 SECTION 2521. Arkansas Code § 8-4-303(8) and (9), concerning the  
14 definitions of "department" and "director" under the laws regarding air  
15 pollution, are repealed.

16 ~~(8) "Department" means the Arkansas Department of Environmental~~  
17 ~~Quality or its successor;~~

18 ~~(9) "Director" means the Director of the Arkansas Department of~~  
19 ~~Environmental Quality or its successor;~~

20  
21 SECTION 2522. Arkansas Code § 8-4-303(14), concerning the definition  
22 of "state implementation plan" under the laws regarding air pollution, is  
23 amended to read as follows:

24 (14) "State implementation plan" means a plan that specifies  
25 measures to be used in the implementation of the state's duties under the  
26 Clean Air Act, 42 U.S.C. § 7401 et seq., and that is developed by the  
27 ~~department~~ division and submitted to the United States Environmental  
28 Protection Agency for review and approval.

29  
30 SECTION 2523. Arkansas Code § 8-4-307 is amended to read as follows:  
31 8-4-307. Private rights unchanged.

32 (a) Persons other than the state or the ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division  
33 of Environmental Quality shall not acquire actionable right by virtue of this  
34 subchapter. The basis for proceedings that result from violation of any  
35 standard, rule, or regulation promulgated by the Arkansas Pollution Control  
36 and Ecology Commission shall inure solely to and shall be for the benefit of

1 the people of the state generally, and it is not intended to create in any  
2 way new rights or to enlarge existing rights or to abrogate existing private  
3 rights.

4 (b) A determination by the ~~department~~ division that air pollution or  
5 air contamination exists or that any standard, rule, or regulation has been  
6 violated, whether or not a proceeding or action is brought by the state,  
7 shall not create, by reason thereof, any presumption of law or finding of  
8 fact that shall inure to or be for the benefit of any person other than the  
9 state.

10

11 SECTION 2524. Arkansas Code § 8-4-308(a)(1)(A), concerning  
12 confidential industrial secrets obtained by the Arkansas Department of  
13 Environmental Quality and the Arkansas Pollution Control and Ecology  
14 Commission, is amended to read as follows:

15 (a)(1)(A) Any information that constitutes a trade secret under § 4-  
16 75-601 et seq. that is obtained by the employees of the Department of Energy  
17 and Environment, Arkansas Department the Division of Environmental Quality,  
18 or the Arkansas Pollution Control and Ecology Commission ~~or its employees~~ in  
19 the administration of this chapter shall be kept confidential, except for  
20 emission data that is submitted to the state, local agency, or the United  
21 States Environmental Protection Agency, which is otherwise obtained by any of  
22 those agencies pursuant to the Clean Air Act.

23

24 SECTION 2525. Arkansas Code § 8-4-309 is amended to read as follows:  
25 8-4-309. Construction limited – Exception.

26 (a) Nothing contained in this subchapter shall be construed as  
27 amending or repealing § 20-21-201 et seq. concerning the control of radiation  
28 or as granting to the ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of Environmental Quality  
29 or the Arkansas Pollution Control and Ecology Commission any jurisdiction or  
30 authority with respect to air conditions existing solely within the property  
31 boundaries of any plant, works, or shop or with respect to employer-employee  
32 relationships as to health and safety hazards.

33 (b) Notwithstanding the preceding limitation, the ~~department~~ division  
34 and the commission shall have jurisdiction and authority over air conditions  
35 associated with the removal, encapsulation, enclosure, transportation, or  
36 disposal of asbestos-containing material regardless of whether such removal,

1 encapsulation, enclosure, transportation, or disposal is conducted within the  
2 property boundaries of any plant, works, or shop.

3  
4 SECTION 2526. Arkansas Code § 8-4-310(a)(2), concerning unlawful  
5 actions regarding air pollution, is amended to read as follows:

6 (2) To construct, install, use, or operate any source capable of  
7 emitting air contaminants without having first obtained a permit to do so, if  
8 required by the regulations of the Arkansas Pollution Control and Ecology  
9 Commission, or to do so contrary to the provisions of any permit issued by  
10 the ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of Environmental Quality or after any such  
11 permit has been suspended or revoked; or

12  
13 SECTION 2527. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 8-4-311(a),  
14 concerning the powers and duties of the Arkansas Department of Environmental  
15 Quality, is amended to read as follows:

16 (a) The ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of Environmental Quality or its  
17 successor shall have the power to:

18  
19 SECTION 2528. Arkansas Code § 8-4-311(a)(9)(B), concerning the powers  
20 and duties of the Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality, is amended to  
21 read as follows:

22 (B) The ~~department~~ division is designated as the official  
23 state air pollution control agency for such purposes;

24  
25 SECTION 2529. Arkansas Code § 8-4-311(a)(12), concerning the powers  
26 and duties of the Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality, is amended to  
27 read as follows:

28 (12) Exercise all of the powers in the control of air pollution  
29 granted to the ~~department~~ division for the control of water pollution under  
30 §§ 8-4-101 – 8-4-106 and 8-4-201 – 8-4-229; and

31  
32 SECTION 2530. Arkansas Code § 8-4-311(b)(1)(A), concerning the powers  
33 and duties of the Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality, is amended to  
34 read as follows:

35 (1)(A) Promulgate rules and regulations for implementing the  
36 substantive statutes charged to the ~~department~~ division for administration.

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SECTION 2531. Arkansas Code § 8-4-311(b)(3) and (4), concerning the powers and duties of the Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality, are amended to read as follows:

(3) Promulgate rules and regulations governing administrative procedures for challenging or contesting ~~department~~ division actions;

(4) In the case of permitting or grants decisions, provide the right to appeal a permitting or grants decision rendered by the Director of the ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of Environmental Quality or his or her delegatee;

SECTION 2532. Arkansas Code § 8-4-311(b)(7), concerning the powers and duties of the Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality, is amended to read as follows:

(7) Make recommendations to the director regarding overall policy and administration of the ~~department~~ division, provided, however, that the director shall always remain within the plenary authority of the Governor and the Secretary of the Department of Energy and Environment;

SECTION 2533. Arkansas Code § 8-4-311(b)(10)(A), concerning the powers and duties of the Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality, is amended to read as follows:

(10)(A) Adopt, after notice and public hearing, reasonable and nondiscriminatory rules and regulations, including requiring a permit or other regulatory authorization from the ~~department~~ division, before any equipment causing the issuance of air contaminants may be built, erected, altered, replaced, used, or operated, except in the case of repairs or maintenance of equipment for which a permit has been previously used, and revoke or modify any permit issued under this chapter or deny any permit when it is necessary, in the opinion of the ~~department~~ division, to prevent, control, or abate air pollution.

SECTION 2534. Arkansas Code § 8-4-311(b)(10)(D), concerning the powers and duties of the Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality, is amended to read as follows:

(D) Any person that is denied a permit by the ~~department~~

1 division or that has such permit revoked or modified shall be afforded an  
2 opportunity for a hearing in connection therewith upon written application  
3 made within thirty (30) days after service of notice of such denial,  
4 revocation, or modification.

5  
6 SECTION 2535. Arkansas Code § 8-4-311(b)(10)(F)(i), concerning the  
7 powers and duties of the Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality, is  
8 amended to read as follows:

9 (F)(i) An applicant or permit holder that has had a  
10 complete application for a permit or for a modification of a permit pending  
11 longer than the time specified in the state regulations promulgated pursuant  
12 to Title V of the Clean Air Act Amendments of 1990, 42 U.S.C. § 7661 et seq.,  
13 or any person that participated in the public participation process, and any  
14 other person that could obtain judicial review of such actions under state  
15 laws, may petition the commission for relief from ~~department~~ division  
16 inaction.

17  
18 SECTION 2536. Arkansas Code § 8-4-311(b)(10)(F)(iii), concerning the  
19 powers and duties of the Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality, is  
20 amended to read as follows:

21 (iii) For the purposes of judicial review, either a  
22 commission denial or the failure of the ~~department~~ division to render a final  
23 decision within thirty (30) days after the commission has granted a petition  
24 shall constitute final agency action;

25  
26 SECTION 2537. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 8-4-312,  
27 concerning factors in exercise of powers by the Arkansas Department of  
28 Environmental Quality and the Arkansas Pollution Control and Ecology  
29 Commission, is amended to read as follows:

30 In exercising their powers and responsibilities under this chapter, the  
31 ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of Environmental Quality and the Arkansas  
32 Pollution Control and Ecology Commission shall take into account and give  
33 consideration to the following factors:

34  
35 SECTION 2538. Arkansas Code § 8-4-312(16), concerning factors in  
36 exercise of powers by the Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality and

1 the Arkansas Pollution Control and Ecology Commission, is amended to read as  
2 follows:

3 (16) Other factors that the ~~department~~ division or the  
4 commission may find applicable.

5  
6 SECTION 2539. Arkansas Code § 8-4-313(b)(1), concerning variance from  
7 regulations by the Arkansas Pollution Control and Ecology Commission, is  
8 amended to read as follows:

9 (b)(1) Any person seeking a variance shall do so by filing a petition  
10 for a variance with the Director of the ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of  
11 Environmental Quality.

12

13 SECTION 2540. Arkansas Code § 8-4-314(b)(4), concerning the creation  
14 of the Compliance Advisory Panel, is amended to read as follows:

15 (4) One (1) member selected by the Director of the ~~Arkansas~~  
16 ~~Department~~ Division of Environmental Quality who shall serve as a nonvoting  
17 member except when his or her vote is needed to break a tie vote.

18

19 SECTION 2541. Arkansas Code § 8-4-316(b)(1) and (2), concerning open  
20 burning of storm debris, are amended to read as follows:

21 (B)(1) Open burning shall be:

22 (A) Limited to no more than four (4) sites per county as  
23 designated by the county judge and pre-authorized by the ~~Arkansas Department~~  
24 Division of Environmental Quality; and

25 (B) Reported in writing to the ~~department~~ division at  
26 least three (3) days before the commencement of any open burning, unless the  
27 reporting is waived by the Director of the ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of  
28 Environmental Quality.

29 (2)(A) For an initial or subsequent request for open burning,  
30 the ~~department~~ division shall consider a maximum of four (4) sites pre-  
31 authorized for open burning if the ~~department~~ division receives a signed  
32 letter from the county judge certifying that the open burning sites pre-  
33 authorized under subdivision (b)(1) of this section have not been materially  
34 altered since the initial request.

35 (B) If the director determines that the scope of the  
36 disaster warrants additional open burning sites, then the director may

1 authorize additional open burning sites.

2

3 SECTION 2542. Arkansas Code § 8-4-316(f), concerning open burning of  
4 storm debris, is amended to read as follows:

5 (f) The ~~department~~ division may recommend alternative methods of  
6 vegetative storm debris disposal, including the use of air curtain  
7 incinerators or composting to the extent allowed under federal law.

8

9 SECTION 2543. Arkansas Code § 8-4-317(a), concerning state  
10 implementation plans, is amended to read as follows:

11 (a) In developing and implementing a state implementation plan, the  
12 ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of Environmental Quality shall consider and take  
13 into account the factors specified in § 8-4-312 and the Clean Air Act, 42  
14 U.S.C. § 7401 et seq., as applicable.

15

16 SECTION 2544. Arkansas Code § 8-4-317(b)(1)(A), concerning state  
17 implementation plans, is amended to read as follows:

18 (b)(1)(A) Whenever the ~~department~~ division proposes to finalize a  
19 state implementation plan submittal for review and approval by the United  
20 States Environmental Protection Agency, it shall cause notice of its proposed  
21 action to be published in a newspaper of general circulation in the state.

22

23 SECTION 2545. Arkansas Code § 8-4-317(b)(1)(C)(ii), concerning state  
24 implementation plans, is amended to read as follows:

25 (ii) For any standard or requirement that is  
26 identical to the applicable Arkansas Pollution Control and Ecology Commission  
27 regulation or federal regulation, the demonstration required under  
28 subdivision (b)(1)(C)(i) of this section may be satisfied by reference to the  
29 regulation. In all other cases, the ~~department~~ division shall provide its own  
30 justification with appropriate reference to the scientific and engineering  
31 literature considered or the written studies conducted by the ~~department~~  
32 division.

33

34 SECTION 2546. Arkansas Code § 8-4-317(b)(2), concerning state  
35 implementation plans, is amended to read as follows:

36 (2)(A) At the conclusion of the public comment period and before

1 transmittal to the Governor for submittal to the United States Environmental  
2 Protection Agency, the ~~department~~ division shall provide written notice of  
3 its final decision regarding the state implementation plan submittal to all  
4 persons who submitted public comments.

5 (B)(i) The ~~department's~~ division's final decision shall  
6 include a response to each issue raised in any public comments received  
7 during the public comment period. The response shall manifest reasoned  
8 consideration of the issues raised by the public comments and shall be  
9 supported by appropriate legal, scientific, or practical reasons for  
10 accepting or rejecting the substance of the comment in the ~~department's~~  
11 division's final decision.

12 (ii) For the purposes of this section, response to  
13 comments by the ~~department~~ division should serve the roles of both developing  
14 the record for possible judicial review of a state implementation plan  
15 decision and serving as a record for the public's review of the ~~department's~~  
16 division's technical and legal interpretations on long-range regulatory  
17 issues.

18 (iii) This section does not limit the ~~department's~~  
19 division's authority to raise all relevant issues of regulatory concern upon  
20 adjudicatory review by the commission of a particular state implementation  
21 plan decision.

22  
23 SECTION 2547. Arkansas Code § 8-4-317(c), concerning state  
24 implementation plans, is amended to read as follows:

25 (c)(1) Only those persons that submit comments on the record during  
26 the public comment period have standing to appeal the final decision of the  
27 ~~department~~ division to the commission upon written application made within  
28 thirty (30) days after service of the notice under subdivision (b)(2)(A) of  
29 this section.

30 (2) An appeal under subdivision (c)(1) of this section shall be  
31 processed as a permit appeal under § 8-4-205. However, the decision of the  
32 Director of the ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of Environmental Quality shall  
33 remain in effect during the appeal.

34  
35 SECTION 2548. Arkansas Code § 8-4-318(a)(1), concerning implementation  
36 of the National Ambient Air Quality Standards, is amended to read as follows:

1 (a)(1) The ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of Environmental Quality shall  
2 develop NAAQS state implementation plans.

3  
4 SECTION 2549. Arkansas Code § 8-4-318(b)(2), concerning implementation  
5 of the National Ambient Air Quality Standards, is amended to read as follows:

6 (2) Except as required for the permitting of major source  
7 construction under Part C or D of Title I of the Clean Air Act, 42 U.S.C. §  
8 7470 et seq. or 42 U.S.C. § 7501 et seq., or otherwise voluntarily proposed  
9 and agreed to by the owner or operator of a stationary source, the ~~department~~  
10 division shall not mandate for any stationary source measures for the  
11 attainment and maintenance of a National Ambient Air Quality Standard until  
12 such measures are included in the applicable NAAQS state implementation plan  
13 and the NAAQS state implementation plan has been submitted to the United  
14 States Environmental Protection Agency. However, this subdivision (b)(2) does  
15 not limit or delay the effectiveness of any applicable emission limit or  
16 standard promulgated by the United States Environmental Protection Agency  
17 under §§ 111, 112, or 129 of the Clean Air Act, 42 U.S.C. § 7411, 42 U.S.C.  
18 § 7412, or 42 U.S.C. § 7429.

19  
20 SECTION 2550. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 8-4-  
21 318(b)(3), concerning implementation of the National Ambient Air Quality  
22 Standards, is amended to read as follows:

23 (3) Unless otherwise voluntarily proposed and agreed to by the  
24 owner or operator of a stationary source, the ~~department~~ division shall not  
25 require or consider air dispersion modeling of an air contaminant for which a  
26 National Ambient Air Quality Standard has been established in air permitting  
27 decisions for stationary sources except:

28  
29 SECTION 2551. Arkansas Code § 8-4-318(b)(3)(B), concerning  
30 implementation of the National Ambient Air Quality Standards, is amended to  
31 read as follows:

32 (B) If necessary in the judgment of the ~~department~~  
33 division, with respect to permitting of a temporary source under 42 U.S.C. §  
34 7661c(e); or

35  
36 SECTION 2552. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 8-4-318(c),

1 concerning implementation of the National Ambient Air Quality Standards, is  
2 amended to read as follows:

3 (c) This section does not prohibit the ~~department~~ division from  
4 conducting and considering air dispersion modeling as necessary for the:

5  
6 SECTION 2553. Arkansas Code § 8-5-201(2), concerning the definition of  
7 "department" under the laws governing wastewater treatment plants, is  
8 repealed.

9 ~~(2) "Department" means the Arkansas Department of Environmental~~  
10 ~~Quality or its successor;~~

11

12 SECTION 2554. Arkansas Code § 8-5-201(3) and (4), concerning the  
13 definitions of "license" and "licensing committee" under the laws governing  
14 wastewater treatment plants, are amended to read as follows:

15 (3) "License" means a certificate of competency issued by the  
16 ~~department~~ Division of Environmental Quality to operators who have met the  
17 requirements of the licensing program;

18 (4) "Licensing committee" means the committee of operators and  
19 technicians established in this subchapter to assist and advise the  
20 ~~department~~ division in the examining and licensing of operators;

21

22 SECTION 2555. Arkansas Code § 8-5-202(b) and (c), concerning penalties  
23 and injunctions under the laws governing wastewater treatment plants, are  
24 amended to read as follows:

25 (b) Any violation of this subchapter shall be subject to injunction  
26 proceedings brought by the ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of Environmental  
27 Quality in a court of competent jurisdiction.

28 (c) A violation of any provision of this subchapter or of any rule or  
29 regulation promulgated under this subchapter is grounds for an administrative  
30 revocation or suspension of the operator's license by the ~~department~~  
31 division.

32

33 SECTION 2556. Arkansas Code § 8-5-203 is amended to read as follows:  
34 8-5-203. Unlawful actions.

35 It shall be unlawful for any municipality, governmental subdivision,  
36 public or private corporation, or other person to operate a public or private

1 wastewater treatment plant unless the competency of the operator is duly  
2 licensed by the ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of Environmental Quality under  
3 the provisions of this subchapter. It shall further be unlawful for any  
4 person to perform the duties of an operator of any such wastewater treatment  
5 plant without being duly licensed under this subchapter.

6  
7 SECTION 2557. Arkansas Code § 8-5-204(a)(1), concerning the creation  
8 of a wastewater treatment facility licensing committee, is amended to read as  
9 follows:

10 (a)(1) There is created and established a licensing committee to  
11 advise and assist the Arkansas Pollution Control and Ecology Commission and  
12 the ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of Environmental Quality in the  
13 administration of the licensing program.

14  
15 SECTION 2558. Arkansas Code § 8-5-204(a)(2)(D), concerning the  
16 creation of a wastewater treatment facility licensing committee, is amended  
17 to read as follows:

18 (D) One (1) member shall be the Director of the ~~Arkansas~~  
19 ~~Department~~ Division of Environmental Quality or a qualified member of his or  
20 her staff who shall act as executive secretary of the committee.

21  
22 SECTION 2559. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 8-5-205(a),  
23 concerning the powers and duties of the Arkansas Department of Environmental  
24 Quality, is amended to read as follows:

25 (a) The ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of Environmental Quality or its  
26 successor shall be charged with the responsibility of administering and  
27 enforcing this subchapter, with the advice and assistance of the licensing  
28 committee, and is given and charged with the following powers and duties:

29  
30 SECTION 2560. Arkansas Code § 8-5-206(b), concerning classification of  
31 wastewater treatment plants, is amended to read as follows:

32 (b) The ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of Environmental Quality shall  
33 license persons as to their qualifications to supervise successfully the  
34 proper operation of wastewater treatment plants within classifications based  
35 on the recommendations of the licensing committee.

36

1 SECTION 2561. Arkansas Code § 8-5-207 is amended to read as follows:  
2 8-5-207. Operators to be licensed.

3 In order to safeguard the public health and protect the waters of this  
4 state from pollution, all operators in responsible charge of public or  
5 private wastewater treatment plants shall be duly licensed and certified as  
6 competent by the ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of Environmental Quality under  
7 the provisions of this subchapter and under such rules and regulations as the  
8 Arkansas Pollution Control and Ecology Commission may adopt, with the advice  
9 and assistance of the licensing committee, pursuant to the authority of this  
10 subchapter. All rules and regulations promulgated pursuant to this subchapter  
11 shall be reviewed by the House Committee on Public Health, Welfare, and Labor  
12 and the Senate Committee on Public Health, Welfare, and Labor or appropriate  
13 subcommittees of the House Committee on Public Health, Welfare, and Labor and  
14 the Senate Committee on Public Health, Welfare, and Labor.

15  
16 SECTION 2562. Arkansas Code § 8-5-208 is amended to read as follows:  
17 8-5-208. License requirements.

18 (a) The ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of Environmental Quality shall  
19 license and certify all applicants for licenses under this subchapter who  
20 satisfy the requirements of this subchapter and the rules and regulations  
21 issued pursuant to this subchapter. Licenses shall be granted according to  
22 the classification of wastewater treatment plants established under this  
23 subchapter. Licenses shall be valid for a period of two (2) years and shall  
24 be renewable upon application without examination.

25 (b) All operators of wastewater treatment plants within the state  
26 shall apply to the ~~department~~ division for a license.

27 (c) In its discretion, the ~~department~~ division may waive the  
28 requirements or any part of the requirements for formal examination of an  
29 applicant for license if the applicant holds a valid license or certificate  
30 from another state in which the requirements for license in the appropriate  
31 classification are at least equal to the requirements set forth in this  
32 subchapter and the rules and regulations issued pursuant to this subchapter.

33  
34 SECTION 2563. Arkansas Code § 8-5-701(1), concerning the definition of  
35 "chronic noncompliance" under the laws addressing chronic noncompliance, is  
36 amended to read as follows:

1 (1) "Chronic noncompliance" means conditions described in this  
2 subchapter that persist at a common sewage system after reasonable efforts by  
3 the ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of Environmental Quality to obtain  
4 compliance with applicable laws or regulations in one (1) of the following:

5 (A) Failure to obtain a permit as required by law;

6 (B) Four (4) or more permit violations within a six-month  
7 period as set out in the permit issued by the ~~department~~ division;

8 (C) Failure to maintain the services of a certified  
9 wastewater treatment operator, where applicable; or

10 (D) Demonstrable failure to operate the common sewage  
11 system so as to prevent the discharge of waterborne pollutants in  
12 unacceptable concentrations, as defined in the individual permit or the  
13 state's water quality standards, to the surface waters or groundwater of the  
14 state; and

15  
16 SECTION 2564. Arkansas Code § 8-5-702(a), concerning remedies for  
17 chronic violations by common sewage systems, is amended to read as follows:

18 (a) The ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of Environmental Quality may  
19 petition a circuit court with competent jurisdiction and proper venue to  
20 remedy chronic violations by any common sewage system.

21  
22 SECTION 2565. Arkansas Code § 8-5-702(c)(1), concerning remedies for  
23 chronic violations by common sewage systems, is amended to read as follows:

24 (c)(1) If the circuit court finds that circumstances prevent the owner  
25 or operator of a common sewage system from operating and maintaining the  
26 system in compliance with the law, the ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of  
27 Environmental Quality shall nominate two (2) possible receivers, of which the  
28 court may appoint one (1) to operate the common sewage system, subject to the  
29 continuing jurisdiction of the circuit court.

30  
31 SECTION 2566. Arkansas Code § 8-5-702(d), concerning remedies for  
32 chronic violations by common sewage systems, is amended to read as follows:

33 (d)(1) If the circuit court determines that the permitted or  
34 registered entity cannot equitably satisfy the provisions of this subchapter  
35 or that no feasible alternatives exist, the circuit court shall so certify  
36 that determination to the ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of Environmental

1 Quality, which shall terminate the entity's permit, and the circuit court  
2 shall request a review by the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Health  
3 of the public health impact of an order compelling the entity supplying  
4 potable water to the common sewage system to cut off the flow of potable  
5 water.

6 (2)(A) If the ~~Director of the Department of Health~~ secretary  
7 determines that a greater health hazard exists from the malfunctioning common  
8 sewage system than from the discontinuance of potable water service, then the  
9 ~~Director of the Department of Health~~ secretary shall so certify this  
10 determination to the circuit court.

11 (B) The circuit court shall then issue an order compelling  
12 the receiver to notify all users of such common sewage system, including  
13 landowners and tenants, of the ~~Director of the Department of Health's~~  
14 secretary's determination.

15 (C) Upon evidence of reasonable notice, the circuit court  
16 shall then issue the order to cut off the flow of potable water.

17

18 SECTION 2567. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 8-5-702(e),  
19 concerning remedies for chronic violations by common sewage systems, is  
20 amended to read as follows:

21 (e) The ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of Environmental Quality is  
22 authorized to institute a civil action in any court of competent jurisdiction  
23 to accomplish any or all of the following:

24

25 SECTION 2568. Arkansas Code § 8-5-702(e)(3), concerning remedies for  
26 chronic violations by common sewage systems, is amended to read as follows:

27 (3) Recover all costs, expenses, and damages to the ~~Arkansas~~  
28 ~~Department~~ Division of Environmental Quality and any other agency or  
29 subdivision of the state in enforcing or effectuating the provisions of this  
30 subchapter, including, but not limited to, natural resource damages;

31

32 SECTION 2569. Arkansas Code § 8-5-702(f), concerning remedies for  
33 chronic violations by common sewage systems, is amended to read as follows:

34 (f)(1) In addition to the remedies provided in subsections (a)-(e) of  
35 this section, the ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of Environmental Quality shall  
36 have the authority to prohibit new or additional sewer line connections onto

1 a common sewage system meeting the criteria established by § 8-5-701.

2 (2) Once the ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of Environmental  
3 Quality is satisfied that the common sewage system is in compliance with  
4 state and federal law, the ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of Environmental  
5 Quality may authorize new or additional sewer line connections onto the  
6 common sewage system.

7  
8 SECTION 2570. Arkansas Code § 8-5-703 is amended to read as follows:

9 8-5-703. Financial assurance requirements for subsequently permitted  
10 common sewage systems.

11 (a)(1)(A) The ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of Environmental Quality  
12 may require a permitted common sewage system that is in chronic noncompliance  
13 to demonstrate to the ~~department~~ division its financial ability to cover the  
14 estimated costs of operating and maintaining the common sewage system for a  
15 minimum period of five (5) years.

16 (B) The ~~department~~ division may require the permitted  
17 common sewage system that is in chronic noncompliance to submit a cost  
18 estimate for a third party to operate and maintain the common sewage system  
19 each year for a period of five (5) years.

20 (2) The ~~department~~ division shall not modify or renew a National  
21 Pollutant Discharge Elimination System permit or state permit for a common  
22 sewage system if the common sewage system facility is in chronic  
23 noncompliance and the common sewage system facility proposes to use new  
24 technology that in the discretion of the ~~department~~ division cannot be  
25 verified to meet permit requirements.

26 (b) The applicant's financial ability to operate and maintain the  
27 common sewage system for a period of five (5) years shall be demonstrated to  
28 the ~~department~~ division by:

29 (1) Obtaining insurance that specifically covers operation and  
30 maintenance costs;

31 (2) Obtaining a letter of credit;

32 (3) Obtaining a surety bond;

33 (4) Obtaining a trust fund or an escrow account; or

34 (5) Using a combination of insurance, letter of credit, surety  
35 bond, trust fund, or escrow account.

36 (c) The ~~department~~ division may require an amount of financial

1 assurance that exceeds the cost estimate submitted by the applicant.

2 (d) A financial instrument required by this section shall be posted to  
3 the benefit of the ~~department~~ division and shall remain in effect for the  
4 life of the permit.

5 (e) It is explicitly understood that the ~~department~~ division shall not  
6 directly operate and shall not be responsible for the operation of any sewage  
7 system.

8 (f) This section does not restrict local and county government  
9 entities from enacting more stringent ordinances regulating nonmunicipal  
10 domestic treatment sewage systems in Arkansas.

11

12 SECTION 2571. Arkansas Code § 8-5-802 is amended to read as follows:

13 8-5-802. Purpose.

14 It is the purpose of this subchapter to authorize the ~~Arkansas~~  
15 ~~Department~~ Division of Environmental Quality to establish and administer a  
16 revolving loan fund to encourage the investment in pollution control and  
17 prevention technologies in Arkansas. The fund will promote sustainable  
18 economic development in Arkansas by establishing a publicly capitalized fund  
19 to make loans to small businesses for projects to meet regulatory mandates in  
20 pollution control, to adopt pollution prevention technologies, or to  
21 implement waste reduction practices.

22

23 SECTION 2572. Arkansas Code § 8-5-803(3) and (4), concerning the  
24 definitions of "department" and "director" under the laws establishing the  
25 Small Business Revolving Loan Fund for Pollution Control and Prevention  
26 Technologies Act, are repealed.

27 ~~(3) "Department" means the Arkansas Department of Environmental~~  
28 ~~Quality;~~

29 ~~(4) "Director" means the executive head and active administrator~~  
30 ~~of the Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality;~~

31

32 SECTION 2573. Arkansas Code § 8-5-804 is amended to read as follows:

33 8-5-804. Eligible activities.

34 (a) Moneys deposited into the Small Business Revolving Loan Fund  
35 within the ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of Environmental Quality may be:

36 (1) Loaned to eligible participants to pay the direct costs of

1 projects which are designed to correct or avoid violations of federal or  
2 state environmental regulations and have received a certificate of need from  
3 the ~~department~~ division; or

4 (2) Expended to pay costs incurred by the ~~department~~ division to  
5 provide management of lending activities.

6 (b)(1) It is the purpose of this subchapter to authorize the  
7 ~~department~~ division to establish and administer a revolving loan fund to  
8 encourage the investment in pollution control, pollution prevention, and  
9 waste reduction practices in Arkansas.

10 (2) Such a fund will promote sustainable economic development in  
11 Arkansas by establishing a publicly capitalized revolving loan fund to make  
12 loans to small businesses for projects to meet regulatory mandates in  
13 pollution control or to adopt pollution prevention technologies.

14 (3) Operating expenses associated with proofing a process change  
15 or equipment modification would be an eligible loan activity.

16  
17 SECTION 2574. Arkansas Code § 8-5-805(a)(1), concerning eligible  
18 applications, is amended to read as follows:

19 (1) Employ one hundred (100) or fewer individuals, including  
20 both full-time and part-time employees, through direct hiring or contract,  
21 including affiliates and subsidiaries, at the time an application for a loan  
22 is received by the ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of Environmental Quality;  
23

24 SECTION 2575. Arkansas Code § 8-5-805(a)(3), concerning eligible  
25 applications, is amended to read as follows:

26 (3) Submit an application supplied by the ~~department~~ division  
27 including any supporting documents, instruments, or other documents requested  
28 by the ~~department~~ division for the purposes of recommending approval or  
29 disapproval of a loan described in this section.

30  
31 SECTION 2576. Arkansas Code § 8-5-805(b)(1), concerning eligible  
32 applications, is amended to read as follows:

33 (b)(1) Until all delinquent fees stated in this subsection or  
34 otherwise owed to the ~~department~~ division are paid in full and no balance is  
35 due, the Director of the ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of Environmental  
36 Quality shall not approve any loan application.

1  
2 SECTION 2577. Arkansas Code § 8-5-806(c)(1), concerning terms of the  
3 revolving loan, is amended to read as follows:

4 (1) Established by the ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of  
5 Environmental Quality at or below market rate; and  
6

7 SECTION 2578. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 8-5-  
8 806(e)(1), concerning terms of the revolving loan, is amended to read as  
9 follows:

10 (e)(1) The ~~department~~ division may:  
11

12 SECTION 2579. Arkansas Code § 8-5-806(f), concerning terms of the  
13 revolving loan, is amended to read as follows:

14 (f) The ~~department~~ division may bring any lawful action to recover any  
15 loan that is in default.  
16

17 SECTION 2580. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 8-5-807(a),  
18 concerning the Small Business Revolving Loan Fund, is amended to read as  
19 follows:

20 (a) There is created within the ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of  
21 Environmental Quality a revolving loan fund:  
22

23 SECTION 2581. Arkansas Code § 8-5-807(a)(3), concerning the Small  
24 Business Revolving Loan Fund, is amended to read as follows:

25 (3) To be used as a revolving fund by the ~~department~~ division  
26 for making loans to eligible participants to pay the direct costs of projects  
27 that are designed to correct or avoid violations of federal or state  
28 environmental regulations and have received a certificate of need from the  
29 ~~department~~ division or to pay costs incurred by the ~~department~~ division to  
30 provide management of lending activities.  
31

32 SECTION 2582. Arkansas Code § 8-5-807(b)(2)(B), concerning the Small  
33 Business Revolving Loan Fund, is amended to read as follows:

34 (B) All moneys received by the ~~department~~ division upon  
35 repayment of loans made from the furnishing of funds for loans under the  
36 program created by this subchapter;

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SECTION 2583. Arkansas Code § 8-5-807(c), concerning the Small Business Revolving Loan Fund, is amended to read as follows:

(c)(1) Subject to the provisions of this subchapter, the ~~department~~ division is vested with full power, authority, and jurisdiction over the Small Business Revolving Loan Fund, including all moneys and property or securities belonging to the Small Business Revolving Loan Fund.

(2) The ~~department~~ division may invest the Small Business Revolving Loan Fund in direct general obligations of the United States, in certificates of deposit or savings accounts in an amount not to exceed the capital funds, represented by capital, surplus, and undivided profits in financial institutions located in Arkansas that are insured by an agency of the United States Government, and in repurchase agreements that are collateralized by direct general obligations of the United States or by bonds, notes, debentures, participation certificates, or other obligations issued by an agency of the United States, the principal and interest of which are guaranteed by the agency or the United States.

SECTION 2584. Arkansas Code § 8-5-808 is amended to read as follows:  
8-5-808. Administration of the program.

The ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of Environmental Quality will manage the program through its Small Business Assistance Program. The program is authorized to delegate the management of the Small Business Revolving Loan Fund. The ~~department~~ division shall retain the power to issue certificates of need for eligible projects and shall not delegate such authority.

SECTION 2585. Arkansas Code § 8-5-902(2), concerning the definition of "department" under the laws regarding long-term environmental projects, is repealed.

~~(2) "Department" means the Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality;~~

SECTION 2586. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 8-5-903(a), concerning the procedures for approval of environmental projects, contents of applications, and public notice, is amended to read as follows:

(a) A petitioner seeking approval of a change in water quality

1 standards to accommodate a long-term improvement project shall file with the  
2 ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of Environmental Quality a notice of intent,  
3 which includes as a minimum:  
4

5 SECTION 2587. Arkansas Code § 8-5-903(b) and (c), concerning the  
6 procedures for approval of environmental projects, contents of applications,  
7 and public notice, are amended to read as follows:

8 (b) The ~~department~~ division shall cause notice of the proposed project  
9 and associated water quality standard changes described in subsection (a) of  
10 this section to be published for public notice and comment in the same manner  
11 as provided for permit applications in § 8-4-203(c), and shall notify the  
12 public that the details of the proposed project are available for public  
13 review.

14 (c)(1) After considering comments from the public, the ~~department~~  
15 division shall notify the petitioner as to whether the proposed project is  
16 approved or denied.

17 (2) The ~~department~~ division may deny approval of a project if it  
18 reasonably concludes that:

19 (A) The plan is not complete;

20 (B) The plan is not technically sound;

21 (C) The schedule is unrealistic;

22 (D) The plan will not have an overall beneficial effect  
23 for the environment; or

24 (E) For other appropriate reasons.

25 (3) Any ~~department~~ division determination on the approval or  
26 denial of a project is subject to the appeal procedures applicable to  
27 permitting decisions set out in § 8-4-205.  
28

29 SECTION 2588. Arkansas Code § 8-5-904(b) and (c), concerning the  
30 modification of water quality standards, are amended to read as follows:

31 (b)(1) Once the commission approves a water quality standard  
32 modification, the ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of Environmental Quality shall  
33 ensure that conditions and limitations designed to achieve compliance with  
34 the plan are established in applicable discharge permits, consent  
35 administrative orders, or such other enforcement measures deemed appropriate  
36 by the ~~department~~ division.

1           (2) The ~~department~~ division may allow modifications by the  
2 petitioner to the remediation plan and schedule as is deemed appropriate,  
3 provided that any such modifications to the original remedial action plan  
4 shall not render the project significantly less protective of the applicable  
5 use subcategory.

6           (3) Should the ~~department~~ division find that the petitioner is  
7 not acting in good faith to complete the project in accordance with the  
8 approved plan, applicable and appropriate enforcement authority may be  
9 exercised subject to appeal to the commission.

10          (c) The ~~department~~ division or the petitioner shall report annually to  
11 the commission on the progress of the project.

12  
13          SECTION 2589. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 8-6-  
14 203(2)(A), concerning the definition of "hazardous waste" under the Arkansas  
15 Solid Waste Management Act, is amended to read as follows:

16           (2)(A) "Hazardous waste" means any waste or combination of  
17 wastes of a solid, liquid, contained gaseous, or semisolid form that, because  
18 of its quantity, concentration, or physical, chemical, or infectious  
19 characteristics, may in the judgment of the ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of  
20 Environmental Quality:

21  
22          SECTION 2590. Arkansas Code § 8-6-203(5)(B)(i), concerning the  
23 definition of "household hazardous waste storage or processing center" under  
24 the Arkansas Solid Waste Management Act, is amended to read as follows:

25           (i) Hazardous waste treatment, storage, and disposal  
26 facilities permitted by the ~~department~~ division under the Resource  
27 Conservation and Recovery Act of 1976, 42 U.S.C. § 6901 et seq.;

28  
29          SECTION 2591. Arkansas Code § 8-6-204(a)(1)(A), concerning criminal,  
30 civil, and administrative penalties under the Arkansas Solid Waste Management  
31 Act, is amended to read as follows:

32           (1)(A) Any person who violates any provision of this subchapter,  
33 who commits any unlawful act under this subchapter, or who violates any rule,  
34 regulation, or order of the Arkansas Pollution Control and Ecology Commission  
35 or the ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of Environmental Quality shall be guilty  
36 of a misdemeanor.

1  
2 SECTION 2592. Arkansas Code § 8-6-204(a)(2)(A)(i), concerning  
3 criminal, civil, and administrative penalties under the Arkansas Solid Waste  
4 Management Act, is amended to read as follows:

5 (i) Violate any provision of this subchapter, commit  
6 any unlawful act under this subchapter, or violate any rule, regulation, or  
7 order of the commission or ~~department~~ division, and leave the state or remove  
8 his or her person from the jurisdiction of this state;

9  
10 SECTION 2593. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 8-6-204(b),  
11 concerning criminal, civil, and administrative penalties under the Arkansas  
12 Solid Waste Management Act, is amended to read as follows:

13 (b) Civil Penalties. The ~~department~~ division is authorized to  
14 institute a civil action in any court of competent jurisdiction to accomplish  
15 any or all of the following:

16  
17 SECTION 2594. Arkansas Code § 8-6-204(b)(3), concerning criminal,  
18 civil, and administrative penalties under the Arkansas Solid Waste Management  
19 Act, is amended to read as follows:

20 (3) Recover all costs, expenses, and damages to the ~~department~~  
21 division and any other agency or subdivision of the state in enforcing or  
22 effectuating the provisions of this subchapter, including natural resource  
23 damages;

24  
25 SECTION 2595. Arkansas Code § 8-6-204(c), concerning criminal, civil,  
26 and administrative penalties under the Arkansas Solid Waste Management Act,  
27 is amended to read as follows:

28 (c) Any person who violates any provision of this subchapter and  
29 regulations, rules, permits, or plans issued pursuant to this subchapter may  
30 be assessed an administrative civil penalty not to exceed ten thousand  
31 dollars (\$10,000) per violation. Each day of a continuing violation may be  
32 deemed a separate violation for purposes of civil penalty assessment. No  
33 civil penalty may be assessed until the person charged with the violation has  
34 been given the opportunity for a hearing in accordance with regulations  
35 adopted by the commission. All hearings and appeals arising under this  
36 subchapter shall be conducted in accordance with the procedures prescribed by

1 §§ 8-4-205, 8-4-212, and 8-4-218 – 8-4-229. These administrative procedures  
2 may also be used to recover all costs, expenses, and damages to the  
3 ~~department~~ division and any other agency or subdivision of the state in  
4 enforcing or effectuating the provisions of this subchapter, including  
5 natural resource damages.

6  
7 SECTION 2596. Arkansas Code § 8-6-204(e)(1), concerning criminal,  
8 civil, and administrative penalties under the Arkansas Solid Waste Management  
9 Act, is amended to read as follows:

10 (e)(1) All moneys collected as reimbursement for expenses, costs, and  
11 damages to the ~~department~~ division shall be deposited into the operating fund  
12 of the ~~department~~ division.

13  
14 SECTION 2597. Arkansas Code § 8-6-204(e)(3), concerning criminal,  
15 civil, and administrative penalties under the Arkansas Solid Waste Management  
16 Act, is amended to read as follows:

17 (3)(A) The Director of the ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of  
18 Environmental Quality, in his or her discretion, may authorize in-kind  
19 services or cash contributions as partial mitigation of cash penalties for  
20 use in projects or programs designed to advance environmental interests.

21 (B) The violator may provide in-kind services or cash  
22 contributions as directed by the ~~department~~ division by utilizing the  
23 violator's own expertise, by hiring and compensating subcontractors to  
24 perform the in-kind services, by arranging and providing financing for the  
25 in-kind services, or by other financial arrangements initiated by the  
26 ~~department~~ division in which the violator and the ~~department~~ division retain  
27 no monetary benefit, however remote.

28 (C) The in-kind services shall not duplicate or augment  
29 services already provided by the ~~department~~ division through appropriations  
30 of the General Assembly.

31  
32 SECTION 2598. Arkansas Code § 8-6-205(a)(1)-(3), concerning illegal  
33 actions, rebuttal presumption, and acts or omissions by a third party under  
34 the Arkansas Solid Waste Management Act, are amended to read as follows:

35 (1) To violate any provision of this subchapter or any rule,  
36 regulation, or order of the Arkansas Pollution Control and Ecology Commission

1 issued pursuant to this subchapter or of a permit issued under this  
2 subchapter by the ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of Environmental Quality;

3 (2) To construct, install, alter, modify, use, or operate any  
4 solid waste processing or disposal facility or disposal site without a permit  
5 from the ~~department~~ division;

6 (3) To dispose of solid wastes at any disposal site or facility  
7 other than a disposal site or facility for which a permit has been issued by  
8 the ~~department~~ division. However, no provision of this subchapter shall be  
9 construed so as to prevent an individual from disposing of solid wastes  
10 resulting from his or her own household activities on his or her own land if  
11 the disposal does not create a public or private nuisance or a hazard to  
12 health and does not violate a city ordinance or other law and does not  
13 involve the open dumping of garbage;

14  
15 SECTION 2599. Arkansas Code § 8-6-205(a)(5), concerning illegal  
16 actions, rebuttal presumption, and acts or omissions by a third party under  
17 the Arkansas Solid Waste Management Act, is amended to read as follows:

18 (5) To sort, collect, transport, process, or dispose of solid  
19 waste contrary to the rules, regulations, or orders of the ~~department~~  
20 division or in such a manner or place as to create or be likely to create a  
21 public nuisance or a public health hazard or to cause or be likely to cause  
22 water or air pollution within the meaning of the Arkansas Water and Air  
23 Pollution Control Act, § 8-4-101 et seq.

24  
25 SECTION 2600. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 8-6-207(a),  
26 concerning the powers and duties of the Arkansas Department of Environmental  
27 Quality, is amended to read as follows:

28 (a) The ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of Environmental Quality or its  
29 successor shall have the following powers and duties:

30  
31 SECTION 2601. Arkansas Code § 8-6-207(a)(6) and (7), concerning the  
32 powers and duties of the Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality, are  
33 amended to read as follows:

34 (6) To issue, continue in effect, revoke, modify, or deny, under  
35 such conditions as the ~~department~~ division may prescribe, permits for the  
36 establishment, construction, operation, or maintenance of solid waste

1 management systems, disposal sites, and facilities;

2 (7) To make investigations, inspections, and to hold such  
3 hearings, after notice, as the ~~department~~ division may deem necessary or  
4 advisable for the discharge of duties under this subchapter and to ensure  
5 compliance with this subchapter and any orders, rules, and regulations issued  
6 pursuant thereto;

7  
8 SECTION 2602. Arkansas Code § 8-6-207(a)(9), concerning the powers and  
9 duties of the Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality, is amended to  
10 read as follows:

11 (9) To institute proceedings in the name of the ~~department~~  
12 division in any court of competent jurisdiction to compel compliance with and  
13 to restrain violation of the provisions of this subchapter or any rules,  
14 regulations, and orders issued pursuant thereto and to require the taking of  
15 such remedial measures for solid waste disposal as may be necessary or  
16 appropriate to implement or effectuate the provisions and purposes of this  
17 subchapter;

18  
19 SECTION 2603. Arkansas Code § 8-6-207(a)(12), concerning the powers  
20 and duties of the Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality, is amended to  
21 read as follows:

22 (12) To issue, continue in effect, revoke, modify, or deny,  
23 under such conditions as the ~~department~~ division may prescribe, permits for  
24 the establishment, construction, operation, or maintenance of transfer  
25 stations;

26  
27 SECTION 2604. Arkansas Code § 8-6-207(a)(15), concerning the powers  
28 and duties of the Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality, is amended to  
29 read as follows:

30 (15) Upon the petition of a solid waste board or upon the  
31 ~~department's~~ division's own initiative to revoke, modify, or deny a permit  
32 for a solid waste disposal facility or a permit for any other element of a  
33 solid waste management system based upon noncompliance with an approved  
34 regional solid waste management plan of a solid waste board.

35  
36 SECTION 2605. Arkansas Code § 8-6-207(b)(1)(A), concerning the powers

1 and duties of the Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality, is amended to  
2 read as follows:

3 (1)(A) Promulgation of rules and regulations implementing the  
4 substantive statutes charged to the ~~department~~ division for administration.

5  
6 SECTION 2606. Arkansas Code § 8-6-207(b)(3) and (4), concerning the  
7 powers and duties of the Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality, are  
8 amended to read as follows:

9 (3) Promulgation of rules and regulations governing  
10 administrative procedures for challenging or contesting ~~department~~ division  
11 actions;

12 (4) In the case of permitting or grants decisions, providing the  
13 right to appeal a permitting or grants decision rendered by the Director of  
14 the ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of Environmental Quality or his or her  
15 delegatee;

16  
17 SECTION 2607. Arkansas Code § 8-6-207(b)(7), concerning the powers and  
18 duties of the Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality, is amended to  
19 read as follows:

20 (7) Make recommendations to the director regarding overall  
21 policy and administration of the ~~department~~ division, provided, however, that  
22 the director shall always remain within the plenary authority of the Governor  
23 and the Secretary of the Department of Energy and Environment;

24  
25 SECTION 2608. Arkansas Code § 8-6-214 is amended to read as follows:  
26 8-6-214. Records and examinations.

27 (a) The owner or operator of any permitted facility or site shall  
28 establish and maintain such records, make such reports, install, use, and  
29 maintain such monitoring equipment or methods, take such samples, perform  
30 such tests, and provide such other information to the ~~Arkansas Department~~  
31 Division of Environmental Quality as the Director of the ~~Arkansas Department~~  
32 Division of Environmental Quality may reasonably require.

33 (b) The ~~department~~ division or any authorized employee or agent may  
34 examine and copy any books, papers, records, or memoranda pertaining to the  
35 operation of the facility or site.

36 (c) The ~~department~~ division or any authorized employee or agent may

1 enter upon any public or private property for the purpose of obtaining  
2 information or conducting surveys or investigations necessary or appropriate  
3 for the purpose of this subchapter.

4 (d)(1)(A) Any records, reports, or information obtained under this  
5 subchapter and any permits, permit applications, and related documentation  
6 shall be available to the public for inspection and copying.

7 (B) Upon a satisfactory showing to the director that the  
8 records, reports, permits, documentation, or information, or any part  
9 thereof, if made public, would divulge methods or processes entitled to  
10 protection as trade secrets, then the director shall consider, treat, and  
11 protect such records, reports, or information as confidential.

12 (2)(A) As necessary to carry out the provisions of this  
13 subchapter, information afforded confidential treatment may be transmitted  
14 under a continuing restriction of confidentiality to other officers,  
15 employees, or authorized representatives of this state or of the United  
16 States if the owner or operator of the facility to which the information  
17 pertains is informed at least two (2) weeks prior to the transmittal and if  
18 the information has been acquired by the ~~department~~ division under the  
19 provisions of this subchapter.

20 (B) The provisions of this subdivision (d)(2) shall not be  
21 construed to limit the ~~department's~~ division's authority to release  
22 confidential information during emergency situations.

23 (3) Any violation of this subsection shall be unlawful and  
24 constitute a misdemeanor.

25  
26 SECTION 2609. Arkansas Code § 8-6-220(a)(2)(A), concerning yard waste,  
27 is amended to read as follows:

28 (2)(A) If authorized by the ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of  
29 Environmental Quality through a permit modification process including a  
30 public notice and comment period, yard waste may be accepted by a permitted  
31 solid waste landfill that operates a landfill gas-to-energy system for the  
32 recovery and use of landfill gas as a renewable energy fuel source.

33  
34 SECTION 2610. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 8-6-  
35 220(a)(2)(B), concerning yard waste, is amended to read as follows:

36 (B) The ~~department~~ division shall consider, at a minimum,

1 the following before authorizing yard waste to be accepted by a solid waste  
2 landfill for disposal:

3

4 SECTION 2611. Arkansas Code § 8-6-220(a)(2)(B)(xiii), concerning yard  
5 waste, is amended to read as follows:

6 (xiii) Other information as may be required by the  
7 ~~department~~ division.

8

9 SECTION 2612. Arkansas Code § 8-6-220(b)(2), concerning yard waste, is  
10 amended to read as follows:

11 (2) Such choices of yard waste reduction or usage shall be  
12 submitted to the ~~department~~ division for approval and shall become an  
13 integral part of the district's solid waste management plan.

14

15 SECTION 2613. Arkansas Code § 8-6-223(a), concerning a required permit  
16 for household hazardous waste storage or processing centers, is amended to  
17 read as follows:

18 (a) It is unlawful for a person to own or operate a household  
19 hazardous waste storage or processing center, as defined in § 8-6-203,  
20 without first obtaining from the ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of  
21 Environmental Quality a transfer station permit or another permit that the  
22 ~~department~~ division deems appropriate and that meets the requirements of this  
23 section.

24

25 SECTION 2614. Arkansas Code § 8-6-223(b)(1), concerning a required  
26 permit for household hazardous waste storage or processing centers, is  
27 amended to read as follows:

28 (b)(1) The ~~department~~ division shall not issue, modify, or renew a  
29 permit for a household hazardous waste storage or processing center regulated  
30 under this section without the permit applicant's first demonstrating to the  
31 ~~department's~~ division's satisfaction the applicant's financial ability to  
32 ensure proper removal and disposal of household hazardous waste located at  
33 the household hazardous waste storage or processing center under this  
34 section.

35

36 SECTION 2615. Arkansas Code § 8-6-223(c)(6), concerning a required

1 permit for household hazardous waste storage or processing centers, is  
2 amended to read as follows:

3 (6) Any other financial instrument approved by the Director of  
4 the ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of Environmental Quality.

5

6 SECTION 2616. Arkansas Code § 8-6-223(d)-(j), concerning a required  
7 permit for household hazardous waste storage or processing centers, are  
8 amended to read as follows:

9 (d) A financial instrument required by this section shall:

10 (1) Be posted to the benefit of the ~~department~~ division;

11 (2) Provide that the financial instrument cannot be cancelled  
12 without sixty (60) days' prior written notice addressed to the ~~department's~~  
13 division's legal division chief as evidenced by a signed, certified mail with  
14 a return receipt request; and

15 (3) Be reviewed by the ~~department~~ division upon receipt of the  
16 cancellation notice to determine whether the ~~department~~ division should  
17 initiate procedures to revoke or suspend the household hazardous waste  
18 storage or processing center's permit and whether the ~~department~~ division  
19 should take possession of the funds guaranteed by the financial assurance  
20 mechanism.

21 (e) Before the ~~department~~ division may release a financial assurance  
22 mechanism, the ~~department~~ division shall inspect the household hazardous  
23 waste storage or processing center to determine to the ~~department's~~  
24 division's satisfaction that no household hazardous waste is located at the  
25 household hazardous waste storage or processing center.

26 (f) The ~~department~~ division is not responsible for the removal or  
27 disposal of household hazardous waste regulated under this section.

28 (g) Before an application for a permit is submitted to the ~~department~~  
29 division, a household hazardous waste storage or processing center shall  
30 apply for a certificate of need from the regional solid waste management  
31 board that has jurisdiction over the proposed site and shall follow the  
32 procedures and rules established under § 8-6-708.

33 (h) A household hazardous waste storage or processing center shall  
34 submit a permit application to the ~~department~~ division within ninety (90)  
35 days of the approval of the certificate of need.

36 (i) If a certificate of need is not approved under subsection (g) of

1 this section or a final determination is made by the ~~department~~ division  
2 denying the permit application, the household hazardous waste storage or  
3 processing center shall cease all collection, storage, or processing activity  
4 and properly dispose of or recycle all materials within ninety (90) days.

5 ~~(j) By October 1, 2011, each household hazardous waste storage or~~  
6 ~~processing center operating before July 27, 2011, shall:~~

7 ~~(1) Submit to the department a plan to remove and dispose of all~~  
8 ~~household hazardous waste located at the household hazardous waste storage or~~  
9 ~~processing center in accordance with this section;~~

10 ~~(2) Submit to the department a detailed cost estimate to remove~~  
11 ~~and dispose of the household hazardous waste located at the household~~  
12 ~~hazardous waste storage or processing center that meets the requirements of~~  
13 ~~this section and is approved by the department; and~~

14 ~~(3) Obtain financial assurance in accordance with subdivision~~  
15 ~~(b)(2) of this section.~~

16  
17 SECTION 2617. Arkansas Code § 8-6-405 is amended to read as follows:

18 8-6-405. Injunction.

19 In addition to all other remedies provided by this subchapter, the  
20 ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of Environmental Quality, the Attorney General,  
21 the prosecuting attorney of a county where any violation of any provision of  
22 this subchapter occurs, or any citizen, resident, or taxpayer of the county  
23 where a violation of any provision of this subchapter occurs may apply to the  
24 circuit court or the judge in vacation of the county where the alleged  
25 violation occurred for an injunction to restrain, prevent, or abate the  
26 maintenance and storage of litter, junk motor vehicles, old vehicle tires, or  
27 inoperative or discarded household appliances in violation of any provision  
28 of this subchapter.

29  
30 SECTION 2618. Arkansas Code § 8-6-406(a)(1), concerning littering and  
31 commercial littering, is amended to read as follows:

32 (1) The property has been designated by the ~~Arkansas Department~~  
33 Division of Environmental Quality as a permitted disposal site;

34  
35 SECTION 2619. Arkansas Code § 8-6-503(2) and (3), concerning the  
36 definitions of "department" and "director" under the Illegal Dump Eradication

1 and Corrective Action Program Act, are repealed.

2 ~~(2) "Department" means the Arkansas Department of Environmental~~  
3 ~~Quality;~~

4 ~~(3) "Director" means the Director of the Arkansas Department of~~  
5 ~~Environmental Quality;~~

6  
7 SECTION 2620. Arkansas Code § 8-6-503(5)(D), concerning the definition  
8 of "illegal dumping of solid waste" under the Illegal Dump Eradication and  
9 Corrective Action Program Act, is amended to read as follows:

10 (D) Upon any property for which a permit has not been  
11 issued by the ~~department~~ Division of Environmental Quality;

12  
13 SECTION 2621. Arkansas Code § 8-6-504 is amended to read as follows:

14 8-6-504. Illegal Dump Eradication and Corrective Action Program.

15 The Illegal Dump Eradication and Corrective Action Program shall be  
16 administered by the ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of Environmental Quality.

17  
18 SECTION 2622. Arkansas Code § 8-6-510 is amended to read as follows:

19 8-6-510. Effectiveness of regulations and orders.

20 None of the provisions of this act are intended to supersede any of the  
21 reuse, recycling, or fill provisions of state law of Regulation 22 of the  
22 Solid Waste Management Division of the ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of  
23 Environmental Quality.

24  
25 SECTION 2623. Arkansas Code § 8-6-602(c)(2)(D), concerning the duties  
26 of the Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality under the Solid Waste  
27 Management and Recycling Fund Act, is amended to read as follows:

28 (D) Other activities as approved by the ~~Arkansas~~  
29 ~~Department~~ Division of Environmental Quality.

30  
31 SECTION 2624. Arkansas Code § 8-6-602(d), concerning the duties of the  
32 Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality under the Solid Waste Management  
33 and Recycling Fund Act, is amended to read as follows:

34 (d) The ~~department~~ division and the Arkansas Pollution Control and  
35 Ecology Commission shall promulgate and implement policies, rules,  
36 regulations, and procedures for administering the terms of this subchapter.

1  
2 SECTION 2625. Arkansas Code § 8-6-603(2), concerning the definition of  
3 "department" under the Solid Waste Management and Recycling Fund Act, is  
4 repealed.

5 ~~(2) "Department" means the Arkansas Department of Environmental~~  
6 ~~Quality;~~

7  
8 SECTION 2626. Arkansas Code § 8-6-603(9), concerning the definition of  
9 "solid waste management plan" under the Solid Waste Management and Recycling  
10 Fund Act, is amended to read as follows:

11 (9) "Solid waste management plan" means a plan which is  
12 developed according to the provisions of the Arkansas Solid Waste Management  
13 Act, § 8-6-201 et seq., and guidelines of the ~~department~~ Division of  
14 Environmental Quality, and which is subject to approval by the ~~department~~  
15 division;

16  
17 SECTION 2627. Arkansas Code § 8-6-603(10)(D), concerning the  
18 definition of "department" under the Solid Waste Management and Recycling  
19 Fund Act, is amended to read as follows:

20 (D) Other activities as approved by the ~~department~~  
21 division; and

22  
23 SECTION 2628. Arkansas Code § 8-6-604 is amended to read as follows:  
24 8-6-604. Recycling plans and implementation.

25 (a) Unless otherwise excused by the Arkansas Pollution Control and  
26 Ecology Commission pursuant to the Arkansas Solid Waste Management Act, § 8-  
27 6-201 et seq., each governmental entity which is required to submit or has  
28 submitted a solid waste management plan pursuant to § 8-6-211 shall produce,  
29 by July 1, 1991, a solid waste management plan which proposes the  
30 establishment of recycling programs and facilities. The plan shall be subject  
31 to review and approval by the ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of Environmental  
32 Quality.

33 (b) Pursuant to established procedures, the ~~department~~ division may  
34 initiate enforcement actions against governmental entities for failure to  
35 abide by the requirements of subsection (a) of this section. Enforcement  
36 sanctions may include, but are not limited to, denial, discontinuation, or

1 reimbursement of grant funds awarded pursuant to any programs administered by  
2 the ~~department~~ division.

3  
4 SECTION 2629. Arkansas Code § 8-6-605(b), concerning the Solid Waste  
5 Management and Recycling Fund, is amended to read as follows:

6 (b) The fund shall be administered by the ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division  
7 of Environmental Quality, which shall authorize distributions and  
8 administrative expenditures from the fund under this subchapter for solid  
9 waste management and recycling programs.

10  
11 SECTION 2630. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 8-6-605(d),  
12 concerning the Solid Waste Management and Recycling Fund, is amended to read  
13 as follows:

14 (d) No more than twenty percent (20%) of the moneys received annually  
15 into the fund shall be used by the ~~department~~ division for:

16  
17 SECTION 2631. Arkansas Code § 8-6-606(d)(1)(B), concerning landfill  
18 disposal fees, is amended to read as follows:

19 (B) This requirement may be satisfied by utilizing an  
20 alternative weighing system approved by the Director of the ~~Arkansas~~  
21 ~~Department~~ Division of Environmental Quality.

22  
23 SECTION 2632. Arkansas Code § 8-6-606(d)(2), concerning landfill  
24 disposal fees, is amended to read as follows:

25 (2) Class 1 and Class 3C landfills shall be required to weigh  
26 all loads in excess of one (1) ton (2,000 lbs.), unless otherwise authorized  
27 in writing by the ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of Environmental Quality. This  
28 provision authorizes Class 1 and Class 3C landfills to estimate weights for  
29 residential and other similar loads weighing less than one (1) ton (2,000  
30 lbs.).

31  
32 SECTION 2633. Arkansas Code § 8-6-606(d)(4)(A) and (B), concerning  
33 landfill disposal fees, are amended to read as follows:

34 (A) All quarterly reports required by this subchapter to  
35 be submitted by Class 1 and Class 3C landfill permittees to the ~~Arkansas~~  
36 ~~Department~~ Division of Environmental Quality shall accurately state the total

1 weight of solid waste received at the landfill, and the total weight of solid  
2 waste received at the landfill shall be based upon the recorded weight scale  
3 measurements; and

4 (B) The recorded weight scale measurements of solid waste  
5 received at Class 1 and Class 3C landfills shall be used to calculate the  
6 solid waste disposal fees payable to the ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of  
7 Environmental Quality by Class 1 and Class 3C landfill permittees.

8

9 SECTION 2634. Arkansas Code § 8-6-607(1) and (2), concerning the  
10 collection of fees by the Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality, are  
11 amended to read as follows:

12 (1) Each landfill permittee and each solid waste transporter  
13 shall submit to the ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of Environmental Quality on  
14 or before January 15, April 15, July 15, and October 15 of each year a  
15 quarterly report that accurately states the total weight or volume of solid  
16 waste received at the landfill or transported out of state during the quarter  
17 just completed;

18 (2) On or before January 15, April 15, July 15, and October 15  
19 of each year, each landfill permittee and solid waste transporter shall pay  
20 to the ~~department~~ division the full amount of disposal fees due for the  
21 quarter just completed;

22

23 SECTION 2635. Arkansas Code § 8-6-607(4)(B), concerning the collection  
24 of fees by the Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality, is amended to  
25 read as follows:

26 (B) The Marketing Recyclables Program Fund shall be  
27 administered by the ~~department~~ division and used by the panel for the  
28 administration and performance of the panel's duties; and

29

30 SECTION 2636. Arkansas Code § 8-6-608 is amended to read as follows:  
31 8-6-608. Penalties.

32 Failure of the permittee or solid waste transporter to pay the fees  
33 assessed by the ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of Environmental Quality  
34 provides grounds for administrative or civil enforcement action. Sanctions  
35 may include civil penalties as provided in the Arkansas Solid Waste  
36 Management Act, § 8-6-201 et seq., or the revocation of the solid waste

1 disposal or solid waste transporter permit.

2  
3 SECTION 2637. Arkansas Code § 8-6-615(a)(1)(A), concerning reporting  
4 requirements and distribution of funds to regional solid waste management  
5 programs, is amended to read as follows:

6 (a)(1)(A) Funds collected under this subchapter and deposited into the  
7 State Treasury to the credit of the Solid Waste Management and Recycling  
8 Fund, less up to twenty percent (20%) for administrative support for the  
9 ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of Environmental Quality, shall be allocated  
10 annually to each of the approved regional solid waste management districts  
11 utilizing a combination of the two (2) methods stated in subsections (b) and  
12 (c) of this section.

13  
14 SECTION 2638. Arkansas Code § 8-6-615(b)(1)(A) and (B), concerning  
15 reporting requirements and distribution of funds to regional solid waste  
16 management programs, are amended to read as follows:

17 (b)(1)(A) The ~~department~~ division shall determine the amount of funds  
18 within each planning and development district organized under § 14-166-201 et  
19 seq., and recognized by the Governor, based on the same distribution as  
20 general revenue support is distributed to the planning and development  
21 districts in the current fiscal year.

22 (B) The ~~department~~ division shall adjust the distribution  
23 described in subdivision (b)(1)(A) of this section within the planning and  
24 development districts to coincide with the boundaries of the regional solid  
25 waste management districts by determining each county's share of the funds  
26 available within each planning and development district.

27  
28 SECTION 2639. Arkansas Code § 8-6-615(d)(1), concerning reporting  
29 requirements and distribution of funds to regional solid waste management  
30 programs, is amended to read as follows:

31 (d)(1) After August 1, 2017, and for each subsequent fiscal year, each  
32 regional solid waste management board that receives funds under this section  
33 shall provide a report by November 1 to the ~~department~~ division that explains  
34 how the board spent the funding received under this section in the previous  
35 fiscal year.

36

1 SECTION 2640. Arkansas Code § 8-6-615(d)(3), concerning reporting  
2 requirements and distribution of funds to regional solid waste management  
3 programs, is amended to read as follows:

4 (3) The report shall be in a spreadsheet form as prescribed by  
5 the ~~department~~ division.

6  
7 SECTION 2641. Arkansas Code § 8-6-701 is amended to read as follows:  
8 8-6-701. Purpose – Legislative findings – Construction.

9 The purpose of this subchapter is to protect the public health and the  
10 state's environmental quality by establishing regional solid waste management  
11 and planning. The current system, relying upon solid waste management by  
12 individual counties and municipalities, has fostered present conditions in  
13 which certain areas of the state are facing capacity shortages of crisis  
14 proportions, while others experience a surfeit of capacity with individual  
15 disposal facilities which cannot muster the resources for environmentally  
16 responsible operators. Given these disparate environmental and economic  
17 concerns, the General Assembly concludes that regional solid waste management  
18 and planning, under the oversight of the ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of  
19 Environmental Quality and the Arkansas Pollution Control and Ecology  
20 Commission, is essential to address the imminent and future needs of the  
21 state. The terms and obligations of this subchapter shall be liberally  
22 construed so as to achieve remedial intent.

23  
24 SECTION 2642. Arkansas Code § 8-6-702(3) and (4), concerning the  
25 definitions of "department" and "director" under the laws governing regional  
26 solid waste management districts and boards, are repealed.

27 ~~(3) "Department" means the Arkansas Department of Environmental~~  
28 ~~Quality;~~

29 ~~(4) "Director" means the Director of the Arkansas Department of~~  
30 ~~Environmental Quality;~~

31  
32 SECTION 2643. Arkansas Code § 8-6-702(9), concerning the definition of  
33 "materials in the recycling process" under the laws governing regional solid  
34 waste management districts and boards, is amended as follows:

35 (9) "Materials in the recycling process" means ferrous and  
36 nonferrous metals diverted or removed from the solid waste stream so that

1 they may be reused, as long as such materials are processed or handled using  
2 reasonably available processing equipment and control technology as  
3 determined by the ~~director~~ Director of the Division of Environmental Quality,  
4 taking cost into account, and a substantial amount of the materials are  
5 consistently utilized to manufacture a product which otherwise would have  
6 been produced using virgin material;

7  
8 SECTION 2644. Arkansas Code § 8-6-704(a)(5), concerning the powers and  
9 duties of regional solid waste management boards, is amended to read as  
10 follows:

11 (5) To petition the Director of the ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division  
12 of Environmental Quality to issue, continue in effect, revoke, modify, or  
13 deny any permit for any element of a solid waste management system located  
14 within a district based on compliance or noncompliance with the solid waste  
15 management plan of the district;

16  
17 SECTION 2645. Arkansas Code § 8-6-704(a)(13)(B), concerning the powers  
18 and duties of regional solid waste management boards, is amended to read as  
19 follows:

20 (B) However, notice of all such authorizations shall be  
21 submitted to the ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of Environmental Quality within  
22 thirty (30) days and shall be incorporated into the regional needs assessment  
23 in its next regular update; and

24  
25 SECTION 2646. Arkansas Code § 8-6-704(a)(14)(B), concerning the powers  
26 and duties of regional solid waste management boards, is amended to read as  
27 follows:

28 (B) However, notice of all such authorizations shall be  
29 submitted to the ~~department~~ division within thirty (30) days and shall be  
30 incorporated into the regional needs assessment in its next regular update.

31  
32 SECTION 2647. Arkansas Code § 8-6-704(d)(4) and (5), concerning the  
33 powers and duties of regional solid waste management boards, are amended to  
34 read as follows:

35 (4) Copies of each audit report of a district shall be filed  
36 with the ~~department~~ division and with Arkansas Legislative Audit. In

1 addition, one (1) copy of the audit report shall be kept for public  
2 inspection with the books and records of the district.

3 (5) Failure to provide a full and complete audit report, as  
4 required by this subchapter, shall prohibit future distribution of revenue  
5 from funding programs that are administered by the ~~department~~ division unless  
6 otherwise authorized by the director.

7  
8 SECTION 2648. Arkansas Code § 8-6-705 is amended to read as follows:  
9 8-6-705. Needs assessments.

10 (a) All needs assessments required by this subchapter are subject to  
11 review and approval for completeness by the ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of  
12 Environmental Quality.

13 (b) Failure to provide complete assessments as required by this  
14 subchapter may provide the ~~department~~ division with grounds to initiate  
15 enforcement actions against the regional solid waste management boards or  
16 their component governmental entities. Pursuant to established administrative  
17 procedures, sanctions may be imposed, including, but not limited to, denial,  
18 discontinuation, or reimbursement of any grant funding administered by the  
19 ~~department~~ division to a regional solid waste management district or any of  
20 its component governmental entities.

21 (c) The ~~department~~ division may award grants to the districts for the  
22 development of the initial regional needs assessments, for the biennial  
23 updates, and for any other update required by the law.

24  
25 SECTION 2649. Arkansas Code § 8-6-706(a), concerning solid waste  
26 landfill and transfer station permits, is amended to read as follows:

27 (a)(1) Before an application for a permit is submitted to the ~~Arkansas~~  
28 ~~Department~~ Division of Environmental Quality, an applicant for a solid waste  
29 landfill permit or a transfer station permit shall obtain a certificate of  
30 need from the regional solid waste management board that has jurisdiction  
31 over the proposed site, with the exception of permits for landfills when a  
32 private industry bears the expense of operating and maintaining the landfill  
33 solely for the disposal of waste generated by the industry or wastes of a  
34 similar kind or character under the Arkansas Solid Waste Management Act, § 8-  
35 6-201 et seq.

36 (2) The ~~department~~ division may deny any permit based upon the

1 denial of a certificate of need by any regional solid waste management board.

2  
3 SECTION 2650. Arkansas Code § 8-6-706(c), concerning solid waste  
4 landfill and transfer station permits, is amended to read as follows:

5 (c) Any interested party to a certificate of need determination by a  
6 board may appeal the decision to the Director of the ~~Arkansas Department~~  
7 Division of Environmental Quality pursuant to procedures adopted by the  
8 Arkansas Pollution Control and Ecology Commission. The director may issue a  
9 permit despite the denial of a certificate of need if the director finds upon  
10 appeal that the decision of the board was not supported by substantial  
11 evidence.

12  
13 SECTION 2651. Arkansas Code § 8-6-712(a)(3)(B), concerning regulation  
14 of solid waste disposal, is amended to read as follows:

15 (B) Provided, however, that notice of all such  
16 authorizations shall be submitted to the ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of  
17 Environmental Quality within thirty (30) days and shall be incorporated into  
18 the district needs assessment in its next regular update;

19  
20 SECTION 2652. Arkansas Code § 8-6-712(c)(2), concerning regulation of  
21 solid waste disposal, is amended to read as follows:

22 (2) Nothing in this section shall prohibit the collection or  
23 disposal of solid waste by a municipality with an existing permitted landfill  
24 with a twenty-five-year capacity as of January 1, 1991, when the city bears  
25 the expense of operating and maintaining the landfill and the landfill  
26 complies with United States Environmental Protection Agency and ~~department~~  
27 division regulations.

28  
29 SECTION 2653. Arkansas Code § 8-6-716(a)(1)(A)(ii), concerning the  
30 submission of a regional needs assessment to the Arkansas Department of  
31 Environmental Quality, is amended to read as follows:

32 (ii) Such regional needs assessment shall be  
33 submitted for ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of Environmental Quality review,  
34 and the Director of the ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of Environmental Quality  
35 shall approve or disapprove it within ninety (90) days after submission.

36

1 SECTION 2654. Arkansas Code § 8-6-716(a)(1)(B)(ii), concerning the  
2 submission of a regional needs assessment to the Arkansas Department of  
3 Environmental Quality, is amended to read as follows:

4 (ii) The ~~department~~ division may, at its discretion,  
5 stagger the due dates by random selection so that approximately one fourth  
6 ( $\frac{1}{4}$ ) of the districts will submit a regional needs assessment each year.

7  
8 SECTION 2655. Arkansas Code § 8-6-716(a)(1)(C)(i), concerning the  
9 submission of a regional needs assessment to the Arkansas Department of  
10 Environmental Quality, is amended to read as follows:

11 (C)(i) The ~~department~~ division will notify in writing the  
12 districts of the date on which their regional needs assessments are due.

13  
14 SECTION 2656. Arkansas Code § 8-6-720(b), concerning the opportunity  
15 to recycle and recyclable materials collection centers, is amended to read as  
16 follows:

17 (b) The ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of Environmental Quality shall  
18 determine by regulation the adequacy of the facilities and the number and  
19 type of recyclable materials for which the services in this section must be  
20 provided.

21  
22 SECTION 2657. Arkansas Code § 8-6-723(a)(2), concerning the  
23 alternative formation of original districts, is amended to read as follows:

24 (2) The creation of the district shall be effective upon the  
25 Director of the ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of Environmental Quality's  
26 receipt of written notice in the form of a joint resolution by the local  
27 governments.

28  
29 SECTION 2658. Arkansas Code § 8-6-723(b)(1), concerning the  
30 alternative formation of original districts, is repealed.

31 ~~(b)(1) In lieu of forming a district under any other provision of this~~  
32 ~~subchapter, a district may be created by a resolution of the governing body~~  
33 ~~of any authority created under the Joint County and Municipal Solid Waste~~  
34 ~~Disposal Act, § 14-233-101 et seq., which includes a county having a~~  
35 ~~population of at least sixty thousand (60,000) persons and which has made~~  
36 ~~application to the Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality for a solid~~

1 ~~waste disposal permit on or before January 1, 1991.~~

2  
3 SECTION 2659. Arkansas Code § 8-6-901(2) and (3), concerning the  
4 definitions of "department" and "director" under the laws governing licensing  
5 of operators of solid waste management facilities, are repealed.

6 ~~(2) "Department" means the Arkansas Department of Environmental~~  
7 ~~Quality;~~

8 ~~(3) "Director" means the Director of the Arkansas Department of~~  
9 ~~Environmental Quality or the director's delegate or representative;~~

10  
11 SECTION 2660. Arkansas Code § 8-6-901(4), concerning the definition of  
12 "illegal dumps control officer" under the laws governing licensing of  
13 operators of solid waste management facilities, is amended to read as  
14 follows:

15 (4) "Illegal dumps control officer" means an individual employed  
16 by an authorized solid waste management district within this state, a county  
17 government within this state, or a pollution control inspector or other  
18 representative of the ~~department~~ Division of Environmental Quality who is  
19 empowered to ensure compliance with any state law prohibiting the illegal  
20 dumping of solid wastes;

21  
22 SECTION 2661. Arkansas Code § 8-6-901(5), concerning the definition of  
23 "license" under the laws governing licensing of operators of solid waste  
24 management facilities, is amended to read as follows:

25 (5) "License" means a certificate of competency issued by the  
26 ~~director~~ Director of the Division of Environmental Quality to solid waste  
27 management facility operators and illegal dumps control officers who have met  
28 the requirements of the licensing program;

29  
30 SECTION 2662. Arkansas Code § 8-6-901(6), concerning the definition of  
31 "licensing committee" under the laws governing licensing of operators of  
32 solid waste management facilities, is amended to read as follows:

33 (6) "Licensing committee" means the committee of solid waste  
34 management facility managers, operators, or technicians established in this  
35 subchapter to assist and advise the commission and the ~~department~~ division in  
36 the examining and licensing of operators of solid waste management

1 facilities;

2

3 SECTION 2663. Arkansas Code § 8-6-903(a), concerning licenses required  
4 to operate a solid waste management facility, is amended to read as follows:

5 (a) It shall be illegal for any county, municipality, governmental  
6 subdivision, public or private corporation, or other person to operate a  
7 solid waste management facility unless the competency of the operator is duly  
8 licensed by the Director of the ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of Environmental  
9 Quality under the provisions of this subchapter.

10

11 SECTION 2664. Arkansas Code § 8-6-904(a)(1), concerning the creation  
12 of a licensing committee to advise and assist the Arkansas Pollution Control  
13 and Ecology Commission and the Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality,  
14 is amended to read as follows:

15 (a)(1) There is created a licensing committee to advise and assist the  
16 Arkansas Pollution Control and Ecology Commission and the ~~Arkansas Department~~  
17 Division of Environmental Quality in the administration of the licensing  
18 program.

19

20 SECTION 2665. Arkansas Code § 8-6-904(a)(2)(A), concerning the  
21 creation of a licensing committee to advise and assist the Arkansas Pollution  
22 Control and Ecology Commission and the Arkansas Department of Environmental  
23 Quality, is amended to read as follows:

24 (A) Three (3) members, to be appointed by the commission,  
25 shall be solid waste management facility operators licensed by the ~~department~~  
26 division;

27

28 SECTION 2666. Arkansas Code § 8-6-904(a)(2)(H), concerning the  
29 creation of a licensing committee to advise and assist the Arkansas Pollution  
30 Control and Ecology Commission and the Arkansas Department of Environmental  
31 Quality, is amended to read as follows:

32 (H) One (1) member, to be appointed by the Director of the  
33 ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of Environmental Quality, shall be a qualified  
34 member of his or her staff who shall serve ex officio with no vote as  
35 executive secretary of the committee.

36

1 SECTION 2667. Arkansas Code § 8-6-905(a), concerning the powers and  
2 duties of the Arkansas Pollution Control and Ecology Commission, is amended  
3 to read as follows:

4 (a) The Arkansas Pollution Control and Ecology Commission, with the  
5 advice and assistance of the licensing committee, is given and charged with  
6 the power and duty to adopt rules and regulations implementing and  
7 effectuating such powers and duties of the ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of  
8 Environmental Quality and the committee under this subchapter as may be  
9 necessary for the administration and enforcement of this subchapter.

10  
11 SECTION 2668. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 8-6-905(b),  
12 concerning the powers and duties of the Arkansas Pollution Control and  
13 Ecology Commission, is amended to read as follows:

14 (b) The ~~department~~ division is charged with the responsibility of  
15 administering and enforcing this subchapter, with the advice and assistance  
16 of the committee, and is given and charged with the following powers and  
17 duties:

18  
19 SECTION 2669. Arkansas Code § 8-6-905(b)(1)(B), concerning the powers  
20 and duties of the Arkansas Pollution Control and Ecology Commission, is  
21 amended to read as follows:

22 (B) This duty may be delegated by the ~~department~~ division  
23 to the administrator of any approved course;

24  
25 SECTION 2670. Arkansas Code § 8-6-905(c)(1) and (2), concerning the  
26 powers and duties of the Arkansas Pollution Control and Ecology Commission,  
27 are amended to read as follows:

28 (1) Conduct inquiries and establish findings necessary to advise  
29 the commission and the ~~department~~ division on irregularities encountered in  
30 the management of the licensing program;

31 (2) Conduct inquiries and establish facts necessary to advise  
32 the commission and the ~~department~~ division on the actions of licensees; and  
33

34 SECTION 2671. Arkansas Code § 8-6-906(b), concerning the  
35 classification of a license, is amended to read as follows:

36 (b) The Director of the ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of Environmental

1 Quality, with the advice and assistance of the licensing committee, shall  
2 license persons according to their qualifications to successfully operate  
3 solid waste management facilities within the classifications established and  
4 effectuated by rules and regulations promulgated by the commission.

5  
6 SECTION 2672. Arkansas Code § 8-6-907 is amended to read as follows:  
7 8-6-907. Licensing.

8 All operators in responsible charge of public and private solid waste  
9 management facilities shall be duly licensed and certified as competent by  
10 the Director of the ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of Environmental Quality  
11 under the provisions of this subchapter and under such rules and regulations  
12 as the Arkansas Pollution Control and Ecology Commission may adopt, with the  
13 advice and assistance of the licensing committee, pursuant to the authority  
14 of this subchapter.

15  
16 SECTION 2673. Arkansas Code § 8-6-908(a)(1), concerning eligibility,  
17 reciprocity, and licensing by the Director of the Arkansas Department of  
18 Environmental Quality, is amended to read as follows:

19 (a)(1) The Director of the ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of  
20 Environmental Quality shall license and certify all applicants for licenses  
21 under this subchapter who satisfy the requirements of this subchapter and the  
22 rules and regulations issued pursuant thereto.

23  
24 SECTION 2674. Arkansas Code § 8-6-908(b), concerning eligibility,  
25 reciprocity, and licensing by the Director of the Arkansas Department of  
26 Environmental Quality, is amended to read as follows:

27 (b) All operators of solid waste management facilities within the  
28 state shall apply to the ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of Environmental  
29 Quality for a license.

30  
31 SECTION 2675. Arkansas Code § 8-6-909(b), concerning fees for  
32 licenses, examinations, and certifications, is amended to read as follows:

33 (b) All of the fees shall be deposited into the ~~Arkansas Department~~  
34 Division of Environmental Quality Fee Trust Fund, as established in § 8-1-  
35 105.

36

1 SECTION 2676. Arkansas Code § 8-6-1001(2) and (3), concerning the  
2 definitions of "department" and "director" under the laws regarding the  
3 Landfill Post-Closure Trust Fund, are repealed.

4 ~~(2) "Department" means the Arkansas Department of Environmental~~  
5 ~~Quality;~~

6 ~~(3) "Director" means the Director of the Arkansas Department of~~  
7 ~~Environmental Quality;~~

8  
9 SECTION 2677. Arkansas Code § 8-6-1001(6), concerning the definition  
10 of "post-closure corrective action" under the laws regarding the Landfill  
11 Post-Closure Trust Fund, is amended to read as follows:

12 (6) "Post-closure corrective action" means any measures deemed  
13 necessary by the ~~director~~ Director of the Division of Environmental Quality  
14 to prevent or abate contamination of the environment from any landfill which  
15 has been certified as properly closed by the ~~department~~ Division of  
16 Environmental Quality;

17  
18 SECTION 2678. Arkansas Code § 8-6-1002(a)(3), concerning the creation  
19 of the Landfill Post-Closure Trust Fund, is amended to read as follows:

20 (3) Moneys received into the fund may also be used by the  
21 ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of Environmental Quality for administrative  
22 purposes at a level not to exceed three hundred thousand dollars (\$300,000)  
23 annually with an annual escalator not to exceed three percent (3%).

24  
25 SECTION 2679. Arkansas Code § 8-6-1002(b), concerning the creation of  
26 the Landfill Post-Closure Trust Fund, is amended to read as follows:

27 (b)(1) The fund shall be administered by the ~~department~~ division,  
28 which shall authorize funding and administrative expenditures from the fund  
29 according to the provisions of this subchapter.

30 (2)(A) The fund shall be administered by the ~~department~~ division  
31 and shall be used by the ~~department~~ division for landfill post-closure  
32 corrective action.

33 (B) The fund shall be used only if the Director of the  
34 ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of Environmental Quality determines that:

35 (i) A landfill which is no longer receiving waste,  
36 regardless of when it ceased operating, is causing groundwater contamination

1 or is causing other contamination that is a hazard to public health or  
2 endangers the environment; and

3 (ii) The owner or operator of the landfill site has  
4 expended at least ten thousand dollars (\$10,000) toward corrective action,  
5 unless the owner or operator cannot be located or the director determines an  
6 emergency exists necessitating immediate corrective action.

7 (3) The fund shall be administered by the ~~department~~ division  
8 and may be used by the ~~department~~ division to complete all activities  
9 necessary for the closure of a permitted waste tire processing or disposal  
10 site that is owned or operated by a regional solid waste management district  
11 if the ~~department~~ division determines that the district lacks sufficient  
12 funds to complete closure of the permitted waste tire processing or disposal  
13 site.

14

15 SECTION 2680. Arkansas Code § 8-6-1002(e), concerning the creation of  
16 the Landfill Post-Closure Trust Fund, is amended to read as follows:

17 (e)(1) An owner or operator of a permitted landfill shall establish  
18 and at all times maintain financial assurance for the post-closure  
19 maintenance of the landfill. At a minimum, each owner or operator shall  
20 provide no less than twenty percent (20%) of estimated post-closure  
21 maintenance costs through a financial mechanism readily negotiable by the  
22 ~~department~~ division to cash funds, for example, a letter of credit, surety  
23 bond, irrevocable trust, insurance, or other mechanism approved by the  
24 ~~department~~ division, upon default by the owner and operator of post-closure  
25 obligations.

26 (2) If, after proper closure of a landfill, the ~~department~~  
27 division reasonably determines that the owner or operator cannot be located  
28 or cannot otherwise satisfy, in whole or part, post-closure maintenance  
29 obligations, the ~~department~~ division is authorized to expend the necessary  
30 funds from the fund to satisfy the requirements of state and federal law and  
31 to prevent or abate releases to the environment.

32 (3) If the ~~department~~ division is required to expend funds from  
33 the fund due to the failure of an owner or operator to meet the requirements  
34 of this subsection, the ~~department~~ division shall pursue collection and  
35 recovery of the funds by issuing an administrative order notifying the owner  
36 or operator by certified mail at the last known address of the owner or

1 operator of the action taken by the ~~department~~ division and the amount of  
2 funds expended from the fund and that the administrative order may be  
3 appealed in accordance with the ~~department's~~ division's regulations.  
4

5 SECTION 2681. Arkansas Code § 8-6-1004(1) and (2), concerning the  
6 collection of fees regarding the Landfill Post-Closure Trust Fund, are  
7 amended to read as follows:

8 (1) Each landfill permittee and each solid waste transporter  
9 shall submit to the ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of Environmental Quality on  
10 or before January 15, April 15, July 15, and October 15 of each year a  
11 quarterly report which accurately states the total weight or volume of solid  
12 waste received at the landfill or transported out of state during the  
13 previous quarter;

14 (2) On or before January 15, April 15, July 15, and October 15  
15 of each year, each landfill permittee and solid waste transporter shall pay  
16 to the ~~department~~ division the full amount of such disposal fees due for the  
17 previous quarter; and  
18

19 SECTION 2682. Arkansas Code § 8-6-1005 is amended to read as follows:  
20 8-6-1005. Penalties.

21 Failure of the permittee or solid waste transporter to pay the fees  
22 assessed by the ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of Environmental Quality shall  
23 provide grounds for administrative or civil enforcement action. Sanctions may  
24 include civil penalties as provided in the Arkansas Solid Waste Management  
25 Act, § 8-6-201 et seq., or the revocation of the solid waste disposal or  
26 solid waste transporter permit.  
27

28 SECTION 2683. Arkansas Code § 8-6-1103(3), concerning the definition  
29 of "director" under the laws regarding landfill service areas, is repealed.

30 ~~(3) "Director" means the Director of the Arkansas Department of~~  
31 ~~Environmental Quality;~~  
32

33 SECTION 2684. Arkansas Code § 8-6-1104 is amended to read as follows:  
34 8-6-1104. Transportation of solid waste outside district.

35 In any instance in which a landfill has a useful life of less than one  
36 and one-half (1½) years, the Director of the ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of

1 Environmental Quality may authorize any city utilizing that landfill to  
2 transport solid waste outside the boundaries of the regional solid waste  
3 management district. Provided, however, in no instance shall that authority  
4 be extended after a landfill with a useful life in excess of one and one-half  
5 (1½) years becomes available within the district for accepting the solid  
6 waste of the city.

7

8 SECTION 2685. Arkansas Code § 8-6-1105(b), concerning an exemption of  
9 expansion outside district, is amended to read as follows:

10 (b) Landfill capacity shall be determined by the Director of the  
11 ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of Environmental Quality.

12

13 SECTION 2686. Arkansas Code § 8-6-1105(c)(3), concerning an exemption  
14 of expansion outside district, is amended to read as follows:

15 (3) No new landfill shall be allowed to receive solid waste  
16 outside the boundaries of the district in which it is located unless it is a  
17 landfill where a private industry bears the expense of operating and  
18 maintaining the landfill solely for the disposal of wastes generated by the  
19 industry or of wastes of a similar kind or character and such industry has  
20 commenced, prior to March 1, 1991, the process for obtaining a permit by  
21 issuing notice to the local government having jurisdiction, as required under  
22 the rules and regulations of the Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality  
23 or the Division of Environmental Quality.

24

25 SECTION 2687. Arkansas Code § 8-6-1105(c)(4), concerning an exemption  
26 of expansion outside district, is amended to read as follows:

27 (4)(A) No new applications for landfill permits seeking to  
28 dispose of solid waste originating outside of a district or that propose to  
29 dispose of solid waste originating from outside such district shall be  
30 accepted or processed by the ~~Arkansas Pollution Control and Ecology~~  
31 ~~Commission~~ Division of Environmental Quality or a regional solid waste  
32 management board, unless such applications were pending before the ~~department~~  
33 Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality or the Division of Environmental  
34 Quality, on March 1, 1989.

35

36 (B) Provided, the prohibition contained in this subsection  
shall not apply to new applications for landfill permits if the landfill is

1 one where a private industry bears the expense of operating and maintaining  
2 the landfill solely for the disposal of wastes generated by the industry, or  
3 of wastes of a similar kind or character, and such industry has commenced,  
4 prior to March 1, 1991, the process for obtaining a permit by issuing notice  
5 to the local government having jurisdiction, as required under the rules and  
6 regulations of the ~~department~~ Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality or  
7 the Division of Environmental Quality.

8  
9 SECTION 2688. Arkansas Code § 8-6-1206(c)(1), concerning the adoption  
10 of disposal criteria for incinerator ash, is amended to read as follows:

11 (c)(1) The monofill requirement created under this subchapter does not  
12 apply if the owner or operator demonstrates to the ~~Arkansas Department~~  
13 Division of Environmental Quality that the incinerator ash to be disposed of  
14 in the Class 1 landfill is received from incinerators that only combust yard  
15 waste or other natural vegetative debris, including vegetative storm debris,  
16 tree trimmings, and land-clearing debris.

17  
18 SECTION 2689. Arkansas Code § 8-6-1301(a), concerning legislative  
19 findings and purpose regarding obtaining permits from the Arkansas Department  
20 of Environmental Quality for medical waste incineration facilities, is  
21 amended to read as follows:

22 (a) The General Assembly has found that there is an increased interest  
23 in obtaining permits from the Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality or  
24 the Division of Environmental Quality for the purpose of constructing and  
25 operating commercial medical waste incineration facilities. The Clean Air Act  
26 in 42 U.S.C. § 7429(a)(1)(C) has directed the United States Environmental  
27 Protection Agency to promulgate regulations concerning these commercial  
28 medical waste incineration facilities. The General Assembly has determined  
29 that it is necessary to delay the issuance of permits to these commercial  
30 medical waste incineration facilities until those regulations are promulgated  
31 in order to ensure that any permits issued will be based on the latest  
32 available information concerning technology and safety as set forth in the  
33 federal regulations.

34  
35 SECTION 2690. Arkansas Code § 8-6-1302(2) and (3), concerning the  
36 definitions of "department" and "director" under the laws regarding

1 commercial medical waste incineration facilities, are repealed.

2 ~~(2) "Department" means the Arkansas Department of Environmental~~  
3 ~~Quality;~~

4 ~~(3) "Director" means the Director of the Arkansas Department of~~  
5 ~~Environmental Quality;~~

6  
7 SECTION 2691. Arkansas Code § 8-6-1304(c)(2), concerning the  
8 applicability of laws to medical waste incineration facilities, is amended to  
9 read as follows:

10 (2) For the purposes of construing this subsection and the  
11 application of this subchapter, initiation of operations has not occurred  
12 until the ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of Environmental Quality has approved  
13 the installation of all permitted pollution control equipment and the  
14 commercial medical waste incineration facility is receiving medical waste for  
15 incineration.

16  
17 SECTION 2692. Arkansas Code § 8-6-1305 is amended to read as follows:

18 8-6-1305. Permits – Procedure generally – Definition.

19 (a) The ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of Environmental Quality shall  
20 not accept any applications or issue any permits for the construction or  
21 operation of any commercial medical waste incineration facilities until the  
22 federal regulations promulgated pursuant to 42 U.S.C. § 7429(a)(1)(C) become  
23 effective or the United States Environmental Protection Agency's dioxin  
24 reassessment is finalized, whichever is later.

25 (b) Any person applying for a permit or a permit modification to  
26 construct and operate a commercial medical waste incineration facility shall  
27 complete the following criteria at least thirty (30) days prior to submitting  
28 a permit application to the ~~department~~ division:

29 (1) Written notification by certified mail to each property  
30 owner and resident of any property adjacent to the proposed site of the  
31 intent to apply for a permit or permit modification; and

32 (2) Publication of a public notice in the largest newspaper  
33 published in each county where the property which is the subject matter of  
34 the proposed commercial medical waste incineration facility permit or permit  
35 modification is located, and in at least one (1) newspaper of statewide  
36 circulation, of the intent to apply for a permit or a permit modification to

1 construct and operate a commercial medical waste incineration facility.

2 (c) The ~~department~~ division shall provide written notice by certified  
3 mail of the proposed permit or permit modification to the mayor of the city  
4 and the county judge of the county where the property which is the subject  
5 matter of the permit application is located.

6 (d) The ~~department~~ division shall conduct a public hearing in the  
7 county in which the commercial medical waste incineration facility is to be  
8 located prior to the issuance of a final permit.

9 (e)(1)(A) Notwithstanding the general provisions of other laws,  
10 permits for the construction or operation of commercial medical waste  
11 incineration facilities shall not be transferable upon a change in ownership  
12 or control of a commercial medical waste incineration facility.

13 (B) Prior to any change in ownership or control of a  
14 commercial medical waste incineration facility, the proposed new owner must  
15 apply for a new permit and abide by the requirements of § 8-1-106.

16 (C) The ~~department~~ division shall process the application  
17 as one for a new permit and apply the most current statutes, regulations,  
18 technological standards, and operational controls as conditions precedent for  
19 granting a permit or operational authority.

20 (2)(A) Any agreement or contract, written or oral, for a future  
21 transfer of operational control or ownership of a permitted commercial  
22 medical waste incineration facility or such an agreement or contract  
23 contingent upon the ~~department's~~ division's approval shall be subject to  
24 immediate disclosure to the ~~department~~ division pursuant to § 8-1-106.

25 (B) Upon such disclosure, the ~~department~~ division shall  
26 cause the intent to transfer ownership or control to be publicly noticed and  
27 produce the disclosure documentation required by § 8-1-106 for public  
28 inspection.

29 (C) After a reasonable period for public review, the  
30 ~~department~~ division shall issue a written determination as to whether the  
31 intended transfer of ownership or control should be approved, subject to the  
32 right of appeal provided by § 8-1-106(e).

33 (D) During the pendency of the ~~department's~~ division's and  
34 the public's review of the disclosure materials required by this section, any  
35 actions taken by the permittee or proposed transferee are at their own risk,  
36 and shall not be construed by the ~~department~~ division or the Arkansas

1 Pollution Control and Ecology Commission as accruing equities in their favor.

2 (3) As used in this subsection:

3 (A) "Control" shall be presumed to reside with the owner,  
4 as defined herein, unless circumstances indicate that a person or entity  
5 other than an employee or agent of the owner is exercising ultimate decision-  
6 making authority regarding the construction or operation of a commercial  
7 medical waste incineration facility; and

8 (B) "Corporate ownership" shall be defined as a  
9 controlling or majority interest in a commercial medical waste incineration  
10 facility, either through outright ownership of stock or other indicia of  
11 title, or any equitable right to such title as construed from the totality of  
12 the circumstances.

13 (4) Any violation of this subsection shall constitute grounds  
14 for permit revocation and imposition of the civil and criminal penalties  
15 authorized by § 8-4-103.

16 (f)(1) If the original permit was issued more than one (1) year prior  
17 to the initiation of incineration activities at a commercial medical waste  
18 incineration facility, the ~~department~~ division may review the conditions of  
19 the permit to determine whether good cause exists for modifying operating  
20 parameters to assure the maximum feasible control efficiency of emissions.

21 (2) Any modifications proposed by the ~~department~~ division must  
22 be supported by appropriate references to the scientific and engineering  
23 literature or documented studies conducted by the ~~department~~ division.

24  
25 SECTION 2693. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 8-6-  
26 1306(a), concerning the limitations of permits to construct or operate a  
27 commercial medical waste incineration facility granted by the Arkansas  
28 Department of Environmental Quality, is amended to read as follows:

29 (a) No permits may be issued by the ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of  
30 Environmental Quality for the construction or operation of a commercial  
31 medical waste incineration facility in which any of the following factors are  
32 present:

33  
34 SECTION 2694. Arkansas Code § 8-6-1307 is amended to read as follows:  
35 8-6-1307. Financial assurance guarantees.

36 (a)(1) Prior to initiating operations at a commercial medical waste

1 incineration facility, the owner or operator must demonstrate:

2 (A) Evidence of liability insurance in such amount as the  
3 ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of Environmental Quality may determine to be  
4 necessary for the protection of public health and safety and protection of  
5 the environment; and

6 (B) Evidence of financial responsibility in such form and  
7 amount as the ~~department~~ division may determine to be necessary to ensure  
8 that, upon abandonment, cessation, or interruption of the operation of the  
9 commercial medical waste incineration facility, all appropriate measures can  
10 be taken to prevent present and future damage to the public health and safety  
11 and to the environment.

12 (2) In determining the adequacy of the evidence submitted, the  
13 ~~department~~ division may consider credible evidence indicating that the  
14 permittee is undercapitalized, insolvent, or otherwise financially incapable  
15 of assuring environmentally sound operations at the permitted commercial  
16 medical waste incineration facility.

17 (b) In determining the nature of financial assurance guarantees  
18 required by subsection (a) of this section, the ~~department~~ division and the  
19 permittee shall follow, to the extent applicable, the federal regulations  
20 governing financial assurance of facilities governed by Subtitle D of the  
21 Resource Conservation and Recovery Act of 1976, 42 U.S.C. § 6941 et seq.

22

23 SECTION 2695. Arkansas Code § 8-6-1503 is amended to read as follows:  
24 8-6-1503. ~~Department's~~ Division's permitting authority.

25 The ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of Environmental Quality shall not  
26 process any application for a permit subject to § 8-6-1504 until the affected  
27 local and regional authorities have issued definitive findings regarding the  
28 criteria set out in § 8-6-1504.

29

30 SECTION 2696. Arkansas Code § 8-6-1504(a)(2), concerning a rebuttable  
31 presumption against certain sites for construction of a high impact solid  
32 waste management facility, is amended to read as follows:

33 (2) This presumption shall be honored by the ~~Arkansas Department~~  
34 Division of Environmental Quality, the regional solid waste management board  
35 with jurisdiction over the site, and any other governmental entity with  
36 permitting or zoning authority concerning any facility.

1  
2 SECTION 2697. Arkansas Code § 8-6-1601(c)(1), concerning the purpose  
3 of solid waste management facilities, is amended to read as follows:

4 (c)(1) After an application to operate a solid waste management  
5 facility has been reviewed and approved but before a permit is issued, the  
6 applicant shall post with the ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of Environmental  
7 Quality, on forms prescribed by the ~~department~~ division in accordance with  
8 the regulations issued under this subchapter, a corporate surety bond for  
9 performance or an acceptable alternative, such as a certificate of deposit or  
10 letter of credit payable to the ~~department~~ division and conditioned upon  
11 faithful performance of all requirements of this subchapter, the regulations  
12 issued pursuant to this subchapter, and the permit, including, but not  
13 limited to, proper closure of the solid waste management facility.  
14

15 SECTION 2698. Arkansas Code § 8-6-1602(5), concerning the definition  
16 of "department" under the laws regarding solid waste management facilities,  
17 is repealed.

18 ~~(5) "Department" means the Arkansas Department of Environmental~~  
19 ~~Quality;~~  
20

21 SECTION 2699. Arkansas Code § 8-6-1603(d)(4)(A), concerning procedures  
22 of solid waste management facilities, is amended to read as follows:

23 (4)(A) A municipality or county that owns or operates a solid  
24 waste management facility receiving any non-RCRA, Subtitle D waste may, in  
25 lieu of a performance bond, execute a contract of obligation with the  
26 Director of the ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of Environmental Quality.  
27

28 SECTION 2700. Arkansas Code § 8-6-1604(c) and (d), concerning the  
29 Solid Waste Performance Bond Fund, are amended to read as follows:

30 (c) The fund shall be administered by the ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division  
31 of Environmental Quality and will be used to accomplish remedial action,  
32 including closure of lands covered by performance bonds forfeited under this  
33 subchapter.

34 (d) Moneys received annually into the fund shall be used by the  
35 ~~department~~ division for the administration of remedial actions performed as a  
36 result of this subchapter.

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SECTION 2701. Arkansas Code § 8-6-1703(e), concerning restrictions on the open burning of yard waste, is amended to read as follows:

(e) Nothing in this subchapter shall be construed as impairing the authority of the ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of Environmental Quality to abate reasonably likely exceedances of National Ambient Air Quality Standards.

SECTION 2702. Arkansas Code § 8-6-1801 is amended to read as follows: 8-6-1801. Management plan – Substitution.

If the ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of Environmental Quality requires a person to obtain an animal waste management plan, including a permit application, prepared by a professional engineer as defined in § 17-30-101, the person may substitute a plan prepared under the supervision of a professional engineer employed by one (1) of the following agencies:

- (1) A conservation district;
- (2) The Arkansas Natural Resources Commission;
- (3) The United States Natural Resources Conservation Service; or
- (4) The University of Arkansas Cooperative Extension Service.

SECTION 2703. Arkansas Code § 8-6-1902(1), concerning the responsibility for the development of the Statewide Solid Waste Management Plan, is amended to read as follows:

(1) The ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of Environmental Quality has been charged by the General Assembly with the responsibility of developing the Statewide Solid Waste Management Plan which, when feasible, gives emphasis to regional planning;

SECTION 2704. Arkansas Code § 8-6-1903(3), concerning the definition of "department" under the laws regarding the Statewide Solid Waste Management Plan, is repealed.

~~(3) "Department" means the Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality.~~

SECTION 2705. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 8-6-1904(a), concerning the development and implementation of the Statewide Solid

1 Waste Management Plan by the Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality, is  
2 amended to read as follows:

3 (a) The ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of Environmental Quality shall  
4 develop the Statewide Solid Waste Management Plan to establish minimum  
5 requirements for all regional solid waste management plans, including  
6 requirements for:

7

8 SECTION 2706. Arkansas Code § 8-6-1904(c)(2), concerning the  
9 development and implementation of the Statewide Solid Waste Management Plan  
10 by the Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality, is amended to read as  
11 follows:

12 (2) Denial, discontinuation, or reimbursement of any funding  
13 administered by the ~~department~~ division to the board.

14

15 SECTION 2707. Arkansas Code § 8-7-202(4), concerning the purpose of  
16 the Arkansas Hazardous Waste Management Act of 1979, is amended to read as  
17 follows:

18 (4) Qualify the ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of Environmental  
19 Quality to adopt, administer, and enforce a hazardous waste program pursuant  
20 to the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act of 1976, 42 U.S.C. § 6901 et  
21 seq.; and

22

23 SECTION 2708. Arkansas Code § 8-7-203(2) and (3), concerning the  
24 definitions of "department" and "director" under the Arkansas Hazardous Waste  
25 Management Act of 1979, are repealed.

26 ~~(2) "Department" means the Arkansas Department of Environmental~~  
27 ~~Quality or its successor;~~

28 ~~(3) "Director" means the Director of the Arkansas Department of~~  
29 ~~Environmental Quality or his or her successor;~~

30

31 SECTION 2709. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 8-7-  
32 203(7)(A), concerning the definition of "hazardous waste" under the Arkansas  
33 Hazardous Waste Management Act of 1979, is amended to read as follows:

34 (7)(A) "Hazardous waste" means any waste or combination of  
35 wastes of a solid, liquid, contained gaseous, or semisolid form which,  
36 because of its quantity, concentration, or physical, chemical, or infectious

1 characteristics, may in the judgment of the ~~department~~ Division of  
2 Environmental Quality:

3  
4 SECTION 2710. Arkansas Code § 8-7-204(a)(1)(A), concerning criminal,  
5 civil, and administrative penalties under the Arkansas Hazardous Waste  
6 Management Act of 1979, is amended to read as follows:

7 (1)(A) Any person who violates any provision of this subchapter,  
8 who commits any unlawful act under this subchapter, or who violates any rule,  
9 regulation, or order of the Arkansas Pollution Control and Ecology Commission  
10 or the ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of Environmental Quality shall be guilty  
11 of a misdemeanor.

12  
13 SECTION 2711. Arkansas Code § 8-7-204(a)(2)(A)(i), concerning  
14 criminal, civil, and administrative penalties under the Arkansas Hazardous  
15 Waste Management Act of 1979, is amended to read as follows:

16 (i) Violate any provision of this subchapter, commit  
17 any unlawful act under this subchapter, or violate any rule, regulation, or  
18 order of the commission or the ~~department~~ division, and leave the state or  
19 remove his or her person from the jurisdiction of this state; or

20  
21 SECTION 2712. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 8-7-204(b),  
22 concerning criminal, civil, and administrative penalties under the Arkansas  
23 Hazardous Waste Management Act of 1979, is amended to read as follows:

24 (b) Civil Penalties. The ~~department~~ division may institute a civil  
25 action in any court of competent jurisdiction to accomplish any of the  
26 following:

27  
28 SECTION 2713. Arkansas Code § 8-7-204(b)(3), concerning criminal,  
29 civil, and administrative penalties under the Arkansas Hazardous Waste  
30 Management Act of 1979, is amended to read as follows:

31 (3) Recover all costs, expenses, and damages to the ~~department~~  
32 division and any other agency or subdivision of the state in enforcing or  
33 effectuating the provisions of this subchapter, including, but not limited  
34 to, natural resource damages;

35  
36 SECTION 2714. Arkansas Code § 8-7-204(c), concerning criminal, civil,

1 and administrative penalties under the Arkansas Hazardous Waste Management  
2 Act of 1979, is amended to read as follows:

3 (c) Any person who violates any provision of this subchapter and  
4 regulations, rules, permits, or plans issued pursuant to this subchapter may  
5 be assessed an administrative civil penalty not to exceed twenty-five  
6 thousand dollars (\$25,000) per violation. Each day of a continuing violation  
7 may be deemed a separate violation for purposes of civil penalty assessment.  
8 No civil penalty may be assessed until the person charged with the violation  
9 has been given the opportunity for a hearing in accordance with regulations  
10 adopted by the commission. All hearings and appeals arising under this  
11 subchapter shall be conducted in accordance with the procedures prescribed by  
12 §§ 8-4-205, 8-4-212, and 8-4-218 – 8-4-229. The procedures of this subsection  
13 may also be used to recover all costs, expenses, and damages to the  
14 ~~department~~ division and any other agency or subdivision of the state in  
15 enforcing or effectuating the provisions of this subchapter, including, but  
16 not limited to, natural resource damages.

17  
18 SECTION 2715. Arkansas Code § 8-7-204(e)(1), concerning criminal,  
19 civil, and administrative penalties under the Arkansas Hazardous Waste  
20 Management Act of 1979, is amended to read as follows:

21 (e)(1) All moneys collected as reimbursement for expenses, costs, and  
22 damages to the ~~department~~ division shall be deposited into the operating fund  
23 of the ~~department~~ division.

24  
25 SECTION 2716. Arkansas Code § 8-7-204(e)(3), concerning criminal,  
26 civil, and administrative penalties under the Arkansas Hazardous Waste  
27 Management Act of 1979, is amended to read as follows:

28 (3)(A) In his or her discretion, the Director of the ~~Arkansas~~  
29 ~~Department~~ Division of Environmental Quality may authorize in-kind services  
30 as partial mitigation of cash penalties for use in projects or programs  
31 designed to advance environmental interests.

32 (B) The violator may provide in-kind services or cash  
33 contributions as directed by the ~~department~~ division by utilizing the  
34 violator's own expertise, by hiring and compensating subcontractors to  
35 perform the in-kind services, by arranging and providing financing for the  
36 in-kind services, or by other financial arrangements initiated by the

1 ~~department~~ division in which the violator and the ~~department~~ division retain  
2 no monetary benefit, however remote.

3 (C) The in-kind services shall not duplicate or augment  
4 services already provided by the ~~department~~ division through appropriations  
5 of the General Assembly.

6  
7 SECTION 2717. Arkansas Code § 8-7-205(3), concerning unlawful actions  
8 under the Arkansas Hazardous Waste Management Act of 1979, is amended to read  
9 as follows:

10 (3) Dispose of hazardous waste at any disposal site or facility  
11 other than one for which a permit has been issued by the ~~Arkansas Department~~  
12 Division of Environmental Quality pursuant to this subchapter; or  
13

14 SECTION 2718. Arkansas Code § 8-7-208 is amended to read as follows:

15 8-7-208. Official agency for program and agreements.

16 (a) The ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of Environmental Quality is  
17 designated as the official agency for the state for all purposes of the  
18 Resource Conservation and Recovery Act of 1976, 42 U.S.C. § 6901 et seq., and  
19 for the purpose of such other state or federal legislation as may be enacted  
20 to assist in the management of hazardous wastes.

21 (b)(1) The General Assembly encourages cooperative activities by the  
22 ~~department~~ division with other states for the improved management of  
23 hazardous wastes and, so far as is practicable, uniform state laws relating  
24 to the management of hazardous wastes and compacts between this and other  
25 states for the improved management of hazardous wastes.

26 (2) The ~~department~~ division may enter into agreements with the  
27 responsible authorities of the United States or of other states, subject to  
28 approval by the Governor, relative to policies, methods, means, and  
29 procedures to be employed in the management of hazardous wastes not  
30 inconsistent with the provisions of this subchapter and may carry out such  
31 agreements.  
32

33 SECTION 2719. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 8-7-209(a),  
34 concerning the powers and duties of the Arkansas Department of Environmental  
35 Quality and the Arkansas Pollution Control and Ecology Commission for  
36 hazardous waste management, is amended to read as follows:

1 (a) The ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of Environmental Quality shall  
2 have the following powers and duties:

3  
4 SECTION 2720. Arkansas Code § 8-7-209(a)(6), concerning the powers and  
5 duties of the Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality and the Arkansas  
6 Pollution Control and Ecology Commission for hazardous waste management, is  
7 amended to read as follows:

8 (6) To make such investigations and inspections and to hold such  
9 hearings, after notice, as the ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of Environmental  
10 Quality may deem necessary or advisable for the discharge of the ~~Arkansas~~  
11 ~~Department~~ Division of Environmental Quality's duties under this subchapter  
12 and to ensure compliance with this subchapter and any orders, rules, and  
13 regulations issued pursuant thereto;

14  
15 SECTION 2721. Arkansas Code § 8-7-209(a)(8)(A), concerning the powers  
16 and duties of the Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality and the  
17 Arkansas Pollution Control and Ecology Commission for hazardous waste  
18 management, is amended to read as follows:

19 (8)(A) To institute proceedings in the name of the ~~Arkansas~~  
20 ~~Department~~ Division of Environmental Quality in any court of competent  
21 jurisdiction to compel compliance with and to restrain any violation of the  
22 provisions of this subchapter or any rules, regulations, and orders issued  
23 pursuant thereto or any permit issued thereunder, and require the taking of  
24 such remedial measures as may be necessary or appropriate to implement or  
25 effectuate the provisions and purposes of this subchapter.

26  
27 SECTION 2722. Arkansas Code § 8-7-209(a)(12), concerning the powers  
28 and duties of the Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality and the  
29 Arkansas Pollution Control and Ecology Commission for hazardous waste  
30 management, is amended to read as follows:

31 (12) In addition to the powers enumerated above, the ~~Arkansas~~  
32 ~~Department~~ Division of Environmental Quality shall have and may use in the  
33 administration and enforcement of this subchapter all of the powers which the  
34 ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of Environmental Quality has under other laws  
35 administered by the ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of Environmental Quality,  
36 including the Arkansas Water and Air Pollution Control Act, § 8-4-101 et

1 seq., and the Arkansas Solid Waste Management Act, § 8-6-201 et seq.

2  
3 SECTION 2723. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 8-7-  
4 209(b)(1), concerning the powers and duties of the Arkansas Department of  
5 Environmental Quality and the Arkansas Pollution Control and Ecology  
6 Commission for hazardous waste management, is amended to read as follows:

7 (1) To adopt, after notice and public hearing, and to  
8 promulgate, modify, repeal, and enforce rules and regulations regarding  
9 hazardous waste management as may be necessary or appropriate to implement or  
10 effectuate the purposes and intent of this subchapter and the powers and  
11 duties of the ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of Environmental Quality under  
12 this subchapter, including, but not limited to, rules and regulations for:  
13

14 SECTION 2724. Arkansas Code § 8-7-209(b)(4) and (5), concerning the  
15 powers and duties of the Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality and the  
16 Arkansas Pollution Control and Ecology Commission for hazardous waste  
17 management, are amended to read as follows:

18 (4) Promulgation of rules and regulations governing  
19 administrative procedures for challenging or contesting ~~Arkansas Department~~  
20 Division of Environmental Quality actions;

21 (5) In the case of permitting or grants decisions, providing the  
22 right to appeal a permitting or grants decision rendered by the Director of  
23 the ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of Environmental Quality or his or her  
24 delegatee;  
25

26 SECTION 2725. Arkansas Code § 8-7-209(b)(8), concerning the powers and  
27 duties of the Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality and the Arkansas  
28 Pollution Control and Ecology Commission for hazardous waste management, is  
29 amended to read as follows:

30 (8) Make recommendations to the director regarding overall  
31 policy and administration of the ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of  
32 Environmental Quality, provided, however, that the director shall always  
33 remain within the plenary authority of the Governor; and  
34

35 SECTION 2726. Arkansas Code § 8-7-210 is amended to read as follows:  
36 8-7-210. Existing rules, regulations, etc.

1 (a) All existing rules and regulations of the ~~Arkansas Department~~  
2 Division of Environmental Quality not inconsistent with the provisions of  
3 this subchapter relating to subjects embraced within this subchapter shall  
4 remain in full force and effect until expressly repealed, amended, or  
5 superseded by the Arkansas Pollution Control and Ecology Commission, insofar  
6 as the rules and regulations do not conflict with the provisions of this  
7 subchapter.

8 (b) All orders entered, permits granted, and pending legal proceedings  
9 instituted by the ~~department~~ division relating to subjects embraced within  
10 this subchapter shall remain unimpaired and in full force and effect until  
11 superseded by actions taken by the ~~department~~ division or commission under  
12 this subchapter.

13 (c) No existing civil or criminal remedies, public or private, for any  
14 wrongful action shall be excluded or impaired by this subchapter.

15 (d) The provisions of this subchapter and the rules and regulations  
16 promulgated pursuant to this subchapter shall govern if they conflict with  
17 the provisions of the Arkansas Water and Air Pollution Control Act, § 8-4-101  
18 et seq., or the Arkansas Solid Waste Management Act, § 8-6-201 et seq., or  
19 any action taken by the ~~department~~ division or commission under those laws.

20  
21 SECTION 2727. Arkansas Code § 8-7-212 is amended to read as follows:  
22 8-7-212. Considerations in administration.

23 (a) In administering the provisions of this subchapter, the ~~Arkansas~~  
24 ~~Department~~ Division of Environmental Quality may adopt and give appropriate  
25 effect to variations within this state in climate, geology, population  
26 density, and such other factors as may be relevant to the management of  
27 hazardous waste, the establishment of standards and permit conditions, and to  
28 the siting of permitted facilities.

29 (b) To the extent practicable, the rules, regulations, and procedures  
30 adopted by the ~~department~~ division pursuant to this subchapter shall be  
31 consistent with other environmentally related rules, regulations, and  
32 procedures of the ~~department~~ division. In administering the provisions of  
33 this subchapter and of all other laws under the administration of the  
34 ~~department~~ division, the ~~department~~ division and the Arkansas Pollution  
35 Control and Ecology Commission shall coordinate and expedite the issuance of  
36 permits required by an applicant under one (1) or more laws, to the end of

1 eliminating, insofar as practicable, any duplication of unnecessary time and  
2 expense to the applicant and the ~~department~~ division.

3 (c) The ~~department~~ division shall integrate all provisions of this  
4 subchapter with the appropriate provisions of all other laws which grant  
5 regulatory authority to the ~~department~~ division for purposes of  
6 administration and enforcement and shall avoid duplication to the maximum  
7 extent practicable.

8  
9 SECTION 2728. Arkansas Code § 8-7-213 is amended to read as follows:  
10 8-7-213. Procedure generally.

11 The procedure of the ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of Environmental  
12 Quality and the Arkansas Pollution Control and Ecology Commission for  
13 issuance of rules and regulations, conduct of hearings, notice, power of  
14 subpoena, review of action on permits, right of appeal, presumptions,  
15 finality of actions, and related matters shall be as provided in § 8-4-101 et  
16 seq. and § 8-4-201 et seq., including, but not limited to, §§ 8-4-205, 8-4-  
17 210, 8-4-212 – 8-4-214, and 8-4-218 – 8-4-229 if they are not in conflict  
18 with the provisions set forth in this subchapter.

19  
20 SECTION 2729. Arkansas Code § 8-7-214(a)(1), concerning an emergency  
21 order for an imminent hazard by the Director of the Arkansas Department of  
22 Environmental Quality, is amended to read as follows:

23 (a)(1) Notwithstanding any other provisions of this subchapter, the  
24 Director of the ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of Environmental Quality, upon  
25 finding that the storage, transportation, treatment, or disposal of any waste  
26 may present an imminent and substantial hazard to the health of persons or to  
27 the environment and that an emergency exists requiring immediate action to  
28 protect the public health and welfare, he or she may, without notice or  
29 hearing, issue an order reciting the existence of such an imminent hazard and  
30 emergency and requiring that such action be taken as he or she determines to  
31 be necessary to protect the health of such persons or the environment and to  
32 meet the emergency.

33  
34 SECTION 2730. Arkansas Code § 8-7-215(a), concerning requirements for  
35 a permit regarding a hazardous waste treatment or disposal facility or site,  
36 is amended to read as follows:

1 (a) No person shall construct, substantially alter, or operate any  
2 hazardous waste treatment or disposal facility or site, nor shall any person  
3 store, treat, or dispose of any hazardous waste without first obtaining a  
4 permit from the ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of Environmental Quality for the  
5 facility, site, or activity.

6  
7 SECTION 2731. Arkansas Code § 8-7-216(a) and (b), concerning permits,  
8 issuance, and interim operations regarding the Arkansas Department of  
9 Environmental Quality, are amended to read as follows:

10 (a) A permit shall be issued under such terms and conditions as the  
11 ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of Environmental Quality may prescribe under  
12 this subchapter and under the terms and conditions the Arkansas Department of  
13 Transportation may prescribe for the transportation of hazardous waste.

14 ~~(b) A facility required to have a permit under this subchapter or~~  
15 ~~which is operating under the terms of a permit issued under the Arkansas~~  
16 ~~Water and Air Pollution Control Act, § 8-4-101 et seq., or the Arkansas Solid~~  
17 ~~Waste Management Act, § 8-6-201 et seq., as of March 14, 1979, may continue~~  
18 ~~in operation until such time as a permit is issued under this subchapter by~~  
19 ~~the Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality, provided the owner or~~  
20 ~~operator of such facility has made application on forms provided by the~~  
21 ~~Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality for such permit by September 14,~~  
22 ~~1979.~~

23  
24 SECTION 2732. Arkansas Code § 8-7-216(c)(1), concerning permits,  
25 issuance, and interim operations regarding the Arkansas Department of  
26 Environmental Quality, is amended to read as follows:

27 (c)(1) A facility required to have a permit under this subchapter due  
28 to statutory or regulatory changes which occur after March 14, 1979, may  
29 continue in operation until such time as a permit is issued under this  
30 subchapter, provided that the owner or operator notifies the ~~Arkansas~~  
31 ~~Department~~ Division of Environmental Quality of newly regulated activities at  
32 the facility within ninety (90) days of the effective date of each statutory  
33 or regulatory change and makes initial permit application within one hundred  
34 eighty (180) days of the effective date of such changes on forms provided by  
35 the ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of Environmental Quality.

36

1 SECTION 2733. Arkansas Code § 8-7-217 is amended to read as follows:

2 8-7-217. Permits – Notice of hearing.

3 No permit shall be issued by the ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of  
4 Environmental Quality or the Arkansas Pollution Control and Ecology  
5 Commission for any commercial hazardous waste treatment, storage, or disposal  
6 facility unless thirty (30) days' advance notice of a hearing has been placed  
7 in the largest newspaper published in the county in which a commercial  
8 hazardous waste treatment, storage, or disposal facility or facilities are  
9 located or proposed to be located, as well as published in the largest  
10 newspaper published in the adjoining counties. If there is no newspaper  
11 published in any of the counties so affected, the notice shall be published  
12 in the newspaper having the largest circulation in the county.

13  
14 SECTION 2734. Arkansas Code § 8-7-218 is amended to read as follows:

15 8-7-218. Permits – Compliance with subchapter, state and federal  
16 standards, regulations, etc.

17 (a) No permits shall be issued by the ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of  
18 Environmental Quality for any facility unless the ~~department~~ division, after  
19 opportunity for public comment, has determined that the facility has been  
20 designed and will be operated in such manner that any emission from the  
21 facility will comply with the provisions of this subchapter and all  
22 applicable state and federal standards and regulations concerning air and  
23 water quality and that the transfer, handling, and storage of materials  
24 within the facility will not cause conditions which would violate state and  
25 federal standards concerning worker safety or create unreasonable hazards to  
26 the environment or to the health and welfare of the people living and working  
27 in or near the facility.

28 (b)(1) No permit shall be issued by the ~~department~~ division for any  
29 commercial disposal or storage facility off the site where the hazardous  
30 waste is generated until the ~~department~~ division has adopted rules,  
31 regulations, standards, and procedures pursuant to § 8-7-209.

32 (2) The rules, regulations, standards, procedures, or other  
33 requirements adopted and imposed by the ~~department~~ division shall not be less  
34 stringent than the regulations promulgated or revised by the United States  
35 Environmental Protection Agency pursuant to the Resource Conservation and  
36 Recovery Act of 1976, 42 U.S.C. § 6901 et seq.

1 (c) No permit shall be issued for hazardous waste treatment, storage,  
2 or disposal facilities except under the terms of regulations of the  
3 ~~department~~ division which conform to the provisions of § 3005 of the Resource  
4 Conservation and Recovery Act of 1976, 42 U.S.C. § 6925.

5  
6 SECTION 2735. Arkansas Code § 8-7-219 is amended to read as follows:

7 8-7-219. Permits – Commercial facilities – Terms and conditions.

8 No permit shall be issued for any commercial hazardous waste treatment,  
9 storage, or disposal facility unless that facility meets such terms and  
10 conditions as the ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of Environmental Quality may  
11 direct, including, but not limited to:

12 (1) Evidence of liability insurance in such amount as the  
13 ~~department~~ division may determine to be necessary for the protection of the  
14 public health and safety and the protection of the environment;

15 (2) Evidence of financial responsibility in such form and amount  
16 as the ~~department~~ division may determine to be necessary to ensure that, upon  
17 abandonment, cessation, or interruption of the operation of the facility, all  
18 appropriate measures are taken to prevent present and future damage to the  
19 public health and safety and to the environment;

20 (3)(A) Evidence that the personnel employed at the hazardous  
21 waste treatment or disposal facility meet such qualifications as to education  
22 and training as the ~~department~~ division may determine to be necessary to  
23 assure the safe and adequate operation of the facility.

24 (B) Persons charged with the direct supervision of the  
25 operation of any facility must be certified by the ~~department~~ division as  
26 having such qualifications after a review of the types, properties, and  
27 volume of hazardous waste to be treated or disposed of at the facility.

28 (C) The ~~department~~ division may require the  
29 recertification of supervisory personnel when there is any significant change  
30 in the types or properties of hazardous waste being treated or disposed of in  
31 any facility;

32 (4) Evidence of an appropriate preventive maintenance program,  
33 spill prevention plan, safety procedures, and contingency plans which have  
34 been developed in consultation with the fire department having jurisdiction  
35 and by the mayor or city manager of the municipality or by the county judge  
36 of the county in which the facility is to be located;

1 (5) Evidence that the location of the facility is consistent  
2 with the siting criteria established by the ~~department~~ division as provided  
3 in § 8-7-209(a)(3). The provisions of this subdivision (5) shall not apply to  
4 a treatment facility which began operation prior to the date of enactment of  
5 this act and which has an existing operating permit from the ~~department~~  
6 Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality, now the Division of  
7 Environmental Quality, or to any subsequent modifications to such treatment  
8 facility, provided that the owner of the treatment facility can demonstrate  
9 that the modifications do not materially increase the degree of hazards  
10 associated with the treatment facility; and

11 (6) Evidence of such forms of assurance, including full fee  
12 ownership of lands, and all mineral rights thereto, to ensure that the owner  
13 of any hazardous waste landfill has the legal authority to commit the  
14 hazardous waste landfill to perpetual security.

15  
16 SECTION 2736. Arkansas Code § 8-7-220(b), concerning the Arkansas  
17 Department of Environmental Quality's ability to grant permits, the permit's  
18 duration, and the renewal of permits, is amended to read as follows:

19 (b) Permits shall be subject to renewal by the ~~Arkansas Department~~  
20 Division of Environmental Quality upon a showing that the facility has been  
21 operated in accordance with the terms of the permit, the rules and  
22 regulations applicable to such facility, and in compliance with all other  
23 provisions of this subchapter.

24  
25 SECTION 2737. Arkansas Code § 8-7-221 is amended to read as follows:

26 8-7-221. Permits – Revocation.

27 Any permit issued under §§ 8-7-215 – 8-7-220 shall be subject to  
28 revocation for failure of the permittee to comply with the terms and  
29 conditions of the permit, the rules and regulations of the ~~Arkansas~~  
30 ~~Department~~ Division of Environmental Quality applicable thereto, or the  
31 provisions of this subchapter.

32  
33 SECTION 2738. Arkansas Code § 8-7-222 is amended to read as follows:

34 8-7-222. Permits – Hearing upon denial, revocation, or modification.

35 Any person who is denied a permit by the Director of the ~~Arkansas~~  
36 ~~Department~~ Division of Environmental Quality or who has such permit revoked

1 or modified shall be afforded an opportunity for a hearing by the Arkansas  
2 Pollution Control and Ecology Commission in connection therewith upon written  
3 application made within thirty (30) days after service of notice of the  
4 denial, revocation, or modification.

5  
6 SECTION 2739. Arkansas Code § 8-7-223 is amended to read as follows:

7 8-7-223. Location of landfill.

8 No hazardous waste landfill disposal facility off the site of  
9 generation shall be located within one-half ( $\frac{1}{2}$ ) mile of any occupied dwelling  
10 unless the applicant shall affirmatively demonstrate and the ~~Arkansas~~  
11 ~~Department~~ Division of Environmental Quality shall specifically find that,  
12 because of the nature and amounts of the materials to be placed in such  
13 hazardous waste landfill disposal facility, a lesser distance will provide  
14 adequate margins of safety even under abnormal operating conditions.

15  
16 SECTION 2740. Arkansas Code § 8-7-224(a), concerning the rules for  
17 transporting hazardous waste, is amended to read as follows:

18 (a)(1) Following notice and public hearing, the Arkansas Department of  
19 Transportation, in consultation with the ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of  
20 Environmental Quality, shall issue rules and regulations for the  
21 transportation of hazardous waste.

22 (2) The rules and regulations shall be consistent with  
23 applicable rules and regulations issued by the United States Department of  
24 Transportation and with any rules, regulations, and standards issued by the  
25 ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of Environmental Quality under this subchapter.

26  
27 SECTION 2741. Arkansas Code § 8-7-225 is amended to read as follows:

28 8-7-225. Records and examinations.

29 (a) The owner or operator of any hazardous waste management facility  
30 or site shall notify the ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of Environmental  
31 Quality as to hazardous waste management activities in accordance with the  
32 requirements of this subchapter and regulations, permits, and orders issued  
33 under this subchapter, and shall establish and maintain such records, make  
34 such reports, install, use, and maintain such monitoring equipment or  
35 methods, take such samples, perform such tests, and provide such other  
36 information to the ~~department~~ division as the Director of the ~~Arkansas~~

1 ~~Department~~ Division of Environmental Quality may reasonably require.

2 (b) The ~~department~~ division or any authorized employee or agent  
3 thereof may examine and copy any books, papers, records, or memoranda  
4 pertaining to the operation of the facility or site.

5 (c) The ~~department~~ division or any authorized employee or agent  
6 thereof may enter upon any public or private property for the purpose of  
7 obtaining information or conducting surveys or investigations necessary or  
8 appropriate for the purposes of this subchapter.

9 (d)(1)(A) Any records, reports, or information obtained under this  
10 subchapter and any permits, permit applications, and related documentation  
11 shall be available to the public for inspection and copying.

12 (B) Upon a showing satisfactory to the director that the  
13 records, reports, permits, documentation, information, or any part thereof  
14 would, if made public, divulge methods or processes entitled to protection as  
15 trade secrets, the director shall consider, treat, and protect the records,  
16 reports, or information as confidential.

17 (2)(A) As necessary to carry out the provisions of this  
18 subchapter, information afforded confidential treatment may be transmitted  
19 under a continuing claim of confidentiality to other officers or employees of  
20 the state or of the United States if the owner or operator of the facility to  
21 which the information pertains is informed of the transmittal and if the  
22 information has been acquired by the ~~department~~ division under the provisions  
23 of this subchapter.

24 (B) The provisions of subdivision (d)(2)(A) of this  
25 section shall not be construed to limit the ~~department's~~ division's authority  
26 to release confidential information during emergency situations.

27 (3) Any violation of this subsection shall be unlawful and  
28 constitute a misdemeanor.

29  
30 SECTION 2742. Arkansas Code § 8-7-226 is amended to read as follows:

31 8-7-226. Fees – Fund established.

32 (a) The Arkansas Pollution Control and Ecology Commission shall have  
33 authority to establish by regulation a schedule of fees to recover the costs  
34 of processing permit applications and permit renewal proceedings, on-site  
35 inspections and monitoring, the certification of personnel to operate  
36 hazardous waste treatment, storage, or disposal facilities, and other

1 activities of ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of Environmental Quality personnel  
2 which are reasonably necessary to assure that generators and transporters of  
3 hazardous waste and hazardous waste management facilities are complying with  
4 the provisions of this subchapter and which reasonably should be borne by the  
5 transporter, generator, or owner or operator of the hazardous waste  
6 management facility.

7 (b) All fees collected pursuant to this section shall be dedicated to  
8 enabling the ~~department~~ division to receive authorization to administer a  
9 hazardous waste management program in Arkansas pursuant to the Resource  
10 Conservation and Recovery Act of 1976, 42 U.S.C. § 6901 et seq., as amended  
11 by the Hazardous and Solid Waste Amendments of 1984.

12 (c) The Hazardous Waste Permit Fund is established on the books of the  
13 Treasurer of State, the Auditor of State, and the Chief Fiscal Officer of the  
14 State. All fees collected under the provisions of this section shall be  
15 deposited into this fund.

16 (d) The commission is hereby authorized to promulgate such rules and  
17 regulations as are necessary to administer the fees, rates, tolls, or charges  
18 for services established by this section and is directed to prescribe such  
19 fees, rates, tolls, or charges for the services delivered by the ~~department~~  
20 division or its successor in such manner as may be necessary to support the  
21 programs of the ~~department~~ division as directed by the Governor and the  
22 General Assembly.

23  
24 SECTION 2743. Arkansas Code § 8-7-227(a)(3), concerning corrective  
25 action at permitted facilities and interim status facilities, is amended to  
26 read as follows:

27 (3) The corrective action component of the permit shall also  
28 require that corrective action be taken beyond the hazardous waste treatment,  
29 storage, or disposal facility boundary when necessary to protect human health  
30 and the environment unless the owner or operator of the hazardous waste  
31 treatment, storage, or disposal facility concerned demonstrates to the  
32 satisfaction of the Director of the ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of  
33 Environmental Quality that, despite the owner's or operator's best efforts,  
34 the owner or operator was unable to obtain the necessary permission to  
35 undertake the action.

36

1 SECTION 2744. Arkansas Code § 8-7-302(5), concerning legislative  
2 findings concerning the disposal of hazardous waste, is amended to read as  
3 follows:

4 (5) The Arkansas Hazardous Waste Management Act of 1979, § 8-7-  
5 201 et seq., authorizes the ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of Environmental  
6 Quality to encourage the development of interstate agreements for the  
7 management of hazardous waste and to enter into such interstate agreements,  
8 with the concurrence of the Governor.

9  
10 SECTION 2745. Arkansas Code § 8-7-304(2) and (3), concerning the  
11 definitions of "department" and "director" under the Arkansas Resource  
12 Reclamation Act of 1979, are repealed.

13 ~~(2) "Department" means the Arkansas Department of Environmental~~  
14 ~~Quality;~~

15 ~~(3) "Director" means the Director of the Arkansas Department of~~  
16 ~~Environmental Quality;~~

17  
18 SECTION 2746. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 8-7-  
19 304(7)(A), concerning the definition of "hazardous waste" under the Arkansas  
20 Resource Reclamation Act of 1979, is amended to read as follows:

21 (7)(A) "Hazardous waste" means any waste or combination of  
22 wastes of a solid, liquid, contained gaseous, or semisolid form which,  
23 because of its quantity, concentration, or physical, chemical, or infectious  
24 characteristics may, in the judgment of the ~~department~~ Division of  
25 Environmental Quality:

26  
27 SECTION 2747. Arkansas Code § 8-7-307(a)(2) and (3), concerning  
28 unlawful actions, acts, and omissions of third parties under the Arkansas  
29 Resource Reclamation Act of 1979, are amended to read as follows:

30 (2) Transport hazardous waste into or out of the state, except  
31 as provided by regulations established by the ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of  
32 Environmental Quality pursuant to the provisions of this subchapter; or

33 (3) Dispose of hazardous waste in the state except as provided  
34 by regulations established by the ~~department~~ division pursuant to this  
35 subchapter.

36

1 SECTION 2748. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 8-7-308,  
2 concerning the powers and duties of the Arkansas Department of Environmental  
3 Quality, is amended to read as follows:

4 The ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of Environmental Quality shall have  
5 the following powers and duties:  
6

7 SECTION 2749. Arkansas Code § 8-7-308(4) and (5), concerning the  
8 powers and duties of the Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality, are  
9 amended to read as follows:

10 (4) To prohibit, by regulation or by condition of permit, the  
11 disposal of any hazardous waste within the state unless the owner or  
12 custodian of the hazardous waste can demonstrate to the reasonable  
13 satisfaction of the Director of the ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of  
14 Environmental Quality that it is technically or economically infeasible for  
15 the hazardous waste to be treated;

16 (5) To issue, continue in effect, revoke, modify, or deny, under  
17 such terms as the ~~department~~ division or the General Assembly may prescribe,  
18 permits for the establishment, construction, operation, or maintenance of  
19 hazardous waste treatment or disposal facilities;  
20

21 SECTION 2750. Arkansas Code § 8-7-502(b) and (c), concerning the  
22 legislative intent under the Remedial Action Trust Fund Act, are amended to  
23 read as follows:

24 (b) The purpose of this subchapter is to encourage privately funded  
25 remedial action and to clarify that persons who have undertaken remedial  
26 action at a hazardous substance site in response to an action initiated by  
27 the ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of Environmental Quality pursuant to § 8-7-  
28 508 may obtain contribution from any other person who is liable for  
29 remediation of the hazardous substance site.

30 (c) A further purpose of this subchapter is to clarify the General  
31 Assembly's intent to provide the ~~department~~ division with the necessary funds  
32 for remedial action at a hazardous substance site, recognizing that both  
33 public and private funds must be expended to implement remedial action at the  
34 hazardous substance sites which exist in this state. Costs and expenses for  
35 remedial action, whether expended by the ~~department~~ division or by any person  
36 liable for the hazardous substance site, are legal damages to persons liable

1 to the state and to persons liable to any other person for contribution,  
2 whether the liability arises by voluntary compliance with this subchapter  
3 pursuant to an order from or settlement with the ~~department~~ division, or by  
4 suit for injunctive relief, declaratory judgment, contribution, damages, or  
5 restitution, and whether the suit is brought by the state or by any party  
6 authorized to bring a suit for relief under this subchapter.

7  
8 SECTION 2751. Arkansas Code § 8-7-503(2) and (3), concerning the  
9 definitions of "department" and "director" under the Remedial Action Trust  
10 Fund Act, are repealed.

11 ~~(2) "Department" means the Arkansas Department of Environmental~~  
12 ~~Quality;~~

13 ~~(3) "Director" means the Director of the Arkansas Department of~~  
14 ~~Environmental Quality;~~

15  
16 SECTION 2752. Arkansas Code § 8-7-504(b)(1), concerning the penalties  
17 for unlawful acts under the Remedial Action Trust Fund Act, is amended to  
18 read as follows:

19 (1) A civil penalty in such amount as the Director of the  
20 ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of Environmental Quality shall find appropriate,  
21 not to exceed twenty-five thousand dollars (\$25,000) per day of the  
22 violation;

23  
24 SECTION 2753. Arkansas Code § 8-7-505(3), concerning unlawful acts  
25 under the Remedial Action Trust Fund Act, is amended to read as follows:

26 (3) To violate any order issued by the ~~Arkansas Department~~  
27 Division of Environmental Quality under this subchapter or any provision of  
28 such an order.

29  
30 SECTION 2754. Arkansas Code § 8-7-508(a), concerning remedial and  
31 removal authority of the Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality, is  
32 amended to read as follows:

33 (a)(1) Upon finding that a hazardous substance site exists or may  
34 exist, the ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of Environmental Quality, upon  
35 reasonable notice and after opportunity for hearing, may issue an order to  
36 any person liable for the site under § 8-7-512 if that person has caused or

1 contributed to the release or threatened release of hazardous substances at  
2 the hazardous substance site. This order shall require that such remedial  
3 actions be taken as are necessary to investigate, control, prevent, abate,  
4 treat, or contain any releases or threatened releases of hazardous substances  
5 from the hazardous substance site.

6 (2) The fact that such a hazardous substance site is or is not  
7 listed by the Arkansas Pollution Control and Ecology Commission pursuant to §  
8 8-7-509(f) shall in no manner limit the authority of the ~~department~~ division  
9 under this subchapter.

10  
11 SECTION 2755. Arkansas Code § 8-7-508(b), concerning remedial and  
12 removal authority of the Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality, is  
13 amended to read as follows:

14 (b) The Director of the ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of Environmental  
15 Quality or any employee or authorized agent of the ~~department~~ division may  
16 enter upon any private or public property for the purpose of collecting  
17 information under this subchapter and for initiating and implementing  
18 remedial actions.

19  
20 SECTION 2756. Arkansas Code § 8-7-508(d), concerning remedial and  
21 removal authority of the Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality, is  
22 amended to read as follows:

23 (d) In taking removal action or remedial actions pursuant to this  
24 subchapter, the ~~department~~ division or any contractor of the ~~department~~  
25 division under this section shall not be required to obtain any state or  
26 local permit for the portion of any removal action or remedial action  
27 conducted pursuant to this subchapter entirely on site when the removal  
28 action or remedial action is otherwise carried out in compliance with the  
29 regulations of the ~~department~~ division.

30  
31 SECTION 2757. Arkansas Code § 8-7-508(f), concerning remedial and  
32 removal authority of the Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality, is  
33 amended to read as follows:

34 (f) Whenever the director has reason to believe that a release or  
35 threatened release of hazardous substances may present an imminent and  
36 substantial endangerment to the public health, safety, or welfare or to the

1 environment, the director and the employees and the authorized  
2 representatives of the ~~department~~ division shall have the right to enter upon  
3 any affected private or public property for the purpose of collecting  
4 information and for initiating and implementing appropriate removal or  
5 remedial actions.

6  
7 SECTION 2758. Arkansas Code § 8-7-509(b), concerning the Hazardous  
8 Substance Remedial Action Trust Fund, is amended to read as follows:

9 (b) The Hazardous Substance Remedial Action Trust Fund will be  
10 administered by the Director of the ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of  
11 Environmental Quality, who shall authorize expenditures from the Hazardous  
12 Substance Remedial Action Trust Fund.

13  
14 SECTION 2759. Arkansas Code § 8-7-509(d)(3)(A), concerning the  
15 Hazardous Substance Remedial Action Trust Fund, is amended to read as  
16 follows:

17 (A) For the costs and expenses reasonably necessary for  
18 the administration of this subchapter by the ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of  
19 Environmental Quality;

20  
21 SECTION 2760. Arkansas Code § 8-7-509(e)(2), concerning the Hazardous  
22 Substance Remedial Action Trust Fund, is amended to read as follows:

23 (2) Reimbursement of all costs incurred by the ~~department~~  
24 division in taking removal actions in connection with a release or threatened  
25 release.

26  
27 SECTION 2761. Arkansas Code § 8-7-509(f)(1), concerning the Hazardous  
28 Substance Remedial Action Trust Fund, is amended to read as follows:

29 (f)(1) No expenditures from the Hazardous Substance Remedial Action  
30 Trust Fund, as authorized by subdivisions (d)(3)(B) and (C) of this section,  
31 shall be made prior to the approval by the Arkansas Pollution Control and  
32 Ecology Commission of a prioritized listing of hazardous substance sites at  
33 which remedial actions are authorized through the use of Hazardous Substance  
34 Remedial Action Trust Fund moneys. This listing shall be revised annually by  
35 the ~~department~~ division and submitted to the commission for approval after  
36 public notice and opportunity for hearing.

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SECTION 2762. Arkansas Code § 8-7-510 is amended to read as follows:

8-7-510. Federal actions or compensation not to be duplicated.

No actions taken pursuant to this subchapter by the ~~Arkansas Department~~  
Division of Environmental Quality shall duplicate federal actions, and no  
claims for the costs of response or other claims compensable under the  
Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act of  
1980, Pub. L. No. 96-510, shall be compensable under this subchapter.

SECTION 2763. Arkansas Code § 8-7-511(a) and (b), concerning the  
furnishing of information to the Arkansas Department of Environmental  
Quality, are amended to read as follows:

(a) For purposes of assisting in determining the need for remedial  
action in connection with a release or threat of release of hazardous  
substances under this subchapter or for enforcing the provisions of this  
subchapter, any person who stores, treats, or disposes of hazardous  
substances, or, if necessary to ascertain facts not available at the site or  
facility where the hazardous substances are stored, treated, or disposed of,  
any person who generates, transports, otherwise handles, or has handled  
hazardous substances shall, upon request of any officer or employee of the  
~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of Environmental Quality, furnish information  
relating to the hazardous substance and permit the person at all reasonable  
times to have access to and copy all records relating to the hazardous  
substances and to inspect and obtain samples of any such hazardous substances  
or other materials.

(b) However, any information which would constitute a trade secret  
under § 4-75-601 et seq., obtained by the ~~department~~ Department of Energy and  
Environment, the Secretary of the Department of Energy and Environment, the  
division, or its any employees of the Department of Energy and Environment or  
division, in the administration of this subchapter, except emission data,  
shall be kept confidential.

SECTION 2764. Arkansas Code § 8-7-512(b)(1), concerning the liability  
for cost and immunity from liability, is amended to read as follows:

(b)(1) No person shall be liable under this subchapter for damages as  
a result of actions taken or omitted in the course of rendering care,

1 assistance, or advice at the direction of the Department of Energy and  
2 Environment, the Secretary of the Department of Energy and Environment, or  
3 the ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of Environmental Quality, with respect to an  
4 incident creating a danger to public health or welfare or the environment as  
5 a result of any release of a hazardous substance or the threat of a release  
6 of a hazardous substance.

7  
8 SECTION 2765. Arkansas Code § 8-7-512(c)(1), concerning the liability  
9 for cost and immunity from liability, is amended to read as follows:

10 (c)(1) A person taking remedial action or removal action under this  
11 subchapter as a contractor for the department or division shall not be liable  
12 under this subchapter or under any other state law to any person for  
13 injuries, costs, damages, expenses, or other liability, including, but not  
14 limited to, claims for indemnification or contribution and claims by third  
15 parties for death, personal injury, illness, loss of or damage to property,  
16 or economic loss resulting from a release or threatened release of hazardous  
17 substances.

18  
19 SECTION 2766. Arkansas Code § 8-7-514(a) and (b), concerning recovery  
20 of expenditures from the Hazardous Substance Remedial Action Trust Fund, are  
21 amended to read as follows:

22 (a) After an expenditure from the Hazardous Substance Remedial Action  
23 Trust Fund for a removal action or remedial action, the ~~Arkansas Department~~  
24 Division of Environmental Quality shall institute action to recover the  
25 expenditure from the person or persons liable for causing the release of the  
26 hazardous substance, including taking any appropriate legal action.

27 (b) Making use of any and all appropriate existing state legal  
28 remedies, the ~~department~~ division or the Attorney General shall act to  
29 recover the amount expended by the state for any and all remedial action or  
30 removal actions from any and all parties identified as responsible parties  
31 for each hazardous substance.

32  
33 SECTION 2767. Arkansas Code § 8-7-516(b), concerning liens for  
34 expenditures and the value of improvements, is amended to read as follows:

35 (b) The lien shall be effective upon the filing by the Director of the  
36 ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of Environmental Quality of a notice of lien

1 with the circuit clerk in the county in which the real property is located.

2  
3 SECTION 2768. Arkansas Code § 8-7-516(d), concerning liens for  
4 expenditures and the value of improvements, is amended to read as follows:

5 (d) The notice of lien shall be filed within thirty (30) days of the  
6 date of the last act performed on the real property by the ~~Arkansas~~  
7 ~~Department~~ Division of Environmental Quality or its agent under this  
8 subchapter.

9  
10 SECTION 2769. Arkansas Code § 8-7-517 is amended to read as follows:

11 8-7-517. Punitive damages.

12 If any person who is liable for a release or threat of release of a  
13 hazardous substance fails without sufficient cause to properly provide  
14 remedial action or removal action upon order of the ~~Arkansas Department~~  
15 Division of Environmental Quality, the person may be liable to the state for  
16 punitive damages in an amount equal to three (3) times the amount of any  
17 costs incurred by the state as a result of the failure to take proper action.

18  
19 SECTION 2770. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 8-7-518(a),  
20 concerning fees on the generation of hazardous waste, is amended to read as  
21 follows:

22 (a) On or before April 1 of each year, the following persons shall  
23 report the total amount of such hazardous waste generated or accepted to the  
24 Director of the ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of Environmental Quality, except  
25 as provided in this section, on forms prescribed by the ~~Arkansas Department~~  
26 Division of Environmental Quality:

27  
28 SECTION 2771. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 8-7-  
29 518(b)(1)(A), concerning fees on the generation of hazardous waste, is  
30 amended to read as follows:

31 (b)(1)(A) Except as provided in this section, there is assessed a fee  
32 to be collected by the ~~department~~ division upon every person who generated  
33 hazardous waste in Arkansas or who accepted hazardous waste generated outside  
34 of the state which were subsequently received for treatment, storage, or  
35 disposal in Arkansas based upon the combined total of such hazardous waste as  
36 is required to be reported pursuant to subsection (a) of this section.

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SECTION 2772. Arkansas Code § 8-7-518(b)(2)(C) and (D), concerning fees on the generation of hazardous waste, are amended to read as follows:

(C) The ~~department~~ division shall calculate the amount of fee refund due and provide the applicant with a copy of the calculation.

(D) The ~~department~~ division shall promptly pay any refund due from the Hazardous Substance Remedial Action Trust Fund.

SECTION 2773. Arkansas Code § 8-7-518(c)-(e), concerning fees on the generation of hazardous waste, are amended to read as follows:

(c) On or before July 1 of each year, each person subject to subsection (a) of this section shall pay to the ~~department~~ division the fee required by subsection (b) of this section.

(d) To the extent practicable, the ~~department~~ division shall coordinate the reporting requirements of this section with the reporting requirements of the Arkansas Hazardous Waste Management Act of 1979, § 8-7-201 et seq., and the regulations adopted under the Arkansas Hazardous Waste Management Act of 1979, § 8-7-201 et seq. The content of the reporting shall be consistent with federal reporting requirements pursuant to the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act of 1976, 42 U.S.C. § 6901 et seq., in all respects with the exception of frequency.

(e) The ~~department~~ division shall prepare annually a statement of all revenues collected by the fees under this section, as well as all other revenues to the fund, and all expenditures from the fund and obligations of the fund and the current balance in the fund.

SECTION 2774. Arkansas Code § 8-7-519 is amended to read as follows:  
8-7-519. Appeals.

An appeal may be taken from any final order of the ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of Environmental Quality under this subchapter as provided in §§ 8-4-202, 8-4-210, 8-4-212 – 8-4-214, 8-4-218, 8-4-219, and 8-4-221 – 8-4-229 and in accordance with regulations promulgated by the Arkansas Pollution Control and Ecology Commission under this subchapter.

SECTION 2775. Arkansas Code § 8-7-521(a) and (b), concerning site access for remedial or removal actions, are amended to read as follows:

1 (a) For purposes of responding to an administrative or judicial order  
2 or settlement entered pursuant to § 8-7-508, the owner or the operator of a  
3 facility that is a hazardous substance site, or any person who otherwise  
4 controls access to such a facility, shall provide access to the ~~Arkansas~~  
5 ~~Department~~ Division of Environmental Quality, any employee of the ~~department~~  
6 division, or any other person, duly designated by the Director of the  
7 ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of Environmental Quality, who undertakes such  
8 activities as are required to carry out the terms of the order or settlement.

9 (b) Any person who impedes or interferes with a person who is entitled  
10 to site access for the purpose of conducting remedial action or removal  
11 action at a hazardous substance site pursuant to the terms of an  
12 administrative or judicial order or settlement may be assessed a civil  
13 penalty by the ~~department~~ division in an administrative proceeding or by the  
14 court in a judicial proceeding for a site access injunction of up to ten  
15 thousand dollars (\$10,000) per day that site access is impeded.

16  
17 SECTION 2776. Arkansas Code § 8-7-603 is amended to read as follows:

18 8-7-603. Approval and issuance of permits.

19 Neither the ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of Environmental Quality nor  
20 any other agency or authority having the responsibility for approving and  
21 issuing permits for facilities for the disposal or storage of low-level  
22 radioactive waste in this state shall have the authority to approve or issue  
23 a permit for any facility unless the facility will fully comply with the  
24 requirements of this subchapter in all respects.

25  
26 SECTION 2777. Arkansas Code § 8-7-702(1), concerning the definition of  
27 a "hazardous site" regarding federally listed hazardous sites, is amended to  
28 read as follows:

29 (1) "Hazardous site" means any geographic area located, in whole  
30 or in part, in the State of Arkansas, access to or use of which is determined  
31 by the ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of Environmental Quality to be necessary  
32 or appropriate to implement a response ordered by the President of the United  
33 States;

34  
35 SECTION 2778. Arkansas Code § 8-7-705 is amended to read as follows:

36 8-7-705. Restrictions on use of hazardous substances.

1 Construction on or at a hazardous site and the use of such hazardous  
2 site for any residential, commercial, manufacturing, industrial, or  
3 recreational purposes shall be prohibited unless and until the ~~Arkansas~~  
4 ~~Department~~ Division of Environmental Quality issues an order terminating,  
5 wholly or partially, such prohibitions. Such order shall be subject to the  
6 procedural guidelines set forth in §§ 8-4-212 – 8-4-214 and 8-4-222 – 8-4-229  
7 of the Arkansas Water and Air Pollution Control Act, § 8-4-101 et seq.

8  
9 SECTION 2779. Arkansas Code § 8-7-706 is amended to read as follows:  
10 8-7-706. Ad valorem tax exemption.

11 Upon initiation of a response action at a hazardous site, such  
12 hazardous site shall be appraised at no value for purposes of any ad valorem  
13 taxes levied by any state, county, or local governmental authority unless and  
14 until the ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of Environmental Quality issues an  
15 order wholly terminating the construction and use prohibitions established by  
16 § 8-7-705. This section shall not apply to the interest in such hazardous  
17 site owned by any passive-site owner or its successors and assigns that have  
18 violated § 8-7-703(a).

19  
20 SECTION 2780. Arkansas Code § 8-7-801(4), concerning the definition of  
21 "department" under the laws for regulated substance storage tanks, is  
22 repealed.

23 ~~(4) "Department" means the Arkansas Department of Environmental~~  
24 ~~Quality;~~

25  
26 SECTION 2781. Arkansas Code § 8-7-801(10)(B), concerning the  
27 definition of "release" under the laws for regulated substance storage tanks,  
28 is amended to read as follows:

29 (B) "Release" does not include releases that are permitted  
30 or authorized by the ~~department~~ division or by federal law;

31  
32 SECTION 2782. Arkansas Code § 8-7-802(a)(2)(B)(ii), concerning the  
33 powers and duties of the Arkansas Pollution Control and Ecology Commission,  
34 is amended to read as follows:

35 (ii) The fee shall be used by the ~~Arkansas~~  
36 ~~Department~~ Division of Environmental Quality for administrative and program

1 costs.

2

3 SECTION 2783. Arkansas Code § 8-7-802(a)(2)(C)(ii), concerning the  
4 powers and duties of the Arkansas Pollution Control and Ecology Commission,  
5 is amended to read as follows:

6 (ii) The fee shall be used by the ~~Arkansas~~  
7 ~~Department~~ Division of Environmental Quality for administrative and program  
8 costs, and ten dollars (\$10.00) of the fee collected by the ~~Arkansas~~  
9 ~~Department~~ Division of Environmental Quality shall be remitted to the State  
10 Treasury, there to be deposited as special revenues to the credit of the  
11 ~~Department~~ Division of Arkansas State Police Fund to be used for the purposes  
12 of above-ground storage tank monitoring and regulation by the ~~Department~~  
13 Division of Arkansas State Police.

14

15 SECTION 2784. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 8-7-802(b),  
16 concerning the powers and duties of the Arkansas Pollution Control and  
17 Ecology Commission, is amended to read as follows:

18 (b) The ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of Environmental Quality shall  
19 have the following powers and duties:

20

21 SECTION 2785. Arkansas Code § 8-7-802(b)(3), concerning the powers and  
22 duties of the Arkansas Pollution Control and Ecology Commission, is amended  
23 to read as follows:

24 (3) To accept and administer loans and grants from the United  
25 States Government and from such other sources as may be available to the  
26 ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of Environmental Quality for the planning,  
27 implementation, and enforcement of an underground storage tank program for  
28 release detection, prevention, corrective action, and financial  
29 responsibility;

30

31 SECTION 2786. Arkansas Code § 8-7-802(b)(5), concerning the powers and  
32 duties of the Arkansas Pollution Control and Ecology Commission, is amended  
33 to read as follows:

34 (5) To enter upon any public or private property for the purpose  
35 of obtaining information, conducting surveys or investigations, or taking  
36 corrective action, and the ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of Environmental

1 Quality may copy or require submission of books, papers, records, memoranda,  
2 or data pertaining to the management of underground storage tanks;

3  
4 SECTION 2787. Arkansas Code § 8-7-804 is amended to read as follows:  
5 8-7-804. Procedures generally.

6 The procedure of the ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of Environmental  
7 Quality and the Arkansas Pollution Control and Ecology Commission for  
8 issuance of rules and regulations, conduct of hearings, notice, power of  
9 subpoena, review of action on permits, right of appeal, presumptions,  
10 finality of actions, and related matters shall be as provided in §§ 8-4-101 –  
11 8-4-106 and 8-4-201 – 8-4-229, including, but not limited to, §§ 8-4-205, 8-  
12 4-210, 8-4-212 – 8-4-214, and 8-4-218 – 8-4-229 to the extent they are not in  
13 conflict with the provisions of this subchapter.

14  
15 SECTION 2788. Arkansas Code § 8-7-805(a), concerning the license  
16 requirement to certify the installation or testing of an underground storage  
17 tank, is amended to read as follows:

18 (a) It shall be unlawful for an individual to certify the installation  
19 or testing of an underground storage tank unless the individual has been duly  
20 licensed by the ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of Environmental Quality.

21  
22 SECTION 2789. Arkansas Code § 8-7-805(b)(1)(B), concerning the license  
23 requirement to certify the installation or testing of an underground storage  
24 tank, is amended to read as follows:

25 (B) Which provides that the ~~department~~ division is the  
26 obligee or payee of the instrument and otherwise complies with the  
27 regulations promulgated under this subchapter.

28  
29 SECTION 2790. Arkansas Code § 8-7-805(d), concerning the license  
30 requirement to certify the installation or testing of an underground storage  
31 tank, is amended to read as follows:

32 (d) In the event the licensee or contracting company fails to properly  
33 install, remove, repair, close, upgrade, or test any underground storage tank  
34 pursuant to state law or regulation, the Director of the ~~Arkansas Department~~  
35 Division of Environmental Quality shall commence proceedings to collect on  
36 the surety bond, letter of credit, or cash bond on which the ~~department~~

1 division is the obligee or payee.

2

3 SECTION 2791. Arkansas Code § 8-7-806(a)(3), concerning penalties and  
4 enforcement for regulated substance storage tanks, is amended to read as  
5 follows:

6 (3) To violate any order issued by the ~~Arkansas Department~~  
7 Division of Environmental Quality under this subchapter or any provision of  
8 any such order.

9

10 SECTION 2792. Arkansas Code § 8-7-806(d)(5), concerning penalties and  
11 enforcement for regulated substance storage tanks, is amended to read as  
12 follows:

13 (5) The administrative procedures set forth in § 8-7-804 may be  
14 used to recover all costs, expenses, and damages to the ~~department~~ division  
15 and any other agency or subdivision of the state in enforcing or effectuating  
16 the provisions of this subchapter, including, but not limited to, natural  
17 resource damages.

18

19 SECTION 2793. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 8-7-806(e),  
20 concerning penalties and enforcement for regulated substance storage tanks,  
21 is amended to read as follows:

22 (e) The ~~department~~ division is authorized to institute a civil action  
23 in any court of competent jurisdiction to accomplish any or all of the  
24 following:

25

26 SECTION 2794. Arkansas Code § 8-7-806(e)(3), concerning penalties and  
27 enforcement for regulated substance storage tanks, is amended to read as  
28 follows:

29 (3) Recover all costs, expenses, and damages to the ~~department~~  
30 division and any other agency or subdivision of the state in enforcing or  
31 effectuating the provisions of this subchapter, including, but not limited  
32 to, natural resource damages;

33

34 SECTION 2795. Arkansas Code § 8-7-807(a)-(c), concerning the  
35 responsibility and liability of an owner of a underground storage tank, are  
36 amended to read as follows:

1 (a)(1) Upon a determination that a release of a regulated substance  
2 from a storage tank has occurred, the owner or operator shall notify the  
3 ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of Environmental Quality. The owner or operator  
4 shall immediately undertake to collect and remove the release and to restore  
5 the area affected in accordance with the requirements of this subchapter.

6 (2) However, the obligation of an owner or operator of an  
7 aboveground storage tank to notify the ~~department~~ division or undertake the  
8 other activities required in this subsection shall not exceed and will be  
9 limited to the existing requirements of any other applicable federal or state  
10 statutes or regulations.

11 (b) If the owner or operator fails to proceed as required in  
12 subsection (a) of this section, the owner and operator shall be liable to the  
13 ~~department~~ division for any costs incurred by the ~~department~~ division for  
14 undertaking corrective action or enforcement action with respect to the  
15 release of a regulated substance from a storage tank.

16 (c)(1)(A) A release site property owner or adjacent property owner  
17 shall not unduly impede or interfere with the efforts of the ~~department~~  
18 division or the owner or operator to undertake investigation, site  
19 assessment, or corrective action in accordance with the requirements of this  
20 subchapter.

21 (B) The ~~department~~ division or the owner, as defined in §  
22 8-7-801, or operator shall undertake investigation, site assessment, or  
23 corrective action, as approved by the ~~department~~ division after notice to the  
24 affected parties, that minimizes to the most reasonable extent practicable  
25 any interference with the release site property owner's or adjacent property  
26 owner's use and enjoyment of the property, taking into consideration the  
27 relevant private and commercial interests and the release site property  
28 owner's or adjacent property owner's need for access.

29 (2)(A) A release site property owner or adjacent property owner  
30 that violates subdivision (c)(1) of this section is liable for any  
31 investigation, site assessment, or corrective action costs resulting from the  
32 violation.

33 (B) If the release site property owner or adjacent  
34 property owner denies access to property when the access is reasonably  
35 necessary for investigation, site assessment, or corrective action undertaken  
36 by the ~~department~~ division or by the owner or operator under a ~~department~~

1 division directive, order, or approved corrective action plan, the ~~department~~  
2 division may order the release site property owner or adjacent property owner  
3 to undertake the portion of investigation, site assessment, or corrective  
4 action that was prohibited by the denial of access.

5 (3) This section does not impair any right of the release site  
6 property owner or adjacent property owner to seek equitable or legal  
7 remedies, including without limitation claims for trespass, compensation as  
8 the result of eminent domain, damages for temporary or permanent takings of  
9 rights in land, contribution, and any other right or remedy allowed by state  
10 or federal law or regulation.

11  
12 SECTION 2796. Arkansas Code § 8-7-807(e), concerning the  
13 responsibility and liability of an owner of a underground storage tank, is  
14 amended to read as follows:

15 (e) Any costs recovered by the ~~department~~ division under this section  
16 shall be used to reimburse the Petroleum Storage Tank Trust Fund in the  
17 amount utilized by the ~~department~~ division and the balance, if any, deposited  
18 into the Regulated Substance Storage Tank Program Fund.

19  
20 SECTION 2797. Arkansas Code § 8-7-808 is amended to read as follows:

21 8-7-808. Regulated Substance Storage Tank Program Fund.

22 There is hereby established on the books of the Treasurer of State, the  
23 Auditor of State, and the Chief Fiscal Officer of the State a fund to be  
24 known as the "Regulated Substance Storage Tank Program Fund". Such Regulated  
25 Substance Storage Tank Program Fund shall consist of federal funds, any  
26 necessary state matching funds as may be provided by the General Assembly,  
27 licensure fees, annual registration fees, and any moneys recovered by the  
28 ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of Environmental Quality which are attributable  
29 to collections of civil penalties under § 8-7-806 or to costs under § 8-7-807  
30 not owed the Petroleum Storage Tank Trust Fund. All said moneys shall be  
31 deposited as special revenues to be used in the administration of this  
32 subchapter.

33  
34 SECTION 2798. Arkansas Code § 8-7-809(b)(1), concerning corrective  
35 actions and orders of the Director of the Arkansas Department of  
36 Environmental Quality, is amended to read as follows:

1 (b)(1) Notwithstanding any other provisions of this subchapter, the  
2 Director of the ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of Environmental Quality, upon  
3 finding that the release may present an imminent and substantial hazard to  
4 the health of persons or to the environment and that an emergency exists  
5 requiring immediate action to protect the public health and welfare or the  
6 environment may, without notice or hearing, issue an order reciting the  
7 existence of such an imminent hazard and emergency and requiring that such  
8 action be taken as he or she determines to be necessary to protect the health  
9 of such persons or the environment and to meet the emergency.

10  
11 SECTION 2799. Arkansas Code § 8-7-810(a), concerning insurance pools  
12 for owners and operators of storage tanks, is amended to read as follows:

13 (a) Owners or operators of storage tanks who are unable to demonstrate  
14 financial responsibility in the minimum amounts specified by the ~~Arkansas~~  
15 ~~Department~~ Division of Environmental Quality may establish an insurance pool  
16 in order to demonstrate such financial responsibility.

17  
18 SECTION 2800. Arkansas Code § 8-7-811 is amended to read as follows:  
19 8-7-811. Trade secrets.

20 (a) Any records, reports, or information obtained by the Department of  
21 Energy and Environment, the Secretary of the Department of Energy and  
22 Environment, or the ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of Environmental Quality or  
23 by the department's or division's employees in the administration of this  
24 subchapter, except release data, shall be kept confidential upon a showing  
25 satisfactory to the Director of the ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of  
26 Environmental Quality that the records, reports, or information would  
27 constitute a trade secret under § 4-75-601 et seq.

28 (b) As necessary to carry out the provisions of this subchapter,  
29 information afforded confidential treatment may be transmitted under a  
30 continuing claim of confidentiality to other officers or employees of the  
31 state or of the United States if the owner or operator of the facility to  
32 which the information pertains is informed of the transmittal and if the  
33 information has been acquired by the ~~department's~~ division's under the  
34 provisions of this subchapter.

35 (c) The provisions of this section shall not be construed to limit the  
36 ~~department's~~ division's authority to release confidential information during

1 emergency situations.

2 (d) Any violation of this section shall be unlawful and shall  
3 constitute a misdemeanor.

4

5 SECTION 2801. Arkansas Code § 8-7-812(b), concerning the conflicts  
6 between regulated substance storage tanks and the Arkansas Water and Air  
7 Pollution Control Act, is amended to read as follows:

8 (b) The provisions of this subchapter and the rules and regulations  
9 promulgated pursuant to this subchapter shall govern if they conflict with  
10 the provisions of the Arkansas Water and Air Pollution Control Act, § 8-4-101  
11 et seq., the Arkansas Solid Waste Management Act, § 8-6-201 et seq., or the  
12 Arkansas Hazardous Waste Management Act of 1979, § 8-7-201 et seq., or any  
13 action taken by the ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of Environmental Quality  
14 under the Arkansas Water and Air Pollution Control Act, § 8-4-101 et seq.,  
15 the Arkansas Solid Waste Management Act, § 8-6-201 et seq., or the Arkansas  
16 Hazardous Waste Management Act of 1979, § 8-7-201 et seq.

17

18 SECTION 2802. Arkansas Code § 8-7-902(7) and (8), concerning the  
19 definition of "department" and "director" under the Petroleum Storage Tank  
20 Trust Fund Act, are repealed.

21 ~~(7) "Department" means the Arkansas Department of Environmental~~  
22 ~~Quality;~~

23 ~~(8) "Director" means the Director of the Arkansas Department of~~  
24 ~~Environmental Quality;~~

25

26 SECTION 2803. Arkansas Code § 8-7-902(15)(B), concerning the  
27 definition of "release" under the Petroleum Storage Tank Trust Fund Act, is  
28 amended to read as follows:

29 (B) "Release" does not include a release that is permitted  
30 or authorized by the ~~department~~ division or by federal law;

31

32 SECTION 2804. Arkansas Code § 8-7-903(a), concerning the rules,  
33 regulations, and powers of the Director of the Department of Finance and  
34 Administration, the Arkansas Pollution Control and Ecology Commission, and  
35 the Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality, is amended to read as  
36 follows:

1 (a) The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and  
2 Administration is authorized to adopt appropriate rules and regulations not  
3 inconsistent with this subchapter as he or she may deem necessary to carry  
4 out the intent and purposes of and to assure compliance with this subchapter.  
5

6 SECTION 2805. Arkansas Code § 8-7-903(c), concerning the rules and  
7 regulations and the powers and duties of the Director of the Department of  
8 Finance and Administration, is amended to read as follows:

9 (c) The ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of Environmental Quality shall  
10 have the authority to enter upon the property of any owner or operator of an  
11 aboveground storage tank to obtain information, conduct surveys, or review  
12 records for the purpose of determining substantial compliance, as defined by  
13 this subchapter and regulations promulgated thereunder, with all state and  
14 federal laws and regulations relating to aboveground storage tanks prior to  
15 the director's approval of a claim for reimbursement or disbursement.  
16

17 SECTION 2806. Arkansas Code § 8-7-904(e), concerning the establishment  
18 of the Advisory Committee on Petroleum Storage Tanks, is amended to read as  
19 follows:

20 (e) The ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of Environmental Quality shall  
21 provide adequate staff to support the activities of the committee.  
22

23 SECTION 2807. Arkansas Code § 8-7-904(g), concerning the establishment  
24 of the Advisory Committee on Petroleum Storage Tanks, is amended to read as  
25 follows:

26 (g) The committee shall advise and make recommendations to the  
27 Director of the ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of Environmental Quality  
28 regarding claims for payment under this subchapter.  
29

30 SECTION 2808. Arkansas Code § 8-7-904(h), concerning the establishment  
31 of the Advisory Committee on Petroleum Storage Tanks, is amended to read as  
32 follows:

33 (h) The committee shall advise the ~~department~~ division and the  
34 Arkansas Pollution Control and Ecology Commission regarding promulgation of  
35 rules and regulations concerning storage tanks.  
36

1 SECTION 2809. Arkansas Code § 8-7-905(b) and (c), concerning the  
2 establishment of the Petroleum Storage Tank Trust Fund, are amended to read  
3 as follows:

4 (b) The fund will be administered by the Director of the ~~Arkansas~~  
5 ~~Department~~ Division of Environmental Quality, who shall make disbursements  
6 from the fund as authorized by this subchapter.

7 (c) The fund shall consist of gifts, grants, donations, and such other  
8 funds as may be made available by the General Assembly, including all  
9 interest earned upon money deposited into the fund, fees assessed under this  
10 subchapter, any moneys recovered by the ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of  
11 Environmental Quality, the proceeds of bonds issued by the Arkansas  
12 Development Finance Authority for the benefit of the fund, and any other  
13 moneys legally designated for the fund.

14  
15 SECTION 2810. Arkansas Code § 8-7-905(d)(4) and (5), concerning the  
16 establishment of the Petroleum Storage Tank Trust Fund, are amended to read  
17 as follows:

18 (4) To pay reasonable and necessary costs and expenses of the  
19 ~~department~~ division for taking corrective action caused by accidental  
20 releases from a storage tank of unknown ownership or when corrective action  
21 is not commenced by the owner or operator in a timely manner;

22 (5)(A) To reimburse owners and operators in the vicinity of the  
23 release for performing short-term testing or monitoring which is in addition  
24 to that required by the ~~department's~~ division's rules and regulations if the  
25 ~~department~~ division has a reasonable basis for believing that the petroleum  
26 underground storage tank or tanks may be the source of the release.

27 (B) The owners and operators of petroleum underground  
28 storage tanks, including out-of-service and nonoperational petroleum  
29 underground storage tanks, not found to be the source of the release and who  
30 cooperate with the ~~department~~ division may apply to the fund for  
31 reimbursement for such testing and monitoring costs, not including lost  
32 managerial time or loss of revenues because of temporary business closure;  
33 and

34  
35 SECTION 2811. Arkansas Code § 8-7-905(i)(2), concerning the  
36 establishment of the Petroleum Storage Tank Trust Fund, is amended to read as

1 follows:

2 (2) The procedures of the ~~department~~ division and the Arkansas  
3 Pollution Control and Ecology Commission for issuance of rules and  
4 regulations, conduct of hearings, notice, power of subpoena, right of appeal,  
5 presumptions, finality of actions, and related matters shall be as provided  
6 in §§ 8-4-202, 8-4-210 – 8-4-214, and 8-4-218 – 8-4-229, and in rules and  
7 regulations applicable to administrative procedures of the ~~department~~  
8 division and the Arkansas Pollution Control and Ecology Commission to the  
9 extent they are not in conflict with the provisions of this subchapter.

10

11 SECTION 2812. Arkansas Code § 8-7-907(a)(1), concerning payments for  
12 corrective action from the Petroleum Storage Tank Trust Fund, is amended to  
13 read as follows:

14 (a)(1) No payment for corrective action shall be paid from the  
15 Petroleum Storage Tank Trust Fund until the owner or operator has expended  
16 seven thousand five hundred dollars (\$7,500) on corrective action for the  
17 occurrence, except in cases in which the Director of the ~~Arkansas Department~~  
18 Division of Environmental Quality is using emergency authority under § 8-7-  
19 905(e). It is the intent of the General Assembly that this initial level of  
20 expenditure be considered the equivalent of an insurance policy deductible.

21

22 SECTION 2813. Arkansas Code § 8-7-907(c)(2) and (3), concerning  
23 payments for corrective action from the Petroleum Storage Tank Trust Fund,  
24 are amended to read as follows:

25 (2) The corrective action expenses submitted for reimbursement  
26 consist of items and amounts that are in accord and compliant with ~~Arkansas~~  
27 ~~Department~~ Division of Environmental Quality regulations; and

28 (3) The owner or operator cooperated fully with the ~~department~~  
29 division in corrective action to address the release.

30

31 SECTION 2814. Arkansas Code § 8-7-907(e)(2)(B), concerning payments  
32 for corrective action from the Petroleum Storage Tank Trust Fund, is amended  
33 to read as follows:

34 (B) Specific assurances must be provided that an approved  
35 corrective action plan, ~~department~~ division directive, or order is being  
36 implemented and followed to date; and

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SECTION 2815. Arkansas Code § 8-7-907(f), concerning payments for corrective action from the Petroleum Storage Tank Trust Fund, is amended to read as follows:

(f)(1) In the event moneys are expended from the fund for corrective action and the owner or operator was not at the time of the occurrence eligible to receive reimbursement for corrective action, as defined by this subchapter and regulations promulgated under this subchapter, the ~~department~~ division may recover from the owner or operator the amount of moneys expended from the fund for corrective action by filing an action in the appropriate circuit court or by using the administrative procedures set forth in § 8-7-804.

(2)(A) The ~~department~~ division also has a right of subrogation:

(i) To any insurance policies in existence at the time of the occurrence to the extent of any rights the owner or operator of a site may have had under that policy; and

(ii) Against any third party who caused or contributed to the occurrence.

(B) The right of subrogation shall apply to sites where corrective action is taken by:

(i) Owners or operators; or

(ii) The ~~department~~ division.

(C) As used in this subsection, "third party" does not include a former owner or operator of the site where corrective action is taken.

SECTION 2816. Arkansas Code § 8-7-907(g)(2), concerning payments for corrective action from the Petroleum Storage Tank Trust Fund, is amended to read as follows:

(2) Eligibility for reimbursement of unknown petroleum storage tanks will be conditioned on the payment of three hundred seventy-five dollars (\$375) to the ~~department~~ division.

SECTION 2817. Arkansas Code § 8-7-907(h), concerning payments for corrective action from the Petroleum Storage Tank Trust Fund, is amended to read as follows:

1 (h) If the owner or operator is found to have been in noncompliance  
2 with any state and federal laws and regulations relating to storage tanks at  
3 the time of the occurrence, the ~~department~~ division may assess a penalty in  
4 accordance with its applicable policies and procedures.

5  
6 SECTION 2818. Arkansas Code § 8-7-907(i)(1), concerning payments for  
7 corrective action from the Petroleum Storage Tank Trust Fund, is amended to  
8 read as follows:

9 (i)(1) An owner or operator determined to be eligible for payment for  
10 corrective action for a release from a qualified storage tank or the  
11 ~~department~~ division may transfer the eligibility to a subsequent owner or  
12 operator of the qualified storage tank if the ~~department~~ division determines  
13 that the subsequent owner or operator has the financial and legal capacity to  
14 complete the corrective action and the subsequent owner or operator agrees in  
15 writing to assume responsibility for corrective action.

16  
17 SECTION 2819. Arkansas Code § 8-7-907(j)(2), concerning payments for  
18 corrective action from the Petroleum Storage Tank Trust Fund, is amended to  
19 read as follows:

20 (2) If an owner or operator is performing corrective action to  
21 the ~~department's~~ division's satisfaction, a lender or secured creditor is not  
22 eligible to assume responsibility for corrective action or to receive payment  
23 for corrective action.

24  
25 SECTION 2820. Arkansas Code § 8-7-907(k)(2)(D), concerning payments  
26 for corrective action from the Petroleum Storage Tank Trust Fund, is amended  
27 to read as follows:

28 (D) Providing for reversion of equipment to the ~~department~~  
29 division if the responsibility for the maintenance or payment for the  
30 equipment is not met.

31  
32 SECTION 2821. Arkansas Code § 8-7-908(a)(1)(A), concerning third-party  
33 claims regarding the Petroleum Storage Tank Trust Fund, is amended to read as  
34 follows:

35 (A) The Director of the ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of  
36 Environmental Quality is using his or her emergency authority under § 8-7-

1 905(e); or

2

3 SECTION 2822. Arkansas Code § 8-7-908(d), concerning third-party  
4 claims regarding the Petroleum Storage Tank Trust Fund, is amended to read as  
5 follows:

6 (d)(1)(A) Any owner or operator against whom a third-party claim is  
7 filed in court or in the Arkansas State Claims Commission shall give written  
8 notice of the claim to the ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of Environmental  
9 Quality no later than twenty (20) days after service of summons or receipt of  
10 notification of the claim from the Arkansas State Claims Commission.

11 (B) As a condition of eligibility, an owner or operator  
12 shall cooperate with and assist the ~~department~~ division and, if applicable,  
13 the Attorney General's office in connection with the third-party claim.

14 (C) At a minimum, the cooperation shall include active  
15 participation by the owner or operator throughout the litigation and  
16 providing assistance as required by the ~~department~~ division or the Attorney  
17 General's office during resolution of a third-party claim.

18 (D) In determining compliance with subdivisions (d)(1)(B)  
19 and (C) of this section, the director shall consider the owner's or  
20 operator's financial condition.

21 (2) Upon receipt of the notice, the ~~department~~ division shall  
22 immediately notify the Attorney General, who shall have the right to  
23 intervene in any such lawsuit or proceeding in order to protect the interests  
24 of the state in the fund.

25 (3) Payment of third-party claims from the fund may be denied  
26 for any owner or operator who fails to give the ~~department~~ division notice as  
27 required in this subsection.

28

29 SECTION 2823. Arkansas Code § 8-7-908(f), concerning third-party  
30 claims regarding the Petroleum Storage Tank Trust Fund, is amended to read as  
31 follows:

32 (f)(1) In the event moneys are expended from the fund for third-party  
33 claims and the owner or operator was not at the time of the occurrence in  
34 substantial compliance, as defined by this subchapter and regulations  
35 promulgated under this subchapter, the ~~department~~ division may recover from  
36 the owner or operator the amount of moneys expended from the fund for the

1 third-party claim by filing an action in the appropriate circuit court or by  
2 using the administrative procedures set forth in § 8-7-804.

3 (2)(A) The ~~department~~ division also has a right of subrogation:

4 (i) To any insurance policies in existence at the  
5 time of the occurrence to the extent of any rights the owner or operator of a  
6 site may have had under that insurance policy; and

7 (ii) Against any third party who caused or  
8 contributed to the occurrence.

9 (B) The right of subrogation shall apply to sites where  
10 corrective action is taken by:

11 (i) Owners or operators; or

12 (ii) The ~~department~~ division.

13 (C) As used in this subsection, "third party" does not  
14 include a former owner or operator of the site where corrective action is  
15 taken.  
16

17 SECTION 2824. Arkansas Code § 8-7-908(g)(2), concerning third-party  
18 claims regarding the Petroleum Storage Tank Trust Fund, is amended to read as  
19 follows:

20 (2) Eligibility for reimbursement of unknown petroleum storage  
21 tanks will be conditioned on the payment of three hundred seventy-five  
22 dollars (\$375) to the ~~department~~ division.  
23

24 SECTION 2825. Arkansas Code § 8-7-908(h)(1), concerning third-party  
25 claims regarding the Petroleum Storage Tank Trust Fund, is amended to read as  
26 follows:

27 (h)(1) An owner or operator determined to be eligible for payment for  
28 third-party claims for a release may transfer the eligibility to an owner or  
29 operator that acquires the storage tank if the ~~department~~ division determines  
30 that the subsequent owner or operator has the financial and legal capacity  
31 and has assumed in writing the responsibility for third-party liability.  
32

33 SECTION 2826. Arkansas Code § 8-7-909 is amended to read as follows:

34 8-7-909. Confidential treatment of information.

35 (a) Any records, reports, or information obtained by the ~~Arkansas~~  
36 ~~Department~~ Division of Environmental Quality, the Department of Energy and

1 Environment, or the division's or department's employees in the  
2 administration of this subchapter, except release data, shall be kept  
3 confidential upon a showing satisfactory to the Director of the ~~Arkansas~~  
4 ~~Department~~ Division of Environmental Quality that the records, reports, or  
5 information would constitute a trade secret under § 4-75-601 et seq.

6 (b) As necessary to carry out the provisions of this subchapter,  
7 information afforded confidential treatment may be transmitted under a  
8 continuing claim of confidentiality to other officers or employees of the  
9 state or of the United States if the owner or operator of the facility to  
10 which the information pertains is informed of the transmittal and if the  
11 information has been acquired by the ~~department~~ division under the provisions  
12 of this subchapter.

13 (c) The provisions of this section shall not be construed to limit the  
14 ~~department's~~ division's authority to release confidential information during  
15 emergency situations.

16 (d) Any violation of this section shall be unlawful and shall  
17 constitute a misdemeanor.

18  
19 SECTION 2827. Arkansas Code § 8-7-1101(4) and (5), concerning the  
20 declaration of policy by the General Assembly for the redevelopment of  
21 abandoned industrial, commercial, or agricultural sites or abandoned  
22 residential property, are amended to read as follows:

23 (4) Incentives should be put in place to encourage prospective  
24 purchasers to voluntarily develop and implement cleanup plans of abandoned  
25 sites without the need for adversarial enforcement actions by the ~~Arkansas~~  
26 ~~Department~~ Division of Environmental Quality;

27 (5) The ~~department~~ division now routinely determines, through  
28 its permitting policies, when contamination will and will not pose  
29 unacceptable risks to public health or the environment, and similar concepts  
30 are used in establishing cleanup policies for abandoned sites;

31  
32 SECTION 2828. Arkansas Code § 8-7-1102(a)(1), concerning the  
33 definition of "abandoned site" under the laws about the voluntary cleanup of  
34 hazardous waste, is amended to read as follows:

35 (1) "Abandoned site" means a site on which industrial,  
36 commercial, or agricultural activity occurred and for which no responsible

1 person can reasonably be pursued for a remedial response to clean up the site  
2 or residential property or when the ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of  
3 Environmental Quality determines it is in the best interest of the citizens  
4 of Arkansas to promote redevelopment under this subchapter while continuing  
5 to pursue the responsible party or parties;

6  
7 SECTION 2829. Arkansas Code § 8-7-1102(a)(2), concerning the  
8 definition of "implementing agreement" under the laws about the voluntary  
9 cleanup of hazardous waste, is amended to read as follows:

10 (2) "Implementing agreement" means a plan, order, memorandum of  
11 agreement, or other enforceable document issued by the ~~department~~ division  
12 under provisions of the Arkansas Hazardous Waste Management Act of 1979, § 8-  
13 7-201 et seq., the Remedial Action Trust Fund Act, § 8-7-501 et seq., or this  
14 subchapter, to implement the voluntary cleanup process described in § 8-7-  
15 1104;

16  
17 SECTION 2830. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 8-7-  
18 1103(a), concerning the authority of the Arkansas Department of Environmental  
19 Quality, is amended to read as follows:

20 (a) The ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of Environmental Quality shall  
21 have authority regarding a voluntary response program to provide the  
22 following:

23  
24 SECTION 2831. Arkansas Code § 8-7-1103(a)(6), concerning the authority  
25 of the Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality, is amended to read as  
26 follows:

27 (6)(A) A requirement for certification or similar documentation  
28 from the ~~department~~ division to the person conducting the voluntary response  
29 action indicating that the response is complete.

30 (B) This certification shall document any conditions,  
31 restrictions, or limitations on the release from liability for contamination  
32 existing at the site before the ~~department~~ division and the prospective  
33 purchaser enter into an implementing agreement.

34  
35 SECTION 2832. Arkansas Code § 8-7-1103(b), concerning the authority of  
36 the Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality, is amended to read as

1 follows:

2 (b) The ~~department~~ division may establish and administer a revolving  
3 loan fund to make secured and unsecured loans or grants to eligible  
4 participants for the purpose of financing the assessment, investigation, or  
5 remedial actions at abandoned industrial, commercial, or agricultural sites,  
6 or at abandoned residential property.

7

8 SECTION 2833. Arkansas Code § 8-7-1104(c), concerning the voluntary  
9 cleanup process, is amended to read as follows:

10 (c) Following completion of a comprehensive site assessment, the  
11 ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of Environmental Quality shall determine whether  
12 the site assessment adequately identifies the environmental risks posed by  
13 the abandoned site.

14

15 SECTION 2834. Arkansas Code § 8-7-1104(d)(4), concerning the voluntary  
16 cleanup process, is amended to read as follows:

17 (4) The notice shall be subject to the approval of the  
18 ~~department~~ division.

19

20 SECTION 2835. Arkansas Code § 8-7-1104(f)(1)(B), concerning the  
21 voluntary cleanup process, is amended to read as follows:

22 (B) A purchaser may not actually use the property in a  
23 manner which differs from the intended use identified in the implementing  
24 agreement contemplated by subsection (d) of this section, unless the  
25 ~~department~~ division and purchaser agree to a modification of the implementing  
26 agreement; or

27

28 SECTION 2836. Arkansas Code § 8-7-1104(h)(1), concerning the voluntary  
29 cleanup process, is amended to read as follows:

30 (h)(1) The selection of remedial action shall be approved by the  
31 ~~department~~ division after reasonable notice and after opportunity for hearing  
32 and shall become an amendment to the implementing agreement entered into  
33 pursuant to subsection (d) of this section.

34

35 SECTION 2837. Arkansas Code § 8-7-1104(j), concerning the voluntary  
36 cleanup process, is amended to read as follows:

1 (j) A prospective purchaser of an abandoned site under this subchapter  
2 shall not be responsible for paying any fines or penalties levied against any  
3 person responsible for contamination on the abandoned site prior to the  
4 implementing agreement with the ~~department~~ division.

5  
6 SECTION 2838. Arkansas Code § 8-7-1104(m), concerning the voluntary  
7 cleanup process, is amended to read as follows:

8 (m) Upon written notice to the ~~department~~ division, the implementing  
9 agreement, including all rights and cleanup liabilities entered into by the  
10 ~~department~~ division and the prospective purchaser under subsection (d) of  
11 this section, is transferable in its entirety to all subsequent owners of the  
12 property who did not, by act or omission, cause or contribute to any release  
13 or threatened release of hazardous substances on the abandoned site.

14  
15 SECTION 2839. Arkansas Code § 8-7-1302 is amended to read as follows:  
16 8-7-1302. Purpose.

17 It is the purpose of this subchapter to authorize the ~~Arkansas~~  
18 ~~Department~~ Division of Environmental Quality to establish and administer a  
19 certification program to maintain a list of Phase I consultants who meet the  
20 minimum qualifications for an environmental professional who undertakes a  
21 Phase I environmental site assessment, referred to as "all appropriate  
22 inquiry" under the Small Business Liability Relief and Brownfields  
23 Revitalization Act, Pub. L. No. 107-118, as it exists on January 1, 2007, or  
24 a Phase I environmental site assessment under the American Society for  
25 Testing and Materials standard E1527-05 as in effect on January 1, 2007.

26  
27 SECTION 2840. Arkansas Code § 8-7-1311(a)(1), concerning fees paid to  
28 the Hazardous Waste Permit Fund of the Arkansas Pollution Control and Ecology  
29 Commission, is amended to read as follows:

30 (a)(1) Under regulations promulgated by the Arkansas Pollution Control  
31 and Ecology Commission, the ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of Environmental  
32 Quality may assess fees to Phase I consultants who apply to be placed on the  
33 list maintained under § 8-7-1304.

34  
35 SECTION 2841. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 8-7-  
36 1402(a), concerning professional cleanup of properties contaminated through

1 the manufacture of controlled substances, is amended to read as follows:

2 (a) The ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of Environmental Quality shall:

3  
4 SECTION 2842. Arkansas Code § 8-7-1402(a)(4)(A) and (B), concerning  
5 professional cleanup of properties contaminated through the manufacture of  
6 controlled substances, are amended to read as follows:

7 (A) On the ~~department's~~ division's website; and

8 (B) In hard copy upon request to the ~~department~~ division;

9 and

10  
11 SECTION 2843. Arkansas Code § 8-7-1403(b), concerning the reporting of  
12 properties contaminated through the manufacture of controlled substances, is  
13 amended to read as follows:

14 (b)(1) If a property owner finds or becomes aware of evidence of a  
15 laboratory for the manufacture of controlled substances on his or her  
16 property, the property owner shall have the property inspected in accordance  
17 with the guidelines established by the ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of  
18 Environmental Quality under this subchapter by a contractor certified by the  
19 ~~department~~ division under § 8-7-1402.

20 (2) If the contractor selected by the property owner under  
21 subdivision (b)(1) of this section verifies that a laboratory for the  
22 manufacture of controlled substances has been on the property, the contractor  
23 shall notify the ~~department~~ division, and the ~~department~~ division shall place  
24 the property on the contaminated properties list required under § 8-7-1404.

25  
26 SECTION 2844. Arkansas Code § 8-7-1404(a), concerning the required  
27 recordkeeping by the Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality, is amended  
28 to read as follows:

29 (a) ~~By May 1, 2008, the Arkansas Department~~ The Division of  
30 Environmental Quality shall maintain records concerning properties  
31 contaminated through the manufacture of controlled substances.

32  
33 SECTION 2845. The introductory language of the Arkansas Code § 8-7-  
34 1404(b), concerning the required recordkeeping by the Arkansas Department of  
35 Environmental Quality, is amended to read as follows:

36 (b) The ~~department~~ division shall:

1  
2 SECTION 2846. Arkansas Code § 8-7-1404(b)(3)(B), concerning the  
3 required recordkeeping by the Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality,  
4 is amended to read as follows:

5 (B) The property has met the remediation standards  
6 developed by the ~~department~~ division;

7  
8 SECTION 2847. Arkansas Code § 8-7-1404(b)(4) and (5), concerning the  
9 required recordkeeping by the Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality,  
10 are amended to read as follows:

11 (4)(A) Post the results of a cleanup on the ~~department's~~  
12 division's website for ten (10) working days after the ~~department~~ division  
13 determines that the property has been adequately remediated.

14 (B) After the ten (10) working days of posting required  
15 under subdivision (b)(4)(A) of this section, the ~~department~~ division shall  
16 remove from the ~~department's~~ division's website the formerly contaminated  
17 property and the results of the cleanup; and

18 (5) Remove a property from the list when the ~~department~~ division  
19 finds that the property has been adequately remediated.

20  
21 SECTION 2848. Arkansas Code § 8-7-1404(c), concerning the required  
22 recordkeeping by the Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality, are  
23 amended to read as follows:

24 (c)(1) The ~~department~~ division shall make the list of properties  
25 contaminated through the manufacture of controlled substances available to  
26 law enforcement officials and to the public:

27 (A) On the ~~department's~~ division's website; and

28 (B) In hard copy upon request to the ~~department~~ division.

29 (2) The ~~department~~ division shall keep hard copies of the  
30 information required under this section until the ~~department~~ division has  
31 removed the property from the list of properties contaminated through the  
32 manufacture of controlled substances.

33  
34 SECTION 2849. Arkansas Code § 8-7-1405(b)(3), concerning the notice of  
35 cleanup and residual contamination, is amended to read as follows:

36 (3) The ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of Environmental Quality

1 shall cooperate with the Arkansas Crime Information Center to create a  
2 computer link that will allow the center to transfer to the ~~department~~  
3 division information from the National Clandestine Laboratory Seizure Report  
4 required under 28 C.F.R. Part 23 that is relevant to the notice of removal  
5 required under subsection (d) of this section.

6  
7 SECTION 2850. Arkansas Code § 8-7-1405(d)(7)(D)(i), concerning the  
8 notice of cleanup and residual contamination, is amended to read as follows:

9 (D)(i) It is unlawful for any unauthorized person to enter  
10 a residually contaminated property or, in the case of a space-rental mobile  
11 home or recreational vehicle park, the unit located on the property until the  
12 ~~department~~ division establishes that the portion of the property identified  
13 as residually contaminated has been properly remediated.

14  
15 SECTION 2851. Arkansas Code § 8-7-1405(d)(7)(D)(ii)(a), concerning the  
16 notice of cleanup and residual contamination, is amended to read as follows:

17 (a) An employee of the ~~department~~ division;

18  
19 SECTION 2852. Arkansas Code § 8-7-1405(d)(7)(E)-(G), concerning the  
20 notice of cleanup and residual contamination, are amended to read as follows:

21 (E) Failure to comply with this section is a violation of  
22 the ~~department's~~ division's rules pertaining to the cleanup of laboratories  
23 for the manufacture of controlled substances;

24 (F) Disturbing the notice of removal posted on the  
25 property is a violation of the ~~department's~~ division's rules concerning the  
26 cleanup of laboratories for the manufacture of controlled substances; and

27 (G) The owner of the property is responsible for  
28 remediating the residually contaminated portion of the property in compliance  
29 with the ~~department's~~ division's rules concerning the cleanup of laboratories  
30 for the manufacture of controlled substances.

31  
32 SECTION 2853. Arkansas Code § 8-7-1406 is amended to read as follows:

33 8-7-1406. Remediated property.

34 (a) After property contaminated through the manufacture of controlled  
35 substances is remediated and the property owner receives official  
36 notification from the ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of Environmental Quality,

1 no person, including the property owner, landlord, and real estate agent, is  
2 required to report or otherwise disclose the past contamination.

3 (b) Unless retention is mandated by federal law, the ~~department~~  
4 division shall destroy all copies of information required to be kept under  
5 this subchapter that refer to a specific property location once the property  
6 is officially removed from the contaminated properties list.

7

8 SECTION 2854. Arkansas Code § 8-9-101 is amended to read as follows:  
9 8-9-101. Policy.

10 It is the policy of the State of Arkansas to encourage and promote  
11 recycling in order to conserve natural resources, conserve energy, and  
12 preserve landfill space. In furtherance of this policy, the State of Arkansas  
13 adopts as a goal in the new century the recycling of forty percent (40%) of  
14 its municipal solid waste by 2005 and forty-five percent (45%) of its  
15 municipal solid waste by 2010, as shall be determined by the Arkansas  
16 Department of Environmental Quality or the Division of Environmental Quality  
17 by regulation.

18

19 SECTION 2855. Arkansas Code § 8-9-104(2), concerning the definition of  
20 "department" under the laws governing recycling, is repealed.

21 ~~(2) "Department" means the Arkansas Department of Environmental~~  
22 ~~Quality;~~

23

24 SECTION 2856. Arkansas Code § 8-9-104(3)(A), concerning the definition  
25 of "materials in the recycling process" under the laws governing recycling,  
26 is amended to read as follows:

27 (A) Those materials are processed or handled using  
28 reasonably available processing equipment and control technology, as  
29 determined by the Director of the ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of  
30 Environmental Quality, taking cost into account; and

31

32 SECTION 2857. Arkansas Code § 8-9-202 is amended to read as follows:  
33 8-9-202. Powers and duties of the ~~department~~ division.

34 The ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of Environmental Quality shall have  
35 the power and duty to:

36

(1) Adopt reasonable rules and regulations to effectuate the

1 purposes of this subchapter;

2 (2) Promote public education and public awareness of the  
3 necessity of supporting waste reduction and recyclable material recovery as  
4 an integral part of all solid waste and recyclable materials programs in the  
5 state; and

6 (3) Provide, to the extent practicable, upon request, to state  
7 agencies, planning and technical assistance in carrying out their  
8 responsibilities under this subchapter.

9

10 SECTION 2858. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 8-9-203(a),  
11 concerning recycling by governmental entities, is amended to read as follows:

12 (a) Each state agency, state college or university, county, city, and  
13 public school, in cooperation with the ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of  
14 Environmental Quality and the Compliance Advisory Panel shall:

15

16 SECTION 2859. Arkansas Code § 8-9-302(b), concerning plastic container  
17 labeling, is amended to read as follows:

18 (b) The ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of Environmental Quality shall  
19 maintain a list of the label codes provided pursuant to this section and  
20 shall provide a copy of that list to any person upon request.

21

22 SECTION 2860. Arkansas Code § 8-9-303(c) and (d), concerning lead-acid  
23 batteries, are amended to read as follows:

24 (c) The ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of Environmental Quality shall  
25 produce, print, and distribute the notices required by this section to all  
26 places where lead-acid batteries are offered for sale at retail.

27 (d) In performing its duties under this section, the ~~department~~  
28 division may inspect any place, building, or premises governed by this  
29 section.

30

31 SECTION 2861. Arkansas Code § 8-9-401(b)(2), concerning title,  
32 legislative intent, and findings under the Used Tire Recycling and  
33 Accountability Act, is amended to read as follows:

34 (2) Provide accountability and sustainability for used tire  
35 programs by requiring use of the electronic uniform used tire manifest system  
36 developed by the ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of Environmental Quality and

1 business plans for used tire programs;

2

3 SECTION 2862. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 8-9-402(3),  
4 concerning the definition of "electronic uniform used tire manifest system"  
5 under the Used Tire Recycling and Accountability Act, is amended to read as  
6 follows:

7 (3) "Electronic uniform used tire manifest system" means an  
8 administrative method developed by the ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of  
9 Environmental Quality that:

10

11 SECTION 2863. Arkansas Code § 8-9-402(9), concerning the definition of  
12 "qualified entity" under the Used Tire Recycling and Accountability Act, is  
13 amended to read as follows:

14 (9) "Qualified entity" means an entity that demonstrates to the  
15 ~~department~~ division that the entity has the capability, experience, and  
16 resources to operate and administer a used tire program in compliance with  
17 this subchapter;

18

19 SECTION 2864. Arkansas Code § 8-9-402(25)(B)(ii), concerning the  
20 definition of "qualified entity" under the Used Tire Recycling and  
21 Accountability Act, is amended to read as follows:

22 (ii) A location that is authorized to store tires by  
23 the ~~department~~ division or regulations promulgated by the Arkansas Pollution  
24 Control and Ecology Commission;

25

26 SECTION 2865. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 8-9-  
27 403(a)(1), concerning requirements, prohibited activities, and operation of  
28 waste tire sites, is amended to read as follows:

29 (a)(1) The owner or operator of any waste tire site shall provide the  
30 ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of Environmental Quality and the applicable  
31 regional solid waste management district with:

32

33 SECTION 2866. Arkansas Code § 8-9-403(a)(1)(B), concerning  
34 requirements, prohibited activities, and operation of waste tire sites, is  
35 amended to read as follows:

36 (B) A written plan specifying a method and time schedule,

1 subject to approval by the ~~department~~ division, for the removal, disposal, or  
2 recycling of the tires.

3  
4 SECTION 2867. Arkansas Code § 8-9-403(a)(2), concerning requirements,  
5 prohibited activities, and operation of waste tire sites, is amended to read  
6 as follows:

7 (2) The owner or operator shall implement a written plan  
8 approved by the ~~department~~ division according to the written plan's schedule.

9  
10 SECTION 2868. Arkansas Code § 8-9-403(c)(3)(C)(i), concerning  
11 requirements, prohibited activities, and operation of waste tire sites, is  
12 amended to read as follows:

13 (i) Authorized by the ~~department~~ division;

14  
15 SECTION 2869. Arkansas Code § 8-9-403(e)(2), concerning requirements,  
16 prohibited activities, and operation of waste tire sites, is amended to read  
17 as follows:

18 (2) Records of the disposition of the waste tires originating  
19 from a tire manufacturer shall be maintained by that tire manufacturer for a  
20 period of at least three (3) years and shall be available for review by the  
21 ~~department~~ division.

22  
23 SECTION 2870. Arkansas Code § 8-9-404(a)(5)(A), concerning rim removal  
24 fees, is amended to read as follows:

25 (5)(A) The rim removal fees imposed under this section shall be  
26 paid monthly to the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and  
27 Administration.

28  
29 SECTION 2871. Arkansas Code § 8-9-404(a)(6), concerning rim removal  
30 fees, is amended to read as follows:

31 (6)(A) The rim removal fees remitted under subdivision (a)(5)(A)  
32 of this section shall be collected by the ~~director~~ secretary and shall be  
33 subject to the Arkansas Tax Procedure Act, § 26-18-101 et seq.

34 (B)(i) Each tire retailer shall file a return with the  
35 ~~director~~ secretary on or before the twentieth of each month.

36 (ii) The return shall show the total rim removal

1 fees collected for each tire removed from the rim during the preceding  
2 calendar month.

3 (iii) The tire retailer shall remit the rim removal  
4 fees with the return.

5 (iv) The ~~director~~ secretary shall prescribe the form  
6 and contents of the return.

7

8 SECTION 2872. Arkansas Code § 8-9-404(b)(1)(B), concerning rim removal  
9 fees, import fees, and commercial generator fees, is amended to read as  
10 follows:

11 (B) Seven percent (7%) to be deposited into the ~~Arkansas~~  
12 ~~Department~~ Division of Environmental Quality Fee Trust Fund.

13

14 SECTION 2873. Arkansas Code § 8-9-404(c)(3)(A)(ii), concerning rim  
15 removal fees, import fees, and commercial generator fees, is amended to read  
16 as follows:

17 (ii) Seven percent (7%) to be deposited into the  
18 ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of Environmental Quality Fee Trust Fund.

19

20 SECTION 2874. Arkansas Code § 8-9-404(d)(5)(A), concerning commercial  
21 generator fees, is amended to read as follows:

22 (5)(A) The commercial generator fees imposed under this section  
23 shall be paid monthly to the ~~director~~ secretary.

24

25 SECTION 2875. Arkansas Code § 8-9-404(d)(6)(A), concerning commercial  
26 generator fees, is amended to read as follows:

27 (6)(A) The commercial generator fees remitted in subdivision  
28 (d)(5)(A) of this section shall be collected by the ~~director~~ secretary and  
29 shall be subject to the Arkansas Tax Procedure Act, § 26-18-101 et seq.

30 (B)(i)(a) Each commercial generator shall file a return  
31 with the ~~director~~ secretary on or before the twentieth of each month.

32 (b) The return shall show the total commercial  
33 generator fees collected for each tire sold or delivered to the end user  
34 during the preceding calendar month.

35 (c) The commercial generator shall remit the  
36 commercial generator fees with the return.

1 (ii) The ~~director~~ secretary shall prescribe the form  
2 and contents of the return.

3  
4 SECTION 2876. Arkansas Code § 8-9-404(d)(7)(B), concerning rim removal  
5 fees, import fees, and commercial generator fees, is amended to read as  
6 follows:

7 (B) Seven percent (7%) to be deposited into the ~~Arkansas~~  
8 ~~Department~~ Division of Environmental Quality Fee Trust Fund.

9  
10 SECTION 2877. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 8-9-405(a),  
11 concerning used tire program reimbursements, is amended to read as follows:

12 (a) ~~By January 1, 2018, the Arkansas Department~~ The Division of  
13 Environmental Quality shall establish the Used Tire Recycling and  
14 Accountability Program to:

15  
16 SECTION 2878. Arkansas Code § 8-9-405(b)(7) and (8), concerning used  
17 tire program reimbursements, are amended to read as follows:

18 (7) Provide the ~~department~~ division with business plan  
19 information required under § 8-9-408;

20 (8) Provide the ~~department~~ division with all quarterly financial  
21 information and progress reports related to § 8-9-409;

22  
23 SECTION 2879. Arkansas Code § 8-9-405(c)(1), concerning used tire  
24 program reimbursements, is amended to read as follows:

25 (1) Contract with a tire processing facility that is approved by  
26 the Director of the ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of Environmental Quality;

27  
28 SECTION 2880. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 8-9-405(d),  
29 concerning used tire program reimbursements, is amended to read as follows:

30 (d) Moneys disbursed from the Used Tire Recycling Fund by the  
31 ~~department~~ division for reimbursements under this section shall be:

32  
33 SECTION 2881. Arkansas Code § 8-9-405(e)(2), concerning used tire  
34 program reimbursements, is amended to read as follows:

35 (2) If there are insufficient moneys available in a quarter to  
36 make reimbursements for all submitted requests under any funding level under

1 subsection (f) of this section, the ~~department~~ division shall calculate the  
2 total remaining funding available for the funding level and allocate the  
3 moneys available for reimbursement to each used tire program based on a pro  
4 rata share of each used tire program's reimbursement request compared to the  
5 total moneys available for that funding level.

6  
7 SECTION 2882. Arkansas Code § 8-9-405(g), concerning used tire program  
8 reimbursements, is amended to read as follows:

9 (g) At the request of a used tire program that needs operational  
10 assistance or guidance on compliance with this subchapter, the ~~department~~  
11 division shall provide to the used tire program operational assistance or  
12 guidance on compliance with this subchapter.

13  
14 SECTION 2883. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 8-9-405(h),  
15 concerning used tire program reimbursements, is amended to read as follows:

16 (h) The ~~department~~ division shall:

17  
18 SECTION 2884. Arkansas Code § 8-9-408(a), concerning accountability  
19 requirements for used tire programs, is amended to read as follows:

20 (a) On or before December 31, 2017, a used tire program that receives  
21 funding under this subchapter shall provide the Arkansas Department of  
22 Environmental Quality, now the Division of Environmental Quality, with a  
23 business plan that establishes its current operating plan and a proposed  
24 operating plan for calendar year 2018 and approved by its board.

25  
26 SECTION 2885. Arkansas Code § 8-9-408(c)-(e), concerning  
27 accountability requirements for used tire programs, are amended to read as  
28 follows:

29 (c) A used tire program shall submit a revised business plan if there  
30 is a substantial change in the used tire program operations or if the  
31 ~~department~~ division requests a revised business plan.

32 (d) A business plan or revised business plan submitted under this  
33 subchapter is effective after approval by the ~~department~~ division or its  
34 designee.

35 (e)(1) The approved business plan or approved revised business plan  
36 shall include the approved business plan rates for each used tire program.

1 (2)(A) The ~~department~~ division shall cooperate with the used  
2 tire programs and other entities to develop each used tire program's approved  
3 business plan rates for recyclable tires and waste tires.

4 (B) The approved business plan rates shall also use the  
5 size of a tire, including without limitation small tires, large tires, and  
6 extra-large tires, as a factor for determining the approved business plan  
7 rates.

8  
9 SECTION 2886. Arkansas Code § 8-9-409(a), concerning the performance  
10 and efficiency evaluations for the used tire programs and the Used Tire  
11 Recycling and Accountability Program, is amended to read as follows:

12 (a) The ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of Environmental Quality shall  
13 develop a system to evaluate and report the performance and efficiency of  
14 used tire programs and the Used Tire Recycling and Accountability Program.  
15

16 SECTION 2887. Arkansas Code § 8-9-411(a)(2), concerning tire  
17 transporters' licenses, is amended to read as follows:

18 (2) Obtain for each vehicle a tire transporter number provided  
19 by the ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of Environmental Quality used for the  
20 electronic uniform used tire manifest system;  
21

22 SECTION 2888. Arkansas Code § 8-9-411(b), concerning tire  
23 transporters' licenses, is amended to read as follows:

24 (b) For each tire transporter licensed under this section, the  
25 ~~department~~ division shall assign a tire transporter number and include the  
26 tire transporter information in the electronic uniform used tire manifest  
27 system.  
28

29 SECTION 2889. Arkansas Code § 8-9-415(b)(6), concerning permitting,  
30 licensing, inspections, procedures, enforcement, and penalties for a person  
31 who receives funding regarding tire collection and disposal, is amended to  
32 read as follows:

33 (6) Failure to provide documentation or reports required to be  
34 filed with the ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of Environmental Quality under  
35 this subchapter.  
36

1 SECTION 2890. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 8-9-  
2 415(c)(1), concerning permitting, licensing, inspections, procedures,  
3 enforcement, and penalties for a person who receives funding regarding tire  
4 collection and disposal, is amended to read as follows:

5 (c)(1) If a used tire program fails to submit a business plan that is  
6 approved by the ~~department~~ Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality or  
7 the Division of Environmental Quality on or before July 1, 2018, the used  
8 tire program and all regional solid waste management boards included in the  
9 used tire program on July 1, 2018, are:

10  
11 SECTION 2891. Arkansas Code § 8-9-415(c)(2)(A), concerning permitting,  
12 licensing, inspections, procedures, enforcement, and penalties for a person  
13 who receives funding regarding tire collection and disposal, is amended to  
14 read as follows:

15 (2)(A) The ~~department~~ division may designate a qualified entity  
16 to perform the duties related to the operation and administration of a used  
17 tire program deemed ineligible under subdivision (c)(1) of this section.

18  
19 SECTION 2892. Arkansas Code § 8-9-502, concerning members of the  
20 Arkansas Newspaper Recycling Advisory Committee, is amended to read as  
21 follows:

22 8-9-502. Members.

23 The Director of the ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of Environmental  
24 Quality shall appoint the Arkansas Newspaper Recycling Advisory Committee  
25 consisting of:

26 (1) The Chief of the Marketing Division of the ~~Arkansas~~  
27 ~~Department~~ Division of Environmental Quality or his or her designee;

28 (2) The Executive Director of the Arkansas Press Association,  
29 Inc. or his or her designee; and

30 (3)(A) At least six (6) members representing the Arkansas  
31 newspaper industry and newsprint manufacturers doing business in Arkansas.

32 (B) Provided, however, these members shall be selected  
33 from a list of names of potential members to be provided by the President of  
34 the Board of Directors of the Arkansas Press Association, Inc.

35  
36 SECTION 2993. Arkansas Code § 8-9-603(2) and (3), concerning the

1 definitions of "department" and "director" under the Mercury Switch Removal  
2 Act of 2005, are repealed.

3 ~~(2) "Department" means the Arkansas Department of Environmental~~  
4 ~~Quality;~~

5 ~~(3) "Director" means the Director of the Arkansas Department of~~  
6 ~~Environmental Quality;~~

7

8 SECTION 2994. Arkansas Code § 8-9-604(a), concerning the mercury  
9 minimization plan, is amended to read as follows:

10 (a) Within ninety (90) days after August 12, 2005, every manufacturer  
11 of vehicles sold within this state, individually or as part of a group, shall  
12 develop in consultation with the Arkansas Department of Environmental  
13 Quality, now the Division of Environmental Quality, a mercury minimization  
14 plan prepared pursuant to this section and shall submit the mercury  
15 minimization plan to the Director of the Arkansas Department of Environmental  
16 Quality, now the Director of the Division of Environmental Quality, for  
17 review and approval pursuant to § 8-9-605.

18

19 SECTION 2995. Arkansas Code § 8-9-605(a)(1), concerning approval and  
20 implementation of the mercury minimization plan, is amended to read as  
21 follows:

22 (a)(1) Within one hundred twenty (120) days after receipt of a mercury  
23 minimization plan, the Director of the Arkansas Department of Environmental  
24 Quality, now the Director of the Division of Environmental Quality, shall  
25 approve, disapprove, or conditionally approve the entire mercury minimization  
26 plan. The director may solicit input from representatives of vehicle  
27 recyclers, scrap recycling facilities, and other stakeholders as the director  
28 deems appropriate.

29

30 SECTION 2996. Arkansas Code § 8-9-606(c)(2), concerning the removal  
31 and proper management of mercury-added vehicle components, is amended to read  
32 as follows:

33 (2) These records shall be made available for review by the  
34 ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of Environmental Quality upon the request of the  
35 ~~department~~ division.

36

1 SECTION 2997. Arkansas Code § 8-9-606(e)(2), concerning the removal  
2 and proper management of mercury-added vehicle components, is amended to read  
3 as follows:

4 (2) Provisions of the rules and regulations concerning universal  
5 waste adopted by the ~~department~~ division pursuant to the Arkansas Hazardous  
6 Waste Management Act of 1979, § 8-7-201 et seq.

7  
8 SECTION 2998. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 8-9-607(a),  
9 concerning annual reporting on a mercury minimization plan, is amended to  
10 read as follows:

11 (a) One (1) year after the implementation of a mercury minimization  
12 plan approved pursuant to § 8-9-605, and annually thereafter, a manufacturer  
13 subject to § 8-9-604 shall report individually or as part of a group to the  
14 Director of the ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of Environmental Quality  
15 concerning the implementation of the mercury minimization plan. The report  
16 shall include, but need not be limited to, the following:

17  
18 SECTION 2999. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 8-9-608(a),  
19 concerning design for recycling regarding the mercury minimization plan, is  
20 amended to read as follows:

21 (a) One (1) year after the implementation of a mercury minimization  
22 plan approved pursuant to § 8-9-605, and annually thereafter, a manufacturer  
23 subject to § 8-9-604 shall report individually or as part of a group to the  
24 Director of the ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of Environmental Quality  
25 concerning the steps being taken by manufacturers to design vehicles and  
26 their components for recycling. The report shall include, but need not be  
27 limited to, the following:

28  
29 SECTION 3000. Arkansas Code § 8-9-608(b), concerning design for  
30 recycling regarding the mercury minimization plan, is amended to read as  
31 follows:

32 (b) The ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of Environmental Quality may  
33 conduct hearings from time to time as the director deems appropriate to  
34 evaluate the steps manufacturers are taking to design for recycling and to  
35 recommend additional legislative action as may be appropriate in order to  
36 promote vehicle recycling for the purposes of the preservation of scarce

1 resources and the safe and efficient reduction of solid waste.

2  
3 SECTION 3001. Arkansas Code § 8-9-609 is amended to read as follows:  
4 8-9-609. Rules and regulations – Authority of Arkansas Pollution  
5 Control and Ecology Commission.

6 The Arkansas Pollution Control and Ecology Commission may adopt rules  
7 and regulations to effectuate and implement the purposes and intent of this  
8 subchapter and the powers and duties of the ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of  
9 Environmental Quality.

10  
11 SECTION 3002. Arkansas Code § 8-10-302(a)(2)(C)(iii), concerning the  
12 construction of a motor vehicle racing facility and the requirement of a  
13 petition, is amended to read as follows:

14 (iii) It shall be the duty of the county clerk or  
15 city clerk, as the case may be, to determine the sufficiency of the  
16 signatures and to certify the sufficiency or insufficiency of the signatures  
17 in writing to the ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of Environmental Quality.

18  
19 SECTION 3003. Arkansas Code § 8-10-303(a)(1)(A), concerning a permit  
20 requirement to construct a motor vehicle racing facility, is amended to read  
21 as follows:

22 (a)(1)(A) Due to the noise pollution and air pollution from the racing  
23 vehicles and traffic congestion caused by motor vehicle racing facilities, no  
24 motor vehicle racing facility shall be constructed in this state after  
25 passage of this section without the consent of at least seventy-five percent  
26 (75%) of the property owners and seventy-five percent (75%) of the registered  
27 voters within three (3) miles of the outside boundary of the proposed motor  
28 vehicle racing facility and without an annual permit issued by the ~~Arkansas~~  
29 ~~Department~~ Division of Environmental Quality.

30  
31 SECTION 3004. Arkansas Code § 8-10-303(a)(2)(C)(iii), concerning a  
32 permit requirement to construct a motor vehicle racing facility, is amended  
33 to read as follows:

34 (iii) It shall be the duty of the county clerk or  
35 city clerk, as the case may be, to determine the sufficiency of the  
36 signatures and to certify the sufficiency or insufficiency of the signatures

1 in writing to the ~~department~~ division.

2  
3 SECTION 3005. Arkansas Code § 8-10-303(a)(3)(A)(i), concerning a  
4 permit requirement to construct a motor vehicle racing facility, is amended  
5 to read as follows:

6 (3)(A)(i) Once the sufficiency of the petitions is determined,  
7 the persons or entity proposing and constructing a motor vehicle racing  
8 facility after August 1, 1997, shall seek the approval of and issuance of an  
9 annual permit from the ~~department~~ division. The ~~department's~~ division's  
10 approval shall be sought by filing a permit application with the ~~department~~  
11 division.

12  
13 SECTION 3006. Arkansas Code § 8-10-303(a)(3)(A)(ii)(e), concerning a  
14 permit requirement to construct a motor vehicle racing facility, is amended  
15 to read as follows:

16 (e) Any other relevant permit information as  
17 may be determined necessary for the permit application by the ~~department~~  
18 division.

19  
20 SECTION 3007. Arkansas Code § 8-10-303(a)(3)(B)-(D), concerning a  
21 permit requirement to construct a motor vehicle racing facility, are amended  
22 to read as follows:

23 (B) For the initial permit application for new motor  
24 vehicle racing facilities to be constructed, the ~~department~~ division shall  
25 conduct a public hearing on the proposed motor vehicle racing facility. The  
26 ~~department~~ division shall set a date for the public hearing to be held on the  
27 proposed motor vehicle racing facility permit which shall not be less than  
28 thirty (30) days after the filing of the initial permit application. The  
29 hearing under this subdivision (a)(3)(B) for the initial permit may be  
30 adjourned and continued if necessary. In its discretion, the ~~department~~  
31 division may hold public hearings for the renewal of any permits as is  
32 necessary. Any interested persons may appear and contest the granting of the  
33 approval or renewal of the motor vehicle racing facility permit. Affidavits  
34 in support of or against the proposed motor vehicle racing facility or a  
35 permit renewal, which may be prepared and submitted, shall be examined by the  
36 ~~department~~ division.

1 (C) After the hearing for the initial permit or upon  
2 application for the renewal of its annual permit, if the ~~department~~ division  
3 shall be satisfied that the benefits of the motor vehicle racing facility are  
4 sustained by proof and outweigh its impact by the noise, air pollution, and  
5 traffic congestion caused by motor vehicle racing facilities, then the  
6 ~~department~~ division shall grant the initial permit approving the proposed  
7 motor vehicle racing facility or shall renew approval to the permitted or  
8 existing motor vehicle racing facility. Renewal of an annual permit may also  
9 be denied if:

10 (i) The motor vehicle racing facility is determined  
11 to be in violation of any standards under which the permit was issued;

12 (ii) The motor vehicle racing facility is  
13 constructed or is being operated in a manner that is materially different  
14 than was represented during the petition process; or

15 (iii) Fraud, misrepresentation, or false statement  
16 of facts was used to obtain signatures for the petition process.

17 (D) If any material changes, additions, or improvements  
18 are made to the motor vehicle racing facility, the permit shall be amended  
19 accordingly, and the ~~department~~ division may reconsider the approval of the  
20 permit.

21  
22 SECTION 3008. Arkansas Code § 8-10-304(b)(1)(A), concerning motor  
23 vehicle racing facilities in certain municipalities, is amended to read as  
24 follows:

25 (b)(1)(A) A person or entity proposing and constructing a motor  
26 vehicle racing facility under subsection (a) of this section shall seek the  
27 approval of and issuance of an annual permit from the ~~Arkansas Department~~  
28 Division of Environmental Quality.

29  
30 SECTION 3009. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 8-10-  
31 304(b)(1)(B), concerning motor vehicle racing facilities in certain  
32 municipalities, is amended to read as follows:

33 (B) The ~~department's~~ division's approval shall be sought  
34 by filing a permit application with the ~~department~~ division, which shall  
35 contain a written proposal for the motor vehicle racing facility containing  
36 the substance of the proposed facility, including:

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SECTION 3010. Arkansas Code § 8-10-304(b)(1)(B)(v), concerning motor vehicle racing facilities in certain municipalities, is amended to read as follows:

(v) Any other relevant permit information as may be determined necessary for the permit application by the ~~department~~ division.

SECTION 3011. Arkansas Code § 8-10-304(b)(2)(A)(i) and (ii), concerning motor vehicle racing facilities in certain municipalities, are amended to read as follows:

(2)(A)(i) For the initial permit application for new motor vehicle racing facilities to be constructed, the ~~department~~ division shall conduct a public hearing on the proposed motor vehicle racing facility.

(ii) The ~~department~~ division shall set a date for the public hearing to be held on the proposed motor vehicle racing facility permit which shall not be fewer than thirty (30) days after the filing of the initial permit application.

SECTION 3012. Arkansas Code § 8-10-304(b)(2)(B), concerning motor vehicle racing facilities in certain municipalities, is amended to read as follows:

(B)(i) The ~~department~~ division, in its discretion, may hold public hearings for the renewal of any permits as is necessary.

(ii) Any interested persons may appear and contest the granting of the approval or renewal of the motor vehicle racing facility permit.

(iii) Affidavits in support of or against the proposed motor vehicle racing facility or a permit renewal, which may be prepared and submitted, shall be examined by the ~~department~~ division.

SECTION 3013. Arkansas Code § 8-10-304(b)(3), concerning motor vehicle racing facilities in certain municipalities, is amended to read as follows:

(3) After the hearing for the initial permit or upon application for the renewal of its annual permit, if the ~~department~~ division is satisfied that the benefits of the motor vehicle racing facility are sustained by proof and outweigh its impact by the noise, air pollution, and traffic congestion

1 caused by motor vehicle racing facilities, then the ~~department~~ division shall  
2 grant the initial permit approving the proposed motor vehicle racing facility  
3 or shall renew approval to the permitted or existing motor vehicle racing  
4 facility.

5  
6 SECTION 3014. Arkansas Code § 8-10-304(b)(5), concerning motor vehicle  
7 racing facilities in certain municipalities, is amended to read as follows:

8 (5) If any material changes, additions, or improvements are made  
9 to the motor vehicle racing facility, the permit shall be amended  
10 accordingly, and the ~~department~~ division may reconsider the approval of the  
11 permit.

12  
13 SECTION 3015. Arkansas Code § 8-11-103(a)(1), concerning the  
14 regulatory flexibility of the Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality,  
15 is amended to read as follows:

16 (a)(1) The ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of Environmental Quality, by  
17 order of the Director of the ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of Environmental  
18 Quality consistent with the purposes of this chapter, may approve requests  
19 which allow an applicant to use alternative methods to comply with an  
20 Arkansas Pollution Control and Ecology Commission rule regarding the control  
21 or abatement of pollution.

22  
23 SECTION 3016. Arkansas Code § 8-11-103(d), concerning the regulatory  
24 flexibility of the Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality, is amended  
25 to read as follows:

26 (d) The ~~department~~ division may establish a reasonable fee for  
27 applications under this section.

28  
29 SECTION 3017. Arkansas Code § 8-12-104(b)(4), concerning the creation  
30 of the Natural Resources Damages Advisory Board, is amended to read as  
31 follows:

32 (4) One (1) member shall be a representative from the ~~Arkansas~~  
33 ~~Department~~ Division of Environmental Quality;

34  
35 SECTION 3018. Arkansas Code § 8-13-101(2), concerning the purpose of a  
36 management organization for the Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality,

1 is amended to read as follows:

2 (2) Environmental protection and improvement could be enhanced  
3 by authorizing the Director of the ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of  
4 Environmental Quality to design and establish a management organization which  
5 incorporates specific goals for environmental protection and uses  
6 environmental indicators to measure agency performance; and

7  
8 SECTION 3019. Arkansas Code § 8-13-101(3)(B), concerning the purpose  
9 of a management organization for the Arkansas Department of Environmental  
10 Quality, is amended to read as follows:

11 (B) Organizes the ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of  
12 Environmental Quality according to business function;

13  
14 SECTION 3020. Arkansas Code § 8-13-102(a), concerning the authority of  
15 the Director of the Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality to adopt an  
16 alternative organizational structure, is amended to read as follows:

17 (a) The Director of the ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of Environmental  
18 Quality, with the advice and consent of the ~~Governor~~ Secretary of the  
19 Department of Energy and Environment, may establish any number of divisions,  
20 offices, or units for the conduct of environmental affairs of the state and  
21 may prescribe the functions and duties of each division, office, or unit.

22  
23 SECTION 3021. Arkansas Code § 8-13-102(b)(2) and (3), concerning the  
24 authority of the Director of the Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality  
25 to adopt an alternative organizational structure, are amended to read as  
26 follows:

27 (2)(A) This section does not limit any provision of state law  
28 directing or requiring the ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of Environmental  
29 Quality to carry out any function or provide any service.

30 (B) However, nothing in this section shall be construed to  
31 prevent the reassignment of functions or services assigned by state law where  
32 reassignment does not alter the obligation of the ~~department~~ division to  
33 continue providing such function or service;

34 (3) Such reorganization shall be based on a comprehensive  
35 analysis of all of the functions and duties administered by the ~~department~~  
36 division and the development of a ten-year strategic plan of ~~department~~

1 division operations; and

2

3 SECTION 3022. Arkansas Code § 8-13-103(a), concerning requirements for  
4 comprehensive analysis and strategic planning by the Arkansas Department of  
5 Environmental Quality, is amended to read as follows:

6 (a) Any reorganization of the functions and duties for the conduct of  
7 environmental affairs through the provisions of this chapter shall be based  
8 on a comprehensive analysis of the existing operations of the ~~Arkansas~~  
9 ~~Department~~ Division of Environmental Quality and the development of a ten-  
10 year strategic plan for ~~department~~ division operations. Such strategic plan  
11 shall be reviewed and updated on an annual basis and shall be made available  
12 for public review through formal notice.

13

14 SECTION 3023. Arkansas Code § 8-13-103(b)(1), concerning requirements  
15 for comprehensive analysis and strategic planning by the Arkansas Department  
16 of Environmental Quality, is amended to read as follows:

17 (1) A comprehensive analysis of each existing division,  
18 function, and duty performed by the ~~department~~ division in providing  
19 environmental services; and

20

21 SECTION 3024. Arkansas Code § 8-13-103(c)(1), concerning requirements  
22 for comprehensive analysis and strategic planning by the Arkansas Department  
23 of Environmental Quality, is amended to read as follows:

24 (c)(1) The strategic plan shall outline a management organization for  
25 the ~~department~~ division that promotes environmental protection and  
26 enhancement.

27

28 SECTION 3025. Arkansas Code § 8-13-103(c)(2)(B)(iii), concerning  
29 requirements for comprehensive analysis and strategic planning by the  
30 Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality, is amended to read as follows:

31 (iii) Such indicators shall be developed by a work  
32 group appointed by the Director of the ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of  
33 Environmental Quality consisting of representatives of the ~~department~~  
34 division working in collaboration with representatives from state and federal  
35 agencies, city and county officials, nonprofit organizations, minority  
36 groups, industry, colleges and universities, civic groups, and other

1 stakeholders in environmental affairs;

2

3 SECTION 3026. Arkansas Code § 8-13-103(c)(2)(C), concerning  
4 requirements for comprehensive analysis and strategic planning by the  
5 Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality, is amended to read as follows:

6 (C) To organize the ~~department~~ division according to  
7 business functions and duties;

8

9 SECTION 3027. Arkansas Code § 12-63-402(c)(1)(B), concerning the  
10 Adjutant General of the State of Arkansas as the custodian of all military  
11 property and military reservations, is amended to read as follows:

12 (B) The laws, regulations, rules, or orders of the  
13 ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of Environmental Quality or the United States  
14 Environmental Protection Agency; or

15

16 SECTION 3028. Arkansas Code § 12-63-402(c)(2)(B), concerning the  
17 Adjutant General of the State of Arkansas as the custodian of all military  
18 property and military reservations, is amended to read as follows:

19 (B) The Attorney General, after conferring with the  
20 Director of the ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of Environmental Quality, shall  
21 advise the Governor in writing that the potential financial liability of the  
22 state for environmental remediation is de minimus, and if the Governor shall  
23 so approve and concur in the Attorney General's advice; or

24

25 SECTION 3029. Arkansas Code § 12-82-104(a)(1)(A), concerning the State  
26 Emergency Response Commission, is amended to read as follows:

27 (A) The ~~directors~~ executive heads of the Department of  
28 Health, the ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of Environmental Quality, the  
29 ~~Department~~ Division of Arkansas State Police, the ~~Arkansas Department~~  
30 Division of Emergency Management, the ~~Department~~ Division of Labor, the  
31 Arkansas Fire Training Academy, ~~and~~ the Arkansas Department of  
32 Transportation, and the Adjutant General, or their designated  
33 representatives;

34

35 SECTION 3030. Arkansas Code § 14-25-201(d)(1), concerning responsible  
36 management entities and wastewater treatment systems, is amended to read as

1 follows:

2 (d)(1) Any installation, operation, or maintenance performed on a  
3 wastewater treatment system on behalf of a responsible management entity  
4 shall be done in compliance with the Arkansas Water and Air Pollution Control  
5 Act, § 8-4-101 et seq., and the regulations of the Arkansas Pollution Control  
6 and Ecology Commission as administered by the ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of  
7 Environmental Quality or its successor and the Department of Health or its  
8 successor.

9

10 SECTION 3031. Arkansas Code § 14-25-201(e)(1)(A), concerning  
11 responsible management entities and wastewater treatment systems, is amended  
12 to read as follows:

13 (A) Before the construction of a wastewater treatment  
14 system begins, the developer secures written approval of the proposed  
15 wastewater treatment system from the Department of Health and complies with  
16 all applicable permitting requirements, including stormwater, through the  
17 ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of Environmental Quality pursuant to the  
18 Arkansas Water and Air Pollution Control Act, § 8-4-101 et seq., and the  
19 regulations of the Arkansas Pollution Control and Ecology Commission;

20

21 SECTION 3032. Arkansas Code § 14-72-101(a), concerning municipal water  
22 and sewer revenue bonds for repayment of water pollution control grants, is  
23 amended to read as follows:

24 (a) Any city of the first class, city of the second class, or  
25 incorporated town, hereinafter referred to as a "municipality", which has  
26 received from the ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of Environmental Quality a  
27 water pollution control project grant funded from the proceeds of bonds of  
28 the ~~department~~ division issued pursuant to §§ 8-5-301 – 8-5-318 [repealed]  
29 may issue water revenue bonds under the provisions of § 14-234-201 et seq.,  
30 sewer revenue bonds under the provisions of §§ 14-235-201 – 14-235-224, or  
31 combined water and sewer revenue bonds for the purpose of refunding the bonds  
32 of the ~~department~~ division issued to fund the grant.

33

34 SECTION 3033. Arkansas Code § 14-86-302(a), concerning the  
35 applicability of laws to entities under a federal order for sanitary sewer  
36 discharges, is amended to read as follows:

1 (a) The provisions of this subchapter shall not be applicable to any  
2 city, county, or area which is under an order from the ~~Arkansas Department~~  
3 Division of Environmental Quality and the United States Environmental  
4 Protection Agency to meet the minimum requirements of the United States  
5 Environmental Protection Agency for sanitary sewer discharge.

6  
7 SECTION 3034. Arkansas Code § 14-116-501(d)(2)(A), concerning proposed  
8 improvement plan for assessment-based water district projects, is amended to  
9 read as follows:

10 (2)(A) The Arkansas Natural Resources Commission shall solicit  
11 written comment from appropriate federal and state agencies on the items  
12 described in the final survey and report, including, but not limited to, the  
13 United States Army Corps of Engineers, the United States Fish and Wildlife  
14 Service, the Arkansas State Game and Fish Commission, the ~~Department~~ Division  
15 of Arkansas Heritage, and the ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of Environmental  
16 Quality.

17  
18 SECTION 3035. Arkansas Code § 14-206-105(a)(1)(A), concerning proof of  
19 service, notice, and filing fee for an application for a gas or electric  
20 utility, is amended to read as follows:

21 (A) The ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of Environmental  
22 Quality;

23  
24 SECTION 3036. Arkansas Code § 14-206-105(a)(1)(D), concerning proof of  
25 service, notice, and filing fee for an application for a gas or electric  
26 utility, is amended to read as follows:

27 (D) The Arkansas Energy Office of the ~~Arkansas Department~~  
28 Division of Environmental Quality;

29  
30 SECTION 3037. Arkansas Code § 14-234-122 is amended to read as  
31 follows:

32 14-234-122. Penalty provision.

33 Any entity not complying with §§ 14-234-119 – 14-234-121 may be subject  
34 to fines up to one thousand dollars (\$1,000) by the Department of Health, the  
35 ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of Environmental Quality, or the Arkansas  
36 Natural Resources Commission and any permits or licenses obtained from these

1 agencies are subject to cancellation or nonrenewal.

2  
3 SECTION 3038. Arkansas Code § 14-235-304(2)(B), concerning  
4 restrictions on connections to a municipal sewer, is amended to read as  
5 follows:

6 (B) A municipal board of health may order or compel the  
7 building of a sewer by a property owner under subdivision (2)(A) of this  
8 section only if the existing sewer on the property owner's property is the  
9 subject of an enforcement action by the ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of  
10 Environmental Quality or a prosecuting attorney.

11  
12 SECTION 3039. Arkansas Code § 14-236-104(a)(3), concerning certain  
13 individual systems excepted from the Arkansas Sewage Disposal Systems Act, is  
14 amended to read as follows:

15 (3) In a subdivision for which a master plan has been approved  
16 by the Department of Health, ~~or the Arkansas Department of Environmental~~  
17 Quality, or the Division of Environmental Quality prior to July 1, 1977, or  
18 for which the Department of Health, ~~or the Arkansas Department of~~  
19 Environmental Quality, or the Division of Environmental Quality has otherwise  
20 previously issued its written approval for the installation of individual  
21 sewage disposal systems and where individual lots have been developed or sold  
22 in reliance upon the prior written approval, individual sewage disposal  
23 systems shall not be required to conform to more stringent specifications as  
24 to design, construction, and installation than those standards in effect at  
25 the time of or referred to in the prior written approval.

26  
27 SECTION 3040. Arkansas Code § 14-236-109 is amended to read as  
28 follows:

29 14-236-109. Property owners' associations – Powers and duties.  
30 Property owners' associations that construct and maintain or have  
31 constructed and maintained sewage disposal facilities in accordance with the  
32 standards and regulations established by the Division of Environmental Health  
33 Protection of the Department of Health or the ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of  
34 Environmental Quality shall have jurisdiction over the disposal of sewage  
35 within and for the subdivided area over which their authority extends and  
36 shall have general supervision and authority over the location, design,

1 construction, installation, and operation of individual and community sewage  
2 disposal systems to the extent that the general supervision and authority is  
3 consistent with this chapter and the rules and regulations promulgated  
4 thereunder.

5  
6 SECTION 3041. Arkansas Code § 14-250-102(3), concerning the definition  
7 of "department" under the Wastewater Treatment Districts Act, is repealed.

8 ~~(3) "Department" means the Arkansas Department of Environmental~~  
9 ~~Quality;~~

10  
11 SECTION 3042. Arkansas Code § 15-4-2406(a)(2)(B), concerning refund of  
12 the recycling tax credit, is amended to read as follows:

13 (B) The Director of the ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of  
14 Environmental Quality finds that the qualified manufacturer of steel has  
15 operated the waste reduction, reuse, or recycling equipment in a manner which  
16 demonstrates a pattern of intentional failure to comply with final  
17 administrative or judicial orders which clearly indicates a disregard for  
18 environmental regulation.

19  
20 SECTION 3043. Arkansas Code § 15-5-901(d)(1), concerning the  
21 establishment of the Construction Assistance Revolving Loan Fund, is amended  
22 to read as follows:

23 (d)(1) There is established a separate account within the Construction  
24 Assistance Revolving Loan Fund, designated the "Remedial Action Account",  
25 into which moneys identified in § 8-7-504(c) and any other moneys as  
26 designated by the Director of the ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of  
27 Environmental Quality shall be deposited.

28  
29 SECTION 3044. Arkansas Code § 15-5-902(b), concerning the  
30 administration of the Construction Assistance Revolving Loan Fund, is amended  
31 to read as follows:

32 (b) The commission may enter into contracts and other agreements in  
33 connection with the operation of the fund, including without limitation  
34 contracts and agreements with federal agencies, local governmental entities,  
35 the Arkansas Development Finance Authority, the ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division  
36 of Environmental Quality, and other persons to the extent necessary or

1 convenient for the implementation of the fund and programs financed, in whole  
2 or in part, with moneys in the fund.

3  
4 SECTION 3045. Arkansas Code § 15-5-909, concerning the definition of  
5 "department" under the law regarding Construction Assistance Revolving Loans,  
6 is repealed.

7 ~~(5) "Department" means the Arkansas Department of Environmental~~  
8 ~~Quality or a successor agency of the state;~~

9  
10 SECTION 3046. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 15-5-  
11 1204(a)(1), concerning issuance of revenue bonds by the Arkansas Development  
12 Finance Authority at the request of the Director of the Arkansas Department  
13 of Environmental Quality, is amended to read as follows:

14 (a)(1) Upon the request of the Director of the ~~Arkansas Department~~  
15 Division of Environmental Quality and based upon an estimate by the  
16 Department of Finance and Administration of the pledged fees to be collected,  
17 the Arkansas Development Finance Authority may issue bonds for the purpose  
18 of:

19  
20 SECTION 3047. Arkansas Code § 15-5-1502(2), concerning the definition  
21 of "department" under the Arkansas Sewage Disposal Systems Act, is repealed.

22 ~~(2) "Department" means the Arkansas Department of Environmental~~  
23 ~~Quality or its successor; and~~

24  
25 SECTION 3048. Arkansas Code § 15-5-1503(a)(1), concerning the  
26 establishment and use of the Brownfield Revolving Loan Fund, is amended to  
27 read as follows:

28 (a)(1) There is established on the books of the Arkansas Development  
29 Finance Authority a special restricted fund to be known as the "Brownfield  
30 Revolving Loan Fund", which shall be maintained by the authority and  
31 administered by the ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of Environmental Quality for  
32 the purposes stated under this subchapter.

33  
34 SECTION 3049. Arkansas Code § 15-5-1505 is amended to read as follows:  
35 15-5-1505. Brownfield Revolving Loan Fund – Administration.

36 (a)(1) The Brownfield Revolving Loan Fund shall be administered by the

1 ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of Environmental Quality, with the Arkansas  
2 Development Finance Authority serving as agent for the ~~department~~ division.

3 (2) The ~~department~~ division may establish procedures to  
4 administer the fund and the programs financed, in whole or in part, with  
5 moneys from the fund that are used for the purposes stated under this  
6 subchapter.

7 (3) The ~~department~~ division may enter into contracts and other  
8 agreements in connection with the operation of the fund, including contracts  
9 and agreements with federal agencies, local governmental entities, the  
10 authority, and other persons, to implement this subchapter.

11 (b) The ~~department~~ division shall have full authority to operate the  
12 fund and may make withdrawals as necessary to achieve the intended purposes  
13 of this subchapter.

14  
15 SECTION 3050. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 15-5-  
16 1506(a), concerning the loans and grants from the Brownfield Revolving Loan  
17 Fund, is amended to read as follows:

18 (a) With approval of the ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of Environmental  
19 Quality, the Arkansas Development Finance Authority may:

20  
21 SECTION 3051. Arkansas Code § 15-5-1509 is amended to read as follows:  
22 15-5-1509. Administrative fees.

23 (a) The ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of Environmental Quality and the  
24 Arkansas Development Finance Authority may establish fees for their  
25 respective administrative services under this subchapter, including the costs  
26 of financing loans and awarding grants under this subchapter.

27 (b) The authority to establish fees under this section is supplemental  
28 to the authority granted to the ~~department~~ division or the authority under  
29 other laws.

30  
31 SECTION 3052. Arkansas Code § 15-5-1510 is amended to read as follows:  
32 15-5-1510. Collection of fees.

33 (a)(1) With approval of the ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of  
34 Environmental Quality, the Arkansas Development Finance Authority may collect  
35 administrative fees and remit the fees directly to the authority within  
36 fifteen (15) days after each payment is collected.

1 (2) The authority shall remit any administrative fee owed to the  
2 ~~department~~ division, and the fees shall be deposited into the Brownfield  
3 Revolving Loan Fund on a quarterly basis.

4 ~~(3)(b)~~ Any administrative fees owed to the authority shall not  
5 be deposited into the fund.

6  
7 SECTION 3053. Arkansas Code § 15-5-1511 is amended to read as follows:  
8 15-5-1511. Regulations.

9 The ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of Environmental Quality may adopt  
10 regulations as necessary to implement this subchapter.

11  
12 SECTION 3054. Arkansas Code § 15-10-202(5), concerning a declaration  
13 of policy by the General Assembly under the Arkansas Energy Reorganization  
14 and Policy Act of 1981, is amended to read as follows:

15 (5) It is in the best interest of the citizens of this state to  
16 establish the Arkansas Energy Office of the ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of  
17 Environmental Quality to coordinate the planning and execution of  
18 comprehensive energy conservation programs; and

19  
20 SECTION 3055. Arkansas Code § 15-10-203 is amended to read as follows:  
21 15-10-203. Arkansas Energy Office – Creation.

22 (a)(1) There is created the Arkansas Energy Office of the ~~Arkansas~~  
23 ~~Department~~ Division of Environmental Quality.

24 (2)(A) The executive head of this office shall be the Director  
25 of the Arkansas Energy Office.

26 (B) The Director of the Arkansas Energy Office shall be  
27 appointed by the ~~Director of the Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality~~  
28 Secretary of the Department of Energy and Environment with the advice and  
29 consent of the Governor.

30 (b) The office shall consist of such sections as may be established by  
31 the Director of the Arkansas Energy Office, with the approval of the Director  
32 of the ~~Arkansas Department of~~ Division of Environmental Quality and the  
33 secretary.

34  
35 SECTION 3056. Arkansas Code § 15-10-204(c), concerning the Director of  
36 the Arkansas Energy Office, is amended to read as follows:

1 (c) In addition to other duties and functions prescribed for the  
2 Director of the Arkansas Energy Office of the ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of  
3 Environmental Quality elsewhere in this subchapter, the Director of the  
4 Arkansas Energy Office of the ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of Environmental  
5 Quality shall supervise the daily operation of the office and advise the  
6 Director of the ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of Environmental Quality, the  
7 Governor, and the General Assembly on energy matters.

8  
9 SECTION 3057. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 15-10-  
10 205(a), concerning the powers and duties of the Arkansas Energy Office of the  
11 Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality, is amended to read as follows:

12 (a) The Arkansas Energy Office of the ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of  
13 Environmental Quality shall coordinate authority and planning by the state in  
14 energy-related matters and shall have the following duties and  
15 responsibilities:

16  
17 SECTION 3058. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 15-10-  
18 903(a)(1), concerning a rebate for refueling stations provided by the  
19 Arkansas Energy Office of the Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality,  
20 is amended to read as follows:

21 (a)(1) The Arkansas Energy Office of the ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division  
22 of Environmental Quality may offer a rebate for each approved private  
23 electric vehicle charging station, public electric vehicle charging station,  
24 compressed natural gas refueling station, liquefied natural gas refueling  
25 station, and liquefied petroleum gas refueling station that is:

26  
27 SECTION 3059. Arkansas Code § 15-10-903(a)(2), concerning a rebate for  
28 refueling stations provided by the Arkansas Energy Office of the Arkansas  
29 Department of Environmental Quality, is amended to read as follows:

30 (2) The Director of the ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of  
31 Environmental Quality may increase the rebate percentages listed under  
32 subdivision (a)(1) of this section if the increase is designated or  
33 authorized by a funding source approved by a federal settlement or state  
34 settlement.

35  
36 SECTION 3060. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 15-10-

1 904(a), concerning rebates for qualified alternative motor vehicle property,  
2 is amended to read as follows:

3 (a) The Arkansas Energy Office of the ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of  
4 Environmental Quality may offer a rebate for qualified alternative motor  
5 vehicle property that is:

6  
7 SECTION 3061. Arkansas Code § 15-10-904(b), concerning rebates for  
8 qualified alternative motor vehicle property, is amended to read as follows:

9 (b) The Director of the ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of Environmental  
10 Quality may increase the rebate percentages listed under subsection (a) of  
11 this section if the increase is designated or authorized by a funding source  
12 approved by a federal settlement or state settlement.

13  
14 SECTION 3062. Arkansas Code § 15-22-222(b), concerning minimum stream  
15 flows established by the Arkansas Natural Resources Commission, is amended to  
16 read as follows:

17 (b)(1) Prior to the establishment of minimum stream flows, the  
18 Arkansas Natural Resources Commission shall notify by certified mail, return  
19 receipt requested, the Arkansas State Game and Fish Commission, the ~~Arkansas~~  
20 ~~Department~~ Division of Environmental Quality, and any other interested state  
21 boards and commissions.

22 (2) Within thirty (30) days of receipt of notice, the Arkansas  
23 State Game and Fish Commission and the ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of  
24 Environmental Quality shall file written comments with the Arkansas Natural  
25 Resources Commission.

26  
27 SECTION 3063. Arkansas Code § 15-22-224(b)(1)(B)(ii), concerning  
28 appointment of receiver, is amended to read as follows:

29 (ii) The Arkansas Water and Air Pollution Control  
30 Act, § 8-4-101 et seq., or rules promulgated in support of the Arkansas Water  
31 and Air Pollution Control Act, § 8-4-101 et seq., by the Arkansas Pollution  
32 Control and Ecology Commission or any successor or successors and enforced by  
33 the ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of Environmental Quality or any successor or  
34 successors.

35  
36 SECTION 3064. Arkansas Code § 15-22-224(g), concerning appointment of

1 receiver, is amended to read as follows:

2 (g) Upon certification by the Department of Health that the public  
3 water system's or public sewer system's operation represents an immediate  
4 public health threat or certification by the ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of  
5 Environmental Quality that the public sewer system is being operated in a  
6 manner to allow the discharge of pollutants in quantities unacceptable under  
7 applicable permits or state water quality standards and posing an imminent  
8 threat to public health, a court having jurisdiction in any proper action  
9 may, upon application of the Arkansas Natural Resources Commission,  
10 immediately appoint a receiver to take charge of the public water system or  
11 public sewer system.

12

13 SECTION 3065. Arkansas Code § 15-22-906(c), concerning the groundwater  
14 protection program, is amended to read as follows:

15 (c)(1) This program shall not be inconsistent with nor shall it  
16 preempt or supersede any regulatory authority currently or in the future  
17 vested with the ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of Environmental Quality, the  
18 State Plant Board, or the Department of Health.

19 (2) However, no permit or prior authorization from the ~~Arkansas~~  
20 ~~Department~~ Division of Environmental Quality, the State Plant Board, or the  
21 Department of Health shall be required to implement the provisions of this  
22 subchapter.

23

24 SECTION 3066. Arkansas Code § 15-23-303(2), concerning the definition  
25 of "natural rivers" under the Arkansas Natural and Scenic Rivers System Act,  
26 is amended to read as follows:

27 (2) "Natural rivers" means those rivers or sections thereof that  
28 are generally free from man-made impoundments and may have primitive,  
29 undeveloped roads whose lands are essentially primitive, i.e., with a minimal  
30 amount of disturbance by people. The water shall have the use classification  
31 AA according to the 1976 Arkansas water quality inventory report by the  
32 Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality, now known as the Division of  
33 Environmental Quality;

34

35 SECTION 3067. Arkansas Code § 15-23-303(3), concerning the definition  
36 of "natural rivers" under the Arkansas Natural and Scenic Rivers System Act,

1 is amended to read as follows:

2 (3) "Pastoral rivers" means rivers or sections thereof which are  
3 readily accessible, have some housing or other development near their  
4 shorelines, have preexisting impoundments that do not substantially alter the  
5 character and quality of the stream, partially or predominantly flow through  
6 agricultural areas, and have the use classification B according to the 1976  
7 Arkansas water quality inventory report by the ~~department~~ Arkansas Department  
8 of Environmental Quality, now known as the Division of Environmental Quality;  
9

10 SECTION 3068. Arkansas Code § 15-55-204 is amended to read as follows:  
11 15-55-204. State Geologist.

12 (a)(1) The State Geologist shall be appointed by and serve at the  
13 pleasure of the Governor.

14 (2) The State Geologist shall report to the Secretary of the  
15 Department of Energy and Environment.

16 (b) He or she shall:

17 (1) Be charged with the duty of administering the provisions of  
18 this subchapter and the rules, regulations, and orders established  
19 thereunder;

20 (2) Be custodian of all property held in the name of the  
21 Arkansas Geological Survey, and shall be, ex officio, in consultation with  
22 the Secretary of the Department of Energy and Environment, the disbursing  
23 agent of all funds available for its use; ~~and~~

24 (3) Furnish bond to the state, with corporate surety thereon, in  
25 the penal sum of ten thousand dollars (\$10,000), conditioned that he or she  
26 will faithfully perform his or her duties of employment and properly account  
27 for all funds received and disbursed by him or her. An additional disbursing  
28 agent's bond shall not be required of the State Geologist. The bond so  
29 furnished shall be filed with the Secretary of State, and an executed  
30 counterpart thereof shall be filed with the Auditor of State; and

31 (c) The ~~commission~~ Arkansas Geological Commission, by resolution duly  
32 adopted, may delegate to the State Geologist any of the powers or duties  
33 vested in or imposed upon it by this subchapter, and the delegated powers and  
34 duties may be exercised by the State Geologist in the name of the ~~commission~~  
35 Arkansas Geological Commission.

36

1 SECTION 3069. Arkansas Code § 15-55-205 is amended to read as follows:  
2 15-55-205. Geological assistants and engineers.

3 (a) It shall be the duty of the State Geologist, by and with the  
4 approval of the Arkansas Geological Survey and the Secretary of the  
5 Department of Energy and Environment, to appoint trained geological  
6 assistants, engineers, and others efficient in the arts and sciences as may  
7 be necessary to completely carry on the investigations undertaken.

8 (b) The State Geologist, assistants, and engineers, are directed to go  
9 into any mine or other place, where it is thought necessary by the State  
10 Geologist to go, in executing the directions of the commission or the  
11 Department of Energy and Environment.

12  
13 SECTION 3070. Arkansas Code § 15-57-202(a), concerning exemptions from  
14 land reclamation laws, is amended to read as follows:

15 (a) The owners of lands on which are situated open-cut mining pits  
16 that are not subject to the requirements of the Arkansas Open-Cut Land  
17 Reclamation Act of 1977 [repealed] or any other land reclamation laws of this  
18 state are authorized to make voluntary environmental or aesthetic  
19 improvements to reclaim or improve the lands and the open-cut mining pits  
20 thereon after first giving written notice of the proposed improvements to the  
21 ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of Environmental Quality.

22  
23 SECTION 3071. Arkansas Code § 15-57-203 is amended to read as follows:  
24 15-57-203. Notice of proposed reclamation – Investigation.

25 (a) Any owner of such lands who wishes to make environmental or  
26 aesthetic improvements to reclaim or improve the lands, as authorized in this  
27 subchapter, shall file written notice thereof with the ~~Arkansas Department~~  
28 Division of Environmental Quality before entering upon the improvements.

29 (b) The purpose of the notice shall be to advise the ~~department~~  
30 division of the proposed reclamation or improvements to be made and to enable  
31 the ~~department~~ division to make investigations necessary to assure that the  
32 owner of the lands does not engage in activities in connection with any  
33 reclamation or improvement project that would be in violation of the Arkansas  
34 Open-Cut Land Reclamation Act, § 15-57-301 et seq.

35  
36 SECTION 3072. Arkansas Code § 15-57-303(4) and (5) concerning the

1 definition of "department" and "director" under the Arkansas Open-Cut Land  
2 Reclamation Act, are repealed.

3 ~~(4) "Department" means the Arkansas Department of Environmental~~  
4 ~~Quality or such department or other entity which may lawfully succeed to the~~  
5 ~~powers and duties of the department;~~

6 ~~(5) "Director" means the executive head and active administrator~~  
7 ~~of the Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality;~~

8

9 SECTION 3073. Arkansas Code § 15-57-303(11), concerning the definition  
10 of "permit term" under the Arkansas Open-Cut Land Reclamation Act, is amended  
11 to read as follows:

12 (11) "Permit term" means the period of time beginning with the  
13 date upon which a permit is granted for open-cut mining of lands under the  
14 provisions of this subchapter and ending on the date requested by the  
15 operator and specified by the ~~department~~ division, though not to exceed five  
16 (5) years;

17

18 SECTION 3074. Arkansas Code § 15-57-304(a)(1), concerning violations  
19 of the Arkansas Open-Cut Land Reclamation Act, is amended to read as follows:

20 (1) Violate any provision of this subchapter or any rule,  
21 regulation, or order of the Arkansas Pollution Control and Ecology Commission  
22 or the ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of Environmental Quality issued pursuant  
23 to this subchapter;

24

25 SECTION 3075. Arkansas Code § 15-57-304(a)(5), concerning violations  
26 of the Arkansas Open-Cut Land Reclamation Act, is amended to read as follows:

27 (5) Willfully resist, prevent, impede, or interfere with the  
28 Director of the ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of Environmental Quality or any  
29 of his or her authorized representatives in the performance of duties  
30 pursuant to this subchapter.

31

32 SECTION 3076. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 15-57-  
33 305(a), concerning civil and administrative penalties regarding the Arkansas  
34 Open-Cut Land Reclamation Act, is amended to read as follows:

35 (a) Civil Penalties. The ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of  
36 Environmental Quality is authorized to institute a civil action in any court

1 of competent jurisdiction to accomplish any or all of the following:

2  
3 SECTION 3077. Arkansas Code § 15-57-305(a)(3), concerning civil and  
4 administrative penalties regarding the Arkansas Open-Cut Land Reclamation  
5 Act, is amended to read as follows:

6 (3) To recover all costs, expenses, and damages to the  
7 ~~department~~ division or any other agency of the state in enforcing the  
8 provisions of this subchapter and reclaiming affected land;

9  
10 SECTION 3078. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 15-57-  
11 305(b)(1), concerning civil and administrative penalties regarding the  
12 Arkansas Open-Cut Land Reclamation Act, is amended to read as follows:

13 (1) Any person who engages in open-cut mining without first  
14 securing a permit as required by this subchapter or who fails to reclaim  
15 affected lands in accordance with this subchapter or who violates any  
16 provision of this or any order, regulation, rule, permit, or reclamation plan  
17 issued pursuant thereto, may be assessed an administrative civil penalty by  
18 the ~~department~~ division not to exceed:

19  
20 SECTION 3079. Arkansas Code § 15-57-306 is amended to read as follows:

21 15-57-306. Administration.

22 The ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of Environmental Quality through the  
23 Director of the ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of Environmental Quality, and  
24 any representatives designated by the director, shall administer and enforce  
25 the provisions of this subchapter, except for those provisions specifically  
26 designated to the Arkansas Pollution Control and Ecology Commission.

27  
28 SECTION 3080. Arkansas Code § 15-57-308 is amended to read as follows:

29 15-57-308. Technical and financial assistance.

30 The ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of Environmental Quality shall have  
31 the authority to cooperate with and receive technical and financial  
32 assistance from the United States, or any department, agency, or officer  
33 thereof, for any purposes relating to the reclamation of affected lands.

34  
35 SECTION 3081. Arkansas Code § 15-57-309 is amended to read as follows:

36 15-57-309. Entry on lands for inspection.

1           The ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of Environmental Quality or its  
2 designated representatives may enter upon the lands affected by open-cut  
3 mining at all reasonable times for the purpose of determining compliance with  
4 the provisions of this subchapter.

5  
6           SECTION 3082. Arkansas Code § 15-57-310(a), concerning the necessity  
7 of a permit and effective date of the Arkansas Open-Cut Land Reclamation Act,  
8 is amended to read as follows:

9           (a) It shall be unlawful for any operator to engage in open-cut mining  
10 without first obtaining from the ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of  
11 Environmental Quality a permit to do so in the form required by the ~~Arkansas~~  
12 ~~Department~~ Division of Environmental Quality.

13  
14           SECTION 3083. Arkansas Code § 15-57-310(g), concerning the necessity  
15 of a permit and effective date of the Arkansas Open-Cut Land Reclamation Act,  
16 is amended to read as follows:

17           (g)(1) The ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of Environmental Quality shall  
18 develop regulations to implement the provisions of this chapter.

19           (2) The ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of Environmental Quality  
20 shall develop documentation that will guide an operator through the  
21 permitting process.

22  
23           SECTION 3084. Arkansas Code § 15-57-311(a), concerning an application  
24 for a permit and fees and bonds under the Arkansas Open-Cut Land Reclamation  
25 Act, is amended to read as follows:

26           (a) Any person desiring to engage in open-cut mining shall make  
27 written application to the ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of Environmental  
28 Quality for a permit. The application shall be made upon a form furnished by  
29 the ~~department~~ division.

30  
31           SECTION 3085. Arkansas Code § 15-57-311(c), concerning an application  
32 for a permit and fees and bonds under the Arkansas Open-Cut Land Reclamation  
33 Act, is amended to read as follows:

34           (c) The perimeter of the area to be permitted must be clearly marked  
35 on the ground at all times until such time as the permitted area is released  
36 from reclamation liability by the ~~department~~ division.

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SECTION 3086. Arkansas Code § 15-57-311(e), concerning an application for a permit and fees and bonds under the Arkansas Open-Cut Land Reclamation Act, is amended to read as follows:

(e) The application for a mining permit shall be accompanied by a bond or substituted security for the affected or the proposed affected area in favor of the State of Arkansas through the ~~department~~ division, to be effective from and after the time that the operator has affected land in the process of open-cut mining or after the time that a permit is granted and which shall meet the requirements of § 15-57-316.

SECTION 3087. Arkansas Code § 15-57-311(g), concerning an application for a permit and fees and bonds under the Arkansas Open-Cut Land Reclamation Act, is amended to read as follows:

(g) The ~~department~~ division may approve a permit for mining and reclaiming the permitted area in increments, provided that the permit application contains an acceptable incremental mining plan and is accompanied by a bond or substituted security to cover reclamation of each successive increment prior to affecting it.

SECTION 3088. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 15-57-311(j)(1)(A), concerning an application for a permit and fees and bonds under the Arkansas Open-Cut Land Reclamation Act, is amended to read as follows:

(j)(1)(A) After notice and opportunity for a public hearing, the ~~department~~ division may develop and issue general permits for any category of activities involving open-cut mining operations if the ~~department~~ division determines that the activities in a category:

SECTION 3089. Arkansas Code § 15-57-311(j)(1)(B), concerning an application for a permit and fees and bonds under the Arkansas Open-Cut Land Reclamation Act, is amended to read as follows:

(B) To qualify for inclusion under the general permit, applicants shall submit a notice of intent and supporting documentation on forms developed by the ~~department~~ division.

SECTION 3090. Arkansas Code § 15-57-311(j)(2), concerning an

1 application for a permit and fees and bonds under the Arkansas Open-Cut Land  
2 Reclamation Act, is amended to read as follows:

3 (2) The Director of the ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of  
4 Environmental Quality at his or her discretion may require an applicant to  
5 seek coverage under an individual permit.

6  
7 SECTION 3091. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 15-57-  
8 311(j)(3)(B), concerning an application for a permit and fees and bonds under  
9 the Arkansas Open-Cut Land Reclamation Act, is amended to read as follows:

10 (B) The general permit may be revoked or modified by the  
11 ~~department~~ division if after opportunity for a public hearing the ~~department~~  
12 division determines that the activities authorized by the general permit:

13  
14 SECTION 3092. Arkansas Code § 15-57-313 is amended to read as follows:

15 15-57-313. Withdrawal of land covered by permit.

16 An operator may withdraw any land covered by a permit, except affected  
17 land, by notifying the ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of Environmental Quality,  
18 in which case the penalty of the bond or substituted security filed by the  
19 operator pursuant to the provisions of this subchapter shall be reduced  
20 proportionately.

21  
22 SECTION 3093. Arkansas Code § 15-57-314 is amended to read as follows:

23 15-57-314. Extension of permit.

24 Where the area for which a permit is in effect is not mined or where  
25 open-cut mining operations have not been completed during the permit term,  
26 the permit as to such area may be extended by the ~~Arkansas Department~~  
27 Division of Environmental Quality on the terms and conditions required by the  
28 ~~department~~ division.

29  
30 SECTION 3094. Arkansas Code § 15-57-315(1)(A)(ii)(b), concerning the  
31 duties of an operator in an open-cut mine, is amended to read as follows:

32 (b) The ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of  
33 Environmental Quality may approve a steeper final slope where the original  
34 contour of the affected land was steeper than the one (1) to three (3) ratio  
35 if the operator can assure, to the satisfaction of the ~~department~~ division,  
36 the integrity of the final contour.

1  
2 SECTION 3095. Arkansas Code § 15-57-315(1)(B), concerning the duties  
3 of an operator in an open-cut mine, is amended to read as follows:

4 (B) The Director of the ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of  
5 Environmental Quality shall develop regulations which will allow the  
6 ~~department~~ division the discretion to permit deviations from certain  
7 reclamation standards, including final slope steepness requirements within  
8 this subdivision (1), because of unique mining situations, provided the  
9 deviations are consistent with the declaration of policy in this subchapter;

10  
11 SECTION 3096. Arkansas Code § 15-57-315(2)(B)(ii), concerning the  
12 duties of an operator in an open-cut mine, is amended to read as follows:

13 (ii) However, where water runoff from outside the  
14 affected area into the lake has a pH factor of less than six (6) or greater  
15 than nine (9) or in order to allow the lake to more closely match the natural  
16 environment, the ~~department~~ division, in its discretion, may allow a  
17 deviation in pH levels;

18  
19 SECTION 3097. Arkansas Code § 15-57-315(3), concerning the duties of  
20 an operator in an open-cut mine, is amended to read as follows:

21 (3) On all affected land which is to be reforested, the operator  
22 shall construct reasonable fire lanes or access roads of at least ten feet  
23 (10') in width through the land unless this requirement is waived by the  
24 ~~department~~ division;

25  
26 SECTION 3098. Arkansas Code § 15-57-315(4)(A), concerning the duties  
27 of an operator in an open-cut mine, is amended to read as follows:

28 (4)(A) Requirements for both establishment and maintenance of  
29 the vegetative cover shall be established by the ~~department~~ division, and the  
30 operator shall comply with the requirements or use other equally effective  
31 means.

32  
33 SECTION 3099. Arkansas Code § 15-57-315(4)(C), concerning the duties  
34 of an operator in an open-cut mine, is amended to read as follows:

35 (C)(i) Laboratory soil tests and recommendations shall be  
36 obtained from the University of Arkansas Cooperative Extension Service or any

1 other public or private organization or person approved by the ~~department~~  
2 division.

3 (ii) The operator shall furnish copies of the soil  
4 sample report and recommendations to the ~~department~~ division.

5  
6 SECTION 3100. Arkansas Code § 15-57-315(5)(B), concerning the duties  
7 of an operator in an open-cut mine, is amended to read as follows:

8 (B)(i) For the ~~department~~ division to approve a variance  
9 on the fifty-foot buffer zone, there must be an agreement between the  
10 affected property owner or right-of-way holder and the operator.

11 (ii) Proof of such an agreement must be provided to  
12 the ~~department~~ division.

13  
14 SECTION 3101. Arkansas Code § 15-57-315(6) and (7), concerning the  
15 duties of an operator in an open-cut mine, are amended to read as follows:

16 (6)(A) Whenever the exposed face of mined seams that contain  
17 acid-forming materials is not covered by water or by permanent water  
18 impoundment, the operator who mined the seams shall cover the exposed face of  
19 the seams with earth or spoil materials to a depth of not less than three  
20 feet (3') upon receiving approval from the ~~department~~ division.

21 (B) Alternatively, the ~~department~~ division may approve any  
22 other course or conduct proposed by the operator which will assure protection  
23 of the seams from atmospheric exposure, minimize leaching action, or  
24 otherwise conform with water pollution control criteria to prevent formation  
25 of acid mine water or discharge mine water;

26 (7)(A) The operator shall submit to the ~~department~~ division no  
27 later than June 1 of each year of the permit term:

28 (i) A map in a form acceptable to the ~~department~~  
29 division showing the location of the affected areas by section, township,  
30 range, and county with other legal description as will identify the affected  
31 land during the permit term upon which the operator has completed mining  
32 operations;

33 (ii) The extent of completed reclamation as required  
34 under § 15-57-311(d); and

35 (iii) A legend upon the map showing the number of  
36 acres of affected land.

1 (B) The annual report shall include the amount of material  
2 mined during each twelve-month period;

3  
4 SECTION 3102. Arkansas Code § 15-57-315(8)(A), concerning the duties  
5 of an operator in an open-cut mine, is amended to read as follows:

6 (8)(A) The ~~department's~~ division's approval of the operator's  
7 reclamation plan may be based upon the advice and technical assistance of the  
8 Arkansas Natural Resources Commission, the Arkansas State Game and Fish  
9 Commission, the State Forester, the Arkansas Geological Survey, and other  
10 agencies or persons having experience in foresting and reclaiming open-cut  
11 mined lands with forest or agronomic or horticultural species, based upon  
12 scientific knowledge from research into reclaiming and utilizing forest and  
13 agronomic species on open-cut mined lands.

14  
15 SECTION 3103. Arkansas Code § 15-57-315(9)(A)(ii), concerning the  
16 duties of an operator in an open-cut mine, is amended to read as follows:

17 (ii) Where natural weathering and leaching of  
18 affected land fails to support plant growth at the end of the reclamation  
19 period as required under § 15-57-311(d), the ~~department~~ division, at the  
20 request of the operator, may approve a permit extension from year-to-year  
21 from the termination of the permit on the permitted area.

22  
23 SECTION 3104. Arkansas Code § 15-57-315(9)(B), concerning the duties  
24 of an operator in an open-cut mine, is amended to read as follows:

25 (B) In the event that the operator does not comply with  
26 its schedule of reclamation or extensions granted within a reasonable period  
27 of time, to be determined by the ~~department~~ division, the bond or substituted  
28 security of affected land not satisfactorily reclaimed shall be forfeited;

29  
30 SECTION 3105. Arkansas Code § 15-57-315(10) and (11), concerning the  
31 duties of an operator in an open-cut mine, are amended to read as follows:

32 (10) In the event that the operator's reclamation plan is found  
33 impracticable by the operator, upon the application of the operator, the  
34 ~~department~~ division, in its discretion, may allow the modification of the  
35 reclamation plan, provided that the modified plan will carry out the purposes  
36 of this subchapter;

1 (11) All mine spoil generated by the operator shall be disposed  
2 of in a manner approved by the ~~department~~ division and designed to control  
3 siltation, erosion, or other damage to streams and natural watercourses, as  
4 best allowed by the soil conditions of the permitted area;

5  
6 SECTION 3106. Arkansas Code § 15-57-315(14), concerning the duties of  
7 an operator in an open-cut mine, is amended to read as follows:

8 (14) Upon approval from the ~~department~~ division, stockpiles of  
9 processed materials may be left without being reclaimed if there is a  
10 likelihood that there will be a market for the material in the future and  
11 that there will be no form of pollution from the stockpiles remaining on or  
12 leaving the property.

13  
14 SECTION 3107. Arkansas Code § 15-57-316 is amended to read as follows:

15 15-57-316. Bond of operator.

16 (a)(1)(A) Any bond provided in this subchapter to be filed with the  
17 ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of Environmental Quality by the operator shall  
18 be in such form as the ~~department~~ division shall prescribe, payable to the  
19 State of Arkansas through the ~~department~~ division, conditioned that the  
20 operator shall faithfully perform all requirements of this subchapter and  
21 comply with all rules, regulations, and orders made in accordance with the  
22 provisions of this subchapter.

23 (B) The bond shall be signed by the operator and a good  
24 and sufficient corporate surety authorized to do business in the United  
25 States.

26 (2) The penalty of the bond shall be in an amount equal to the  
27 estimated cost of reclamation, as required in § 15-57-311(d).

28 (3)(A) In the event that the ~~department~~ division finds the cost  
29 of reclamation to be an underestimate, the ~~department~~ division shall make use  
30 of available expertise to establish the estimated cost of reclamation, which  
31 shall be the amount of the bond.

32 (B) In the event of a disagreement concerning the estimate  
33 of the proper amount of the bond, the ~~department~~ division may retain  
34 independent expertise as is necessary to establish the amount of the bond.

35 (4) The Arkansas Pollution Control and Ecology Commission shall  
36 promulgate regulations concerning bonds and substituted security which will

1 attempt to ensure that small operators are not precluded from development of  
2 mineral resources as a result of high bond amounts, but which will provide  
3 reasonable security.

4 (b)(1) The ~~department~~ division may accept cash, securities, or other  
5 collateral, including, but not limited to, letters of credit and mortgages on  
6 real property provided by the operator in an amount equal to that of the  
7 required bond as provided in subsection (a) of this section.

8 (2) The bond or substituted security may be increased or reduced  
9 from time to time as provided in this subchapter.

10 (3) The bond or substituted security shall be in effect and  
11 subject to forfeiture in accordance with this subchapter from and after the  
12 time that the operator has affected land in the process of open-cut mining or  
13 after the time a permit is granted by the ~~department~~ division until the  
14 affected area has been reclaimed, approved, and released.

15 (c)(1) Any bond or substituted security shall not be cancelled by the  
16 surety unless it has given no less than ninety (90) days' notice of the  
17 cancellation to the ~~department~~ division.

18 (2) In no event shall a bond be cancelled on an area that at the  
19 time of cancellation has become affected land under the provisions of this  
20 subchapter.

21 (d)(1) If the license to do business of any surety upon a bond or  
22 substituted security filed with the ~~department~~ division pursuant to this  
23 subchapter shall be suspended or revoked, the operator, within thirty (30)  
24 days after receiving notice of the revocation, shall substitute for the  
25 surety a licensed corporate surety.

26 (2) Upon the failure of the operator to make substitution of the  
27 surety, the ~~department~~ division shall suspend the permit of the operator  
28 until the substitution is made.

29 (e)(1) The ~~department~~ division shall give written notice to the  
30 operator of any violation of this subchapter or noncompliance with any of the  
31 rules, regulations, or orders promulgated under this subchapter.

32 (2) If corrective measures determined by the ~~department~~  
33 division, including, but not limited to, increase of the bond or substituted  
34 security, are not commenced or agreed to by the operator within a reasonable  
35 period of time to be determined by the ~~department~~ division, the ~~department~~  
36 division may terminate the permit of the operator and forfeit the bond or

1 substituted security.

2 (3) If a permit has not been issued but a bond has been posted  
3 during the application process and this process will not be completed and  
4 there is affected land at the site, the ~~department~~ division may forfeit the  
5 bond or substituted security as provided in § 15-57-317.

6 (f) The ~~department~~ division may reclaim any affected land for which a  
7 bond has been forfeited.

8 (g)(1) Whenever an operator shall have completed all requirements  
9 under the provisions of this subchapter as to any affected land, it shall so  
10 notify the ~~department~~ division.

11 (2) If the ~~department~~ division determines that the operator has  
12 completed reclamation requirements and achieved results appropriate to the  
13 use for which the affected land was reclaimed, the ~~department~~ division shall  
14 release the operator from further obligations regarding the affected land and  
15 the penalty of the bond or substituted security shall be reduced accordingly.

16 (h)(1) Upon partial completion of reclamation, the operator may submit  
17 a written request to the ~~department~~ division for the purpose of  
18 proportionately reducing the amount of the bond or substituted security upon  
19 affected lands.

20 (2) If the ~~department~~ division determines that proper  
21 reclamation has been accomplished under the provisions of this subchapter on  
22 an area less than the total area of the affected area, the ~~department~~  
23 division shall proportionately reduce the amount of the bond or substituted  
24 security.

25 (i) No operator shall be eligible to receive a new or renewed permit  
26 who has had a permit revoked, bond forfeited, or who has outstanding  
27 substantial unmitigated violations of this subchapter, including failure to  
28 reclaim, unless the ~~department~~ division finds upon review a demonstrable  
29 change of circumstances justifying an exception to these prohibitions.

30 (j) Liability under the bond or substituted security shall be for the  
31 duration of the open-cut mining operation and for that period required to  
32 establish successful reclamation of the affected area.

33 (k) Nothing contained herein shall be deemed to preclude the right of  
34 the ~~department~~ division to recover the actual cost of reclamation over and  
35 above the amount of bond.

36

1 SECTION 3108. Arkansas Code § 15-57-317 is amended to read as follows:  
2 15-57-317. Bond forfeiture proceedings.

3 (a) The ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of Environmental Quality may  
4 institute proceedings to have the bond or substituted security of the  
5 operator forfeited for any of the following reasons, including, but not  
6 limited to:

7 (1) Failure to abate any violation of this subchapter or any  
8 rule or regulation promulgated thereunder;

9 (2) Failure to comply with the terms and conditions of the open-  
10 cut mining permit or the bond;

11 (3) Failure to comply with any order of the ~~department~~ division;

12 (4) Failure to reclaim any affected land in accordance with this  
13 subchapter; or

14 (5) Insolvency, bankruptcy, or receivership of the operator.

15 (b) The ~~department~~ division shall notify the operator in writing of  
16 the bond forfeiture, and the operator shall be given an opportunity for a  
17 hearing as provided in this subchapter.

18  
19 SECTION 3109. Arkansas Code § 15-57-318 is amended to read as follows:  
20 15-57-318. Registration of existing open-cut mines.

21 The ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of Environmental Quality shall require  
22 registration of all existing unpermitted open-cut mines in which mining  
23 operations are not being conducted.

24  
25 SECTION 3110. Arkansas Code § 15-57-319 is amended to read as follows:  
26 15-57-319. Land Reclamation Fund – Permit fee.

27 (a) A Land Reclamation Fund is established on the books of the  
28 Treasurer of State, Auditor of State, and Chief Fiscal Officer of the State.  
29 The fund shall consist of civil penalty and bond forfeiture amounts, gifts,  
30 grants, donations, and other funds as may be made available by the General  
31 Assembly, including all interest earned upon moneys deposited into the fund.  
32 The ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of Environmental Quality shall use the funds  
33 to accomplish reclamation of affected lands.

34 (b) All fees and any moneys collected as reimbursement for expenses,  
35 costs, and damages to the state under the provisions of this subchapter shall  
36 be deposited in the general revenue fund of the ~~department~~ division and shall

1 be used to defray the administrative and enforcement costs of this  
2 subchapter.

3 (c) The Arkansas Pollution Control and Ecology Commission may by  
4 regulation prescribe an annual permit fee on affected lands.

5

6 SECTION 3111. Arkansas Code § 15-57-320(e)(2) and (3), concerning  
7 exemptions from the Arkansas Open-Cut Land Reclamation Act, are amended to  
8 read as follows:

9 (2) In the event that authorization pursuant to section 404 of  
10 the Federal Clean Water Act is determined by the United States Army Corps of  
11 Engineers not to be required for a specific flood control or bank  
12 stabilization project, the ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of Environmental  
13 Quality will review the proposed project plan using the Section 401 water  
14 quality certification criteria.

15 (3) The ~~department~~ division shall provide the necessary  
16 authorization for the project once it has been determined that the activity  
17 will not adversely affect water quality.

18

19 SECTION 3112. Arkansas Code § 15-57-320(f)(1), concerning exemptions  
20 from the Arkansas Open-Cut Land Reclamation Act, is amended to read as  
21 follows:

22 (f)(1) All stream gravel mining operations on streams designated as  
23 extraordinary resource waters after January 1, 1995, may continue to operate  
24 under a permit issued by the ~~department~~ division for a period of two (2)  
25 years from the date of the designation.

26

27 SECTION 3113. Arkansas Code § 15-57-402(5)-(7), concerning the  
28 definition of "default", "department", and "director" under the Arkansas  
29 Quarry Operation, Reclamation, and Safe Closure Act, are amended to read as  
30 follows:

31 (5) "Default" means an operation that has uncorrected violations  
32 of the requirements of this subchapter which allows the ~~Arkansas Department~~  
33 Division of Environmental Quality to forfeit the bond to have the site  
34 reclaimed as per the reclamation plan;

35 (6) ~~"Department" means the Arkansas Department of Environmental~~  
36 ~~Quality or such department or other entity which may lawfully succeed to the~~

1 ~~powers and duties of the department;~~

2 ~~(7) "Director" means the executive head and active administrator~~  
3 ~~of the Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality;~~

4  
5 SECTION 3114. Arkansas Code § 15-57-402(9), concerning the definition  
6 of "fee" under the Arkansas Quarry Operation, Reclamation, and Safe Closure  
7 Act, is amended to read as follows:

8 (9) "Fee" means the notification or annual operating payment  
9 made by the operator to the ~~department~~ division. The amount cannot be changed  
10 except by legislative action. This fee will be payable on or before July 1  
11 for all operating quarries in the current calendar year;

12  
13 SECTION 3115. Arkansas Code § 15-57-402(14), concerning the definition  
14 of "notification of intent" under the Arkansas Quarry Operation, Reclamation,  
15 and Safe Closure Act, is amended to read as follows:

16 (14) "Notification of intent" is the operator's proper  
17 notification to the ~~department~~ division of the operator's intent to open a  
18 quarry, to temporarily close a quarry, to reactivate a quarry, and to shut  
19 down an exhausted quarry;

20  
21 SECTION 3116. Arkansas Code § 15-57-402(19), concerning the definition  
22 of "reclamation plan" under the Arkansas Quarry Operation, Reclamation, and  
23 Safe Closure Act, is amended to read as follows:

24 (19) "Reclamation plan" is a plan presented to the ~~department~~  
25 division by an operator detailing the reclamation and revegetation of lands  
26 affected by quarrying both contemporaneously and after the quarry is  
27 exhausted, and required by this subchapter;

28  
29 SECTION 3117. Arkansas Code § 15-57-403 is amended to read as follows:

30 15-57-403. Notification – Filing – Public notice and response.

31 (a) It shall be unlawful for any operator to engage in a quarrying  
32 operation without first submitting to the ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of  
33 Environmental Quality a "notification of intent to quarry" or a "notification  
34 of reactivated quarry" in accordance with this subchapter. The submittal,  
35 with returned receipt, shall enable the operator to begin or continue  
36 quarrying as long as the required reclamation bond is in force and proof of

1 public notification is included. An operator shall be deemed to be quarrying  
2 from the time he or she begins start-up until reclamation is completed at the  
3 exhausted quarry.

4 (b) Only new quarries or any land purchased or leased for a quarry  
5 after January 1, 1997, will be subject to this subchapter.

6 (c) There will be no requirements for a "notification of intent" to be  
7 filed with the ~~department~~ division for temporarily closed or exhausted  
8 quarries in existence prior to January 1, 1998. These quarries will be exempt  
9 from the requirements of this subchapter unless reactivated.

10 (d) A new notification of intent to quarry shall be required if a  
11 change in the majority ownership of an operator occurs.

12 (e) Representatives of the ~~department~~ division may make regular site  
13 visits to quarry operations, as necessary, to determine compliance with the  
14 requirements of the operator's notification. On these visits the operator  
15 will make his or her quarry operation accessible to the ~~department~~ division.

16 (f) Upon receipt of notifications of intent, the ~~department~~ division  
17 will have ninety (90) days to respond to the operator by certified mail to  
18 errors or omissions, or both, in the notifications.

19 (g) On completion of a notification, the ~~department~~ division will  
20 issue the operator a notice which will be posted on quarry premises at all  
21 times when the quarry is in operation and which will state:

22 "Name of company has completed the requirements, as set out by the 'Arkansas  
23 Quarry Operation, Reclamation and Safe Closure Act' of 1997, and has the  
24 unconditional authorization to quarry at this site, so long as the quarry is  
25 in compliance with all laws and regulations for up to five (5) years."

26 (h) The ~~department~~ division, upon finding the operator to be out of  
27 compliance with the requirements of his or her "notification" may issue  
28 warnings, citations, and notices of default to the operator.

29 (i) All filings and other communication will be by certified mail.

30 (j)(1)(A) An operator will give notice to the public in a local  
31 newspaper of general circulation that he or she intends to open or reactivate  
32 a quarry.

33 (B)(i) The notification will be part of an operator's  
34 intent and will be published in the newspaper at the same time the intent is  
35 filed with the ~~department~~ division.

36 (ii) Proof of publication shall be provided to the

1 ~~department~~ division in the operator's notice of intent.

2 (C) The notification will indicate the approximate  
3 location of the quarry using section, township, and range plus a road address  
4 or identifiable local landmarks when possible, the date of start up and the  
5 date the operator plans to temporarily close, if applicable, as well as the  
6 operator's name, address, phone number, and contact person.

7 (D) The notification shall state that interested parties  
8 may contact the ~~department~~ division for further information and that they  
9 have ten (10) days after publication of the notice to notify the ~~department~~  
10 division of any request for a public meeting.

11 (2)(A) If the ~~department~~ division receives at least five (5)  
12 requests for a public meeting from owners of property within one-half ( $\frac{1}{2}$ )  
13 mile of the quarry, it may require that the operator hold a public meeting.

14 (B) This public meeting shall be held within two (2) weeks  
15 after the expiration of the ten-day public notice period.

16 (C) This public meeting shall be held in a location near  
17 the proposed quarry to allow the public to discuss their interests with the  
18 operator prior to start-up.

19 (3)(A) The operator will keep responses from the public on file  
20 for two (2) years.

21 (B) The ~~department~~ division will forward responses it  
22 receives to the operator.

23 (4) The operator will keep a record of all action taken  
24 resulting from public responses for two (2) years, notifying the ~~department~~  
25 division of each action.

26  
27 SECTION 3118. Arkansas Code § 15-57-404(a)(1)-(5), concerning  
28 notification of intent to quarry, are amended to read as follows:

29 (a)(1) Except for operators of quarries excluded by § 15-57-403(b),  
30 any operator desiring to engage in quarrying shall complete a notification of  
31 intent to quarry which when submitted to the ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of  
32 Environmental Quality by certified mail will entitle said operator to conduct  
33 quarry operations.

34 (2)(A) For all active quarries, as of January 1, 1998, a  
35 "notification of intent" must be on file or in process at the ~~department~~  
36 division.

1 (B) For all new quarries to be opened after January 1,  
2 1998, a notification of intent must be on file or in process at the  
3 ~~department~~ division before the operator may begin quarry operations.

4 (3) The notification shall be accompanied by the payment of a  
5 fee of two hundred fifty dollars (\$250).

6 (4) The submittal shall be an agreement between the operator and  
7 the ~~department~~ division.

8 (5) The operator shall pay an annual fee to the ~~department~~  
9 division in the amount of twenty-five dollars (\$25.00) per acre of affected  
10 land, not to exceed one thousand dollars (\$1,000) per quarry.

11  
12 SECTION 3119. Arkansas Code § 15-57-404(c) and (d), concerning  
13 notification of intent to quarry, are amended to read as follows:

14 (c) All operators will have sixty (60) days to correct any errors or  
15 omissions to a notification of intent if notified by the ~~department~~ division  
16 that a notification of intent is incomplete.

17 (d) A fine of not more than one hundred dollars (\$100) per day, per  
18 citation, may be levied against an operator whose notification of intent is  
19 not completed and on file in the ~~department~~ division within sixty (60) days  
20 after receipt of notice by the ~~department~~ division of errors and omissions in  
21 the first filing. The maximum fine is five thousand dollars (\$5,000).

22  
23 SECTION 3120. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 15-57-  
24 405(a), concerning the notification of a temporarily closed quarry, is  
25 amended to read as follows:

26 (a) Quarry sites in which operations are only occasionally conducted  
27 and in which the operator anticipates future quarry activity can be shut down  
28 on a temporary basis. If so, the operator will file a notification of  
29 temporarily closed quarry with the ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of  
30 Environmental Quality, within thirty (30) days after an operation is closed.  
31 Full reclamation will not be required until no further additional quarrying  
32 is anticipated or the quarry is exhausted. All operational safeguards, as  
33 described in this subchapter, will remain in place as required until the  
34 quarry is exhausted. The notification of temporarily closed quarry will  
35 contain the following:

36

1 SECTION 3121. Arkansas Code § 15-57-405(b) and (c), concerning the  
2 notification of a temporarily closed quarry, are amended to read as follows:

3 (b) When an operator closes a quarry and fails to file a notification  
4 of temporarily closed quarry with the ~~department~~ division within sixty (60)  
5 days, the ~~department~~ division may levy a fine of not more than one hundred  
6 dollars (\$100) per day by citation until said notification is received. The  
7 maximum fine is five thousand dollars (\$5,000).

8 (c) If a notification of temporarily closed quarry is not received  
9 within ninety (90) days of the issuance of the citation, the ~~department~~  
10 division may declare that the quarry is in default and require the operator  
11 to reclaim the site as per the bonding and reclamation requirements or the  
12 ~~department~~ division may forfeit the bond and issue a contract to have the  
13 site reclaimed as per the reclamation requirements.

14  
15 SECTION 3122. Arkansas Code § 15-57-406 is amended to read as follows:  
16 15-57-406. Notification of reactivated quarry.

17 Prior to resuming operation in a temporarily closed quarry, an operator  
18 will notify the ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of Environmental Quality by  
19 certified mail with a notification of reactivated quarry. This notification  
20 will consist of the resubmittal of the notification of intent along with any  
21 modifications required, necessary by changed conditions at the quarry site.

22  
23 SECTION 3123. Arkansas Code § 15-57-407(a), concerning the refiling of  
24 a notification, is amended to read as follows:

25 (a) Every five (5) years all notifications of intent to quarry and of  
26 temporarily closed quarry must be refiled with the ~~Arkansas Department~~  
27 Division of Environmental Quality by certified mail on or before the  
28 operator's anniversary date, with any modifications made necessary by changed  
29 conditions in the quarry site, such as changes in the affected acreage,  
30 majority ownership of the operator, changes in public roads and manmade  
31 structures adjacent to the quarry site, or new technology.

32  
33 SECTION 3124. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 15-57-  
34 408(a), concerning the notification of an exhausted quarry, is amended to  
35 read as follows:

36 (a) When a quarry becomes exhausted, the operator will notify the

1 ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of Environmental Quality by registered mail that  
2 the quarry is an exhausted quarry. This notification will contain the  
3 following:  
4

5 SECTION 3125. Arkansas Code § 15-57-408(b)-(d), concerning the  
6 notification of an exhausted quarry, are amended to read as follows:

7 (b) If the operator fails to notify the ~~department~~ division of this  
8 change of status, the ~~department~~ division will notify the operator by  
9 citation. The operator will then have sixty (60) days to file said  
10 notification and commence with plans to reclaim quarry site as per the  
11 requirements of this subchapter.

12 (c) If the operator fails to file notification within the required  
13 sixty (60) days, the ~~department~~ division may levy a fine of one hundred  
14 dollars (\$100) per day by citation to the operator until notification is  
15 received by the ~~department~~ division. The maximum fine is five thousand  
16 dollars (\$5,000).

17 (d) If the operator fails to notify the ~~department~~ division within  
18 sixty (60) days and the fine is in effect, then the ~~department~~ division may  
19 declare the operator in default and order the operator to begin reclamation  
20 as required or the ~~department~~ division may forfeit bond and issue a contract  
21 to have the site reclaimed as per the reclamation plan.  
22

23 SECTION 3126. Arkansas Code § 15-57-409(a), concerning the reclamation  
24 of land at an exhausted quarry site, is amended to read as follows:

25 (a) When the quarry is exhausted, the planned reclamation of all  
26 affected lands at the quarry site will be completed by the operator, his or  
27 her subcontractor, or by the ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of Environmental  
28 Quality once the bond has been forfeited.  
29

30 SECTION 3127. Arkansas Code § 15-57-409(b)(2), concerning the  
31 reclamation of land at an exhausted quarry site, is amended to read as  
32 follows:

33 (2) All equipment, tools, manmade structures, and debris will be  
34 removed from affected lands or disposed of on property in a safe manner by  
35 mutual agreement between the operator and the landowner. The agreement will  
36 be on file at the operator's offices and sent to the ~~department~~ division with

1 notification of exhausted quarry.

2

3 SECTION 3128. Arkansas Code § 15-57-409(b)(9) and (10), concerning the  
4 reclamation of land at an exhausted quarry site, are amended to read as  
5 follows:

6 (9) Quarry site reclamation must be completed through the first  
7 seeding within one (1) year for quarry sites of less than fifty (50) acres,  
8 within two (2) years for quarry sites of more than fifty (50) acres and less  
9 than one hundred (100) acres, and within three (3) years for quarry sites of  
10 more than one hundred (100) acres and less than two hundred (200) acres. This  
11 time requirement for sites larger than two hundred (200) acres may be  
12 modified, at the discretion of the ~~department~~ division, upon agreement with  
13 the operator.

14 (10) If an operator fails to begin reclamation during the first  
15 six (6) months after a quarry is exhausted, the ~~department~~ division will  
16 notify the operator by citation of the above violation. If an operator then  
17 fails to begin reclamation within sixty (60) days after receiving the  
18 notification, the ~~department~~ division may then issue a second citation. The  
19 second citation will be accompanied by a fine of not more than fifty dollars  
20 (\$50.00) per day until reclamation begins. If an operator's reclamation  
21 effort does not begin within sixty (60) days of the second citation and the  
22 fine is in force for that period, then the ~~department~~ division will notify  
23 the operator that the operation is in default. The ~~department~~ division will  
24 then use the proceeds of the operator's forfeited bond to have the quarry  
25 site reclaimed as per the reclamation plan.

26

27 SECTION 3129. Arkansas Code § 15-57-410(5), concerning quarry site  
28 safety, is amended to read as follows:

29 (5) After January 1, 1998, no active quarry wall will be closer  
30 than fifty feet (50') from any private property line unless written  
31 permission is given by the adjacent property owner. Permission will be on  
32 file at the operator's office and a copy will be sent to the ~~Arkansas~~  
33 ~~Department~~ Division of Environmental Quality;

34

35 SECTION 3130. Arkansas Code § 15-57-410(10) and (11), concerning  
36 quarry site safety, are amended to read as follows:

1 (10) If the ~~Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality~~  
2 division finds the operator to be out of compliance with any of the  
3 requirements of subdivisions (1), (2), and (3) of this section, a citation  
4 will be given to the operator to comply within ninety (90) days. If the  
5 operator fails to comply within the ninety-day time requirement or shows no  
6 effort to comply, the ~~department~~ division may levy by citation a fine of not  
7 more than one hundred dollars (\$100) per day until the operator complies with  
8 said requirements. The maximum fine is five thousand dollars (\$5,000); and

9 (11) Any operator quarrying in violation of subdivisions (4) and  
10 (5) of this section will be subject to an immediate assessment of a fine of  
11 not more than one hundred dollars (\$100) per day or a shut down order by the  
12 ~~Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality~~ division, or both. The order  
13 will stay in effect at the discretion of the ~~Arkansas Department of~~  
14 ~~Environmental Quality~~ division until the operator is no longer in violation.

15  
16 SECTION 3131. Arkansas Code § 15-57-411 is amended to read as follows:  
17 15-57-411. Complaints of violations of this subchapter.

18 (a) The operator is required to document and respond to complaints by  
19 neighbors and citizens as they relate to the requirements of this subchapter.  
20 A record of the complaints and responses will be kept on file at the quarry  
21 office or company office for a minimum of two (2) years and sent to the  
22 ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of Environmental Quality.

23 (b) Any complaints received by the ~~department~~ division as they relate  
24 to this subchapter will be forwarded to the operator. The operator's response  
25 will be kept on file for future departmental review at the quarry office or  
26 the company office for a minimum of two (2) years.

27 (c) The ~~department~~ division shall investigate complaints by neighbors  
28 and citizens to determine if violations of this subchapter have occurred.

29  
30 SECTION 3132. Arkansas Code § 15-57-412(b)(1), concerning quarry  
31 bonds, is amended to read as follows:

32 (b)(1) As of January 1, 1998, the reclamation bond required for  
33 acceptance of an operator's notice of intent to open a quarry, or to  
34 reactivate a quarry, will be one thousand one hundred dollars (\$1,100) per  
35 acre of affected land. The face value of the bond will be evaluated every  
36 five (5) years by the operator and a representative of the ~~Arkansas~~

1 ~~Department~~ Division of Environmental Quality.

2  
3 SECTION 3133. Arkansas Code § 15-57-412(e), concerning quarry bonds,  
4 is amended to read as follows:

5 (e)(1) The operator may submit any of the following three (3) types of  
6 bonds or substitute security:

7 (A) A surety bond;

8 (B) A collateral bond with supporting collateral  
9 consisting of irrevocable letters of credit or certificates of deposit in  
10 favor of the ~~department~~ division; and

11 (C) A self bond with an unencumbered right to certain  
12 property to be held by the ~~department~~ division.

13 (2) Recommended bond forms shall be provided by the ~~department~~  
14 division. A variation of the language in all but the self bond form may be  
15 acceptable, provided the requirements of the subchapter and this Code are  
16 incorporated and the ~~department~~ division approves the language.

17 (3) In the event self bonding is used, the following conditions  
18 apply:

19 (A) The applicant must use the self bond form provided by  
20 the ~~department~~ division;

21 (B) The collateral to be offered must be appraised by a  
22 licensed appraiser approved by the operator and the ~~department~~ division;

23 (C) The operator must have unencumbered ownership of the  
24 collateral and provide proof of such ownership to the ~~department~~ division;

25 (D) The value of the collateral as bond will be eighty  
26 percent (80%) of the fair market value of the collateral as established by  
27 the appraiser;

28 (E) Any collateral that decreases in value due to usage  
29 (rolling stock) will be not be acceptable;

30 (F) In the event the collateral consists of real property,  
31 an environmental audit of the area must be provided to the ~~department~~  
32 division; and

33 (G) Where applicable, a lien will be filed against the  
34 collateral until the affected area is reclaimed and released by the Arkansas  
35 Pollution Control and Ecology Commission.

36

1 SECTION 3134. Arkansas Code § 15-57-413 is amended to read as follows:  
2 15-57-413. Hearing.

3 An operator may request and obtain an adjudicatory hearing and review  
4 by the Arkansas Pollution Control and Ecology Commission of any decision by  
5 the Director of the ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of Environmental Quality to  
6 enforce the provisions of this subchapter, including any action to impose a  
7 civil penalty, stop quarrying activities, or forfeit a bond. The decision of  
8 the commission shall be final and may be appealed by the operator to the  
9 circuit court of the county in which the quarry is located in accordance with  
10 the Arkansas Code.

11  
12 SECTION 3135. Arkansas Code § 15-57-414(a), concerning fees, fines,  
13 and forfeiture amounts collected by the Arkansas Department of Environmental  
14 Quality, is amended to read as follows:

15 (a) The ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of Environmental Quality shall  
16 collect fees, fines, and bond forfeiture amounts pursuant to this subchapter.

17  
18 SECTION 3136. Arkansas Code § 15-57-414(c), concerning fees, fines,  
19 and forfeiture amounts collected by the Arkansas Department of Environmental  
20 Quality, is amended to read as follows:

21 (c) The ~~department~~ division shall use these funds pursuant to this  
22 subchapter for contract awards for the reclamation of affected lands as  
23 required by this subchapter.

24  
25 SECTION 3137. Arkansas Code § 15-58-102(3), concerning legislative  
26 findings under the Arkansas Surface Coal Mining and Reclamation Act of 1979,  
27 is amended to read as follows:

28 (3) Because surface coal mining in this state takes place in  
29 areas where the terrain, climate, biological, chemical, and other physical  
30 conditions are peculiar to this state and because the ~~Arkansas Department~~  
31 Division of Environmental Quality is familiar with these conditions, the  
32 ~~department~~ division has the primary responsibility to develop, issue, and  
33 enforce regulations for surface mining and reclamation operations in this  
34 state pursuant to this chapter and in compliance with applicable federal laws  
35 and regulations;

36

1 SECTION 3138. Arkansas Code § 15-58-104(4)-(6), concerning the  
2 definitions of "department", "director", and "fund" under the Arkansas  
3 Surface Coal Mining and Reclamation Act of 1979, are amended to read as  
4 follows:

5 (4) "~~Department~~ Division" means the ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division  
6 of Environmental Quality or any department, bureau, commission, or agency  
7 that shall lawfully succeed to the powers and duties of that ~~department~~  
8 division;

9 (5) "Director" means the executive head and active administrator  
10 of the ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of Environmental Quality;

11 (6) "Fund" means the Abandoned Mine Reclamation Fund  
12 administrated by the United States Secretary of the Interior pursuant to the  
13 Surface Mining Control and Reclamation Act of 1977, Pub. L. No. 95-87. Moneys  
14 from the fund may be received by the ~~department~~ division through a grant from  
15 the United States Secretary of the Interior pursuant to the state abandoned  
16 mine reclamation program;

17  
18 SECTION 3139. Arkansas Code § 15-58-104(13) and (14), concerning the  
19 definitions of "state program" and "state abandoned mine reclamation program"  
20 under the Arkansas Surface Coal Mining and Reclamation Act of 1979, are  
21 amended to read as follows:

22 (13) "State program" means a program established by the  
23 ~~department~~ division and approved by the Secretary of the Interior pursuant to  
24 section 503 of the Surface Mining Control and Reclamation Act of 1977, Pub.  
25 L. No. 95-87, to regulate surface coal mining and reclamation operations on  
26 lands within the state;

27 (14) "State abandoned mine reclamation program" means a plan  
28 established by the ~~department~~ division and approved by the United States  
29 Secretary of the Interior pursuant to Title IV of the Surface Mining Control  
30 and Reclamation Act of 1977, Pub. L. No. 95-87, to reclaim mined areas of the  
31 state which were left without adequate reclamation prior to August 3, 1977;

32  
33 SECTION 3140. Arkansas Code § 15-58-201 is amended to read as follows:  
34 15-58-201. ~~Department~~ Division – Jurisdiction, powers, and duties.

35 (a) The ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of Environmental Quality is  
36 designated as the official agency whose duty it is to establish policies and

1 guidelines, to administer the guidelines contained in this chapter, and to  
2 institute other reasonable regulations and guidelines as they become  
3 necessary pursuant to this chapter. The rules and regulations may provide  
4 differing terms and provisions for particular conditions, particular mining  
5 techniques, types of coal, particular areas of the state, surface mines, and  
6 the surface impacts of underground mines or any other differences which  
7 appear relevant and necessary so long as the action taken is consistent with  
8 attainment of the general intent and purposes of this chapter.

9 (b) Exclusive jurisdiction over those aspects of surface coal mining  
10 and reclamation operations in this state regulated by the Surface Mining  
11 Control and Reclamation Act of 1977, Pub. L. No. 95-87, shall be vested in  
12 the ~~department~~ division.

13  
14 SECTION 3141. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 15-58-  
15 203(a), concerning the powers and duties of the Director of the Arkansas  
16 Department of Environmental Quality, is amended to read as follows:

17 (a) The authority shall be vested in the Director of the ~~Arkansas~~  
18 ~~Department~~ Division of Environmental Quality and such other persons as  
19 designated by the director to administer and enforce the provisions of this  
20 chapter. The director shall seek the accomplishment of the purposes of this  
21 chapter by all practicable and economically feasible methods, and in doing  
22 so, shall have the following duties and powers:

23  
24 SECTION 3142. Arkansas Code § 15-58-203(a)(13), concerning the powers  
25 and duties of the Director of the Arkansas Department of Environmental  
26 Quality, is amended to read as follows:

27 (13) To contract upon such terms as the director may agree upon  
28 for legal, financial, engineering, and other professional services necessary  
29 to expedite the conduct of the affairs of the ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of  
30 Environmental Quality under the provisions of this chapter;

31  
32 SECTION 3143. Arkansas Code § 15-58-205(a), concerning inspections by  
33 the Director of the Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality under the  
34 Arkansas Surface Coal Mining and Reclamation Act of 1979, is amended to read  
35 as follows:

36 (a) The Director of the ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of Environmental

1 Quality shall require such monitoring and reporting, shall cause to be made  
2 such inspections of any surface coal mining and reclamation operations, shall  
3 require the maintenance of such signs and markers, and shall take such other  
4 actions as are necessary to administer, enforce, and evaluate the  
5 administration of this chapter and to meet the state program requirements.  
6 For these purposes, the director or his or her authorized representatives,  
7 upon presentation of appropriate identifying credentials, shall have a right  
8 of entry to, upon, or through any surface coal mining and reclamation  
9 operations and, at reasonable times and without delay, may have access to and  
10 copy any records and inspect any monitoring equipment or method of operation  
11 required under this chapter or the regulations issued pursuant to this  
12 chapter.

13  
14 SECTION 3144. Arkansas Code § 15-58-205(c)(2), concerning inspections  
15 by the Director of the Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality under the  
16 Arkansas Surface Coal Mining and Reclamation Act of 1979, is amended to read  
17 as follows:

18 (2) Any person who is or may be adversely affected by a surface  
19 coal mining operation may notify the director or the commission of any  
20 failure on behalf of the ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of Environmental  
21 Quality to make proper inspections, after which the director, the commission,  
22 or their authorized representatives shall determine whether adequate and  
23 complete inspections have been made.

24  
25 SECTION 3145. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 15-58-  
26 207(a), concerning procedures and notice of public hearings by the Director  
27 of the Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality or the Arkansas Pollution  
28 Control and Ecology Commission, is amended to read as follows:

29 (a) The Director of the ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of Environmental  
30 Quality or the Arkansas Pollution Control and Ecology Commission shall give  
31 public notice of each of the following pending, proposed, or requested  
32 actions:

33  
34 SECTION 3146. Arkansas Code § 15-58-208(a), concerning an examiner to  
35 preside at hearings designated by the Arkansas Pollution Control and Ecology  
36 Commission or the Director of the Arkansas Department of Environmental

1 Quality, is amended to read as follows:

2 (a) For the purpose of receiving and responding to written comments  
3 and objections and for presiding at a public hearing, the Arkansas Pollution  
4 Control and Ecology Commission or the Director of the ~~Arkansas Department~~  
5 Division of Environmental Quality may designate one (1) or more examiners.

6  
7 SECTION 3147. Arkansas Code § 15-58-211(c), concerning adjudicatory  
8 hearings and procedures of the Arkansas Pollution Control and Ecology  
9 Commission, is amended to read as follows:

10 (c) Nothing in this chapter shall prohibit disposition of the matter  
11 through an informal conference before the Director of the ~~Arkansas Department~~  
12 Division of Environmental Quality if all parties agree, or disposition by  
13 stipulation, settlement, consent order, or default.

14  
15 SECTION 3148. Arkansas Code § 15-58-301(a), concerning cessation  
16 orders and violations deemed not to cause imminent danger or harm, is amended  
17 to read as follows:

18 (a) If the Director of the ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of  
19 Environmental Quality or his or her authorized representative determines on  
20 the basis of an inspection or other available information that a permittee is  
21 in violation of a requirement of this chapter or of the regulations issued  
22 pursuant to this chapter or a permit condition required by this chapter or  
23 the regulations issued pursuant to this chapter but the violation does not  
24 create an imminent danger to the health or safety of the public or is not  
25 causing or reasonably expected to cause significant imminent environmental  
26 harm to land, air, or water resources, the director or his or her authorized  
27 representative shall issue a notice of violation to the permittee or his or  
28 her agent fixing a reasonable time, but not more than ninety (90) days, for  
29 the abatement of the violation in accordance with the procedures set out in  
30 regulations issued by the Arkansas Pollution Control and Ecology Commission  
31 pursuant to this chapter.

32  
33 SECTION 3149. Arkansas Code § 15-58-302(a), concerning cessation  
34 orders deemed to cause danger or harm, is amended to read as follows:

35 (a) If the Director of the ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of  
36 Environmental Quality or his or her authorized representative determines, on

1 the basis of an inspection or other available information, that a condition  
2 or practice exists or that a permittee is in violation of a requirement of  
3 this chapter or of the regulations issued pursuant to this chapter or of a  
4 permit condition required by this chapter or the regulations issued pursuant  
5 to this chapter, and that this condition, practice, or violation also creates  
6 an imminent danger to the health or safety of the public or is causing or can  
7 reasonably be expected to cause significant imminent environmental harm to  
8 land, air, or water resources, the director or his or her authorized  
9 representative or agent shall immediately issue a cessation order in  
10 accordance with the procedures set out in regulations issued by the Arkansas  
11 Pollution Control and Ecology Commission pursuant to this chapter requiring  
12 the immediate termination of all surface coal mining and reclamation  
13 operations or the portion thereof relevant to the condition, practice, or  
14 violation.

15  
16 SECTION 3150. Arkansas Code § 15-58-303(a), concerning an order to  
17 show cause and a pattern of violations found by the Director of the Arkansas  
18 Department of Environmental Quality, is amended to read as follows:

19 (a) On the basis of an inspection, if the Director of the ~~Arkansas~~  
20 ~~Department~~ Division of Environmental Quality or his or her authorized agent  
21 has reason to believe that a pattern of violations of any requirements of  
22 this chapter or the regulations issued pursuant to this chapter or any permit  
23 conditions required by this chapter or by the regulations issued pursuant to  
24 this chapter exists or has existed and if the director or his or her  
25 authorized agent also finds that these violations are caused by the  
26 unwarranted failure of the permittee to comply with requirements of this  
27 chapter or permit conditions or that the violations are willfully caused by  
28 the permittee, the director or his or her authorized agent shall issue to the  
29 permittee forthwith an order to show cause as to why the permit should not be  
30 suspended or revoked in accordance with the procedures set out in regulations  
31 issued by the Arkansas Pollution Control and Ecology Commission pursuant to  
32 this chapter.

33  
34 SECTION 3151. Arkansas Code § 15-58-305 is amended to read as follows:

35 15-58-305. Interfering with the director or his or her agents –  
36 Criminal penalties.

1 Any person who shall, except as permitted by law, willfully resist,  
2 prevent, impede, or interfere with the Director of the ~~Arkansas Department~~  
3 Division of Environmental Quality or any of his or her authorized  
4 representatives in the performance of duties pursuant to this chapter shall  
5 be guilty of a misdemeanor and may be punished upon conviction by a criminal  
6 penalty of not more than five thousand dollars (\$5,000) or by imprisonment  
7 for not more than one (1) year, or by both.

8  
9 SECTION 3152. Arkansas Code § 15-58-308(a), concerning civil actions  
10 and injunctions undertaken by the Arkansas Pollution and Ecology Commission  
11 or the Director of the Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality, is  
12 amended to read as follows:

13 (a) The Arkansas Pollution Control and Ecology Commission or the  
14 Director of the ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of Environmental Quality may  
15 request the Attorney General or an attorney designated by the director to  
16 institute without bond or other undertaking a civil action for relief against  
17 a permittee or any person engaging in surface coal mining operations without  
18 a permit, including an injunction, restraining order, or any other  
19 appropriate order in the county in which any part of the surface coal mining  
20 and reclamation operation involved is located, or in the county in which the  
21 permittee has his or her principal office. No liability whatsoever shall  
22 accrue to the commission, the director, or their authorized representatives  
23 on taking any actions pursuant to this section.

24  
25 SECTION 3153. Arkansas Code § 15-58-309(a)(2), concerning the private  
26 right of action against the State of Arkansas under the Arkansas Surface Coal  
27 Mining and Reclamation Act of 1979, is amended to read as follows:

28 (2) Against the Director of the ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of  
29 Environmental Quality or the Arkansas Pollution Control and Ecology  
30 Commission where there is alleged a failure of the director or the commission  
31 to perform any act or duty under this chapter which is not discretionary with  
32 the director or with the commission.

33  
34 SECTION 3154. Arkansas Code § 15-58-309(c)(2), concerning the private  
35 right of action against the State of Arkansas under the Arkansas Surface Coal  
36 Mining and Reclamation Act of 1979, is amended to read as follows:

1           (2) In any action under this section, the director, the  
2 commission, or the ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of Environmental Quality, if  
3 not a party, may intervene as a matter of right.  
4

5           SECTION 3155. Arkansas Code § 15-58-309(d)-(f), concerning the private  
6 right of action against the State of Arkansas under the Arkansas Surface Coal  
7 Mining and Reclamation Act of 1979, are amended to read as follows:

8           (d) The court, in issuing any final order in any action brought  
9 pursuant to subsection (a) of this section, may award costs of litigation,  
10 including attorney and expert witness fees, to any party whenever the court  
11 determines the award is appropriate. If a temporary restraining order or  
12 preliminary injunction is sought, the court may require the filing of a bond  
13 or equivalent security, provided that no bond shall be required if the  
14 temporary restraining order or preliminary injunction is sought by the  
15 director, the commission, or the ~~department~~ division.

16           (e) Nothing in this section shall restrict any right which any person  
17 or class of persons may have under any statute or common law to seek  
18 enforcement of any of the provisions of this chapter and the regulations  
19 thereunder or to seek any other relief, including relief against the  
20 director, the commission, or the ~~department~~ division.

21           (f) Any person who is injured in his or her person or property through  
22 the violation by any operation of any rule, regulation, order, or permit  
23 issued pursuant to this chapter may bring an action for damages, including  
24 reasonable attorney and expert witness fees only in the judicial district in  
25 which the surface coal mining operation complained of is located. Nothing in  
26 this subsection shall affect the rights established by or limits imposed  
27 under the Workers' Compensation Law, § 11-9-101 et seq.  
28

29           SECTION 3156. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 15-58-  
30 401(b), concerning lands and water eligible for reclamation or drainage  
31 abatement expenditures, is amended to read as follows:

32           (b) Notwithstanding subsection (a) of this section, lands and water  
33 similarly affected by coal mining or other mining processes and abandoned or  
34 left in an inadequate reclamation status after August 3, 1977, are also  
35 eligible for reclamation or drainage abatement expenditures under this  
36 chapter if the Director of the ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of Environmental

1 Quality makes either of the following findings:

2

3 SECTION 3157. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 15-58-  
4 404(a), concerning abatement of adverse effects, and liens regarding the  
5 state abandoned mine reclamation program, is amended to read as follows:

6 (a) The Director of the ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of Environmental  
7 Quality or his or her authorized representative, under the state abandoned  
8 mine reclamation program, shall make a finding of fact that:

9

10 SECTION 3158. Arkansas Code § 15-58-405(a), concerning the right of  
11 entry for an approved state abandoned mine reclamation program, is amended to  
12 read as follows:

13 (a) The Director of the ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of Environmental  
14 Quality or his or her authorized representative pursuant to an approved state  
15 abandoned mine reclamation program shall have the right to enter upon any  
16 property for the purpose of conducting studies or exploratory work to  
17 determine the existence of adverse effects of past coal mining practices and  
18 to determine the feasibility of restoration, reclamation, abatement, control,  
19 or prevention of the adverse effects.

20

21 SECTION 3159. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 15-58-  
22 406(a), concerning condemnation of a mine by the Director of the Arkansas  
23 Department of Environmental Quality, is amended to read as follows:

24 (a) The Director of the ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of Environmental  
25 Quality, personally or through his or her authorized legal representative,  
26 pursuant to an approved state abandoned mine reclamation program, may acquire  
27 for the state any land, by purchase, donation, or condemnation, which is  
28 adversely affected by past coal mining practices if the director determines  
29 that acquisition of such land is necessary to successful reclamation and  
30 that:

31

32 SECTION 3160. Arkansas Code § 15-58-502(b), concerning the necessity  
33 of a permit and application, is amended to read as follows:

34 (b) No person shall engage in or carry out on lands within the state  
35 any surface coal mining operations unless that person has first obtained a  
36 permit issued by the Director of the ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of

1 Environmental Quality pursuant to this chapter and in accordance with the  
2 regulations issued pursuant to this chapter.

3  
4 SECTION 3161. Arkansas Code § 15-58-503(a)(3)(A), concerning the power  
5 of the Arkansas Pollution Control and Ecology Commission under the Surface  
6 Mining Control and Reclamation Act of 1977, is amended to read as follows:

7 (3)(A) The regulations shall specifically provide that all  
8 applications shall include a determination of the probable hydrologic  
9 consequences of the mining and reclamation operations, both on and off the  
10 mine site, with respect to the hydrologic regime, quantity, and quality of  
11 water in surface and groundwater systems, including the dissolved and  
12 suspended solids under seasonal flow conditions and the collection of  
13 sufficient data for the mine site and surrounding surface areas so that an  
14 assessment can be made by the Director of the ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of  
15 Environmental Quality of the probable cumulative impacts of all anticipated  
16 mining in the area upon the hydrology of the area and particularly upon water  
17 availability. However, this determination shall not be required until  
18 hydrologic information on the general area prior to mining is made available  
19 from an appropriate federal or state agency. The permit shall not be approved  
20 until the information is available and is incorporated into the application.

21  
22 SECTION 3162. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 15-58-  
23 503(a)(3)(B), concerning the power of the Arkansas Pollution Control and  
24 Ecology Commission under the Surface Mining Control and Reclamation Act of  
25 1977, is amended to read as follows:

26 (B) The costs of the following activities, which shall be  
27 performed by a qualified public or private laboratory or other public or  
28 private qualified entity designated by the ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of  
29 Environmental Quality shall be borne, upon written request of the small  
30 operator, by the ~~department~~ division in accordance with regulations issued by  
31 the commission:

32  
33 SECTION 3163. Arkansas Code § 15-58-503(a)(3)(B)(vii), concerning the  
34 power of the Arkansas Pollution Control and Ecology Commission under the  
35 Surface Mining Control and Reclamation Act of 1977, is amended to read as  
36 follows:

1 (vii) The ~~department~~ division shall provide or  
2 assume the cost of training small operators concerning the preparation of  
3 permit applications and compliance with the regulatory program and shall  
4 ensure that small operators are aware of the assistance available under this  
5 subdivision (a)(2).

6  
7 SECTION 3164. Arkansas Code § 15-58-503(a)(3)(C), concerning the power  
8 of the Arkansas Pollution Control and Ecology Commission under the Surface  
9 Mining Control and Reclamation Act of 1977, is amended to read as follows:

10 (C) A coal operator that has received assistance pursuant  
11 to this subdivision (a)(2) shall reimburse the ~~department~~ division for the  
12 cost of the services rendered if the director finds that the operator's  
13 actual and attributed annual production of coal for all locations exceeds  
14 three hundred thousand (300,000) tons during the twelve (12) months  
15 immediately following the date on which the operator is issued the surface  
16 coal mining and reclamation permit.

17  
18 SECTION 3165. Arkansas Code § 15-58-503(c), concerning the power of  
19 the Arkansas Pollution Control and Ecology Commission under the Surface  
20 Mining Control and Reclamation Act of 1977, is amended to read as follows:

21 (c) The commission shall issue regulations to protect confidential  
22 information which is submitted to the ~~department~~ division as part of a permit  
23 application or pursuant to the coal exploration requirements.

24  
25 SECTION 3166. Arkansas Code § 15-58-504(b), concerning coal  
26 exploration operations, is amended to read as follows:

27 (b) Coal exploration regulations shall provide, at a minimum, that  
28 prior to conducting any exploration under this subchapter, any person must  
29 file with the ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of Environmental Quality notice of  
30 intention to explore, and that no operator shall remove more than two hundred  
31 fifty (250) tons of coal pursuant to an exploration permit without the  
32 specific written approval of the ~~department~~ division.

33  
34 SECTION 3167. Arkansas Code § 15-58-508(a), concerning fees of the  
35 Surface Coal Mining Operation Fund, is amended to read as follows:

36 (a) Each application for a surface coal mining permit or renewal of

1 that permit shall be accompanied by an initial application fee as determined  
2 by the Director of the ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of Environmental Quality  
3 in accordance with a fee schedule which the Arkansas Pollution Control and  
4 Ecology Commission shall develop and issue by regulations.

5  
6 SECTION 3168. Arkansas Code § 15-58-508(d), concerning fees of the  
7 Surface Coal Mining Operation Fund, is amended to read as follows:

8 (d) The ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of Environmental Quality shall  
9 maintain a separate Surface Coal Mining Operation Fund for the fees which may  
10 only be used for the administration and enforcement of this chapter and as  
11 the state's matching percentage share for any grants available to the state  
12 for the administration and enforcement of the state program.

13  
14 SECTION 3169. Arkansas Code § 15-58-509(a) and (b), concerning the  
15 filing of performance bonds with the Arkansas Department of Environmental  
16 Quality, are amended to read as follows:

17 (a) After a surface coal mining and reclamation permit application has  
18 been approved but before the permit is issued, the applicant shall file a  
19 bond with the ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of Environmental Quality. This  
20 bond shall be on a form furnished by the ~~department~~ division in accordance  
21 with the regulations issued by the Arkansas Pollution Control and Ecology  
22 Commission. It shall be for performance or acceptable alternative payable, as  
23 appropriate, to the ~~department of~~ division and conditioned upon faithful  
24 performance of all the requirements of this chapter, the regulations issued  
25 pursuant to this chapter, and the permit.

26 (b) All forfeitures collected under this chapter shall be deposited  
27 into a separate Mining Reclamation Trust Fund which shall be maintained by  
28 the ~~department~~ division. The fund may only be used to accomplish reclamation  
29 of land covered by forfeitures of performance bonds.

30  
31 SECTION 3170. Arkansas Code § 15-58-509(e), concerning the filing of  
32 performance bonds with the Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality, is  
33 amended to read as follows:

34 (e) The amount of the bond shall be sufficient to assure the  
35 completion of the reclamation plan if the work had to be performed by the  
36 ~~department~~ division in the event of forfeiture. In no case shall the bond for

1 the entire area under one (1) permit be less than ten thousand dollars  
2 (\$10,000).

3  
4 SECTION 3171. Arkansas Code § 15-71-104(a)(1), concerning counsel for  
5 the Oil and Gas Commission, is amended to read as follows:

6 (a)(1) The Oil and Gas Commission, in consultation with the Secretary  
7 of the Department of Energy and Environment, may employ an attorney to  
8 provide specialized professional services in matters requiring legal  
9 representation.

10  
11 SECTION 3172. Arkansas Code § 15-71-105(a) and (b), concerning the  
12 Director of Production and Conservation, are amended to read as follows:

13 (a)(1) The Oil and Gas Commission may appoint one (1) Director of  
14 Production and Conservation.

15 (2) The appointment under subdivision (a)(1) of this section is  
16 with the approval of the Governor .

17 (3) The director serves at the pleasure of the Governor at the  
18 salary set by law.

19 (4) The director shall report to the Secretary of the Department  
20 of Energy and Environment.

21 (b) The commission and the Secretary of the Department of Energy and  
22 Environment may authorize the director to employ other assistants, petroleum  
23 and natural gas engineers, bookkeepers, auditors, gaugers, and stenographers  
24 and other employees as necessary to properly administer and enforce the  
25 provisions of this act.

26  
27 SECTION 3173. Arkansas Code § 15-71-110(d)(16), concerning the powers  
28 and duties of the Oil and Gas Commission, is amended to read as follows:

29 (16) To acquire primary enforcement responsibility either  
30 singularly or jointly with the ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of Environmental  
31 Quality for the control of underground injection under the applicable  
32 provisions of the Safe Drinking Water Act, Pub. L. No. 93-523, as it existed  
33 on January 1, 2005;

34  
35 SECTION 3174. Arkansas Code § 15-71-113(a), concerning the authority  
36 to acquire and maintain unmarked cars, is amended to read as follows:

1 (a) In order to enable the Oil and Gas Commission to carry out its  
2 duties in the most effective and efficient manner, the commission is  
3 authorized, in consultation with the Secretary of the Department of Energy  
4 and Environment, to acquire and maintain for use by field personnel full-  
5 sized sedan automobiles equipped with V-8 engines in the 350 cubic inch  
6 displacement range, limited slip differentials, and vinyl seat covers.

7  
8 SECTION 3175. Arkansas Code § 15-72-219(b)(1), concerning the  
9 compensation of surface owners and surface tenants for damages and  
10 restoration of land, is amended to read as follows:

11 (1) ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of Environmental Quality; or  
12

13 SECTION 3176. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 15-72-  
14 219(c), concerning the compensation of surface owners and surface tenants for  
15 damages and restoration of land, is amended to read as follows:

16 (c) Any rules or regulations adopted by the ~~department~~ division or the  
17 commission pertaining to spills of crude oil or produced water shall:  
18

19 SECTION 3177. Arkansas Code § 15-72-219(f), concerning the  
20 compensation of surface owners and surface tenants for damages and  
21 restoration of land, is amended to read as follows:

22 (f) Nothing contained in this section is intended to limit or restrict  
23 the rights of any surface owner or surface tenant to maintain a cause of  
24 action for any damage to real property that is not addressed by the rules and  
25 regulations adopted by the ~~department~~ division or the commission pertaining  
26 to spills of crude oil or produced water.  
27

28 SECTION 3178. Arkansas Code § 15-72-802(1), concerning the definition  
29 of "assignment" under the Emergency Petroleum Set-Aside Act, is amended to  
30 read as follows:

31 (1) "Assignment" means an action taken by the Arkansas Energy  
32 Office of the ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of Environmental Quality,  
33 designating that a prime supplier of petroleum products supply them to an  
34 authorized consumer, wholesale purchaser-consumer, or wholesale purchaser-  
35 reseller to facilitate relief of emergency or hardship needs, pursuant to §  
36 15-72-804;

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SECTION 3179. Arkansas Code § 15-72-802(9), concerning the definition of "set-aside" under the Emergency Petroleum Set-Aside Act, is amended to read as follows:

(9) "Set-aside" means, with respect to a particular prime supplier, the amount of a petroleum product which is made available from the total supply of a prime supplier, pursuant to the provisions of § 15-72-804, for utilization by the Arkansas Energy Office of the ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of Environmental Quality to resolve emergencies and hardships due to shortages or other dislocations in petroleum products distribution systems; and

SECTION 3180. Arkansas Code § 15-72-804(a)(2), concerning the establishment of the state emergency petroleum set-aside general provisions, is amended to read as follows:

(2) The rules shall direct prime suppliers and brokers to set aside a percentage of petroleum products that are delivered to suppliers in the state for the Arkansas Energy Office of the ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of Environmental Quality to distribute to meet emergency and hardship needs.

SECTION 3181. Arkansas Code § 15-75-206 is amended to read as follows:  
15-75-206. Personnel – Counsel.

(a)(1) The Liquefied Petroleum Gas Board shall appoint a Director of the Liquefied Petroleum Gas Board to serve with the approval and at the pleasure of the Governor.

(2) The director shall report to the Secretary of the Department of Energy and Environment.

(b) The director shall have the authority, in consultation with the secretary, to:

(1) Employ assistants, inspectors, and other personnel; and

(2) Retain counsel as may be necessary to aid it properly in the administration of this subchapter, with the approval of the board.

(c)(1)(A) The director shall have the power and duty to receive applications and to review and approve applications for all classes of permits after applications and supporting papers have been on file for at least thirty (30) days.

1 (B) The director may issue class one permits once all  
2 conditions or prerequisites have been met as set out in § 15-75-307 and the  
3 application has been approved by the board.

4 (C) The director may issue all class two through class ten  
5 permits after all conditions and prerequisites have been met as set out in §§  
6 15-75-308 – 15-75-317.

7 (2) The director may refuse to approve applications for permits  
8 for safety reasons.

9 (d) The director's decisions on the approval of the applications for  
10 class one permits shall be reviewed by the board at its next regularly  
11 scheduled meeting.

12  
13 SECTION 3182. Arkansas Code § 15-75-301(2), concerning the definition  
14 of "director" under the Liquefied Petroleum Gas Board laws, is repealed.

15 ~~(2) "Director" means the Director of the Liquefied Petroleum Gas~~  
16 ~~Board appointed by the board and serving with the approval and at the~~  
17 ~~pleasure of the Governor; and~~

18  
19 SECTION 3183. Arkansas Code § 15-76-324 is amended to read as follows:  
20 15-76-324. ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of Environmental Quality.

21 (a) Nothing contained in this subchapter shall affect the jurisdiction  
22 of the ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of Environmental Quality over owners or  
23 producers of brine or the processing and disposal of brine with respect to  
24 water or air pollution control or other matters within its jurisdiction or  
25 the requirement that owners, producers, and processors apply for and obtain a  
26 permit from the ~~department~~ division as provided by the Arkansas Water and Air  
27 Pollution Control Act, as amended, § 8-4-101 et seq.

28 (b) Nothing contained in this subchapter confers upon the Arkansas  
29 Pollution Control and Ecology Commission any authority or jurisdiction  
30 conferred by law upon the ~~department~~ division or shall be deemed to amend the  
31 Arkansas Water and Air Pollution Control Act, as amended, § 8-4-101 et seq.

32  
33 SECTION 3184. Arkansas Code § 17-29-313(a)(2)(B)(ii)(b), concerning  
34 the requirement of a permit to construct or operate a crematorium, is amended  
35 to read as follows:

36 (b) A copy of the permit issued by the

1 ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of Environmental Quality under § 8-4-203 to  
2 construct the crematorium; and

3  
4 SECTION 3185. Arkansas Code § 17-44-108(b)(2), concerning a license  
5 requirement for all scrap metal recyclers, is amended to read as follows:

6 (2) Show proof of a required national pollution discharge  
7 elimination system stormwater permit issued by the ~~Arkansas Department~~  
8 Division of Environmental Quality; and

9  
10 SECTION 3186. Arkansas Code § 18-15-1703(e)(2), concerning an  
11 application and taking of real property, is amended to read as follows:

12 (2) Laws or rules within the jurisdiction of the State Health  
13 Officer or regulatory activities of the Arkansas Pollution Control and  
14 Ecology Commission, the ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of Environmental  
15 Quality, the Arkansas Livestock and Poultry Commission, the Arkansas Public  
16 Service Commission, or the State Plant Board under delegated or authorized  
17 programs or approved plans under federal law;

18  
19 SECTION 3187. Arkansas Code § 19-5-930(b), concerning the Hazardous  
20 Substance Remedial Action Trust Fund, is amended to read as follows:

21 (b) The Hazardous Substance Remedial Action Trust Fund shall consist  
22 of all moneys appropriated by the General Assembly to the Hazardous Substance  
23 Remedial Action Trust Fund, gifts, donations, interest earnings, fees on the  
24 generation of hazardous waste, punitive damages, penalties, and any other  
25 moneys legally designated, with the exception of those moneys deposited into  
26 the Environmental Education Fund as set out in § 8-7-509(d), all moneys  
27 received as penalties under §§ 8-4-101 – 8-4-106, 8-4-201 – 8-4-229, 8-4-301  
28 – 8-4-313, 8-6-201 – 8-6-212, 8-6-213 [repealed], 8-6-214, 8-7-201 – 8-7-226,  
29 8-7-504, and 20-27-1001 – 20-27-1007, and all punitive damages collected  
30 under § 8-7-517, there to be administered by the Director of the ~~Arkansas~~  
31 ~~Department~~ Division of Environmental Quality as provided in § 8-7-509.

32  
33 SECTION 3188. Arkansas Code § 19-5-959(b), concerning the Petroleum  
34 Storage Tank Trust Fund, is amended to read as follows:

35 (b) The Petroleum Storage Tank Trust Fund shall consist of the  
36 petroleum environmental assurance fees as provided in § 8-7-906, all other

1 fees assessed under the Petroleum Storage Tank Trust Fund Act, § 8-7-901 et  
2 seq., gifts, grants, donations, such other funds made available by the  
3 General Assembly, the excess of a reserve of two (2) months requirements of  
4 debt service from fees in the Petroleum Storage Tank Trust Fund Revenue Bond  
5 Debt Service Fund under § 15-5-1206 and any moneys recovered by the ~~Arkansas~~  
6 ~~Department~~ Division of Environmental Quality which are attributable to  
7 collections of civil penalties under § 8-7-806 or to costs under § 8-7-807  
8 not owed the Regulated Substance Storage Tank Program Fund, there to be  
9 administered by the Director of the ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of  
10 Environmental Quality, who shall make disbursements from the Petroleum  
11 Storage Tank Trust Fund as authorized by the Petroleum Storage Tank Trust  
12 Fund Act, § 8-7-901 et seq.

13  
14 SECTION 3189. Arkansas Code § 19-5-961(b), concerning the Solid Waste  
15 Management and Recycling Fund, is amended to read as follows:

16 (b) The fund shall consist of those special revenues specified in §§  
17 19-6-301(154) and 19-6-301(240), reimbursement of funds pursuant to § 8-6-  
18 610, federal funds which may become available, interest earnings, gifts,  
19 donations, and any other funds made available by the General Assembly, there  
20 to be administered by the ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of Environmental  
21 Quality as set out in the Solid Waste Management and Recycling Fund Act, § 8-  
22 6-601 et seq.

23  
24 SECTION 3190. Arkansas Code § 19-5-979(b), concerning the Landfill  
25 Post-Closure Trust Fund, is amended to read as follows:

26 (b) The fund shall consist of those special revenues as specified in §  
27 19-6-301(167), federal funds, interest earned, and any gifts or donations,  
28 there to be used solely for the administration of and for landfill post-  
29 closure corrective action as administered by the ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division  
30 of Environmental Quality as set out in § 8-6-1001 et seq., and shall not be  
31 appropriated for any other purpose.

32  
33 SECTION 3191. Arkansas Code § 19-5-983(b)(2), concerning the Land  
34 Reclamation Fund, is amended to read as follows:

35 (2) The fund shall be used for the reclamation of affected lands  
36 as administered by the ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of Environmental Quality

1 as set out in the Arkansas Open-Cut Land Reclamation Act, § 15-57-301 et  
2 seq., and for contract awards for affected lands as required by the Arkansas  
3 Quarry Operation, Reclamation, and Safe Closure Act, § 15-57-401 et seq.  
4

5 SECTION 3192. Arkansas Code § 19-5-1027(b), concerning the  
6 Environmental Education Fund, is amended to read as follows:

7 (b) The Environmental Education Fund shall consist of that portion of  
8 moneys transferred, not to exceed two hundred seventy-five thousand dollars  
9 (\$275,000) per fiscal year, from the Hazardous Substance Remedial Action  
10 Trust Fund as set out in § 8-7-509, there to be used by the ~~Arkansas~~  
11 ~~Department~~ Division of Environmental Quality to provide environmental  
12 educational materials and training.  
13

14 SECTION 3193. Arkansas Code § 19-5-1028(b), concerning the Abandoned  
15 Mine Reclamation Fund, is amended to read as follows:

16 (b) The fund shall consist of moneys received through a grant from the  
17 United States Secretary of the Interior pursuant to the State Abandoned Mine  
18 Reclamation Program, there to be used by the ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of  
19 Environmental Quality for that program.  
20

21 SECTION 3194. Arkansas Code § 19-5-1029(b), concerning the Surface  
22 Coal Mining Operation Fund, is amended to read as follows:

23 (b) The fund shall consist of application and permit fees for surface  
24 coal mining, there to be used by the ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of  
25 Environmental Quality only for the administration and enforcement of the  
26 Arkansas Surface Coal Mining and Reclamation Act of 1979, § 15-58-101 et  
27 seq., and as the state's matching percentage share for any grants available  
28 to the state for the administration and enforcement of the state program as  
29 defined in § 15-58-104.  
30

31 SECTION 3195. Arkansas Code § 19-5-1102(b), concerning the Performance  
32 Partnership Trust Fund, is amended to read as follows:

33 (b) The Performance Partnership Trust Fund shall be used by the  
34 ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of Environmental Quality to defray the costs of  
35 developing and implementing a management organization utilizing the  
36 principles of the National Environmental Performance Partnership System,

1 advocated by the United States Environmental Protection Agency, which  
2 integrates environmental indicators, management information, and performance-  
3 based budgeting and accounting to measure agency performance.

4  
5 SECTION 3196. Arkansas Code § 19-5-1105(b)(2), concerning the Small  
6 Business Revolving Loan Fund, is amended to read as follows:

7 (2) The Small Business Revolving Loan Fund shall be administered  
8 by the ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of Environmental Quality and used  
9 exclusively for those purposes set out in the Small Business Revolving Loan  
10 Fund for Pollution Control and Prevention Technologies Act, § 8-5-801 et seq.

11  
12 SECTION 3197. Arkansas Code § 19-5-1111 is amended to read as follows:  
13 19-5-1111. ~~ADEQ~~ Environmental Settlement Trust Fund.

14 There is created on the books of the Treasurer of State, the Auditor of  
15 State, and the Chief Fiscal Officer of the State, the “~~ADEQ~~ Environmental  
16 Settlement Trust Fund” to consist of funds received by the State of Arkansas  
17 pursuant to settlement agreements for environmental or natural resources  
18 damages, interest earnings, and any other moneys designated to be deposited  
19 into the fund, there to be administered by the Director of the ~~Arkansas~~  
20 ~~Department~~ Division of Environmental Quality.

21  
22 SECTION 3198. Arkansas Code § 19-5-1137 is amended to read as follows:  
23 19-5-1137. ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of Environmental Quality Fee  
24 Trust Fund.

25 The ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of Environmental Quality Fee Trust  
26 Fund shall consist of those special revenues as specified in § 19-6-301(104),  
27 there to be used to defray the costs of operating the ~~Arkansas Department~~  
28 Division of Environmental Quality as set out in §§ 8-1-101 – 8-1-107.

29  
30 SECTION 3199. Arkansas Code § 19-5-1140(c), concerning the Water  
31 Performance Bond Fund, is amended to read as follows:

32 (c) The fund shall be used by the ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of  
33 Environmental Quality to hire a third-party contractor to:

34 (1) Take remedial action, including without limitation  
35 corrective action, the closure of a nonmunicipal domestic sewage treatment  
36 works, and any other action the Director of the ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division

1 of Environmental Quality determines to be necessary; or

2 (2) Maintain and operate a nonmunicipal domestic sewage  
3 treatment works.

4  
5 SECTION 3200. Arkansas Code § 19-5-1142(c), concerning the  
6 Nonmunicipal Domestic Sewage Treatment Works Trust Fund, is amended to read  
7 as follows:

8 (c)(1) The fund shall be used by the ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of  
9 Environmental Quality to ensure adequate operation, maintenance, and  
10 completed closure of a nonmunicipal domestic sewage treatment works if the  
11 Director of the ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of Environmental Quality  
12 determines that an owner or operator has not adequately operated, maintained,  
13 or completed closure of the nonmunicipal domestic sewage treatment works.

14 (2) If the director determines that an owner or operator has not  
15 adequately operated, maintained, or completed closure of the nonmunicipal  
16 domestic sewage treatment works, the ~~department~~ division may use moneys in  
17 the fund to hire a third-party contractor to:

18 (A) Take remedial action, including without limitation  
19 corrective action;

20 (B) Initiate or complete the closure of a nonmunicipal  
21 domestic sewage treatment works;

22 (C) Maintain and operate a nonmunicipal domestic sewage  
23 treatment works; or

24 (D) Take any other action the director determines to be  
25 necessary to carry out the purposes of this section and § 8-4-203(b).

26 (3) The fund may be used by the ~~Arkansas Department of~~  
27 ~~Environmental Quality~~ division to do the following:

28 (A) Provide reimbursement to a nonmunicipal domestic  
29 sewage treatment works under § 8-4-203(b);

30 (B) Provide technical support to nonmunicipal domestic  
31 sewage treatment works to promote adequate operation, maintenance, or  
32 completed closure of a facility; and

33 (C) Pay reasonable costs and expenses of the ~~department~~  
34 division for administering the Nonmunicipal Domestic Sewage Treatment Works  
35 Trust Fund.

36

1 SECTION 3201. Arkansas Code § 19-5-1148(b)(3)(C), concerning the Used  
2 Tire Recycling Fund, is amended to read as follows:

3 (C) Seven percent (7%) deducted from the proceeds of fees  
4 imposed under § 8-9-404 and deposited into the ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division  
5 of Environmental Quality Fee Trust Fund under § 8-9-404(b)(1)(B), § 8-9-  
6 404(c)(3)(A)(ii), and § 8-9-404(d)(7)(B).

7  
8 SECTION 3202. Arkansas Code § 19-5-1148(c), concerning the Used Tire  
9 Recycling Fund, is amended to read as follows:

10 (c)(1) At least ninety percent (90%) of the moneys available in the  
11 Used Tire Recycling Fund each fiscal year shall be used by the ~~Arkansas~~  
12 ~~Department~~ Division of Environmental Quality to provide reimbursements to  
13 used tire programs, to administer the Used Tire Recycling and Accountability  
14 Program, and to perform other duties under the Used Tire Recycling and  
15 Accountability Act, § 8-9-401 et seq.

16 (2) The Director of the ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of  
17 Environmental Quality may use not more than ten percent (10%) of the moneys  
18 available in the Used Tire Recycling Fund each fiscal year:

19 (A) For waste tire site abatement aid;

20 (B) For the development, implementation, and maintenance  
21 of the electronic uniform used tire manifest system; and

22 (C) To provide market and economic stimulus incentives.

23  
24 SECTION 3203. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 19-5-  
25 1217(b), concerning the Computer and Electronic Recycling Fund, is amended to  
26 read as follows:

27 (b) The fund shall be administered by the ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division  
28 of Environmental Quality and may be used to:

29  
30 SECTION 3204. Arkansas Code § 19-5-1249(c), concerning the Alternative  
31 Motor Fuel Development Fund, is amended to read as follows:

32 (c) The fund shall be used by the ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of  
33 Environmental Quality to provide rebates and incentives under the Arkansas  
34 Alternative Motor Fuel Development Act, § 15-10-901 et seq.

35  
36 SECTION 3205. Arkansas Code § 19-6-434 is amended to read as follows:

1 19-6-434. Hazardous Waste Permit Fund.

2 The Hazardous Waste Permit Fund shall consist of those special revenues  
3 as specified in § 19-6-301(59) and (237) there to be used by the ~~Arkansas~~  
4 ~~Department~~ Division of Environmental Quality to ensure the proper  
5 administration and enforcement of §§ 8-7-201 – 8-7-226 and the Phase I  
6 Environmental Site Assessment Consultant Act, § 8-7-1301 et seq.

7  
8 SECTION 3206. Arkansas Code § 19-6-452 is amended to read as follows:

9 19-6-452. Asbestos Control Fund.

10 The Asbestos Control Fund shall consist of the special revenues  
11 specified in § 19-6-301(130) and any other revenues authorized by law, there  
12 to be used to administer and enforce a program for licensing contractors  
13 engaged in the removal of friable asbestos materials from facilities by the  
14 ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of Environmental Quality under §§ 20-27-1001 –  
15 20-27-1007.

16  
17 SECTION 3207. Arkansas Code § 19-6-471 is amended to read as follows:

18 19-6-471. Marketing Recyclables Program Fund.

19 The Marketing Recyclables Program Fund shall consist of those special  
20 revenues as specified in § 19-6-301(162), there to be used by the Compliance  
21 Advisory Panel for the Marketing Recyclables Program for the administration  
22 and performance of its duties, as administered by the ~~Arkansas Department~~  
23 Division of Environmental Quality under § 8-9-201 et seq.

24  
25 SECTION 3208. Arkansas Code § 19-11-1207(a), concerning the  
26 administration of the Guaranteed Energy Cost Savings Act, is amended to read  
27 as follows:

28 (a) The Arkansas Energy Office of the ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of  
29 Environmental Quality shall administer this subchapter.

30  
31 SECTION 3209. Arkansas Code § 20-80-302 is amended to read as follows:  
32 20-80-302. Purpose.

33 (a) The purpose of this subchapter is to encourage nonprofit community  
34 action organizations which have been formed to provide basic and essential  
35 human services to low income and elderly citizens of Arkansas in the areas of  
36 health, transportation, housing, home repair and weatherization, aging

1 programs and aging alternatives to institutionalization, developmental child  
2 care and enrichment, youth opportunity programs, ~~low-income home energy~~  
3 ~~assistance programs~~, and other related activities which the General Assembly  
4 recognizes as beneficial to a large number of Arkansas citizens.

5 (b) It is further the purpose of this subchapter to encourage and  
6 promote the operations and activities of community action agencies whether  
7 the activities are conducted by one (1) agency or by two (2) or more  
8 cooperating agencies.

9  
10 SECTION 3210. Arkansas Code § 20-27-1001 is amended to read as  
11 follows:

12 20-27-1001. Purpose.

13 The purpose of this subchapter is to protect the public health and  
14 safety and the environment and to qualify the ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of  
15 Environmental Quality to adopt, administer, and enforce a program for  
16 licensing training providers involved with the training of regulated asbestos  
17 professionals, for licensing asbestos abatement consultants and asbestos  
18 abatement contractors, and for certifying air monitors, contractor-  
19 supervisors, inspectors, management planners, project designers, and workers  
20 involved with demolitions, renovations, and asbestos-response actions in  
21 which regulated asbestos-containing materials are disturbed in accordance  
22 with this subchapter, the Arkansas Water and Air Pollution Control Act, § 8-  
23 4-101 et seq., and regulations issued pursuant thereto.

24  
25 SECTION 3211. Arkansas Code § 20-27-1003(6), concerning the definition  
26 of "certificate" under the laws regarding removal of asbestos material, is  
27 amended to read as follows:

28 (6) "Certificate" means a document issued by the ~~Arkansas~~  
29 ~~Department~~ Division of Environmental Quality to any person certifying that  
30 that person has satisfactorily completed asbestos training, examination, and  
31 other requirements established by the ~~department~~ division to perform the  
32 duties of the following:

- 33 (A) Air monitor;  
34 (B) Contractor/supervisor;  
35 (C) Inspector;  
36 (D) Management planner;

1 (E) Project designer; and

2 (F) Worker;

3  
4 SECTION 3212. Arkansas Code § 20-27-1003(9) and (10), concerning the  
5 definition of "department" and "director" under the laws regarding removal of  
6 asbestos material, are repealed.

7 ~~(9) "Department" means the Arkansas Department of Environmental~~  
8 ~~Quality;~~

9 ~~(10) "Director" means the Director of the Arkansas Department of~~  
10 ~~Environmental Quality;~~

11  
12 SECTION 3213. Arkansas Code § 20-27-1003(15), concerning the  
13 definition of "license" under the laws regarding removal of asbestos  
14 material, is amended to read as follows:

15 (15) "License" means a document issued by the ~~department~~  
16 Division of Environmental Quality to an asbestos abatement contractor,  
17 asbestos abatement consultant, or training provider who meets the criteria  
18 for licensing as established by the ~~department~~ division;

19  
20 SECTION 3214. Arkansas Code § 20-27-1003(24), concerning the  
21 definition of "training provider" under the laws regarding removal of  
22 asbestos material, is amended to read as follows:

23 (24) "Training provider" means any person or other legal entity,  
24 however organized, that conducts some or all of the training programs for  
25 asbestos professional disciplines which are regulated by the ~~department~~  
26 division; and

27  
28 SECTION 3215. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 20-27-1004,  
29 concerning the powers and duties of the Arkansas Department of Environmental  
30 Quality, is amended to read as follows:

31 The ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of Environmental Quality shall be  
32 charged with the responsibility of administering and enforcing this  
33 subchapter and is given and charged with the following powers and duties:  
34

35 SECTION 3216. Arkansas Code § 20-27-1005 is amended to read as  
36 follows:

1 20-27-1005. Procedures.

2 The procedures of the ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of Environmental  
3 Quality and the Arkansas Pollution Control and Ecology Commission for  
4 issuance of rules and regulations, conduct of hearings, notice, power of  
5 subpoena, review of action on licenses, right of appeal, presumptions,  
6 finality of actions, and related matters shall be as provided in the Arkansas  
7 Water and Air Pollution Control Act, § 8-4-101 et seq., including, but not  
8 limited to, §§ 8-4-205, 8-4-210, 8-4-212 – 8-4-214, and 8-4-218 – 8-4-229.

9  
10 SECTION 3217. Arkansas Code § 20-27-1006 is amended to read as  
11 follows:

12 20-27-1006. License required – Exceptions.

13 (a) Any asbestos abatement consultant or asbestos abatement contractor  
14 shall obtain a license under this section from the ~~Arkansas Department~~  
15 Division of Environmental Quality prior to actively engaging in any asbestos  
16 demolition, renovation, or asbestos response action, and any training  
17 provider shall obtain a license under this section from the ~~department~~  
18 division before actively engaging in any asbestos training as provided by  
19 this subchapter.

20 (b)(1) The application for license shall be made in the manner and  
21 form required by the ~~department~~ division. An application for license or  
22 renewal of a license shall be accompanied by proof of liability insurance  
23 coverage in the form and amount required by the ~~department~~ division and proof  
24 of training and examination as required by the ~~department~~ division.

25 (2) Training providers shall not be required to furnish proof of  
26 liability insurance coverage under subdivision (b)(1) of this section.

27 (c)(1) The ~~department~~ division shall license all applicants for  
28 licenses under this subchapter who satisfy the requirements of this  
29 subchapter.

30 (2) Licenses shall be valid for a period of one (1) year.

31 (3) Licenses shall be renewable upon application and upon  
32 satisfying the renewal requirements of the ~~department~~ division.

33 (d) State and federal governments and subdivisions thereof shall be  
34 exempt, except for training providers, from the license requirements of this  
35 section.

36

1 SECTION 3218. Arkansas Code § 20-27-1007(1), concerning prohibited  
2 actions regarding asbestos, is amended to read as follows:

3 (1) To conduct:

4 (A) Asbestos response actions, demolitions, or renovations  
5 without having first obtained a license from the ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division  
6 of Environmental Quality when acting as an asbestos abatement consultant or  
7 as an asbestos abatement contractor;

8 (B) Training without having first obtained a license from  
9 the ~~department~~ division when acting as an asbestos training provider; or

10 (C) Asbestos response actions, demolitions, or renovations  
11 without having first obtained certification from the ~~department~~ division when  
12 acting as a clearance air monitor, contractor/supervisor, inspector,  
13 management planner, project designer, or worker;

14  
15 SECTION 3219. Arkansas Code § 20-27-1008(a), concerning the limitation  
16 on grant funds of the Asbestos Abatement Grant Program, is amended to read as  
17 follows:

18 (a) There is created within the ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of  
19 Environmental Quality the Asbestos Abatement Grant Program, which shall be  
20 used to provide financial assistance to an eligible city or county to be used  
21 exclusively for the purpose of one (1) or more stabilization and abatement  
22 activities as provided in this subchapter.

23  
24 SECTION 3220. Arkansas Code § 20-27-1009(a)(1), concerning grant  
25 eligibility and distribution of grant funds from the Asbestos Abatement Grant  
26 Program, is amended to read as follows:

27 (a)(1) A city or county with a population of less than fifty thousand  
28 (50,000) according to the most recent federal decennial census may apply to  
29 the ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of Environmental Quality for grant funds to  
30 be used under this subchapter.

31  
32 SECTION 3221. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 20-27-  
33 1009(b), concerning grant eligibility and distribution of grant funds from  
34 the Asbestos Abatement Grant Program, is amended to read as follows:

35 (b) To be eligible to receive grant funds under this subchapter, a  
36 city or county shall certify the following information to the ~~department~~

1 division in the form required by the ~~department~~ division for grant  
2 applications under this subchapter:

3

4 SECTION 3222. Arkansas Code § 20-27-1009(c), concerning grant  
5 eligibility and distribution of grant funds from the Asbestos Abatement Grant  
6 Program, is amended to read as follows:

7 (c) When the ~~department~~ division approves a grant application received  
8 under this section, the ~~department~~ division shall distribute grant funds  
9 based on the available moneys dedicated to the Asbestos Abatement Grant  
10 Program in the Asbestos Control Fund according to procedures established by  
11 the Director of the ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of Environmental Quality.

12

13 SECTION 3223. Arkansas Code § 20-27-1010(2), concerning costs eligible  
14 for Asbestos Abatement Grant Program funds, is amended to read as follows:

15 (2) If the ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of Environmental Quality  
16 determines that an asbestos emergency exists that constitutes an immediate  
17 threat to human health or the environment, the costs associated with the  
18 stabilization and remediation of the emergency asbestos conditions.

19

20 SECTION 3224. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 20-27-  
21 1011(a), concerning the grant requirements and the return of unused funds  
22 regarding the Asbestos Abatement Grant Program, is amended to read as  
23 follows:

24 (a) Within thirty (30) days of receiving grant funds under this  
25 subchapter, a city or county shall provide a report to the ~~Arkansas~~  
26 ~~Department~~ Division of Environmental Quality that includes the following:

27

28 SECTION 3225. Arkansas Code § 20-27-1011(b)(1) and (2), concerning the  
29 grant requirements and the return of unused funds regarding the Asbestos  
30 Abatement Grant Program, are amended to read as follows:

31 (1) Notify the ~~department~~ division of the date the city or  
32 county expects the stabilization and abatement activity to be complete; and

33 (2) Continue to report its progress to the ~~department~~ division  
34 every fourteen (14) days until the approved stabilization and abatement  
35 activity is complete and the requirements of this section are met.

36

1 SECTION 3226. Arkansas Code § 20-27-1011(c), concerning the grant  
2 requirements and the return of unused funds regarding the Asbestos Abatement  
3 Grant Program, is amended to read as follows:

4 (c)(1) A city or county that receives grant funds under this  
5 subchapter shall immediately return to the ~~department~~ division any unused  
6 portion of the grant funds when the stabilization and abatement activity is  
7 complete.

8 (2) The ~~department~~ division shall deposit any unused grant funds  
9 returned to the ~~department~~ division by a city or county under subdivision  
10 (c)(1) of this section into the Asbestos Control Fund to be used exclusively  
11 for the Asbestos Abatement Grant Program.

12  
13 SECTION 3227. Arkansas Code § 20-27-1103(1), concerning an exception  
14 for blasting conducted at a surface coal mine or if regulated by the Oil and  
15 Gas Commission, is amended to read as follows:

16 (1) Blasting conducted at a surface coal mine regulated by the  
17 ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of Environmental Quality pursuant to the  
18 Arkansas Surface Coal Mining and Reclamation Act of 1979, § 15-58-101 et  
19 seq.; and

20  
21 SECTION 3228. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 22-3-  
22 2003(b)(1), concerning the Sustainable Energy-Efficient Buildings Program, is  
23 amended to read as follows:

24 (1) For public agencies, the Arkansas Energy Office of the  
25 ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of Environmental Quality shall develop and:

26  
27 SECTION 3229. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 22-3-  
28 2006(a), concerning a program to manage the energy usage of public agencies,  
29 is amended to read as follows:

30 (a) The Arkansas Energy Office of the ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of  
31 Environmental Quality shall:

32  
33 SECTION 3230. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 22-3-  
34 2006(b), concerning a program to manage the energy usage of public agencies,  
35 is amended to read as follows:

36 (b) To implement its plan, the Arkansas Energy Office of the ~~Arkansas~~

1 ~~Department~~ Division of Environmental Quality shall to the extent funds are  
2 available:

3

4 SECTION 3231. Arkansas Code § 22-3-2006(c), concerning a program to  
5 manage the energy usage of public agencies, is amended to read as follows:

6 (c) The Arkansas Energy Office of the ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of  
7 Environmental Quality may adopt architectural and engineering standards to  
8 implement this section.

9

10 SECTION 3232. Arkansas Code § 22-3-2007(4), concerning the application  
11 of energy conservation plans to historic and unique buildings, is amended to  
12 read as follows:

13 (4) A building that the Arkansas Energy Office of the ~~Arkansas~~  
14 ~~Department~~ Division of Environmental Quality has exempted from this  
15 subchapter because of its unique architectural characteristics or usage.

16

17 SECTION 3233. Arkansas Code § 22-3-2008 is amended to read as follows:

18 22-3-2008. Advisory committee for the Arkansas Energy Office of the  
19 ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of Environmental Quality.

20 (a)(1) The Director of the Arkansas Energy Office of the ~~Arkansas~~  
21 ~~Department~~ Division of Environmental Quality shall create and recommend  
22 members for a sustainable, energy-efficient building advisory committee  
23 composed of:

24 (A) Representatives from the design and construction  
25 industry who are involved in public works contracting;

26 (B) Persons from public agencies who are responsible for  
27 overseeing public works projects or for developing energy efficiency programs  
28 and policies; and

29 (C) Other persons that the Director of the Arkansas Energy  
30 Office of the ~~Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality~~ considers to have  
31 useful information.

32 (2)(A) The Director of the ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of  
33 Environmental Quality shall approve the creation and membership  
34 recommendations under this section.

35 (B) The committee members shall serve at the pleasure of  
36 the Director of the ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of Environmental Quality.

1 (b) The committee shall provide advice on the implementation of this  
2 subchapter, including without limitation recommendations regarding:

3 (1) An education and training process for persons who are  
4 involved in the implementation of this subchapter;

5 (2) An ongoing evaluation or feedback process to help the  
6 Arkansas Energy Office ~~of the Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality~~ to  
7 implement this section; and

8 (3) Water-deficiency requirements and energy-efficiency  
9 requirements.

10  
11 SECTION 3234. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 22-3-  
12 2009(b), concerning regulations for energy conservation measures in public  
13 buildings by the Arkansas Pollution Control and Ecology Commission, is  
14 amended to read as follows:

15 (b) The Arkansas Energy Office of the ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of  
16 Environmental Quality shall:

17  
18 SECTION 3235. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 22-3-  
19 2010(a), concerning a performance review and report by the Arkansas Energy  
20 Office of the Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality, is amended to  
21 read as follows:

22 (a) The Arkansas Energy Office of the ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of  
23 Environmental Quality, to the extent funds are available, shall conduct a  
24 performance review of the Sustainable Energy-Efficient Buildings Program that  
25 includes at least the following:

26  
27 SECTION 3236. Arkansas Code § 22-3-2011(b), concerning the  
28 applicability of energy conservation in public buildings, is amended to read  
29 as follows:

30 (b)(1) The board of trustees of any institution of higher education  
31 that is not included under subsection (a) of this section may be exempted  
32 from the provisions of this subchapter by the ~~Department~~ Division of Higher  
33 Education.

34 (2) Before granting an exemption to a board of trustees of an  
35 institution of higher education under subdivision (b)(1) of this section, the  
36 ~~department~~ Division of Higher Education shall review and approve the policies

1 and procedures to meet the specific performance criteria and goals for a  
2 major facility or major renovation.

3  
4 SECTION 3237. Arkansas Code § 22-3-2011(c)(1), concerning the  
5 applicability of energy conservation in public buildings, is amended to read  
6 as follows:

7 (1) Preclude an institution of higher education from adopting  
8 the policies and technical guidelines for a major facility or a major  
9 renovation that are established by the Arkansas Energy Office of the ~~Arkansas~~  
10 ~~Department~~ Division of Environmental Quality under § 22-3-2003(b)(1); or  
11

12 SECTION 3238. Arkansas Code § 22-5-807(a), concerning the notice and  
13 recommendations from interested agencies regarding leases and permits, is  
14 amended to read as follows:

15 (a) When an application for a lease or permit is filed with the  
16 Commissioner of State Lands for the taking or production of any sand, gravel,  
17 oil, natural gas, casinghead gas, coal, or other minerals or the severance of  
18 any timber or logs from state-owned lands, the Commissioner of State Lands  
19 shall so notify the Arkansas Geological Survey, the Arkansas Natural  
20 Resources Commission, the Oil and Gas Commission, the Arkansas State Game and  
21 Fish Commission, the Department of Parks, Heritage, and Tourism, the ~~Arkansas~~  
22 ~~Department~~ Division of Environmental Quality, the Arkansas Forestry  
23 Commission, and any other appropriate state agency that has or may have a  
24 particular interest in the area proposed to be covered by the lease or  
25 permit.  
26

27 SECTION 3239. Arkansas Code § 23-2-304(a)(11)(A)(i), concerning the  
28 powers and duties of the Arkansas Public Service Commission, is amended to  
29 read as follows:

30 (11)(A)(i) Propose, develop, solicit, approve, require,  
31 implement, and monitor financial assistance programs for utility customers  
32 who are sixty-five (65) years of age or older or who meet the income  
33 eligibility qualifications of the Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program  
34 administered by the ~~Department of Human Services~~ Arkansas Energy Office.  
35

36 SECTION 3240. Arkansas Code § 23-3-405(a)(1)(B), concerning the

1 authority of the Arkansas Public Service Commission for rate changes and  
2 exemptions, is amended to read as follows:

3 (B) The commission is authorized to order, require, promote, or  
4 engage in energy conservation programs and measures for the benefit of  
5 utility customers who are sixty-five (65) years of age or older or who meet  
6 the income eligibility qualifications for the Low Income Home Energy  
7 Assistance Program administered by the ~~Department of Human Services~~ Arkansas  
8 Energy Office.

9

10 SECTION 3241. Arkansas Code § 23-18-506, is amended to read as  
11 follows:

12 23-18-506. ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of Environmental Quality's and  
13 Arkansas Pollution Control and Ecology Commission's jurisdiction unaffected  
14 by subchapter.

15 (a) This subchapter does not affect the:

16 (1) Jurisdiction of the ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of  
17 Environmental Quality or the Arkansas Pollution Control and Ecology  
18 Commission with respect to water and air pollution control or other matters  
19 within the jurisdiction of the ~~department~~ division or the Arkansas Pollution  
20 Control and Ecology Commission; and

21 (2) Requirement that a person apply for and obtain a permit from  
22 the ~~department~~ division as provided by the Arkansas Water and Air Pollution  
23 Control Act, §§ 8-4-101 – 8-4-106, 8-4-201 – 8-4-229, and 8-4-301 – 8-4-313.

24 (b) This subchapter does not confer upon the Arkansas Public Service  
25 Commission any authority or jurisdiction conferred by law upon the ~~department~~  
26 division or the Arkansas Pollution Control and Ecology Commission.

27 (c) Notwithstanding the exemption provisions of § 23-18-504, each  
28 major utility facility constructed in Arkansas is subject to the  
29 environmental rules and regulations of the state and federal regulatory  
30 bodies having jurisdiction over the air, water, and other environmental  
31 impacts associated with the major utility facility.

32

33 SECTION 3242. Arkansas Code § 23-18-513(a)(7)(A), concerning service  
34 and notice of an application for a certificate of environmental compatibility  
35 and public need, is amended to read as follows:

36 (A) ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of Environmental Quality;

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SECTION 3243. Arkansas Code § 23-18-526 is amended to read as follows:  
23-18-526. Powers of local governments and state agencies.

Notwithstanding any other provision of law, no municipality, local government unit, or state department or agency, except the ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of Environmental Quality as set out in § 23-18-506, may require any approval, consent, permit, certificate, or other condition for the construction, operation, or maintenance of a major utility facility authorized by a certificate issued pursuant to the provisions of this subchapter. Nothing in this subchapter shall prevent the application of state laws for the protection of employees engaged in the construction, operation, or maintenance of the major utility facility.

SECTION 3244. Arkansas Code § 23-112-614(c)(1), concerning auto auction fees for salvage-titled or parts-only titled vehicles, is amended to read as follows:

(1) Fifty percent (50%) for the ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of Environmental Quality to be used for inspection and oversight of auto auctions to enforce all laws and rules administered by the ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of Environmental Quality; and

SECTION 3245. Arkansas Code § 25-1-119(c)(2)(B), concerning services and studies regarding mortality disparities, is amended to read as follows:

(B) ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of Environmental Quality;

SECTION 3246. Arkansas Code § 25-1-119(d)(3), concerning services and studies regarding mortality disparities, is amended to read as follows:

(3) The ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of Environmental Quality;

SECTION 3247. Arkansas Code § 25-1-120(c)(2)(C), concerning comprehensive cross-sector collaboration, is amended to read as follows:

(C) The ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of Environmental Quality;

SECTION 3248. Arkansas Code § 25-1-120(c)(2)(G), concerning comprehensive cross-sector collaboration, is amended to read as follows:

1 (G) ~~Department~~ Division of Higher Education;

2  
3 SECTION 3249. Arkansas Code § 25-11-103 is amended to read as follows:  
4 25-11-103. Funds transfer to the Weatherization Assistance Program.

5 The ~~Department of Human Services~~ Division of Environmental Quality  
6 shall transfer annually to the ~~Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality~~  
7 Arkansas Energy Office of the Division of Environment Quality a minimum of  
8 fifteen percent (15%) and up to a maximum of twenty-five percent (25%), as  
9 allowed by federal law or regulation, of the annual allocation for the Low  
10 Income Home Energy Assistance Program to be used by the Weatherization  
11 Assistance Program of the Arkansas Energy Office of the ~~Arkansas Department~~  
12 Division of Environmental Quality.

13  
14 SECTION 3250. Arkansas Code § 25-14-101 is repealed.

15 ~~25-14-101. Creation Director Organization Personnel.~~

16 ~~(a) There is created the Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality.~~

17 ~~(b) The executive head of the Arkansas Department of Environmental~~  
18 ~~Quality shall be the Director of the Arkansas Department of Environmental~~  
19 ~~Quality. The director shall:~~

20 ~~(1) Be appointed by the Governor, with the consent of the~~  
21 ~~Senate;~~

22 ~~(2) Be appointed after the Governor consults with the Arkansas~~  
23 ~~Pollution Control and Ecology Commission; and~~

24 ~~(3) Serve at the pleasure of the Governor.~~

25 ~~(c)(1) The Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality shall consist~~  
26 ~~of the divisions found in the Arkansas Pollution Control and Ecology~~  
27 ~~Commission as of July 1, 1971, and any other divisions which may be created~~  
28 ~~by law and placed under the Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality.~~

29 ~~(2) There shall be created a new Division of Environmental~~  
30 ~~Preservation which shall be responsible for reviewing and making specific~~  
31 ~~ecologically oriented recommendations on all plans, programs, and projects of~~  
32 ~~all other state departments, divisions, agencies, and commissions and upon~~  
33 ~~all federal plans, programs, and projects affecting this state. To this end,~~  
34 ~~all other departments, divisions, agencies, and commissions within this state~~  
35 ~~are directed to cooperate with the Arkansas Department of Environmental~~  
36 ~~Quality in fulfilling the Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality's~~

1 ~~responsibility defined in this chapter.~~

2 ~~(3) Nothing in this subsection shall be construed to prevent the~~  
3 ~~director, with the advice and consent of the Governor and the commission,~~  
4 ~~from organizing the Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality into the~~  
5 ~~divisions and units which may be necessary to effectively and efficiently~~  
6 ~~administer the statutory responsibilities of the Arkansas Department of~~  
7 ~~Environmental Quality.~~

8 ~~(d) The director, with the advice and consent of the Governor, shall~~  
9 ~~appoint the heads of the respective divisions. All of the personnel of the~~  
10 ~~Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality shall be employed by and serve at~~  
11 ~~the pleasure of the director. Nothing in this section shall be so construed~~  
12 ~~as to reduce any right which an employee in the Arkansas Department of~~  
13 ~~Environmental Quality shall have under any civil service or merit system.~~

14 ~~(e) Each division of the Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality~~  
15 ~~shall be under the direction, control, and supervision of the director. The~~  
16 ~~director may delegate his or her functions, powers, and duties to various~~  
17 ~~divisions of the Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality as he or she~~  
18 ~~shall deem desirable and necessary for the effective and efficient operation~~  
19 ~~of the Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality.~~

20  
21 SECTION 3251. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 25-34-  
22 109(b), concerning the Computer and Electronic Recycling Fund, is amended to  
23 read as follows:

24 (b) The fund shall be administered by the ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division  
25 of Environmental Quality and may be used to:

26  
27 SECTION 3252. Arkansas Code § 25-34-110(a), concerning the computer  
28 and electronic equipment recycling grants, is amended to read as follows:

29 (a) Electronic equipment recycling grants must be awarded on the basis  
30 of written grant-request proposals submitted to and approved by the ~~Arkansas~~  
31 ~~Department~~ Division of Environmental Quality.

32  
33 SECTION 3253. Arkansas Code § 26-51-506(c)(2)(B)(vi) and (vii),  
34 concerning unused and carry forward tax credits for waste reduction, reuse,  
35 or recycling equipment, are amended to read as follows:

36 (vi) Beginning July 1, 2016, by July 15 of each

1 year, the public retirement system with possession and control of the tax  
2 credits under this subdivision (c)(2)(B) shall provide notice to the  
3 Department of Finance and Administration of the amount of tax credits,  
4 including tax credits pending certification by the ~~Arkansas Department~~  
5 Division of Environmental Quality, subject to the limitations in subdivision  
6 (c)(2)(B)(iii) of this section, to be sold or transferred for value.

7 (vii) The State of Arkansas shall pay the purchase  
8 price equal to eighty percent (80%) of the face value of all of the tax  
9 credits included in the notice required in subdivision (c)(2)(B)(vi) of this  
10 section on or before June 30 of the year following the year in which the  
11 notice was provided for all tax credits certified by the ~~Arkansas Department~~  
12 Division of Environmental Quality by June 30 of the year following the year  
13 in which the notice was provided by warrant from the Economic Development  
14 Incentive Fund funded by a transfer from general revenue.

15  
16 SECTION 3254. Arkansas Code § 26-51-506(c)(3)(D)(v) and (vi),  
17 concerning eligibility for tax credits by a public retirement system for  
18 waste reduction, reuse, or recycling equipment, are amended to read as  
19 follows:

20 (v) Beginning July 1, 2020, by July 15 of each year,  
21 the public retirement system with possession and control of the tax credits  
22 under this subdivision (c)(3)(D) shall provide notice to the Department of  
23 Finance and Administration of the amount of tax credits, including tax  
24 credits expected to receive certification during the fiscal year by the  
25 ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of Environmental Quality, subject to the  
26 limitations in subdivision (c)(3)(D)(iii) of this section, to be sold or  
27 transferred for value.

28 (vi) The State of Arkansas shall pay the purchase  
29 price equal to eighty percent (80%) of the face value of all of the tax  
30 credits included in the notice required in subdivision (c)(3)(D)(v) of this  
31 section on or before June 30 of the calendar year following the calendar year  
32 in which the notice was provided for all tax credits certified by the  
33 ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of Environmental Quality by June 30 of the  
34 calendar year following the calendar year in which the notice was provided by  
35 warrant from the Economic Development Incentive Fund funded by a transfer  
36 from general revenue.

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SECTION 3255. Arkansas Code § 26-51-506(d), concerning the procedure to claim tax credits for waste reduction, reuse, or recycling equipment, is amended to read as follows:

(d) To claim the benefits of this section, a taxpayer must obtain a certification from the Director of the ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of Environmental Quality certifying to the Revenue Division of the Department of Finance and Administration that:

(1) The taxpayer is engaged in the business of reducing, reusing, or recycling solid waste material for commercial purposes, whether or not for profit;

(2) The machinery or equipment purchased is waste reduction, reuse, or recycling equipment;

(3) The machinery or equipment is being used in the collection, separation, processing, modification, conversion, treatment, or manufacturing of products containing at least fifty percent (50%) recovered materials, provided that at least ten percent (10%) of the recovered materials shall be post-consumer waste; and

(4) The taxpayer has filed a statement with the director acknowledging that the taxpayer will make a good faith effort to utilize post-consumer waste generated in Arkansas as at least ten percent (10%) of the post-consumer waste being used in the equipment, to the extent available at a competitive price.

SECTION 3256. Arkansas Code § 26-51-506(f)(5), concerning eligibility, timing and application for tax credits for waste reduction, reuse, or recycling equipment, is amended to read as follows:

(5)~~(A)~~ This subsection shall apply to all credits which are certified as a result of applications for certification filed with the ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of Environmental Quality on or after July 1, 1993.

~~(B) This subsection shall not apply to credits which are certified as a result of applications for certification filed with the Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality prior to July 1, 1993.~~

~~(C) Taxpayers who file written notice and a project plan with the Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality prior to July 1, 1993,~~

1 ~~shall be deemed to have filed an application for certification for purposes~~  
2 ~~of this subdivision (f)(5), provided that all the information necessary to~~  
3 ~~complete the application for certification is provided to the Arkansas~~  
4 ~~Department of Environmental Quality on or before December 31, 1993.~~

5  
6 SECTION 3257. Arkansas Code § 26-51-506(k)(1)(A), concerning the  
7 authority of the Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality to promulgate  
8 rules for eligibility for a tax credit for waste reduction, reuse, or  
9 recycling equipment, is amended to read as follows:

10 (k)(1)(A) ~~The Arkansas Department~~ Division of Environmental Quality  
11 and the ~~division~~ Revenue Division of the Department of Finance and  
12 Administration shall promulgate rules or regulations as are necessary to  
13 administer this section.

14  
15 SECTION 3258. Arkansas Code § 26-51-511(a)(1)(B), concerning coal  
16 mining, producing, and extracting, is amended to read as follows:

17 (B) A holder of a valid mining permit issued by the  
18 ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of Environmental Quality to allow surface or  
19 highwall mining;

20  
21 SECTION 3259. Arkansas Code § 26-51-511(d)(3)(A), concerning coal  
22 mining, producing, and extracting, is amended to read as follows:

23 (3)(A) The coal mining enterprise and the eligible transferee  
24 shall jointly file a copy of the written credit transfer agreement with the  
25 ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration within  
26 thirty (30) days of the credit transfer.

27  
28 SECTION 3260. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 26-51-  
29 1215(d)(2), concerning tax credits for waste reduction, reuse, or recycling  
30 equipment, is amended to read as follows:

31 (2) Obtain a certification from the Director of the ~~Arkansas~~  
32 ~~Department~~ Division of Environmental Quality certifying to the Revenue  
33 Division of the Department of Finance and Administration that:

34  
35 SECTION 3261. Arkansas Code § 26-51-1503(3)(A), concerning the  
36 definition of "committee" under the Arkansas Private Wetland and Riparian

1 Zone Creation, Restoration, and Conservation Tax Credits Act, is amended to  
2 read as follows:

3 (A) The directors, or their designees, of:  
4 (i) ~~The Arkansas Forestry Commission;~~  
5 ~~(ii)~~ The Arkansas State Game and Fish Commission;  
6 ~~(iii)~~(ii) The Department of Finance and  
7 Administration;  
8 ~~(iv)~~(iii) The ~~Department~~ Division of Arkansas  
9 Heritage; and  
10 ~~(v)~~(iv) The ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of  
11 Environmental Quality; and  
12

13 SECTION 3262. Arkansas Code § 26-52-401(36), concerning various  
14 products and services exempted from certain taxes, is amended to read as  
15 follows:

16 (36) Gross receipts or gross proceeds derived from the sale of:

17 (A) Fuel packaging materials to a person engaged in the  
18 business of processing hazardous and nonhazardous waste materials into fuel  
19 products at a facility permitted by the ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of  
20 Environmental Quality for hazardous waste treatment; and

21 (B) Machinery and equipment, including analytical  
22 equipment and chemicals used directly in processing and packaging of  
23 hazardous and nonhazardous waste materials into fuel products at a facility  
24 permitted by the ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of Environmental Quality for  
25 hazardous waste treatment;  
26

27 SECTION 3263. Arkansas Code § 27-101-405(a)(2), concerning the  
28 establishment of the Marine Sanitation Advisory Committee, is amended to read  
29 as follows:

30 (2) Two (2) members from the state at large to be appointed by  
31 the Governor after consulting with the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department  
32 of Health and the Director of the ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of  
33 Environmental Quality; and  
34

35 SECTION 3264. Arkansas Code § 27-101-410 is amended to read as  
36 follows:

1 27-101-410. Cooperation with federal agencies.

2 The Department of Health, the ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of  
3 Environmental Quality, and the Arkansas State Game and Fish Commission shall  
4 pursue cooperative agreements with all appropriate federal agencies to ensure  
5 the proper disposal of marine sewage in Arkansas.

6  
7 SECTION 3265. Arkansas Code Title 25, Chapter 43, is amended to add an  
8 additional subchapter to read as follows:

9 Subchapter 7 – Department of Finance and Administration

10  
11 25-43-701. Department of Finance and Administration.

12 There is created the Department of Finance and Administration as a  
13 cabinet-level department.

14  
15 25-43-702. State entities transferred to Department of Finance and  
16 Administration.

17 (a) The administrative functions of the following state entities are  
18 transferred to the Department of Finance and Administration by a cabinet-  
19 level transfer:

20 (1) The Alcoholic Beverage Control Division, created under § 25-  
21 8-101;

22 (2) The Assessment Coordination Department, created under § 25-  
23 28-101, now to be known as the Assessment Coordination Division;

24 (3) The Arkansas Tobacco Control Board, created under § 26-57-  
25 255;

26 (4) Arkansas Tobacco Control, created under § 26-57-257;

27 (5) The Arkansas Racing Commission, created under § 23-110-201;

28 (6) The Department of Finance and Administration, created under  
29 § 25-8-101;

30 (7) The Medical Marijuana Commission, created under Arkansas  
31 Constitution, Amendment 98, § 19;

32 (8) The Office of the Arkansas Lottery, created under § 23-115-  
33 201;

34 (9) The Office of Motor Vehicle, created under § 27-14-401;

35 (10) The Office of Driver Services, created under § 27-16-402;  
36 and

1           (11) The Office of Child Support Enforcement, created under § 9-  
2 14-206.

3           (b) Unless otherwise provided by law, a cabinet-level department  
4 transfer under subsection (a) of this section includes all state entities  
5 under a state entity transferred to the Department of Finance and  
6 Administration under subsection (a) of this section, including without  
7 limitation a division, office, program, or other unit of a state entity  
8 transferred to the Department of Finance and Administration under subsection  
9 (a) of this section.

10           (c) Unless otherwise provided by law, a state entity whose  
11 administrative functions have been transferred to the Department of Finance  
12 and Administration under subsection (a) of this section shall otherwise  
13 continue to exercise the duties of the state entity under the administration  
14 of the cabinet-level Department of Finance and Administration in the same  
15 manner as before the creation of the cabinet-level department.

16  
17           25-43-703. Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration.

18           (a) The executive head of the Department of Finance and Administration  
19 shall be the Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration.

20           (b) The secretary shall be appointed by the Governor, subject to  
21 confirmation by the Senate, and shall serve at the pleasure of the Governor.

22           (c) Each division of the department shall be under the direction,  
23 control, and supervision of the secretary.

24           (d) The secretary may delegate his or her functions, powers, and  
25 duties to various divisions or employees of the department as he or she shall  
26 deem desirable and necessary for the effective and efficient operation of the  
27 department.

28           (e) The secretary may, unless otherwise provided by law:

29                   (1) Hire department personnel;

30                   (2) Perform or assign duties assigned to the department; and

31                   (3) Serve as the director, or the administrative or executive  
32 head, of any state entity under the administrative control of the department  
33 if the secretary also meets all statutory requirements for the position.

34  
35           SECTION 3266. Arkansas Code § 2-9-106(c), concerning the Arkansas  
36 Catfish Promotion Board's list of commercial producers who are entitled to

1 vote in referenda, is amended to read as follows:

2 (c) The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and  
3 Administration shall be reimbursed from funds collected for the costs of  
4 holding referenda.

5  
6 SECTION 3267. Arkansas Code § 2-9-107(c)(1), concerning the Arkansas  
7 Catfish Board's vote on the levy of an assessment on the sale of catfish  
8 feed, is amended to read as follows:

9 (c)(1) The assessment imposed and levied by this section shall be  
10 collected by the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and  
11 Administration from each seller of catfish feed, who shall add the assessment  
12 to the purchase price of catfish feed sold in this state to commercial  
13 catfish producers.

14  
15 SECTION 3268. Arkansas Code § 2-9-109(a)(3), concerning catfish  
16 assessment records, is amended to read as follows:

17 (3) The records shall be preserved for a period of two (2) years  
18 and shall be offered for inspection at any time upon written demand by the  
19 ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration or his or  
20 her authorized agent or representative.

21  
22 SECTION 3269. Arkansas Code § 2-9-109(b), concerning catfish  
23 assessment records, is amended to read as follows:

24 (b)(1) At such times as the ~~director~~ secretary may require, every  
25 person required to pay the assessment provided for in this chapter shall  
26 submit reports or otherwise document any information deemed necessary for the  
27 efficient collection of the assessment imposed in this chapter.

28 (2) The ~~director~~ secretary has the power to cause any authorized  
29 agent or representative to enter upon the premises of any person required to  
30 pay the assessment provided for in this chapter and examine or cause to be  
31 examined by the agent any books, papers, and records which deal in any way  
32 with the payment of the assessment or enforcement of the provisions of this  
33 chapter.

34  
35 SECTION 3270. Arkansas Code § 2-9-110 is amended to read as follows:  
36 2-9-110. Assessment refund.

1 (a) So long as the assessment on the sale of catfish feed continues to  
2 be levied as provided in this chapter, any catfish producer may request and  
3 receive a refund of such assessment, provided he or she makes a written  
4 application therefor with the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance  
5 and Administration within sixty (60) calendar days after the date of sale,  
6 supported by copies of sales slips from the seller of the catfish feed and a  
7 refund form approved by the Arkansas Catfish Promotion Board.

8 (b) The ~~director~~ secretary shall create and approve a refund claim  
9 form.

10  
11 SECTION 3271. Arkansas Code § 2-9-111 is amended to read as follows:  
12 2-9-111. Penalty.

13 (a)(1) Any seller who fails to file a report, collect an assessment,  
14 or remit any assessment when due shall pay a penalty not to exceed five  
15 percent (5%) of the amount of the assessment that should have been collected  
16 or remitted, plus an additional penalty not to exceed one percent (1%) of the  
17 amount of the assessment that should have been collected or remitted for each  
18 month of delay, or fraction of a month, after the first month the report was  
19 required to be filed or the assessment became due.

20 (2) The penalty shall be paid to the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the  
21 Department of Finance and Administration and shall be disposed of in the same  
22 manner as funds derived from the payment of an assessment as provided in this  
23 chapter.

24 (b) The ~~director~~ secretary shall collect the penalties levied in this  
25 section, together with the delinquent assessment, by any or all of the  
26 following methods:

27 (1) Voluntary payment; or

28 (2) Legal proceedings instituted in a court of competent  
29 jurisdiction seeking any remedies available, including, but not limited to,  
30 injunctive relief to enjoin any seller owing the assessment or penalties from  
31 engaging in business as a seller of catfish feed until the amount of the  
32 assessment due and all penalties are paid.

33 (c) Any person required to pay the assessment provided for in this  
34 chapter who refuses to allow full inspection of the premises or any book,  
35 record, or other document relating to the liability of the person for the  
36 assessment imposed or who shall hinder or in any way delay or prevent the

1 inspection shall be guilty of a violation punishable by a fine not exceeding  
2 five hundred dollars (\$500).

3  
4 SECTION 3272. Arkansas Code § 2-20-403 is amended to read as follows:  
5 2-20-403. Penalties.

6 (a)(1) Any first purchaser or other person required to pay an  
7 assessment under this subchapter who fails to pay any assessment when due  
8 shall forfeit a penalty of two percent (2%) of the assessment each month  
9 beginning the day following the date the assessment was due.

10 (2) The penalty shall be paid to the Arkansas Soybean Promotion  
11 Board or to its designee, the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance  
12 and Administration, and shall be disposed of in the same manner as funds  
13 derived from the payment of an assessment as provided in this subchapter.

14 (b) The board or its designee shall collect the penalty levied in this  
15 section, together with the delinquent assessment, by any and all of the  
16 following methods:

17 (1) Voluntary payment by the person liable;

18 (2) Legal proceedings instituted in a court of competent  
19 jurisdiction; or

20 (3) Injunctive relief to enjoin any person owing the assessment  
21 or penalty from operating his or her business or engaging in business as a  
22 buyer or seller of soybeans until the delinquent assessment or penalty is  
23 paid.

24 (c)(1) Any person required to pay the assessment provided for in this  
25 subchapter who refuses to allow full inspection of the premises or any book,  
26 record, or other document relating to the liability of the person for the  
27 assessment imposed or who shall hinder or in any way delay or prevent the  
28 inspection shall be guilty of a violation.

29 (2) Upon conviction, an offender shall be punished by a fine not  
30 exceeding five hundred dollars (\$500).

31  
32 SECTION 3273. Arkansas Code § 2-20-405(a)(3), concerning the powers of  
33 the Arkansas Soybean Promotion Board, is amended to read as follows:

34 (3) To collect assessments paid on soybeans marketed within the  
35 state and to establish procedures for ensuring compliance with regard to the  
36 payment of such assessments; provided, that the Arkansas Soybean Promotion

1 Board may designate the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and  
2 Administration to collect assessments and ensure compliance with regard to  
3 the payment of such assessments, subject to such rules as may be promulgated  
4 by the Arkansas Soybean Promotion Board and as may be reasonably necessary to  
5 comply with the Soybean Promotion, Research and Consumer Information Act of  
6 1990;

7  
8 SECTION 3274. Arkansas Code § 2-20-406(a)(1), concerning assessments  
9 on Arkansas-grown soybeans, is amended to read as follows:

10 (a)(1) Except as otherwise prescribed by regulations approved by the  
11 United States Secretary of Agriculture or the Arkansas Soybean Promotion  
12 Board, each person purchasing from, and making payment to, a producer for  
13 soybeans produced by such producer and marketed for commercial use,  
14 including, in any case in which soybeans are pledged as collateral for a loan  
15 issued under any federal price support loan program, the Commodity Credit  
16 Corporation, shall be a first purchaser and shall collect an assessment from  
17 the producer, and each producer shall pay such assessment to the first  
18 purchaser, at the applicable rate prescribed in this section. Each first  
19 purchaser shall remit such assessment to the board or to its designee, the  
20 ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration. For the  
21 purpose of this section, purchases from a producer of soybeans or contracts  
22 with a producer for production of soybeans for livestock feed or any other  
23 application shall constitute marketing for commercial use.

24  
25 SECTION 3275. Arkansas Code § 2-20-406(c)(1), concerning assessments  
26 on Arkansas-grown soybeans, is amended to read as follows:

27 (c)(1) The proceeds of the assessment shall be deposited with the  
28 Treasurer of State in a special fund to be established for the Arkansas  
29 Soybean Promotion Board; provided, that the ~~director~~ secretary may deduct not  
30 more than three percent (3%) to cover the cost of collections.

31  
32 SECTION 3276. Arkansas Code § 2-20-407(b)(1), concerning reports,  
33 books, and records to be sent to the Arkansas Soybean Promotion Board, is  
34 amended to read as follows:

35 (b)(1) Each person who is subject to this subchapter shall maintain  
36 and make available for inspection by the ~~secretary~~ United States Department

1 of Agriculture, the board or its designee, the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the  
2 Department of Finance and Administration, such books and records as are  
3 necessary to carry out the provisions of this subchapter and the rules issued  
4 thereunder, including such records as are necessary to verify any reports  
5 required. Such records shall be retained for at least two (2) years beyond  
6 the fiscal period of their applicability.

7  
8 SECTION 3277. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 2-20-  
9 407(c), concerning reports, books, and records to be sent to the Arkansas  
10 Soybean Promotion Board, is amended to read as follows:

11 (c) All information obtained from books, records, or reports required  
12 to be filed or kept under this section shall be kept confidential by all  
13 persons, including employees and former employees of the board, all officers  
14 and employees and all former officers and employees of the Department of  
15 Finance and Administration, and by all officers and employees and all former  
16 officers and employees of contracting parties having access to such  
17 information, and shall not be available to board members or any other  
18 producers. Only those persons having a specific need for such information in  
19 order to effectively administer the provisions of this subchapter shall have  
20 access to such information. In addition, only such information so furnished  
21 or acquired as the ~~secretary~~ United States Department of Agriculture or the  
22 board deems relevant shall be disclosed by them, and then only in a suit or  
23 administrative hearing brought at the direction, or upon the request, of the  
24 ~~secretary~~ United States Department of Agriculture or the board, or to which  
25 the ~~secretary~~ United States Department of Agriculture, any officer of the  
26 United States, the board, or the ~~director~~ Secretary of the Department of  
27 Finance and Administration, is a party. This section shall not be deemed to  
28 prohibit:

29  
30 SECTION 3278. Arkansas Code § 2-20-408 is amended to read as follows:  
31 2-20-408. Refunds to producers.

32 (a) So long as the assessment on soybeans is as provided in § 2-20-  
33 406(b)(1), any soybean producer may request and receive a refund of such  
34 assessment, provided he or she makes a written application therefor with the  
35 Arkansas Soybean Promotion Board or its designee, the ~~Director~~ Secretary of  
36 the Department of Finance and Administration, within forty-five (45) days

1 from the date of sale, supported by copies of sales slips signed by the  
2 purchaser, and provided further, that the application is filed before the  
3 annual accounting is made of the funds not later than July 1 each year.

4 (b) So long as the assessment on soybeans is as provided in § 2-20-  
5 406(b)(2), any soybean producer may request and receive a refund of such  
6 assessment to the extent provided by the Soybean Promotion, Research and  
7 Consumer Information Act of 1990. Such producer shall make written  
8 application therefor with the board or its designee, the ~~director~~ secretary,  
9 within forty-five (45) days from the date the assessment was due from such  
10 producer, supported by copies of sales slips signed by the purchaser.

11  
12 SECTION 3279. Arkansas Code § 2-20-504(a) and (b), concerning  
13 penalties in regards to rice promotion, are amended to read as follows:

14 (a)(1) Any buyer who fails to file a report or pay any assessment  
15 within the required time set by the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of  
16 Finance and Administration shall forfeit to the ~~director~~ secretary a penalty  
17 of five percent (5%) of the assessment determined to be due plus one percent  
18 (1%) for each month of delay, or fraction of a month, after the first month  
19 after the report was required to be filed or the assessment became due.

20 (2) The penalty shall be paid to the ~~director~~ secretary and  
21 shall be disposed of by him or her in the same manner as funds derived from  
22 the payment of assessment imposed in this subchapter.

23 (b) The ~~director~~ secretary shall collect the penalty levied in this  
24 subchapter, together with the delinquent assessment, by any or all of the  
25 following methods:

26 (1) Voluntary payment by the person liable;

27 (2) Legal proceedings instituted in a court of competent  
28 jurisdiction; or

29 (3) Injunctive relief to enjoin any buyer owing an assessment or  
30 penalty from operating his or her business or engaging in business as a buyer  
31 of rice until the delinquent assessment or penalty is paid.

32  
33 SECTION 3280. Arkansas Code § 2-20-507(b), concerning assessments on  
34 grown rice, is amended to read as follows:

35 (b) The assessment imposed and levied by this section shall be  
36 collected by the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and

1 Administration from the buyer of rice at the first point of sale or at the  
2 point the rice enters into the United States Department of Agriculture loan  
3 program.  
4

5 SECTION 3281. Arkansas Code § 2-20-508(a)(3), concerning records and  
6 other documentation in regards to the Arkansas Rice Research and Promotion  
7 Board, is amended to read as follows:

8 (3) The record shall be preserved for a period of one (1) year  
9 and shall be offered for inspection at any time upon written demand by the  
10 ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration or any  
11 duly authorized agent or representative of him or her.  
12

13 SECTION 3282. Arkansas Code § 2-20-508(b), concerning records and  
14 other documentation in regards to the Arkansas Rice Research and Promotion  
15 Board, is amended to read as follows:

16 (b)(1) At such times as the ~~director~~ secretary may require, every  
17 buyer shall submit reports or otherwise document any information deemed  
18 necessary for the efficient collection of the assessment imposed in this  
19 subchapter.

20 (2) The ~~director~~ secretary shall have the power to cause any  
21 duly authorized agent or representative to enter upon the premises of any  
22 buyer of rice and examine or cause to be examined by the agent any books,  
23 papers, and records which deal in any way with respect to the payment of the  
24 assessment or enforcement of the provisions of this subchapter.  
25

26 SECTION 3283. Arkansas Code § 2-20-603(a), concerning penalties in  
27 regard to wheat promotion, is amended to read as follows:

28 (a)(1) Any buyer who fails to file a report or pay any assessment  
29 within the required time set by the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of  
30 Finance and Administration shall forfeit to the ~~director~~ secretary a penalty  
31 of five percent (5%) of the assessment determined to be due plus one percent  
32 (1%) for each month of delay, or fraction of a month, after the first month  
33 after the report was required to be filed or the assessment became due.

34 (2) The penalty shall be paid to the ~~director~~ secretary and  
35 shall be disposed of by him or her in the same manner as funds derived from  
36 the payment of assessment imposed in this subchapter.

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SECTION 3284. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 2-20-603(b), concerning penalties in regards to wheat promotion, is amended to read as follows:

(b) The ~~director~~ secretary shall collect the penalty levied in this subchapter, together with the delinquent assessment, by any or all of the following methods:

SECTION 3285. Arkansas Code § 2-20-606(b)(1), concerning the assessments on grown wheat, is amended to read as follows:

(b)(1) The assessment imposed and levied by this section shall be collected by the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration from the buyer of wheat at the first point of sale or when the wheat enters the United States Department of Agriculture loan program.

SECTION 3286. Arkansas Code § 2-20-607(a)(3), concerning records and other documentation in regard to the Arkansas Wheat Promotion Board, is amended to read as follows:

(3) The record shall be preserved for a period of one (1) year and shall be offered for inspection at any time upon written demand by the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration or any duly authorized agent or representative of him or her.

SECTION 3287. Arkansas Code § 2-20-607(b), concerning records and other documentation in regard to the Arkansas Wheat Promotion Board, is amended to read as follows:

(b)(1) At such times as the ~~director~~ secretary may require, every buyer shall submit reports or otherwise document any information deemed necessary for the efficient collection of the assessment imposed in this subchapter.

(2) The ~~director~~ secretary shall have the power to cause any duly authorized agent or representative to enter upon the premises of any buyer of wheat and examine or cause to be examined by the agent any books, papers, and records which deal in any way with respect to the payment of the assessment or enforcement of the provisions of this subchapter.

1 SECTION 3288. Arkansas Code § 2-20-608(1), concerning refunds to wheat  
2 producers, is amended to read as follows:

3 (1) He or she makes a written application with the ~~Director~~  
4 Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration within forty-five  
5 (45) days from the date of sale, supported by copies of sales slips signed by  
6 the purchaser; and

7  
8 SECTION 3289. Arkansas Code § 2-20-802(a), concerning penalties  
9 regarding corn and grain sorghum promotion, is amended to read as follows:

10 (a)(1) Any buyer who fails to file a report or pay any assessment  
11 within the required time set by the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of  
12 Finance and Administration shall forfeit to the ~~director~~ secretary a penalty  
13 of five percent (5%) of the assessment determined to be due plus one percent  
14 (1%) for each month of delay, or fraction of a month, after the first month  
15 after the report was required to be filed or the assessment became due.

16 (2) The penalty shall be paid to the ~~director~~ secretary and  
17 shall be disposed of by him or her in the same manner as funds derived from  
18 the payment of the assessment imposed in this subchapter.

19  
20 SECTION 3290. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 2-20-  
21 802(b), concerning penalties regarding corn and grain sorghum promotion, is  
22 amended to read as follows:

23 (b) The ~~director~~ secretary shall collect the penalty levied in this  
24 section, together with the delinquent assessment, by any or all of the  
25 following methods:

26  
27 SECTION 3291. Arkansas Code § 2-20-805(c)(1), concerning the powers  
28 and duties, assessments, and buyers' records in regard to the Arkansas Corn  
29 and Grain Sorghum Promotion Board, is amended to read as follows:

30 (c)(1) The assessment imposed and levied by this section shall be  
31 collected by the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and  
32 Administration from the buyer of corn or grain sorghum at the first point of  
33 sale or when the corn or grain sorghum enters the United States Department of  
34 Agriculture loan program.

35  
36 SECTION 3292. Arkansas Code § 2-20-805(d)(3)-(5), concerning the

1 powers and duties, assessments, and buyers' records in regards to the  
2 Arkansas Corn and Grain Sorghum Promotion Board, are amended to read as  
3 follows:

4 (3) The record shall be preserved for a period of one (1) year  
5 and shall be offered for inspection at any time upon written demand by the  
6 ~~director~~ secretary or any duly authorized agent or representative of the  
7 ~~director~~ secretary.

8 (4) Every buyer, at such time or times as the ~~director~~ secretary  
9 may require, shall submit reports or otherwise document any information  
10 deemed necessary for the efficient collection of the assessment imposed in  
11 this section.

12 (5) The ~~director~~ secretary shall have the power to cause any  
13 duly authorized agent or representative to enter upon the premises of any  
14 buyer of corn or grain sorghum and examine or cause to be examined by the  
15 agent any book, paper, and record which deal in any way with respect to the  
16 payment of the assessment or enforcement of the provisions of this  
17 subchapter.

18

19 SECTION 3293. Arkansas Code § 2-35-310 is amended to read as follows:  
20 2-35-310. Refunds.

21 Any cattle producer may request and receive a refund of the amount  
22 deducted from the sale of his or her cattle if he or she makes a written  
23 application with the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and  
24 Administration within forty-five (45) days from the date of sale, supported  
25 by copies of sales slips signed by the buyer and, if the application is filed  
26 before the annual accounting is made of the funds, not later than July 1 each  
27 year.

28

29 SECTION 3294. Arkansas Code § 2-35-403(a), concerning the assessment  
30 and the conduct of the program regarding beef promotion and research, is  
31 amended to read as follows:

32 (a) The assessment levied under the national beef promotion and  
33 research program in the amount of one dollar (\$1.00) per head of cattle sold  
34 shall be collected, reported, and remitted to the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the  
35 Department of Finance and Administration by the persons, in the manner, and  
36 at the times prescribed by the federal Beef Promotion and Research Act of

1 1985 and the administrative orders and rules issued under the provisions of  
2 that act.

3

4 SECTION 3295. Arkansas Code § 2-35-404 is amended to read as follows:  
5 2-35-404. Rules.

6 The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration  
7 is authorized to adopt appropriate rules not inconsistent with this  
8 subchapter or the federal law, orders, and rules regarding the national beef  
9 promotion and research program as he or she may deem necessary to carry out  
10 the intent and purposes of, and to assure compliance with, this subchapter  
11 and the federal laws, orders, and rules relating to the national beef  
12 promotion and research program.

13

14 SECTION 3296. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 2-35-  
15 405(a), concerning the disposition of funds, is amended to read as follows:

16 (a) The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and  
17 Administration shall deposit in the State Treasury all funds collected by him  
18 or her under this subchapter and the federal Beef Promotion and Research Act  
19 of 1985 and the federal administrative orders and rules issued under that  
20 act. Beginning with funds collected by him or her on and after the first day  
21 of the month next following January 22, 1987, the Treasurer of State shall:

22

23 SECTION 3297. Arkansas Code § 2-40-206(b), concerning the funding of a  
24 bovine disease program, is amended to read as follows:

25 (b)(1) The fee shall be collected by the purchaser and remitted  
26 monthly to the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and  
27 Administration, except that if the sale occurs through a livestock auction  
28 market or any other agent of the seller, the livestock auction market or  
29 other agent shall collect and remit the fee. The ~~director~~ Secretary of the  
30 Department of Finance and Administration may promulgate such rules as it  
31 deems necessary to implement the collection of the fee.

32

33 (2)(A) After deducting three percent (3%) for credit to the  
34 Constitutional Officers Fund and the State Central Services Fund the  
35 remainder of funds so remitted to the ~~director~~ Secretary of the Department of  
36 Finance and Administration shall be deposited into the State Treasury as  
special revenues and credited to the Livestock and Poultry Commission Disease

1 and Pest Control Fund.

2 (B) Before the close of each fiscal year, the Chief Fiscal  
3 Officer of the State shall determine the amount of funds which will remain at  
4 the end of the fiscal year in the Livestock and Poultry Commission Disease  
5 and Pest Control Fund from fees collected under the provisions of this  
6 section. He or she shall allow such funds to be carried forward and made  
7 available for the same purposes in the next-succeeding fiscal year.

8 (C) The ~~director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance  
9 and Administration shall release all information related to the fee levied  
10 per head on all cattle sold in the state to be used for the bovine disease  
11 control and eradication fund when requested by the Secretary of the ~~Arkansas~~  
12 ~~Agriculture~~ Department of Agriculture.

13

14 SECTION 3298. Arkansas Code § 2-40-1201(b) and (c), concerning fees  
15 and disposition of funds, are amended to read as follows:

16 (b)(1) Each livestock market operator shall collect fees and remit  
17 monthly to the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and  
18 Administration.

19 (2) The ~~director~~ secretary may promulgate such rules as ~~it~~ the  
20 secretary deems necessary to implement the collection of the fee.

21 (c) After deducting three percent (3%) for credit to the  
22 Constitutional Officers Fund and the State Central Services Fund, the  
23 remainder of funds so remitted to the ~~director~~ secretary shall be deposited  
24 into the State Treasury as special revenues and credited to the Livestock and  
25 Poultry Commission Swine Testing Fund.

26

27 SECTION 3299. Arkansas Code § 3-2-101(a), concerning the prohibition  
28 of interest in alcoholic beverages by enforcement officers, is amended to  
29 read as follows:

30 (a) Neither the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and  
31 Administration nor any officer, employee, deputy, or assistant thereof shall  
32 have any direct or indirect interest in or on any premises where alcoholic  
33 liquors are manufactured or sold, nor shall he or she have any direct or  
34 indirect interest in any business wholly or partially devoted to the  
35 manufacture or sale of alcoholic liquors or own any stock in any corporation  
36 which has any direct or indirect interest in the premises where alcoholic

1 liquors are manufactured or sold or in any business wholly or partially  
2 devoted to the manufacture or sale of alcoholic liquors.

3  
4 SECTION 3300. Arkansas Code § 3-2-203(a), concerning the director and  
5 staff of the Alcoholic Beverage Control Enforcement Division, is amended to  
6 read as follows:

7 (a) The Director of the Alcoholic Beverage Control Enforcement  
8 Division shall be appointed by the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of  
9 Finance and Administration and shall serve at the pleasure of the ~~Director~~  
10 Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration.

11  
12 SECTION 3301. Arkansas Code § 3-2-205(b)(5)(A), concerning the powers  
13 and duties of the Alcohol Beverage Control Division and the Alcoholic  
14 Beverage Control Enforcement Division, is amended to read as follows:

15 (5)(A) To keep records in proper form, to be prescribed by the  
16 Director of the Alcoholic Beverage Control Division and the ~~Director~~  
17 Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration, of all permits  
18 issued and all permits revoked under the provisions of this act and to keep  
19 records in such form so as to provide ready information as to the identity of  
20 all permit holders, including the names of stockholders who are not exempted  
21 under subdivision (b)(5)(B) of this section, and directors of corporations  
22 holding permits, and also the location of all permitted premises.

23  
24 SECTION 3302. Arkansas Code § 3-2-205(c)(6), concerning the powers and  
25 duties of the Alcohol Beverage Control Division and the Alcoholic Beverage  
26 Control Enforcement Division, is amended to read as follows:

27 (6) Any other powers, functions, and duties pertaining to the  
28 control of alcoholic beverages which previously were granted to the ~~Director~~  
29 Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration and which are not  
30 specifically delegated to the Alcoholic Beverage Control Board by the  
31 provisions of this subchapter.

32  
33 SECTION 3303. Arkansas Code § 3-2-205(d)(4), concerning the powers and  
34 duties of the Alcohol Beverage Control Division and the Alcoholic Beverage  
35 Control Enforcement Division, is amended to read as follows:

36 (4) Any other powers, functions, and duties pertaining to the

1 control of alcoholic beverages which previously were granted to the ~~Director~~  
2 Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration and which are not  
3 specifically delegated to the Director of the Alcoholic Beverage Control  
4 Division or the board by the provisions of this subchapter.

5  
6 SECTION 3304. Arkansas Code § 3-2-205(e)(2)-(4), concerning the powers  
7 and duties of the Alcohol Beverage Control Division and the Alcoholic  
8 Beverage Control Enforcement Division, are amended to read as follows:

9 (2) The collection of all such taxes and permit or license fees  
10 shall be by the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and  
11 Administration and his or her agents and employees, as provided by law.

12 (3) The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and  
13 Administration shall make a biennial report to the Governor and the General  
14 Assembly of his or her activities for the past year, which shall include  
15 statistics as to the amount of vinous (except wines), spirituous, or malt  
16 liquors manufactured in the State of Arkansas and the disposition thereof;  
17 the increase or decrease in their consumption over the preceding year; the  
18 amount of taxes and permit fees collected; and such other information as he  
19 or she deems advisable.

20 (4) The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and  
21 Administration shall report by June 1 of each year to the Alcoholic Beverage  
22 Control Division and the board any and all permit and license holders who are  
23 more than ninety (90) days delinquent on any alcoholic beverage sales tax,  
24 excise tax, supplemental mixed drink tax, any other tax relating to the sale  
25 or dispensing of alcoholic beverages, or any state or local gross receipts or  
26 compensating use taxes.

27  
28 SECTION 3305. Arkansas Code § 3-4-103(e), concerning the continuation  
29 of a permitted business that holds an alcoholic beverage permit by a  
30 benefiting fiduciary, is amended to read as follows:

31 (e) For each endorsement, a fee of five dollars (\$5.00) shall be paid  
32 to the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration by  
33 the applicant, which shall be paid into the same fund as other permit fees  
34 herein provided.

35  
36 SECTION 3306. Arkansas Code § 3-4-301(a)(7), concerning the grounds

1 for revocation of any permit issued for alcoholic beverages, is amended to  
2 read as follows:

3 (7) For failure or default of a permittee to pay any license or  
4 permit tax or any part thereof or penalties imposed by this act and for a  
5 violation of any rule or regulation of the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the  
6 Department of Finance and Administration or the Director of the Alcoholic  
7 Beverage Control Division in pursuance thereof;

8

9 SECTION 3307. Arkansas Code § 3-4-301(b)(1), concerning the grounds  
10 for revocation of any permit issued for alcoholic beverages, is amended to  
11 read as follows:

12 (b)(1) Whenever any person holding a retailer's permit to sell and  
13 dispense vinous or spirituous liquors for beverage purposes at retail shall  
14 fail to pay any Arkansas gross receipts tax, franchise tax, or the three  
15 percent (3%) special alcoholic beverage excise tax within sixty (60) days  
16 after the taxes become due, the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of  
17 Finance and Administration shall notify the Alcoholic Beverage Control Board  
18 of that fact and the board shall immediately revoke such permit.

19

20 SECTION 3308. Arkansas Code § 3-4-501(b) and (c), concerning when fees  
21 are due, are amended to read as follows:

22 (b) It shall be the duty of the person required to pay the license to  
23 make a report giving the facts in such form and substance as the Director of  
24 the Alcoholic Beverage Control Division shall by rule require. All payments  
25 therefor shall be made to the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance  
26 and Administration, payable to the Treasurer of State, and all permit fees  
27 shall likewise be made to the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance  
28 and Administration and payable to the Treasurer of State.

29 (c)(1) Except for grocery store wine permit fees under § 3-5-1802, all  
30 permits or license fees or taxes, penalties, fines, and costs received by the  
31 ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration under the  
32 provisions of this act shall be general revenues and shall be deposited into  
33 the State Treasury to the credit of the State Apportionment Fund.

34 (2) The Treasurer of State shall allocate and transfer the  
35 amounts to the various State Treasury funds participating in general revenues  
36 in the respective proportions to each as provided by and to be used for the

1 respective purposes set forth in the Revenue Stabilization Law, § 19-5-101 et  
2 seq.

3

4 SECTION 3309. Arkansas Code § 3-5-216(c), concerning the warehousing  
5 of beer and light wines, is amended to read as follows:

6 (c) The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and  
7 Administration shall provide for the collection of all fees and taxes imposed  
8 by this subchapter upon beer and wine at designated warehouses as provided  
9 for in subdivision (b)(1) of this section.

10

11 SECTION 3310. Arkansas Code § 3-5-223(a), concerning actions to  
12 recover taxes, is amended to read as follows:

13 (a) Where the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and  
14 Administration finds upon investigation that the state has lost tax on  
15 account of the evasion of any provision of law, he or she may bring suit in  
16 his or her own name in the proper court for the recovery of such taxes.

17

18 SECTION 3311. Arkansas Code § 3-5-224 is amended to read as follows:  
19 3-5-224. Disposition of funds.

20 All permits or license fees or taxes, penalties, fines, proceeds of all  
21 forfeitures, special inspection fees, and costs received by the ~~Director~~  
22 Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration under the  
23 provisions of this subchapter shall be general revenues and shall be  
24 deposited in the State Treasury to the credit of the State Apportionment  
25 Fund. The Treasurer of State shall allocate and transfer those revenues to  
26 the various State Treasury funds participating in general revenues in the  
27 respective proportions to each as provided by and to be used for the  
28 respective purposes set forth in the Revenue Stabilization Law, § 19-5-101 et  
29 seq.

30

31 SECTION 3312. Arkansas Code § 3-5-225 is amended to read as follows:  
32 3-5-225. Additional administrative personnel.

33 The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration  
34 and the Director of the Alcoholic Beverage Control Division are authorized to  
35 employ such additional clerks, inspectors, and assistants as may be necessary  
36 for the enforcement of this subchapter.

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SECTION 3313. Arkansas Code § 3-5-602 is amended to read as follows:

3-5-602. Rules and regulations.

(a) The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration is authorized to establish appropriate rules and regulations, if he or she deems it advisable, to simplify the furnishing of information to the Department of Finance and Administration as required under the provisions of this subchapter.

(b) The ~~director~~ secretary may promulgate forms which are to be filed with the department abbreviating information now required to be furnished under this subchapter or may waive in writing the filing of any information with the department on condition that the information and records will be kept by Arkansas wineries for department inspection and audit.

SECTION 3314. Arkansas Code § 3-5-803 is amended to read as follows:

3-5-803. Acquisition of ingredients from outside state.

Whenever reference is made in this subchapter ~~and § 3-5-405 [repealed]~~ to the acquisition of grapes, berries, fruits, or vegetables from sources outside this state to be used for the purposes and in the quantities authorized in this subchapter ~~and § 3-5-405 [repealed]~~, for the production of native wines, the term shall also be deemed to mean the acquisition of equivalent amounts thereof in the form of juice, pulp, or blendable wines to be used in the manufacture or blending of native wines in this state within the allowable percentages of such products used in the preparation of juices, pulp, or blendable wines as set forth in the order by the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration.

SECTION 3315. Arkansas Code § 3-5-804(b)(3), concerning the construction of the Native Wine Industry Disaster Relief Act with existing laws, is amended to read as follows:

(3) To authorize the importation of products to offset losses of production of products in this state, only in accordance with a native wine industry disaster relief order of the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration.

SECTION 3316. Arkansas Code § 3-5-805 is amended to read as follows:

1 3-5-805. Declaration of a relief program – Effect.

2 (a) Whenever, due to excessive heat, drought, flood, plant disease, or  
3 other natural disaster, the production of Arkansas-grown grapes, fruits,  
4 berries, or vegetables necessary to sustain the operation of native wineries  
5 on a full production basis is severely curtailed, upon petition therefor by  
6 one (1) or more native wineries licensed to do business in this state, and  
7 upon certification from the University of Arkansas Division of Agriculture  
8 Cooperative Extension Service that the production of such products has been  
9 curtailed due to natural disaster and outlining the estimated extent of the  
10 curtailment, the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and  
11 Administration shall determine, within thirty (30) days, whether  
12 circumstances exist which justify the declaration of a native wine industry  
13 disaster relief program. In connection therewith, the ~~director~~ secretary  
14 shall make independent studies and obtain information as he or she may deem  
15 appropriate or necessary to reach a proper decision in regard to the  
16 petition.

17 (b)(1) Upon conclusion of the studies, and in no event later than  
18 thirty (30) days after the date of the receipt of the petition, the ~~director~~  
19 secretary shall issue a ruling.

20 (2) If the ~~director~~ secretary shall determine that circumstances  
21 justify the invoking of a native wine industry disaster relief program, as  
22 authorized in this subchapter and ~~§ 3-5-405 [repealed]~~, he or she shall state  
23 in his or her order the facts which justify the establishment of the program,  
24 the anticipated loss in production of Arkansas-grown grapes, fruits, berries,  
25 or vegetables, or varieties thereof, to result from the natural disaster, and  
26 the duration for which the native wine industry disaster relief program shall  
27 extend.

28 (3) Copies of the order shall be filed by the ~~director~~ secretary  
29 with each licensed native winery in this state and with other interested  
30 parties who may request copies of the order.

31 (c) During the period of the native wine industry disaster relief  
32 program, as determined by the ~~director~~ secretary, native wineries in this  
33 state may acquire from sources outside this state supplies of grapes, fruits,  
34 berries, or vegetables within the percentage of their total consumption of  
35 such products as set forth by the ~~director~~ secretary.

36

1 SECTION 3317. Arkansas Code § 3-5-807 is amended to read as follows:  
2 3-5-807. Tax on wines produced under program.

3 (a) During a period of native wine industry disaster relief order  
4 issued by the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and  
5 Administration under the provisions of § 3-5-805, any native wine produced  
6 from grapes, berries, fruits, or vegetables within the permissible quantities  
7 authorized to be imported from sources of supply outside this state to  
8 replace losses in production of such products in this state resulting from  
9 natural disaster, within the percentages set forth in the native wine  
10 industry disaster relief order of the ~~director~~ secretary, shall be subject to  
11 the native wine tax imposed under the provisions of § 3-5-409 [repealed]. The  
12 provisions of subchapter 6 of this chapter shall be inoperative with respect  
13 to wines produced from the grapes, fruits, berries, and vegetables imported  
14 from sources of supply outside this state within the quantities set forth in  
15 the order of the ~~director~~ secretary.

16 (b) However, if quantities of wine are produced from the grapes,  
17 berries, fruits, and vegetables, or juices, pulp, or blendable wines thereof  
18 produced outside this state in excess of the percentage of the products  
19 authorized in the order of the ~~director~~ secretary to offset losses of  
20 production in this state resulting from natural disaster, the tax on such  
21 excess native wine produced from imported grapes, fruits, berries, and  
22 vegetables, or from juices, pulp, or blendable wines derived therefrom, shall  
23 be reported and paid as provided in subchapter 6 of this chapter.

24  
25 SECTION 3318. Arkansas Code § 3-5-903 is amended to read as follows:  
26 3-5-903. Rules and regulations.

27 The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration  
28 may establish reasonable rules and regulations to be followed by wineries in  
29 this state in making application for the subsidy payments and to prevent  
30 abuse of the subsidy payments.

31  
32 SECTION 3319. Arkansas Code § 3-5-904(c), concerning the eligibility  
33 of an Arkansas-bonded winery, is amended to read as follows:

34 (c) However, in any year in which there are losses in production of  
35 Arkansas-grown grapes, fruits, berries, or vegetables used in the production  
36 of wine resulting from droughts, floods, tornadoes, extreme weather

1 conditions, or other natural causes, the percentage of Arkansas-grown and  
2 Arkansas-produced grapes, fruits, berries, or vegetables used in producing  
3 wine, as required in this subchapter, shall be reduced in the proportion of  
4 the losses in production of the products as determined and set forth in a  
5 disaster relief order issued by the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of  
6 Finance and Administration prepared under the same procedures as set forth in  
7 the Native Wine Industry Disaster Relief Act, ~~§ 3-5-405 [repealed]~~ and § 3-  
8 5-801 et seq.

9  
10 SECTION 3320. Arkansas Code § 3-5-905 is amended to read as follows:

11 3-5-905. Applications.

12 Any winery in this state that produces wine from grapes, fruits,  
13 berries, or vegetables grown in this state and complies with the provisions  
14 of § 3-5-904, that desires to receive the grants authorized in this  
15 subchapter with respect to the purchase of such products or with respect to  
16 such products produced in vineyards or of other growing facilities in this  
17 state belonging to the winery, may make application for grant payments under  
18 this subchapter upon forms and in accordance with the rules and regulations  
19 promulgated by the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and  
20 Administration.

21  
22 SECTION 3321. Arkansas Code § 3-5-907(a), concerning grant payments  
23 and amounts, is amended to read as follows:

24 (a) Grant payments as authorized in this subchapter shall be made by  
25 the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration from  
26 moneys appropriated by the General Assembly for that purpose at each regular  
27 session and fiscal session of the General Assembly.

28  
29 SECTION 3322. Arkansas Code § 3-5-1005 is amended to read as follows:

30 3-5-1005. Applications.

31 Any winery in this state which produces wines from grapes, berries,  
32 fruits, or vegetables grown in this state, which desires to receive the  
33 subsidy authorized in this subchapter with respect to such purchases, may  
34 make application for the subsidy with the Department of Finance and  
35 Administration upon forms and in accordance with rules and regulations  
36 promulgated by the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and

1 Administration.

2

3 SECTION 3323. Arkansas Code § 3-5-1007(a), concerning the creation of  
4 the Arkansas Wine Grape, Berry, Fruit, and Vegetable Subsidy Fund, is amended  
5 to read as follows:

6 (a) In order to provide moneys to be used in paying the subsidies to  
7 Arkansas grape, berry, fruit, and vegetable producers whose production is  
8 sold to wineries in this state for making wine, the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the  
9 Department of Finance and Administration is authorized and directed to cause  
10 to be set aside in the State Treasury an amount of sixty-nine cents (69¢) for  
11 each seventy-five cents (75¢) gallonage tax collected on wines produced by  
12 wineries in this state from grapes, berries, fruits, or vegetables used in  
13 the production of wines in this state.

14

15 SECTION 3324. Arkansas Code § 3-5-1208 is amended to read as follows:  
16 3-5-1208. Rules and regulations.

17 The Director of the Alcoholic Beverage Control Division, ~~and~~ the  
18 Alcoholic Beverage Control Board, ~~and~~ the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the  
19 Department of Finance and Administration, and any other applicable agency of  
20 this state, shall promulgate and adopt such regulations as they deem  
21 necessary for the implementation of this subchapter, which regulations may  
22 consist in whole or in part of the federal regulations.

23

24 SECTION 3325. Arkansas Code § 3-5-1413 is amended to read as follows:  
25 3-5-1413. Rules.

26 The Director of the Alcoholic Beverage Control Board and the ~~Director~~  
27 Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration may adopt rules for  
28 the implementation of this subchapter.

29

30 SECTION 3326. Arkansas Code § 3-5-1608 is amended to read as follows:  
31 3-5-1608. Bond.

32 By consent of the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and  
33 Administration, the small farm winery may file a bond with the ~~director~~  
34 secretary, the bond to be approved by him or her, which will entitle the  
35 small farm winery to the privilege of making settlement of its taxes every  
36 thirty (30) days, the time to be set by the ~~director~~ secretary.

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SECTION 3327. Arkansas Code § 3-5-1609 is amended to read as follows:  
3-5-1609. Penalty.

Upon conviction, a person who violates this subchapter or any reasonable rule adopted under this subchapter by the Director of the Alcoholic Beverage Control Division or the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration is guilty of a Class B misdemeanor.

SECTION 3328. Arkansas Code § 3-5-1707 is amended to read as follows:  
3-5-1707. Rules.

The Director of the Alcoholic Beverage Control Division, the Alcoholic Beverage Control Board, the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration, and any other affected agency of this state may adopt rules to implement this subchapter.

SECTION 3329. Arkansas Code § 3-5-1708(a), concerning the disposition of funds, is amended to read as follows:

(a) Permit fees or taxes, label fees, penalties, fines, proceeds of all forfeitures, special inspection fees, and costs received by the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration under this subchapter shall be general revenues and shall be deposited into the State Treasury to the credit of the State Apportionment Fund.

SECTION 3330. Arkansas Code § 3-6-106(a), concerning the collection of fees and taxes, is amended to read as follows:

(a) The permit fees and the tax herein provided shall be collected in the same manner as all other liquor taxes and under such reasonable rules and regulations as the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration or his or her successor may provide.

SECTION 3331. Arkansas Code § 3-7-105 is amended to read as follows:  
3-7-105. Malt liquor tax – Reporting and payments.

(a) The excise tax levied on malt liquors by § 3-7-104 shall be reported and paid to the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration on or before the fifteenth day of the month following the month in which the wholesaler or other person authorized to sell malt liquors

1 obtains delivery of such malt liquors from the supplier.

2 (b) The ~~director~~ secretary shall provide forms necessary for reporting  
3 the tax due and shall enforce the tax pursuant to the Arkansas Tax Procedure  
4 Act, § 26-18-101 et seq.

5

6 SECTION 3332. Arkansas Code § 3-7-107 is amended to read as follows:

7 3-7-107. Enforcement – Rules and regulations.

8 (a) Sections 3-7-101 – 3-7-104 and 3-7-106 – 3-7-110 shall be  
9 administered and enforced by the Director of the Alcoholic Beverage Control  
10 Division and the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and  
11 Administration.

12 (b) The Director of the Alcoholic Beverage Control Division and the  
13 ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration are  
14 authorized and directed to issue permits as provided for in §§ 3-7-101 – 3-7-  
15 104 and 3-7-106 – 3-7-110, for the manufacture, sale, and transportation of  
16 distilled spirits and to enforce the license tax provisions of §§ 3-7-101 –  
17 3-7-104 and 3-7-106 – 3-7-110 and the collection of the license taxes imposed  
18 hereby and to promulgate reasonable rules and regulations for those purposes.  
19

20 SECTION 3333. Arkansas Code § 3-7-108 is amended to read as follows:

21 3-7-108. Disposition of funds.

22 All taxes, penalties, and costs collected by the ~~Director~~ Secretary of  
23 the Department of Finance and Administration under the provisions of §§ 3-7-  
24 101 – 3-7-104 and 3-7-106 – 3-7-110 shall be general revenues and shall be  
25 deposited in the State Treasury to the credit of the State Apportionment  
26 Fund. The Treasurer of State, on or before the fifth day of the month next  
27 following the month during which such funds shall have been received by him  
28 or her, shall allocate and transfer the funds to the various State Treasury  
29 funds in the proportions to each as provided by law, after first transferring  
30 to the General Revenue Fund Account of the State Apportionment Fund an amount  
31 equivalent to the cost of collection and other charges as also provided by  
32 law.  
33

34 SECTION 3334. Arkansas Code § 3-7-111(b)(3), concerning additional  
35 taxes for native wine and beer, is amended to read as follows:

36 (3) All taxes, penalties, fines, and costs received by the

1 ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration under the  
2 provisions of this subsection shall be deposited into the State Treasury as  
3 general revenues to the credit of the State Apportionment Fund. There those  
4 amounts shall be allocated to the various funds, fund accounts, and accounts  
5 participating in general revenues in the respective proportions to each as  
6 provided by law and shall be used for the respective purposes set forth in  
7 the Revenue Stabilization Law, § 19-5-101 et seq.

8  
9 SECTION 3335. Arkansas Code § 3-7-201(b)-(e), concerning the  
10 collection of taxes imposed for a special alcoholic beverage excise tax, are  
11 amended to read as follows:

12 (b) It shall be the duty of every retailer in this state to collect  
13 the tax from the consumer in addition to the established retail price of  
14 beer, liquor, cordials, liqueurs, specialties, and sparkling and still wines  
15 and to file a return and remittance with the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the  
16 Department of Finance and Administration on or before the twentieth day of  
17 each calendar month for the preceding month.

18 (c) Failure to file the return and remittance on the due date shall be  
19 cause for the ~~director~~ secretary to enter an assessment for the return and  
20 remittance and add as a penalty ten percent (10%) of the amount of tax found  
21 to be due.

22 (d) Returns shall be filed upon forms prescribed by the ~~director~~  
23 secretary in accordance with such regulations as the ~~director~~ secretary may  
24 promulgate hereunder.

25 (e) The State Board of Education and the ~~Department of~~ Division of  
26 Elementary and Secondary Education shall fully budget, fund, and expend or  
27 commit to expend the general revenue replacing the revenue derived from the  
28 previously imposed special alcoholic beverage excise tax on beer in addition  
29 to any other funding provided by law for essential programs such as  
30 subsidized child care for low-income families, the Arkansas Better Chance  
31 Program, and the Child Care and Early Childhood Education Fund Account in an  
32 amount equal to the appropriation level for the Arkansas Better Chance  
33 Program.

34  
35 SECTION 3336. Arkansas Code § 3-7-202(a), concerning the procedure for  
36 obtaining a lien, is amended to read as follows:

1 (a) If the taxpayer fails to demand a hearing before the ~~Director~~  
2 Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration within twenty (20)  
3 days after an assessment of the tax due the state has been made under this  
4 subchapter or, if the taxpayer shall fail to pay the tax assessed by the  
5 ~~director~~ secretary after a hearing and an order by the ~~director~~ secretary  
6 establishing the tax, as hereinbefore provided, then the ~~director~~ secretary  
7 may as soon as practicable thereafter issue to the circuit clerk of any  
8 county of the state a certificate certifying that the person therein named is  
9 indebted to the state for the tax established by the ~~director~~ secretary to be  
10 due.

11  
12 SECTION 3337. Arkansas Code § 3-7-203(a), concerning a lien and  
13 execution of the lien, is amended to read as follows:

14 (a) On the entry of the certificate of the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the  
15 Department of Finance and Administration, the circuit clerk shall issue an  
16 execution directed to the sheriff of the county, commanding him or her to  
17 levy upon and against all real and personal property of the taxpayer, which  
18 execution shall be by the clerk placed in the hands of the sheriff for  
19 levying thereon. The ~~director~~ secretary shall thereby have all the remedies  
20 and may take all the proceedings for the collection of the tax which may be  
21 had or taken upon the recovery of a judgment at law.

22  
23 SECTION 3338. Arkansas Code § 3-7-203(d), concerning a lien and  
24 execution of the lien, is amended to read as follows:

25 (d) However, in the event the sheriff is unable, after diligent  
26 effort, to effect collection of the tax, interest, penalties, and costs, the  
27 ~~director~~ secretary shall be empowered and authorized to pay such fees as are  
28 properly shown to be due to the clerk and sheriff out of the Miscellaneous  
29 Tax Refund Account.

30  
31 SECTION 3339. Arkansas Code § 3-7-204 is amended to read as follows:  
32 3-7-204. Alternative remedies.

33 Nothing in this subchapter shall preclude the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the  
34 Department of Finance and Administration from resorting to any other legal  
35 means of collecting taxes as may now be provided by law. The issuance of a  
36 certificate of indebtedness, the entry thereof by the clerk, and the levy of

1 execution, as provided herein, shall not constitute an election of remedies  
2 in respect to the collection of the tax.

3  
4 SECTION 3340. Arkansas Code § 3-7-205 is amended to read as follows:

5 3-7-205. Disposition of funds.

6 All taxes, interest, penalties, and costs received by the ~~Director~~  
7 Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration under the  
8 provisions of this subchapter shall be general revenues and shall be  
9 deposited in the State Treasury to the credit of the State Apportionment  
10 Fund. The Treasurer of State shall allocate and transfer the revenues to the  
11 various State Treasury funds participating in general revenues in the  
12 respective proportions to each as provided by and to be used for the  
13 respective purposes set forth in the Revenue Stabilization Law, § 19-5-101 et  
14 seq.

15  
16 SECTION 3341. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 3-7-302(a),  
17 concerning monthly reports and payments of excise tax, is amended to read as  
18 follows:

19 (a) Each licensee responsible for the payment of excise tax shall file  
20 on or before the fifteenth day of each month a verified report on forms  
21 provided by the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and  
22 Administration showing, for the preceding calendar month, the exact quantity  
23 of spirituous liquor:

24  
25 SECTION 3342. Arkansas Code § 3-7-302(b) and (c), concerning monthly  
26 reports and payments of excise tax, are amended to read as follows:

27 (b) The report on forms prescribed by the ~~director~~ secretary shall  
28 also show the amount of excise tax payable after allowance for all proper  
29 deductions for all spirituous liquors received by him or her in this state  
30 and shall include such additional information as the ~~director~~ secretary may  
31 require for the proper administration of this subchapter.

32 (c) Payment of the excise tax levied by law in the amount disclosed by  
33 the report shall accompany the report and shall be paid to the ~~director~~  
34 secretary.

35  
36 SECTION 3343. Arkansas Code § 3-7-303 is amended to read as follows:

1 3-7-303. Records – Penalties.

2 (a) Each wholesale distributor and importer of spirituous liquors  
3 required to file a return shall keep such complete and accurate books,  
4 papers, invoices, and other records as may be necessary to substantiate the  
5 accuracy of his or her report and the amount of excise tax due and shall  
6 retain the records for not less than three (3) years, subject to the use and  
7 inspection of the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and  
8 Administration or his or her agents.

9 (b) Any person required by this subchapter to retain books, papers,  
10 invoices, and other records who fails to produce them upon demand by the  
11 ~~director~~ secretary or his or her agent or agents of the Alcoholic Beverage  
12 Control Division or its successor agency, unless the failure to produce is  
13 due to providential or other causes beyond his or her control, shall be  
14 guilty of a Class A misdemeanor.

15  
16 SECTION 3344. Arkansas Code § 3-7-307 is amended to read as follows:

17 3-7-307. Rules and regulations – Sales to the military.

18 The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration  
19 shall continue the present, and if necessary promulgate additional, rules and  
20 regulations to relieve wholesale distributors and importers from the  
21 liability of paying the excise tax levied and imposed on beverages covered by  
22 this subchapter which are sold to agencies of the United States Armed Forces.

23  
24 SECTION 3345. Arkansas Code § 3-7-404 is amended to read as follows:

25 3-7-404. Rules and regulations.

26 (a) The rules and regulations required by § 3-7-401 pertaining to a  
27 reporting method for paying and collecting excise tax on beer shall be  
28 adopted and promulgated by the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of  
29 Finance and Administration.

30 (b) The rules and regulations shall be jointly enforced by both the  
31 ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration and the  
32 Alcoholic Beverage Control Board.

33 (c) The Director of the Alcoholic Beverage Control Division shall have  
34 authority to promulgate rules and regulations pertaining to the possession,  
35 transportation, or importation of beer into the State of Arkansas.

36 (d) The express purpose of this section is to carry out the intention

1 of §§ 3-7-401 – 3-7-403 to provide authority for protecting the state against  
2 loss of revenues derived from the levy of the excise tax on beer. The  
3 ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration shall have  
4 full authority to adopt whatever rules and regulations he or she may deem  
5 necessary to this end.

6

7 SECTION 3346. Arkansas Code § 3-7-501(a), concerning the authorization  
8 of the Director of the Department of Finance and Administration to adopt  
9 rules and regulations, is amended to read as follows:

10 (a) The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and  
11 Administration is authorized and directed to adopt and issue rules and  
12 regulations to protect the revenues of this state by prescribing a reporting  
13 method for paying and collecting the tax on wines.

14

15 SECTION 3347. Arkansas Code § 3-7-502 is amended to read as follows:  
16 3-7-502. Reports and payment.

17 The rules and regulations shall require reports to be filed with the  
18 ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration on or  
19 before the fifteenth day of the month following the month in which the  
20 wholesaler or importer of wines shall obtain delivery of wines from the  
21 supplier. The tax due shall accompany this report.

22

23 SECTION 3348. Arkansas Code § 3-7-505 is amended to read as follows:  
24 3-7-505. Joint enforcement.

25 The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration  
26 and the Alcoholic Beverage Control Division or its successor agency shall  
27 jointly enforce the provisions of this subchapter.

28

29 SECTION 3349. Arkansas Code § 3-9-213(c)(1), concerning the gross  
30 receipts and supplemental taxes on sale of alcoholic beverages, is amended to  
31 read as follows:

32 (c)(1) The supplemental tax shall be reported and paid to the ~~Director~~  
33 Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration in the same manner  
34 and at the same time as the gross receipts tax and shall be subject to such  
35 reasonable rules and regulations as the ~~director~~ secretary may prescribe,  
36 including the maintenance of permanent records showing all purchases and

1 sales of alcoholic beverages.

2

3 SECTION 3350. Arkansas Code § 3-9-223(c)(1), concerning private clubs,  
4 permit renewal fees, and taxes, is amended to read as follows:

5 (c)(1) The supplemental tax shall be reported and paid to the ~~Director~~  
6 Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration in the same manner  
7 and at the same time as the gross receipts tax under the Arkansas Gross  
8 Receipts Act of 1941, § 26-52-101 et seq., and shall be in addition to the  
9 tax.

10

11 SECTION 3351. Arkansas Code § 3-9-223(d), concerning private clubs,  
12 permit renewal fees, and taxes, is amended to read as follows:

13 (d) The ~~director~~ secretary shall promulgate reasonable rules and  
14 regulations for the enforcement and collection of the tax levied herein,  
15 including a requirement that each permittee maintain records showing all such  
16 charges made.

17

18 SECTION 3352. Arkansas Code § 3-9-229 is amended to read as follows:  
19 3-9-229. Collection of taxes.

20 The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration  
21 may assess and collect delinquent state and local taxes from the owner or  
22 owners of the hotel or restaurant, file claims for unpaid taxes against bonds  
23 or other security required to be posted by the permittee, and enforce liens  
24 against assets held by the owner or owners. The Alcoholic Beverage Control  
25 Division may suspend or refuse to renew a permit held by a nonpartner if the  
26 hotel or restaurant owner fails to remit state taxes.

27

28 SECTION 3353. Arkansas Code § 3-9-232(a), concerning the inspection  
29 and records of licensed premises and private clubs, is amended to read as  
30 follows:

31 (a) No permit shall be issued under this subchapter unless the  
32 permittee has consented in writing that the licensed premises and its books  
33 and records shall be open at all times to all law enforcement and tax  
34 officials and officials of the Alcoholic Beverage Control Division, the  
35 Alcoholic Beverage Control Enforcement Division, and the ~~Director~~ Secretary  
36 of the Department of Finance and Administration without requirement of

1 warrant or other legal process.

2

3 SECTION 3354. Arkansas Code § 3-9-234(b), concerning the failure to  
4 pay renewal fees or taxes, is amended to read as follows:

5 (b) If any permittee shall fail to remit the supplemental tax upon  
6 gross receipts within the time provided in § 3-9-223, a penalty of twenty-  
7 five percent (25%) shall be due and payable. If such taxes plus penalty are  
8 not paid within thirty (30) days from the due date, the Director of the  
9 Alcoholic Beverage Control Division shall revoke the permit of the permittee,  
10 and the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration  
11 shall seek recovery of the amount of such taxes and penalties due from the  
12 permittee.

13

14 SECTION 3355. Arkansas Code § 4-60-102 is amended to read as follows:  
15 4-60-102. Applicability.

16 This chapter does not apply to the laws governing the imposition of a  
17 penalty for checks written on accounts which have insufficient funds and  
18 which checks are payable to either the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department  
19 of Finance and Administration or to the Department of Finance and  
20 Administration for any taxes, licenses, or fees imposed by any laws of this  
21 state.

22

23 SECTION 3356. Arkansas Code § 4-90-206(a)(4), concerning the  
24 disclosure requirements when transferring a motor vehicle, is amended to read  
25 as follows:

26 (4) The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and  
27 Administration shall adopt, pursuant to the Arkansas Administrative Procedure  
28 Act, § 25-15-201 et seq., rules not inconsistent with this subchapter or  
29 Title 49, Chapter 327 of the United States Code, or any rules promulgated  
30 thereunder prescribing the manner in which the written disclosure shall be  
31 made.

32

33 SECTION 3357. Arkansas Code § 4-90-206(b)(2)(B), concerning the  
34 disclosure requirements when transferring a motor vehicle, is amended to read  
35 as follows:

36 (B) The ~~director~~ secretary shall adopt, pursuant to the

1 Arkansas Administrative Procedure Act, § 25-15-201 et seq., rules not  
2 inconsistent with this subchapter or Title 49, Chapter 327 of the United  
3 States Code, or any rules promulgated thereunder prescribing the form of the  
4 power of attorney.

5

6 SECTION 3358. Arkansas Code § 5-65-102(6), concerning the definition  
7 of "sworn report" under the Omnibus DWI or BWI Act, is amended to read as  
8 follows:

9 (6) "Sworn report" means a signed and written statement of a  
10 certified law enforcement officer, under penalty of perjury, on a form  
11 provided by the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and  
12 Administration;

13

14 SECTION 3359. Arkansas Code § 5-65-106(b), concerning the impoundment  
15 of license plates, is amended to read as follows:

16 (b) If the court determines it is in the best interest of the  
17 dependents of the person, the court shall instruct the ~~Director~~ Secretary of  
18 the Department of Finance and Administration to issue a temporary substitute  
19 motor vehicle license plate for the motor vehicle, and the temporary  
20 substitute motor vehicle license plate shall indicate that the original motor  
21 vehicle license plate has been impounded.

22

23 SECTION 3360. Arkansas Code § 5-65-401(3), concerning the definition  
24 of "sworn report" under the laws governing an administrative driver's license  
25 suspension, is amended to read as follows:

26 (3) "Sworn report" means a signed and written statement of a  
27 certified law enforcement officer, under penalty of perjury, on a form  
28 provided by the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and  
29 Administration.

30

31 SECTION 3361. Arkansas Code § 5-65-402(c)(1)(C), concerning the  
32 surrender of a license or a permit to an arresting officer, is amended to  
33 read as follows:

34 (C) The petition shall be served on the ~~Director~~ Secretary  
35 of the Department of Finance and Administration under Rule 4 of the Arkansas  
36 Rules of Civil Procedure.

1  
2 SECTION 3362. Arkansas Code § 5-65-403(d)(1)(B), concerning a notice  
3 and a receipt from an arresting officer, is amended to read as follows:

4 (B) Submitted by mail or in person to the ~~Director~~  
5 Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration or his or her  
6 designated representative within seven (7) days of the issuance of the  
7 receipt.

8  
9 SECTION 3363. Arkansas Code § 5-65-403(k), concerning a notice and a  
10 receipt from an arresting officer, is amended to read as follows:

11 (k) If the ~~director~~ secretary orders immobilization of a motor  
12 vehicle, notice of immobilization shall be sent by first-class mail to any  
13 persons, other than the arrested person, listed as an owner or co-owner of  
14 the immobilized motor vehicle in the records of the Office of Motor Vehicle.

15  
16 SECTION 3364. Arkansas Code § 6-13-618(b)(3), concerning the  
17 organization and disbursing officer for school district boards of directors,  
18 is amended to read as follows:

19 (3) Such a resolution must be filed with the county treasurer  
20 and the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration.

21  
22 SECTION 3365. Arkansas Code § 6-13-1006(d)(9)(C), concerning the board  
23 of directors of education service cooperatives, is amended to read as  
24 follows:

25 (C) Borrowing from other sources for limited or unusual  
26 circumstances upon approval of the Commissioner of Elementary and Secondary  
27 Education and ~~Director~~ the Secretary of the Department of Finance and  
28 Administration; and

29  
30 SECTION 3366. Arkansas Code § 6-17-406 is amended to read as follows:

31 6-17-406. License revocation generally – Superintendents and  
32 supervisors.

33 The State Board of Education may revoke the license of any  
34 superintendent or supervisor in any and every instance where the ~~Director~~  
35 Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration has found it  
36 necessary to proceed upon the bond of the superintendent or supervisor to

1 recover funds wrongfully used. Revocation shall be mandatory in any and every  
2 instance where there is recovery on the bond.

3  
4 SECTION 3367. Arkansas Code § 6-17-911(b) and (c), concerning the  
5 effect of failure to make records and settlements, are amended to read as  
6 follows:

7 (b) If the county collector fails to make settlements with the county  
8 treasurer as now provided by law, the county treasurer shall forthwith notify  
9 the Commissioner of Elementary and Secondary Education and the ~~Director~~  
10 Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration of such failure.

11 (c)(1) If such delinquent settlement is not made within two (2) weeks,  
12 the Treasurer of State shall withhold the monthly distribution of county aid  
13 provided for under § 19-5-602(b) upon notification from the ~~Director~~  
14 Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration that the county has  
15 failed to make such settlement.

16 (2) The monthly distribution shall be withheld until such  
17 settlement is made to the satisfaction of the ~~director~~ secretary.

18  
19 SECTION 3368. Arkansas Code § 6-21-104 is amended to read as follows:

20 6-21-104. Distribution of surplus commodities in school lunch program.

21 Upon the request of the State Board of Education and with the approval  
22 of the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration,  
23 the Department of Finance and Administration may administer the program of  
24 distribution of surplus commodities in the school lunch program under such  
25 arrangements with respect to the employment of personnel and the payment of  
26 the salaries of personnel, and maintenance, as may be mutually agreeable with  
27 the agencies above mentioned.

28  
29 SECTION 3369. Arkansas Code § 8-7-906(e), concerning petroleum  
30 environmental assurance fees, is amended to read as follows:

31 (e) The fee shall be remitted to the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the  
32 Department of Finance and Administration at the time, in the manner, and on  
33 forms prescribed by the ~~director~~ secretary and may be collected and remitted  
34 at the same time and in the same manner as the motor fuels tax and special  
35 motor fuels tax under § 26-55-101 et seq. and the Special Motor Fuels Tax  
36 Law, § 26-56-101 et seq.

1  
2 SECTION 3370. Arkansas Code § 8-7-906(g)(3), concerning petroleum  
3 environmental assurance fees, is amended to read as follows:

4 (3) The commission shall review the Petroleum Storage Tank Trust  
5 Fund balance, as adjusted to reflect the obligations and liabilities of the  
6 Petroleum Storage Tank Trust Fund, at least quarterly and report the rate of  
7 collection for the fee for the upcoming quarter to the ~~director~~ secretary.

8  
9  
10 SECTION 3371. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 9-6-110 is  
11 amended to read as follows:

12 The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration  
13 or his or her designee shall provide an annual report by October 1 of each  
14 year to the Chair of the Senate Interim Committee on Children and Youth and  
15 the Chair of the House Committee on Aging, Children and Youth, Legislative  
16 and Military Affairs containing the following information:

17  
18 SECTION 3372. Arkansas Code § 10-3-220 is amended to read as follows:  
19 10-3-220. Monitoring of changes made in federal income tax laws and  
20 regulations – Reports of ~~director~~ secretary.

21 (a) The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and  
22 Administration shall monitor changes made in federal income tax laws and  
23 regulations for the purpose of determining how the changes may affect  
24 Arkansas income tax law and for the purpose of determining how the changes  
25 differ from provisions adopted for Arkansas income tax purposes.

26 (b) The ~~director~~ secretary shall report his or her findings annually  
27 to the House Committee on Revenue and Taxation and the Senate Committee on  
28 Revenue and Taxation and may make such other reports to the House Committee  
29 on Revenue and Taxation and the Senate Committee on Revenue and Taxation as  
30 he or she deems necessary.

31  
32 SECTION 3373. Arkansas Code § 10-4-410(c), concerning audit costs  
33 incurred by Arkansas Legislative Audit, is amended to read as follows:

34 (c) If it is determined by the Legislative Joint Auditing Committee  
35 that the reimbursement for the auditing of entities of the state is  
36 appropriate, the Legislative Auditor and the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the

1 Department of Finance and Administration shall develop guidelines for  
2 effecting proper budgetary and accounting procedures for the reimbursements.

3  
4 SECTION 3374. Arkansas Code § 12-8-307(c)(2) and (3), concerning lease  
5 funds and pledged revenues, are amended to read as follows:

6 (2) The pledged revenues shall be deposited into a bank or banks  
7 selected by the ~~Department~~ Division of Arkansas State Police, as and when  
8 received by the Commissioner of Motor Vehicles, the Office of Motor Vehicle,  
9 the ~~Department~~ Division of Arkansas State Police, the Arkansas State Police  
10 Commission, the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and  
11 Administration, or any other state agency.

12 (3) The pledged revenues shall be deposited to the credit of a  
13 fund created and designated as the ~~Department~~ "Division of Arkansas State  
14 Police Communications Equipment Lease Fund", referred to in this subchapter  
15 as the "lease fund".

16  
17 SECTION 3375. Arkansas Code § 12-10-326(d)(1), concerning prepaid  
18 wireless E911 service charges, is amended to read as follows:

19 (d)(1) Except as provided in subdivision (d)(2) of this section, a  
20 seller shall report and pay one hundred percent (100%) of the prepaid  
21 wireless E911 charge plus any penalties and interest due to the ~~Director~~  
22 Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration in the same manner  
23 and at the same time as the gross receipts tax under the Arkansas Gross  
24 Receipts Act of 1941, § 26-52-101 et seq.

25  
26 SECTION 3376. Arkansas Code § 12-30-304 is amended to read as follows:

27 12-30-304. Products – Purchase by state institutions.

28 (a) It shall be the duty of the various state institutions to  
29 purchase, as far as possible, products grown or produced by the state upon  
30 its ~~Department~~ Division of Correction and other farms, giving the state  
31 preference wherever possible.

32 (b)(1) Sales shall be made at prevailing market prices and all  
33 proceeds thereof shall be deposited with the Treasurer of State to the credit  
34 of the ~~Department~~ Division of Correction Farm Fund.

35 (2) However, the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance  
36 and Administration, by proper bookkeeping entries, may charge the institution

1 so purchasing and credit the ~~Department~~ Division of Correction account with  
2 such amount.

3  
4 SECTION 3377. Arkansas Code § 13-7-304 is amended to read as follows:  
5 13-7-304. Commission accounts.

6 The members of the Historic Arkansas Museum Commission shall keep  
7 strict account of all moneys received and disbursed by them and by their  
8 order and shall file a statement thereof annually with the ~~Director~~ Secretary  
9 of the Department of Finance and Administration, who shall properly check and  
10 audit the statement of account and the books of the commission.

11  
12 SECTION 3378. Arkansas Code § 14-43-607(e), concerning income taxes,  
13 is amended to read as follows:

14 (e)(1)(A) The governing body of any city levying the tax authorized in  
15 this section and the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and  
16 Administration are authorized and empowered to enter into a contractual  
17 agreement whereby the ~~director~~ secretary shall collect any of the taxes  
18 assessed by the city, whether by withholding of income tax or otherwise, and  
19 remit them to the city.

20 (B) This agreement may also provide for a consideration to  
21 be allowed the ~~director~~ secretary for services rendered in making such  
22 collections.

23 (2) The ~~director~~ secretary may establish regulations concerning  
24 the procedures for collecting these taxes by him or her.

25  
26 SECTION 3379. Arkansas Code § 14-86-2003 is amended to read as  
27 follows:

28 14-86-2003. Scope of examination.

29 (a)(1) The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and  
30 Administration or any auditors appointed by him or her shall have power to  
31 make a thorough examination into the affairs of a district specified in § 14-  
32 86-2001 when called upon by the county judge.

33 (2)(A) The ~~director~~ secretary shall have access to all records,  
34 books, accounts, papers, and documents concerning the district undergoing  
35 such an audit.

36 (B) The ~~director~~ secretary is also authorized to:

1 (i) Examine, under oath, any officer, assistant,  
2 clerk, or other person touching the matters he or she may be authorized to  
3 inquire and examine; and

4 (ii) Summon and, by attachment, compel the  
5 attendance of any person to testify, under oath, before him or her in  
6 relation to the affairs of the district.

7 (b) The failure or refusal of any person to appear before the ~~director~~  
8 secretary or to deliver to him or her any books, records, or other documents  
9 shall subject the person to a fine of twenty-five dollars (\$25.00) for each  
10 day he the person refuses or fails to comply with the request.

11  
12 SECTION 3380. Arkansas Code § 14-164-303(6), concerning the definition  
13 of "director" under the Local Government Bond Act of 1985, is repealed.

14 ~~(6) "Director" means the Director of the Department of Finance~~  
15 ~~and Administration or any successor to the duties thereof and any authorized~~  
16 ~~agent thereof;~~

17  
18 SECTION 3381. Arkansas Code § 14-164-325 is amended to read as  
19 follows:

20 14-164-325. Taxes not state revenues.

21 It is the express intent of the General Assembly that any tax levied  
22 under the authority of this subchapter by a municipality or county to finance  
23 capital improvements of a public nature or economic development projects  
24 shall not constitute revenues of the state within the meaning of any  
25 constitutional or statutory provisions, but the tax levied under this  
26 subchapter shall at all times continue to be revenues of the particular  
27 municipality or county notwithstanding the participation or involvement, for  
28 the convenience of administration, by the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the  
29 Department of Finance and Administration or the Treasurer of State in the  
30 manner authorized in this subchapter in any phase of collection, holding, or  
31 distribution of proceeds of any tax authorized under this subchapter.

32  
33 SECTION 3382. Arkansas Code § 14-164-327(b), concerning capital  
34 improvement bonds, local sales and use taxes, and levy, is amended to read as  
35 follows:

36 (b) A certified copy of the ordinance or ordinances authorizing the

1 levy of a local sales and use tax or taxes and the issuance of bonds secured  
2 by the taxes shall be provided to the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of  
3 Finance and Administration and to the Treasurer of State as soon as  
4 practicable after the adoption of the taxes.

5  
6 SECTION 3383. Arkansas Code § 14-164-329(a), concerning capital  
7 improvement bonds, local sales and use tax , effective dates for imposition,  
8 and termination of tax levy, is amended to read as follows:

9 (a) The levy of a local sales and use tax shall not be effective until  
10 after the election has been held and the issuance of bonds has been approved  
11 by the voters and the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and  
12 Administration has been given ninety (90) days' notice.

13  
14 SECTION 3384. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 14-164-  
15 329(b), concerning capital improvement bonds, local sales and use tax ,  
16 effective dates for imposition, and termination of tax levy, is amended to  
17 read as follows:

18 (b) In order to provide time for the preparations for election set  
19 forth in this section and to provide for the accomplishment of the  
20 administrative duties of the ~~director~~ secretary, the following effective  
21 dates are applicable with reference to any such ordinance levying such tax:

22  
23 SECTION 3385. Arkansas Code § 14-164-329(b)(1), concerning capital  
24 improvement bonds, local sales and use tax, effective dates for imposition,  
25 and termination of tax levy, is amended to read as follows:

26 (1)(A) If an election challenge is not filed within thirty (30)  
27 days of the date of publication of the proclamation of the results of the  
28 election, the tax shall become effective on the first day of the first month  
29 of the calendar quarter after the expiration of the thirty-day period for  
30 challenge and after a minimum of sixty (60) days' notice has been provided by  
31 the ~~director~~ secretary to sellers unless delayed under subdivision (b)(3) of  
32 this section.

33 (B) A rate change on a purchase from a printed catalog in  
34 which the purchaser computed the tax based on local tax rates published in  
35 the catalog will be applicable on the first day of a calendar quarter after a  
36 minimum of one hundred twenty (120) days' notice by the ~~director~~ secretary to

1 the sellers.

2 (C) For sales and use tax purposes only, a local boundary  
3 change will become effective on the first day of a calendar quarter after a  
4 minimum of sixty (60) days' notice by the ~~director~~ secretary to sellers.

5  
6 SECTION 3386. Arkansas Code § 14-164-329(c)(2) and (3), concerning  
7 capital improvement bonds, local sales and use tax, effective dates for  
8 imposition, and termination of tax levy, are amended to read as follows:

9 (2) In order to provide for the accomplishment of the  
10 administrative duties of the ~~director~~ secretary and to protect the owners of  
11 the bonds, the tax shall be abolished on the first day of the calendar  
12 quarter after the expiration of ninety (90) days from the date there is filed  
13 with the ~~director~~ secretary a written statement signed by the chief executive  
14 officer of the municipality or county levying the tax and by the trustee for  
15 the bondholders, if a trustee is serving in such capacity, identifying the  
16 tax and the bonds, in which either:

17 (A) The trustee certifies that the trustee has or will  
18 have sufficient funds set aside to pay the principal of and interest on the  
19 bonds when due at maturity or at redemption before maturity and the  
20 municipality or county levying the tax certifies that the tax is not pledged  
21 to any other bonds of such municipality or county; or

22 (B) The municipality or county levying the tax certifies  
23 that there are no longer any bonds outstanding payable from tax collections.

24 (3) In the case of subdivision (c)(2)(B) of this section, there  
25 shall be attached to the written statement proof satisfactory to the ~~director~~  
26 secretary that there are no longer any bonds outstanding payable from tax  
27 collections.

28  
29 SECTION 3387. Arkansas Code § 14-164-330 is amended to read as  
30 follows:

31 14-164-330. Capital improvement bonds – Local sales and use tax –  
32 Notice to ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration.

33 As soon as is feasible and no later than ten (10) days following each  
34 of the events set forth in the ordinance with reference to the procedure for  
35 the adoption or abolition of the local sales and use tax and the effective  
36 dates of the action, the clerk shall notify the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the

1 Department of Finance and Administration of such event.

2

3 SECTION 3388. Arkansas Code § 14-164-333(a)(2), concerning capital  
4 improvement bonds, local sales and use taxes, administration, and collection,  
5 is amended to read as follows:

6 (2)(A) The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and  
7 Administration shall perform all functions incidental to the administration,  
8 collection, enforcement, and operation of the tax, as provided in §§ 26-74-  
9 201 – 26-74-219, 26-74-221, 26-74-315 – 26-74-317, 26-75-201 – 26-75-221, 26-  
10 75-223, 26-75-317, and 26-75-318. Provided, however, to the extent the  
11 provisions of § 14-164-329 conflict with any provisions of § 26-74-101 et  
12 seq. or § 26-75-101 et seq., or any other law, § 14-164-329 shall be deemed  
13 to supersede the conflicting statutes.

14 (B) The tax levied in this subchapter on new and used  
15 motor vehicles shall be collected by the ~~director~~ secretary directly from the  
16 purchaser in the manner prescribed in § 26-52-510.

17

18 SECTION 3389. Arkansas Code § 14-164-333(d), concerning capital  
19 improvement bonds, local sales and use taxes, administration, and collection,  
20 is amended to read as follows:

21 (d)(1) Each vendor who is liable for one (1) or more city sales or use  
22 taxes shall report a combined city sales tax and a combined city use tax on  
23 his or her sales and use tax report. The combined city sales tax is equal to  
24 the sum of all sales taxes levied by a city under this subchapter or any  
25 other provision of the Arkansas Code. The combined city use tax is equal to  
26 the sum of all use taxes levied by a city under this subchapter or any other  
27 provision of the Arkansas Code. This provision applies only to taxes  
28 collected by the ~~director~~ secretary.

29 (2) Each vendor who is liable for one (1) or more county sales  
30 or use taxes shall report a combined county sales tax and a combined county  
31 use tax on his or her sales and use tax report. The combined county sales tax  
32 is equal to the sum of all sales taxes levied by a county under this  
33 subchapter or any other provision of the Arkansas Code. The combined county  
34 use tax is equal to the sum of all use taxes levied by a county under this  
35 subchapter or any other provision of the Arkansas Code. This provision  
36 applies only to taxes collected by the ~~director~~ secretary.

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SECTION 3390. Arkansas Code § 14-164-337(f)(1), concerning the pledge of preexisting sales and use taxes, is amended to read as follows:

(f)(1) Any moneys collected which, as indicated by a certified copy of an ordinance of the municipality or county previously filed with the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration and the Treasurer of State, are pledged, under the provisions of any act, to secure the retirement of bonds authorized by this subchapter, shall be transmitted by the ~~director~~ secretary to the Treasurer of State.

SECTION 3391. Arkansas Code § 14-164-339(e)(1), concerning the simultaneous pledge of local sales and use taxes, is amended to read as follows:

(e)(1) Any moneys collected which, as indicated by a certified copy of an ordinance of the municipality or county previously filed with the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration and the Treasurer of State, are pledged, under the provisions of any act, to secure the retirement of bonds authorized by this subchapter, shall be transmitted by the ~~director~~ secretary to the Treasurer of State.

SECTION 3392. Arkansas Code § 14-164-341(d), concerning bonds for surface transportation projects, is amended to read as follows:

(d) A certified copy of the ordinance authorizing the issuance of bonds under this section shall be filed with the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration and the Treasurer of State as soon as practicable after the approval of the issuance of the bonds by the voters.

SECTION 3393. Arkansas Code § 14-174-102(3), concerning the definition of "director" under the laws governing the economic development tax, is repealed.

~~(3) "Director" means the Director of the Department of Finance and Administration or any of his authorized agents;~~

SECTION 3394. Arkansas Code § 14-174-109(b)(1), concerning public corporations for economic development, is amended to read as follows:

(b)(1) On receipt from the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of

1 Finance and Administration of the net proceeds of the sales and use tax  
2 levied or authorized under this subchapter, the local government shall  
3 deliver all of the proceeds to the corporation to use in carrying out its  
4 functions.

5

6 SECTION 3395. Arkansas Code § 15-4-1210(c), concerning the  
7 commencement and continuation of existence regarding a newly formed company,  
8 is amended to read as follows:

9 (c) A copy of the articles of incorporation or articles of  
10 organization so endorsed by the commissioner, as prescribed in § 15-4-1209,  
11 shall be filed for recordation in the office of the county clerk in the  
12 county in which the principal office of the company is located, and a copy  
13 shall be delivered to the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and  
14 Administration.

15

16 SECTION 3396. Arkansas Code § 15-4-1227(f), concerning the dissolution  
17 of a company formed under the County and Regional Industrial Development  
18 Company Act, is amended to read as follows:

19 (f) A copy of the certificate of dissolution as accepted and endorsed  
20 by the commissioner, as prescribed in subsection (c) of this section, shall  
21 be filed for recordation in the office of the county clerk in the county in  
22 which the principal office of the company is located, and a copy shall be  
23 delivered to the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and  
24 Administration.

25

26 SECTION 3397. Arkansas Code § 15-4-1228(d), concerning investigations  
27 by the Bank Commissioner or Securities Commissioner and injunctions, is  
28 amended to read as follows:

29 (d) A copy of all reports of the investigation or other proceedings  
30 conducted pursuant to this section shall be forwarded to the ~~Director~~  
31 Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration.

32

33 SECTION 3398. Arkansas Code § 15-4-2008(a)(3), concerning the  
34 disbursement of motion picture rebate incentives, is amended to read as  
35 follows:

36 (3) Provide certification to the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the

1 Department of Finance and Administration specifying the amount to be remitted  
2 to the production company within one hundred twenty (120) days after the  
3 final expenditure report has been submitted.

4  
5 SECTION 3399. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 15-4-  
6 2008(b), concerning the disbursement of motion picture rebate incentives, is  
7 amended to read as follows:

8 (b) The ~~director~~ secretary, within ten (10) working days after the  
9 receipt of the certification from the division, shall remit the rebate to:

10  
11 SECTION 3400. Arkansas Code § 15-5-1203(5) and (6), concerning the  
12 definitions of "director" and "pledged fees" under the Petroleum Storage Tank  
13 Trust Fund Bond Financing Act, are amended to read as follows:

14 ~~(5) "Director" means the Director of the Department of Finance~~  
15 ~~and Administration;~~

16 (6) "Pledged fees" means the fees collected by the ~~director~~  
17 Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration pursuant to § 8-7-  
18 906;

19  
20 SECTION 3401. Arkansas Code § 15-5-1205(c)(1), concerning the  
21 Petroleum Storage Tank Trust Fund Revenue Bond Debt Service Fund and pledged  
22 fees, is amended to read as follows:

23 (c)(1) Commencing on the first day of the month next succeeding the  
24 issuance of bonds by the authority, the pledged fees shall not be deposited  
25 into the State Treasury and shall not be subject to legislative  
26 appropriations, but, as received by the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department  
27 of Finance and Administration or the Treasurer of State, shall be deposited  
28 into a bank or banks selected by the authority and approved by the Treasurer  
29 of State.

30  
31 SECTION 3402. Arkansas Code § 15-5-1302(5), concerning the definition  
32 of "director" under the Affordable Neighborhood Housing Tax Credit Act of  
33 1997, is repealed.

34 ~~(5) "Director" means the Director of the Department of Finance~~  
35 ~~and Administration;~~

1 SECTION 3403. Arkansas Code § 15-5-1303(i) and (j), concerning  
2 affordable housing assistance activities, business firms proposing to provide  
3 housing assistance, affordable housing units and procedure for approval and  
4 tax credits, are amended to read as follows:

5 (i) A copy of the decision of the authority or its delegate shall be  
6 transmitted to the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and  
7 Administration and to the Governor.

8 (j) A copy of the certification approved by the authority and a  
9 statement of the total amount of credits approved by the authority, the  
10 amount of credits previously taken by the taxpayer, and the amount being  
11 claimed for the current tax year shall be filed in a manner and form  
12 designated by the ~~director~~ secretary for any tax year in which a tax credit  
13 is being claimed.

14  
15 SECTION 3404. Arkansas Code § 15-5-1305 is amended to read as follows:  
16 15-5-1305. Rules and regulations.

17 The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration  
18 and the Arkansas Development Finance Authority shall promulgate rules and  
19 regulations necessary to administer the provisions of this subchapter. No  
20 rule or portion of a rule promulgated under the authority of this subchapter  
21 shall become effective until it has been approved by the ~~director~~ secretary  
22 in accordance with the Arkansas Administrative Procedure Act, § 25-15-201 et  
23 seq.

24  
25 SECTION 3405. Arkansas Code § 15-5-1603(5), concerning the definition  
26 of "review committee" under the Arkansas Risk Capital Matching Fund Act of  
27 2007, is amended to read as follows:

28 (5) "Review committee" means a committee composed of the  
29 President of the Arkansas Development Finance Authority and the ~~Executive~~  
30 Director of the Arkansas Economic Development Commission;

31  
32 SECTION 3406. Arkansas Code § 15-5-1603(8), concerning the definition  
33 of "Venture Capital Investment Trust" under the Arkansas Risk Capital  
34 Matching Fund Act of 2007, is amended to read as follows:

35 (8) "Venture Capital Investment Trust" means the public trust  
36 formed July 21, 2003, under § 28-72-201 et seq., the trustees of which are

1 the President of the Arkansas Development Finance Authority, the ~~Executive~~  
2 Director of the Arkansas Economic Development Commission, and the ~~Director~~  
3 Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration, and that has as a  
4 principal purpose increasing the availability of equity capital and near-  
5 equity capital for emerging and expanding enterprises in the State of  
6 Arkansas.

7  
8 SECTION 3407. Arkansas Code § 15-11-507 is amended to read as follows:  
9 15-11-507. Tourism attraction project sales tax credit.

10 (a) Upon receiving notification from the ~~Executive~~ Director of the  
11 Arkansas Economic Development Commission that an approved company has entered  
12 into a tourism attraction project agreement and is entitled to the sales tax  
13 credits provided by this subchapter, the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department  
14 of Finance and Administration shall provide the approved company with such  
15 forms and instructions as are necessary to claim those credits.

16 (b)(1)(A)(i)(a) An approved company shall be entitled to a credit if  
17 the approved company certifies to the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of  
18 Finance and Administration that it has expended at least five hundred  
19 thousand dollars (\$500,000) in a high-unemployment county and one million  
20 dollars (\$1,000,000) in all other counties in approved costs and the  
21 ~~Executive~~ Director of the Arkansas Economic Development Commission certifies  
22 that the approved company is in compliance with this subchapter.

23 (b)(1) The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the  
24 Department of Finance and Administration shall then issue a sales tax credit  
25 memorandum to the approved company equal to fifteen percent (15%) of the  
26 approved costs.

27 (2) However, in high-unemployment  
28 counties the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and  
29 Administration shall issue a credit memorandum to the approved company equal  
30 to twenty-five percent (25%) of the approved costs.

31 (c) The sales tax credit memorandum shall not  
32 include an offset of the tourism tax levied under § 26-63-401 et seq.

33 (ii) Subsequent requests for credit for additional  
34 certified approved costs shall be filed with the Department of Finance and  
35 Administration during the term of the agreement.

36 (B)(i) The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance

1 and Administration may require proof of expenditures.

2 (ii) Additional credit memoranda may be issued as  
3 the approved company certifies additional expenditures of approved costs.

4 (2)(A) No sales tax credit memorandum shall be issued for any  
5 approved costs expended after the expiration of two (2) years from the date  
6 the agreement was signed by the ~~Executive~~ Director of the Arkansas Economic  
7 Development Commission and the approved company.

8 (B) However, the ~~Executive~~ Director of the Arkansas  
9 Economic Development Commission, with the advice and consent of the ~~Director~~  
10 Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration, may authorize  
11 sales tax credits for approved costs expended up to four (4) years from the  
12 date the agreement was signed if the ~~Executive~~ Director of the Arkansas  
13 Economic Development Commission determines that the failure to complete the  
14 tourism attraction project within two (2) years resulted from:

15 (i) Unanticipated and unavoidable delay in the  
16 construction of the tourism attraction project;

17 (ii) The tourism attraction project, as originally  
18 planned, will require more than two (2) years to complete; or

19 (iii) A change in business ownership or business  
20 structure resulting from a merger or acquisition.

21 (c) The credit memorandum issued pursuant to subsection (b) of this  
22 section may be used to offset a portion of the reported state sales, or gross  
23 receipts, tax liability of the approved company for all sales tax reporting  
24 periods following the issuance of the credit memorandum, subject to the  
25 following limitations:

26 (1) Only increased state sales tax liability as defined in this  
27 subchapter may be offset by the issued credit;

28 (2)(A) An approved company whose agreement provides that it  
29 shall expend approved costs in excess of five hundred thousand dollars  
30 (\$500,000) in a high-unemployment county and one million dollars (\$1,000,000)  
31 in all other counties shall be entitled to use one hundred percent (100%) of  
32 the issued credit to offset increased state sales tax liability during the  
33 first year if its tax liability is equal to or greater than the amount issued  
34 in the state sales tax credit memorandum.

35 (B) Unused credits may be carried forward for a period of  
36 nine (9) years;

1 (3) All issued credit memoranda shall expire at the end of the  
2 month following the expiration of the agreement as provided in § 15-11-506;  
3 and

4 (4) Except as provided in § 15-11-511, credit memoranda shall  
5 not be used to offset any tax other than state sales tax.

6 (d) The approved company shall have no obligation to refund or  
7 otherwise return any amount of this credit to the person from whom the sales  
8 tax was collected.

9 (e) By April 1 of each year, the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department  
10 of Finance and Administration shall certify to the ~~Executive~~ Director of the  
11 Arkansas Economic Development Commission the state sales tax liability of the  
12 approved companies receiving inducements under this section and the amount of  
13 state sales tax credits taken during the preceding calendar year.

14 (f)(1) The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and  
15 Administration may promulgate administrative regulations as are necessary for  
16 the proper administration of this subchapter.

17 (2) The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and  
18 Administration may also develop such forms and instructions as are necessary  
19 for an approved company to claim the sales tax credit provided by this  
20 subchapter.

21 (g)(1) The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and  
22 Administration shall have the authority to obtain any information necessary  
23 from the approved company and the ~~Executive~~ Director of the Arkansas Economic  
24 Development Commission to verify that approved companies have received the  
25 proper amounts of sales tax credits as authorized by this subchapter.

26 (2) The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and  
27 Administration shall demand the repayment of any credits taken in excess of  
28 the credit allowed by this subchapter.

29  
30 SECTION 3408. Arkansas Code § 15-12-103(a), concerning disposition of  
31 revenues and grants, is amended to read as follows:

32 (a) All revenues derived from the additional tax levied by § 26-60-  
33 105(b) shall be deposited by the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of  
34 Finance and Administration into the State Treasury as special revenues.

35  
36 SECTION 3409. Arkansas Code § 15-12-103(b)(2), concerning disposition

1 of revenues and grants, is amended to read as follows:

2 (2) Ten percent (10%) of the net amount shall be distributed to  
3 the Parks and Tourism Fund Account, to be used by the Department of Parks,  
4 Heritage, and Tourism, on approval of the Parks, Recreation, and Tourism  
5 Grant Advisory Committee, for making grants for outdoor recreational purposes  
6 to cities and counties of this state in accordance with the plan; and

7

8 SECTION 3410. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 15-13-203,  
9 concerning allowances for variance of the biofuel standard, is amended to  
10 read as follows:

11 The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration  
12 may grant a waiver for a variance from the biofuel standard under § 15-13-202  
13 if the applicant demonstrates one (1) or more of the following:

14

15 SECTION 3411. Arkansas Code § 15-13-205 is amended to read as follows:  
16 15-13-205. Rules.

17 The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration  
18 shall promulgate rules and regulations to provide for the administration of  
19 this subchapter.

20

21 SECTION 3412. Arkansas Code § 15-72-608(b), concerning the rules and  
22 regulations concerning taxes and credits for natural gas, is amended to read  
23 as follows:

24 (b) The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and  
25 Administration shall have authority to make reasonable rules and regulations  
26 for the collection of the taxes and allowance of credit as provided in this  
27 subchapter.

28

29 SECTION 3413. Arkansas Code § 15-74-401(a)(2), regarding penalties for  
30 the sale of nontested gasoline, is amended to read as follows:

31 (2) Fails to comply with all the requirements of any section of  
32 this subchapter or rules and regulations promulgated by the ~~Director~~  
33 Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration under authority of  
34 this subchapter.

35

36 SECTION 3414. Arkansas Code § 15-74-401(b), regarding penalties for

1 the sale of nontested gasoline, is amended to read as follows:

2 (b) However, the ~~director~~ secretary, or any of his or her deputies or  
3 inspectors, shall have the power to compromise the penalty herein fixed by  
4 imposing the penalty as the merits of the case demand.

5

6 SECTION 3415. Arkansas Code § 15-74-402 is amended to read as follows:  
7 15-74-402. Rules and regulations.

8 The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration  
9 shall have authority to promulgate such rules and regulations in regard to  
10 the enforcement of this subchapter as shall not be inconsistent with the  
11 provisions of the subchapter which in his or her judgment will best serve to  
12 carry out the purpose thereof.

13

14 SECTION 3416. Arkansas Code § 15-74-408 is amended to read as follows:  
15 15-74-408. Inspection of dealer records.

16 The person, firm, or corporation who receives motor vehicle fuel must  
17 keep in his or her possession and file in an orderly manner statements  
18 showing distillation tests, bills of lading, or invoices, as the case may be,  
19 covering each quantity received, and those items are to be subject to  
20 inspection by the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and  
21 Administration or his or her authorized agents.

22

23 SECTION 3417. Arkansas Code § 15-74-409(c), concerning the testing of  
24 oil or gasoline prior to sale, is amended to read as follows:

25 (c) When any person, firm, or corporation shall receive within this  
26 state any of the petroleum oils mentioned in this subchapter for the  
27 different purposes mentioned in this subchapter, he or she shall at once  
28 notify the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and  
29 Administration, or one (1) of his or her deputies or inspectors, of the  
30 quantity of the oils received and request the inspection of the oils. If for  
31 any reason the deputies or inspectors are not able to promptly test the  
32 petroleum oils, the person, firm, or corporation, or any authorized agent  
33 thereof, may subject the products of petroleum to the test prescribed by the  
34 provisions of this subchapter, and on furnishing the ~~director~~ secretary, or  
35 any deputy or inspector, an affidavit that the oils have been subjected to  
36 and have met the requirements of the test prescribed by this subchapter, he

1 or she shall be entitled to receive from the ~~director~~ secretary, or deputy or  
2 inspector, a certificate showing that the test has been made. The person,  
3 firm, or corporation, or any duly authorized agent thereof, may then sell or  
4 offer for sale the oils.

5  
6 SECTION 3418. Arkansas Code § 15-74-410 is amended to read as follows:

7 15-74-410. Records of inspections – Disposition of funds.

8 (a) The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and  
9 Administration, or his or her deputies or inspectors, whose duty it is to  
10 enforce this subchapter, shall keep a correct record of all oils and fluids  
11 inspected by them in a book provided for by the state for that purpose. They  
12 shall have the power to make any necessary investigation to determine whether  
13 or not any oils have been inspected before being offered for sale.

14 (b) The ~~director~~ secretary, his or her deputies, or his or her  
15 inspectors, shall have the right to administer oaths and inspect any and all  
16 records having reference to the receiving, forwarding, transportation, or  
17 sale of any oils or fluids.

18 (c) All records kept by the ~~director~~ secretary, or his or her deputies  
19 or inspectors, pertaining to the inspection of oils and fluids mentioned in  
20 this subchapter shall be open to the inspection of any interested party.

21  
22 SECTION 3419. Arkansas Code § 17-21-101(3), concerning the definition  
23 of "director" under the laws governing beauty pageants, is repealed.

24 ~~(3) "Director" means the Director of the Department of Finance~~  
25 ~~and Administration;~~

26  
27 SECTION 3420. Arkansas Code § 17-21-103 is amended to read as follows:

28 17-21-103. Rules and regulations.

29 The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration  
30 may adopt rules and regulations to administer the provisions of this chapter.  
31 The rules and regulations shall be adopted in accordance with the Arkansas  
32 Administrative Procedure Act, § 25-15-201 et seq.

33  
34 SECTION 3421. Arkansas Code § 17-21-201(a), concerning the  
35 registration of operators, renewal, and fee, is amended to read as follows:

36 (a) No person shall conduct a beauty pageant in Arkansas unless

1 registered with the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and  
2 Administration on forms prescribed by him or her. Registration in another  
3 state as a beauty pageant operator shall not be effective in this state.  
4

5 SECTION 3422. Arkansas Code § 17-21-202 is amended to read as follows:  
6 17-21-202. Bond.

7 (a) Except as provided in § 17-21-203, each operator shall, at the  
8 time of registration, file and have approved by the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the  
9 Department of Finance and Administration, a bond in which the candidate for  
10 registration shall be the principal obligor in the sum of ten thousand  
11 dollars (\$10,000).

12 (b) The bond shall be payable to the State of Arkansas for the use of  
13 the ~~director~~ secretary and any person who may have a cause of action against  
14 the obligor of the bond for any losses caused by a failure to conduct a  
15 beauty pageant.  
16

17 SECTION 3423. Arkansas Code § 17-21-205 is amended to read as follows:  
18 17-21-205. Denial, suspension, revocation of registration.

19 The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration  
20 may deny, suspend, or revoke a registration for:

- 21 (1) A violation of any of the provisions of this chapter; or  
22 (2) The making of a false statement on the registration  
23 application form.  
24

25 SECTION 3424. Arkansas Code § 17-25-205 is amended to read as follows:  
26 17-25-205. Disposition of funds.

27 The fees of the Contractors Licensing Board shall be deposited into  
28 banks to be used by the board in the manner prescribed by law, similar to the  
29 accounts of other examining and licensing boards of the state, and shall be  
30 audited under rules and regulations prescribed by the ~~Director~~ Secretary of  
31 the Department of Finance and Administration.  
32

33 SECTION 3425. Arkansas Code § 17-52-313(a)(2), concerning the  
34 disposition of funds by the Secretary of the Arkansas Home Inspector  
35 Registration Board, is amended to read as follows:

- 36 (2) The ~~secretary~~ Secretary of the Arkansas Home Inspector

1 Registration Board shall institute a system of books and financial records  
2 satisfactory to the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and  
3 Administration.

4  
5 SECTION 3426. Arkansas Code § 17-52-313(a)(4), concerning the  
6 disposition of funds by the Secretary of the Arkansas Home Inspector  
7 Registration Board, is amended to read as follows:

8 (4) The ~~secretary~~ Secretary of the Arkansas Home Inspector  
9 Registration Board shall deposit all funds of the board that he or she  
10 receives with the State Treasury within forty-eight (48) hours, excluding  
11 holidays and Sundays, after he or she receives the funds.

12  
13 SECTION 3427. Arkansas Code § 19-1-201 is amended to read as follows:  
14 19-1-201. Chief Fiscal Officer of the State.

15 The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration  
16 shall be the Chief Fiscal Officer of the State.

17  
18 SECTION 3428. Arkansas Code § 19-1-202 is amended to read as follows:  
19 19-1-202. Director.

20 (a) The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and  
21 Administration shall be at least thirty (30) years of age, of good moral  
22 character, and of demonstrated ability in the field of his or her employment.

23 (b) Before entering upon his or her duties of employment, the ~~director~~  
24 Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration shall take,  
25 subscribe, and file in the office of the Secretary of State an oath or  
26 affirmation to support the United States Constitution and the Arkansas  
27 Constitution and to faithfully discharge the duties of the employment upon  
28 which he or she is about to enter.

29 (c)(1) The ~~director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and  
30 Administration shall furnish bond to the state, with a corporate surety  
31 thereon, in the penal sum of ten thousand dollars (\$10,000), conditioned upon  
32 the faithful performance of his or her duties and for the proper accounting  
33 for all funds received and disbursed by him or her.

34 (2) The ~~director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and  
35 Administration shall be the disbursing agent for the Department of Finance  
36 and Administration but shall not be required to furnish additional bond as

1 that disbursing agent, nor shall he or she be required to furnish additional  
2 bond as disbursing agent of other appropriations for which he or she may be  
3 designated disbursing agent under or pursuant to any law of this state unless  
4 so directed by the General Assembly.

5 (3) The ~~director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and  
6 Administration, if he or she deems it advisable, may require other employees  
7 of his or her office to furnish bond, in such penal sums as he or she shall  
8 determine.

9 (4)(A) The original of the bond of the ~~director~~ Secretary of the  
10 Department of Finance and Administration shall be filed in the office of the  
11 Secretary of State, and an executed counterpart thereof shall be filed in the  
12 office of the Auditor of State.

13 (B) Any bonds which may be required of employees shall be  
14 filed with the ~~director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and  
15 Administration.

16  
17 SECTION 3429. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 19-1-203,  
18 concerning the Deputy Director of the Department of Finance and  
19 Administration, is amended to read as follows:

20 The Deputy Director of the Department of Finance and Administration,  
21 acting under the authority granted to him or her by the ~~Director~~ Secretary of  
22 the Department of Finance and Administration, and under the laws relating to  
23 budget and accounting procedure, shall:

24  
25 SECTION 3430. Arkansas Code § 19-1-204(a), concerning personnel of the  
26 Department of Finance and Administration, is amended to read as follows:

27 (a) Except as otherwise provided for by this subchapter, all of the  
28 personnel of the Department of Finance and Administration shall be employed  
29 by and serve at the pleasure of the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of  
30 Finance and Administration.

31  
32 SECTION 3431. Arkansas Code § 19-1-206 is amended to read as follows:  
33 19-1-206. Seal.

34 The Governor shall procure an official seal for the Department of  
35 Finance and Administration. Every paper executed by the ~~Director~~ Secretary of  
36 the Department of Finance and Administration or by any other employee of the

1 department and sealed with its official seal shall be received in evidence in  
2 any court or other tribunal and may be recorded in the same manner and with  
3 like effect as deeds regularly acknowledged.

4  
5 SECTION 3432. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 19-1-207,  
6 concerning a general accounting system to be enforced by the Director of the  
7 Department of Finance and Administration, is amended to read as follows:

8 The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration  
9 shall:

10  
11 SECTION 3433. Arkansas Code § 19-1-208 is amended to read as follows:  
12 19-1-208. Rules and regulations.

13 The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration  
14 is vested with the authority to make such reasonable rules and regulations,  
15 not inconsistent with the law, as shall be necessary or desirable for the  
16 orderly discharge of the duties vested in the Department of Finance and  
17 Administration.

18  
19 SECTION 3434. Arkansas Code § 19-1-209(a), concerning the publication  
20 of regulations, is amended to read as follows:

21 (a) The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and  
22 Administration shall publish and furnish copies to all state agencies of such  
23 regulations as are issued by him or her, pursuant to the provisions of law,  
24 providing for a general accounting procedure.

25  
26 SECTION 3435. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 19-1-  
27 209(b), concerning the publication of regulations, is amended to read as  
28 follows:

29 (b) The ~~director~~ secretary shall also publish, not less often than  
30 biennially, a financial report covering the fiscal affairs of the state and  
31 state agencies and shall make the report available to:

32  
33 SECTION 3436. Arkansas Code § 19-1-210 is amended to read as follows:  
34 19-1-210. Recordkeeping.

35 (a) For the purpose of effectively carrying out the fiscal procedures  
36 provided for by law, the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and

1 Administration shall have the authority to install such recordkeeping and  
2 other procedures in his or her own office and in other state offices and  
3 departments as he or she shall deem necessary or advisable.

4 (b) The ~~director~~ secretary shall have the authority to require from  
5 any state agency any fiscal information which will be necessary for providing  
6 adequate records in his or her office and shall prescribe uniform records and  
7 forms for all vouchers and other documents which are to be transmitted to the  
8 Department of Finance and Administration.

9  
10 SECTION 3437. Arkansas Code § 19-1-211 is amended to read as follows:

11 19-1-211. Investigations.

12 (a)(1) In any matter within the jurisdiction of the Department of  
13 Finance and Administration, the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of  
14 Finance and Administration shall have the power to make investigations and  
15 may delegate that power to any division or section head of the department.

16 (2) For this purpose, the ~~director~~ secretary shall have the  
17 power to subpoena witnesses and require the production of any books, records,  
18 papers, or documents that may be material or relevant as evidence and to  
19 administer oaths to and take the testimony of witnesses.

20 (b)(1) In case of disobedience to any subpoena or other process, the  
21 ~~director~~ secretary may invoke the aid, with the written approval of the  
22 Governor, of the Pulaski County Circuit Court in requiring the testimony of  
23 witnesses and the production of evidence, books, records, papers, or  
24 documents.

25 (2)(A) In case of refusal to obey the subpoena issued to any  
26 person, firm, or corporation, the circuit court shall issue an order calling  
27 such person, firm, or corporation to appear before the ~~director~~ secretary or  
28 other employee designated by the ~~director~~ secretary and to produce all books  
29 and papers so ordered and give evidence touching the matter in question.

30 (B) Any failure to obey the order of the circuit court may  
31 be punished by the circuit court as contempt of the circuit court.

32 (c) A subpoena for a witness may be issued by the ~~director~~ secretary  
33 or by any division or section head of the department in whom any such  
34 authority may have been vested by the ~~director~~ secretary and shall be served  
35 as provided by law for the service of other subpoenas.

36 (d)(1)(A) The failure or refusal of any witness to appear or to

1 produce any books, papers, or documents required by the ~~director~~ secretary  
2 and to submit them for inspection or the refusal to answer any relevant  
3 question propounded by the ~~director~~ secretary shall constitute a violation  
4 punishable by a fine of not less than one hundred dollars (\$100) nor more  
5 than five hundred dollars (\$500).

6 (B) Each failure or refusal by any witness to appear or  
7 produce any such books, papers, or documents shall constitute a separate  
8 offense.

9 (2) False testimony given in any such inquiry shall constitute  
10 perjury punishable as provided by law.

11  
12 SECTION 3438. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 19-1-212,  
13 concerning the duty and responsibility of the Director of the Department of  
14 Finance and Administration to avoid deficit, is amended to read as follows:

15 It shall be the duty and responsibility of the ~~Director~~ Secretary of  
16 the Department of Finance and Administration to:

17  
18 SECTION 3439. Arkansas Code § 19-1-213(a), concerning the leasing of  
19 state property, is amended to read as follows:

20 (a) The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and  
21 Administration may lease, with approval of the Governor, any state property,  
22 real or personal, which is not needed for public use, and the leasing of  
23 which is not prohibited by law, where the authority to lease the property is  
24 not vested in any other state agency.

25  
26 SECTION 3440. Arkansas Code § 19-1-214 is amended to read as follows:

27 19-1-214. Federal gifts and surplusage.

28 The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration  
29 may enter into any contract with the United States ~~of America~~ Government or  
30 with any agency thereof for the purpose of accepting gifts and for the  
31 acquisition of surplus materials or property upon such terms and conditions  
32 as may be agreed upon without regard to the provisions of this subchapter or  
33 any other law that requires advertisement for bids or the soliciting or  
34 receiving of competitive bids.

35  
36 SECTION 3441. Arkansas Code § 19-1-405 is amended to read as follows:

1 19-1-405. State agency employees as disbursing agents.

2 (a)(1) In the event the executive head of any state agency designates  
3 some full-time employee to act as his or her agent in the disbursement of  
4 funds under his or her control, the agent shall furnish additional bond to be  
5 fixed by the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and  
6 Administration.

7 (2) The executive head of the state agency shall notify the  
8 ~~director~~ secretary and the Auditor of State in writing of the designation and  
9 shall furnish to the ~~director~~ secretary and the Auditor of State a sample of  
10 the signature of the agent.

11 (b) In the event appropriations are made available to a state agency  
12 or to a nongovernment agency or activity and no disbursing agent is provided  
13 for by law, then the ~~director~~ secretary and the Auditor of State shall  
14 designate a person to act as disbursing agent and fix the amount of bond for  
15 such purposes.

16

17 SECTION 3442. Arkansas Code § 19-1-608 is amended to read as follows:

18 19-1-608. Notification of Department of Finance and Administration –  
19 Review.

20 (a) Within thirty (30) days after the expiration of the time period  
21 for the public officer or employee to effect corrective or remedial action,  
22 the agency shall transfer to the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of  
23 Finance and Administration a document containing a summary of the violation  
24 and any corrective remedial action taken.

25 (b)(1) The ~~director~~ secretary shall review the summaries of violations  
26 received. The ~~director~~ secretary may:

27 (A) Accept the summary and approve the corrective or  
28 remedial action by the agency;

29 (B) Request additional information regarding the violation  
30 and corrective or remedial action by the agency; or

31 (C) Impose additional corrective or remedial action upon  
32 public officers and employees of executive agencies as provided in § 19-1-  
33 609.

34 (2) Quarterly, the ~~director~~ secretary shall submit a summary of  
35 all violations of the fiscal responsibility and management laws, including  
36 any corrective or remedial action by the agency or the ~~director~~ secretary, to

1 the Governor and members of the General Assembly.

2  
3 SECTION 3443. Arkansas Code § 19-1-609 is amended to read as follows:  
4 19-1-609. Executive agencies.

5 (a) Before the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and  
6 Administration may impose additional corrective or remedial action regarding  
7 public officers or employees of executive agencies, the ~~director~~ secretary  
8 shall conduct an investigation regarding any violation. The public officer or  
9 employee shall be notified and given the opportunity for a hearing conducted  
10 by the ~~director~~ secretary regarding any violation.

11 (b) The ~~director~~ secretary may impose any one (1) or more of the  
12 following as additional corrective or remedial action:

13 (1) Oral or written warnings or reprimands;

14 (2) Suspension with or without pay for specified periods of  
15 time; or

16 (3) Termination of employment.  
17

18 SECTION 3444. Arkansas Code § 19-1-610(a), concerning an investigation  
19 and suit by the Attorney General, is amended to read as follows:

20 (a) The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and  
21 Administration, the Legislative Joint Auditing Committee, or the Legislative  
22 Council may request the office of the Attorney General to review any  
23 information concerning any violation of the fiscal responsibility and  
24 management laws of the state in order to determine whether legal action is  
25 appropriate.  
26

27 SECTION 3445. Arkansas Code § 19-2-203(a), concerning receipts by the  
28 Department of Finance and Administration and additional penalties, is amended  
29 to read as follows:

30 (a) If any person, firm, corporation, partnership, or business makes  
31 payment to the Department of Finance and Administration for any license or  
32 fees imposed by the laws of this state by means of a check, draft, or order  
33 drawn on any bank, person, firm, or corporation, and the check, draft, or  
34 order is returned by the bank, person, firm, or corporation without having  
35 been paid in full, then the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance  
36 and Administration is authorized and empowered to impose a penalty. The

1 penalty shall be in the amount of either ten percent (10%) of the face amount  
2 of the check, draft, or order or twenty dollars (\$20.00), whichever is  
3 greater, against the maker or drawer of the check, draft, or order.

4  
5 SECTION 3446. Arkansas Code § 19-2-307 is amended to read as follows:  
6 19-2-307. Rules and regulations.

7 The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration  
8 is authorized to promulgate such rules and regulations as deemed necessary to  
9 implement the provisions and intent of this subchapter.

10  
11 SECTION 3447. Arkansas Code § 19-3-701(b)(5), concerning the creation  
12 and members of the State Board of Finance, is amended to read as follows:

13 (5) The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and  
14 Administration;

15  
16 SECTION 3448. Arkansas Code § 19-4-102(a)(2)(J), concerning the  
17 purpose of the General Accounting and Budgetary Procedures Law, is amended to  
18 read as follows:

19 (J) Further define the powers and duties of the ~~Director~~  
20 Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration, sometimes referred  
21 to as the Chief Fiscal Officer of the State, the Auditor of State, and the  
22 Treasurer of State in connection with general accounting, budgetary, and  
23 fiscal procedures.

24  
25 SECTION 3449. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 19-4-302,  
26 concerning budget information forms, is amended to read as follows:

27 To accomplish his or her duties and responsibilities, the ~~Director~~  
28 Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration, in cooperation  
29 with the Legislative Council, shall design budget information forms so that  
30 comparative data of the last fiscal year, the current fiscal year, and the  
31 next biennium are presented so that state agencies can best express budgetary  
32 and program information that will be most useful to the Governor or Governor-  
33 elect and the General Assembly in order to facilitate program formulation,  
34 execution, and accountability by:

35  
36 SECTION 3450. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 19-4-303,

1 concerning budget estimates by the Director of the Department of Finance and  
2 Administration and the Legislative Council, is amended to read as follows:

3 The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration,  
4 in cooperation with the Legislative Council, shall:

5  
6 SECTION 3451. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 19-4-  
7 304(a), concerning regular and fiscal session preparations, is amended to  
8 read as follows:

9 (a) Immediately after July 1 of each even-numbered calendar year, or  
10 earlier if determined necessary, the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of  
11 Finance and Administration shall:

12  
13 SECTION 3452. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 19-4-  
14 304(b), concerning regular and fiscal session preparations, is amended to  
15 read as follows:

16 (b) The ~~director~~ secretary shall submit the annual revenue forecast to  
17 the Legislative Council:

18  
19 SECTION 3453. Arkansas Code § 19-4-521(2)(B), concerning the  
20 definition of personal services for employees under the state accounting and  
21 budgetary procedures, is amended to read as follows:

22 (B) This subclassification may be used to pay part-time or  
23 temporary employees who are employed for more than one thousand five hundred  
24 (1,500) hours per fiscal year if specific authorization is provided by law  
25 and if such use is within standards established by the ~~Director~~ Secretary of  
26 the Department of Finance and Administration.

27  
28 SECTION 3454. Arkansas Code § 19-4-1405(e)(1)(A), concerning bidding  
29 procedures, is amended to read as follows:

30 (e)(1)(A) When it is obvious from examination of the bid document that  
31 it was the intent of a bidder to submit a responsive bid and because of a  
32 scrivener's error, the bid, if accepted, would create a serious financial  
33 loss to the bidder, the ~~Director of the Department of Finance and~~  
34 ~~Administration~~ Secretary of the Department of Transformation and Shared  
35 Services may relieve the bidder from responsibility under his or her bond and  
36 may reject the bid.

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SECTION 3455. Arkansas Code § 19-4-1405(e)(3)(A), concerning bidding procedures, is amended to read as follows:

(3)(A) To receive relief under subdivision (e)(1) of this section, the bidder must serve written notice to the ~~director~~ secretary or to the chief executive officer or his or her designee of a public institution of higher education exempt from review and approval of the division any time after the bid opening, but no later than seventy-two (72) hours after receiving the intent to award, excluding Saturdays, Sundays, and holidays.

SECTION 3456. Arkansas Code § 19-4-1405(e)(4), concerning bidding procedures, is amended to read as follows:

(4) In the event the ~~director~~ secretary or the chief executive officer or his or her designee of a public institution of higher education exempt from review and approval of the division has relieved the bidder from responsibility under his or her bond, action on the remaining bids should be considered as though the withdrawn bid had not been received.

SECTION 3457. Arkansas Code § 19-4-1902 is amended to read as follows:  
19-4-1902. Preliminary or informal proposals.

Preliminary or informal proposals which do not commit personnel, space, facilities, or state funds may be submitted directly to the granting source. However, when the grant requested, if approved, would result in the commitment of state personnel, space, facilities, equipment, or funds, or the program to be proposed by the state agency with the resources from the federal grant has not received specific legislative authorization through an appropriation or specific enabling legislation, the requesting agency shall notify, in writing, the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration that such preliminary or informal proposal is being made and shall briefly describe it.

SECTION 3458. Arkansas Code § 19-4-1904(a), concerning the receipt of federal funds, is amended to read as follows:

(a) When any federal funds, grants, aids, or reimbursements, including unsolicited funds, are received by a state agency, the Department of Finance and Administration shall be notified on forms to be prescribed by the

1 ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration.

2  
3 SECTION 3459. Arkansas Code § 19-4-1907(a), concerning quarterly  
4 reports to be filed with the Legislative Council by the Director of the  
5 Department of Finance and Administration, is amended to read as follows:

6 (a) The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and  
7 Administration shall file quarterly reports with the Legislative Council  
8 itemizing and summarizing all contracts or agreements entered into by the  
9 Governor with the federal government, or any agencies or instrumentalities  
10 thereof, whereby the State of Arkansas is to participate in any program  
11 involving the expenditure of federal funds. These reports shall be filed,  
12 whether or not state funds are obligated in connection therewith, with  
13 respect to new federal programs or expansions of existing federal programs  
14 which were not in existence or which were not implemented by state  
15 participation, at the time of the adjournment of the regular session of the  
16 General Assembly and entered into prior to the convening of the next regular  
17 session of the General Assembly.

18  
19 SECTION 3460. Arkansas Code § 19-4-1908(a), concerning the review and  
20 continuance of programs by the Legislative Council, is amended to read as  
21 follows:

22 (a) The Legislative Council shall review the quarterly reports filed  
23 by the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration as  
24 required in this subchapter. The Legislative Council shall submit such  
25 findings and recommendations to each succeeding regular session of the  
26 General Assembly for enabling legislation to implement, restrict, or prohibit  
27 the state's participation in any such new federal program or expanded federal  
28 program which was implemented by contract or agreement entered into by the  
29 Governor subsequent to the adjournment of the preceding session of the  
30 General Assembly.

31  
32 SECTION 3461. Arkansas Code § 19-5-1136(a), concerning the Animal  
33 Rescue and Shelter Trust Fund, is amended to read as follows:

34 (a) As used in this section, "registered governmentally owned animal  
35 rescue shelter" means an animal rescue or shelter owned by a county or  
36 municipality that has submitted notice to the Department of Finance and

1 Administration as required under subsection (f) of this section and is on the  
2 official list of registered governmentally owned animal rescue shelters  
3 prepared by the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and  
4 Administration under subsection (f) of this section.

5  
6 SECTION 3462. Arkansas Code § 19-5-1136(f)(1)(A), concerning the  
7 Animal Rescue and Shelter Trust Fund, is amended to read as follows:

8 (f)(1)(A) On or before October 1, 2009, a county or municipality that  
9 owns one (1) or more animal rescues or animal shelters on the date that  
10 notification is mailed shall notify the ~~director~~ secretary in writing to  
11 qualify for funding under this section.

12  
13 SECTION 3463. Arkansas Code § 19-5-1136(f)(2)(A), concerning the  
14 Animal Rescue and Shelter Trust Fund, is amended to read as follows:

15 (2)(A) On or before October 15, 2009, the ~~director~~ secretary  
16 shall provide the Treasurer of State with a list of each county and  
17 municipality that has registered as owning an animal rescue shelter.

18  
19 SECTION 3464. Arkansas Code § 19-6-459(1), concerning the Commercial  
20 Driver License Fund, is amended to read as follows:

21 (1) Section 19-6-301(148), to be used to establish and maintain  
22 the Arkansas Commercial Driver License Program and for other related purposes  
23 as required by the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and  
24 Administration in carrying out the functions, powers, and duties of the  
25 Revenue Division of the Department of Finance and Administration, as set out  
26 in the Arkansas Uniform Commercial Driver License Act, § 27-23-101 et seq. ;  
27 and

28  
29 SECTION 3465. Arkansas Code § 19-7-604(a)(2), concerning federal  
30 grants, aids, and reimbursement procedures, is amended to read as follows:

31 (2) Applications shall include, in a manner prescribed by the  
32 ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration, a summary  
33 of the proposed project.

34  
35 SECTION 3466. Arkansas Code § 19-7-604(b)(2), concerning federal  
36 grants, aids, and reimbursement procedures, is amended to read as follows:

1 (2) In order to eliminate overlap, inefficiency, or a violation  
2 of legislative intent, the ~~director~~ secretary may require a review of the  
3 proposal, soliciting comment from other agencies which might be affected, and  
4 may require the suspension of negotiations until the review is completed.  
5

6 SECTION 3467. Arkansas Code § 19-7-604(d)(1), concerning federal  
7 grants, aids, and reimbursement procedures, is amended to read as follows:

8 (1) When any state agency receives notification of an award of  
9 any federal funds, grants, aids, or reimbursements, including unsolicited  
10 funds, the department shall be notified on forms to be prescribed by the  
11 ~~director~~ secretary.  
12

13 SECTION 3468. Arkansas Code § 19-7-610 is amended to read as follows:

14 19-7-610. Advice of legislative departments.

15 It is recognized by the legislative and executive departments of  
16 government that some of the executive departments' authority or  
17 responsibility as provided in this subchapter should possibly have the  
18 legislative departments' concurrence before proceeding with such authority or  
19 responsibility. The legislative department, via the Legislative Joint  
20 Auditing Committee, the Legislative Council, joint interim committees,  
21 interim committees, or subcommittees of the foregoing may request the  
22 ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration to seek  
23 the legislative department's advice before exercising certain authority or  
24 responsibility as authorized by this subchapter.  
25

26 SECTION 3469. Arkansas Code § 19-7-101(a), concerning reports to the  
27 Legislative Council, is amended to read as follows:

28 (a) The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and  
29 Administration shall file quarterly reports with the Legislative Council  
30 itemizing and summarizing all contracts or agreements entered into by the  
31 Governor with the federal government, or any agencies or instrumentalities  
32 thereof, whereby the State of Arkansas is to participate in any program  
33 involving the expenditure of federal funds, whether or not state funds are  
34 obligated in connection therewith, with respect to new federal programs, or  
35 expansion of existing federal programs which were not in existence or which  
36 were not implemented by state participation, at the time of the adjournment

1 of the regular session of the General Assembly and entered into prior to the  
2 convening of the next regular session of the General Assembly.

3  
4 SECTION 3470. Arkansas Code § 19-7-102(a), concerning legislative  
5 review of federal programs, is amended to read as follows:

6 (a) The Legislative Council shall review the quarterly reports filed  
7 by the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration as  
8 required in § 19-7-101 and shall submit its findings and recommendations to  
9 each succeeding regular session of the General Assembly for enabling  
10 legislation to implement, restrict, or prohibit the state's participation in  
11 any such new federal program or expanded federal program which was  
12 implemented by contract or agreement entered into by the Governor subsequent  
13 to the adjournment of the preceding session of the General Assembly.

14  
15 SECTION 3471. Arkansas Code § 19-10-101 is amended to read as follows:  
16 19-10-101. Investigatory powers.

17 The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration,  
18 as soon as the ~~director~~ secretary learns of facts from which he or she  
19 concludes that a claim, other than for personal injury or death of a state  
20 employee, may be filed under this chapter against the state or any of its  
21 agencies, departments, or institutions, whether or not the claim has already  
22 been filed, is authorized and directed to investigate and take evidence  
23 concerning the claim. The ~~director~~ secretary is, for this purpose, authorized  
24 to exercise all necessary investigatory powers conferred upon him or her by  
25 this chapter. All information acquired by the ~~director~~ secretary shall be  
26 made available to the Arkansas State Claims Commission prior to the hearing  
27 and determination thereof.

28  
29 SECTION 3472. Arkansas Code § 19-10-406 is amended to read as follows:  
30 19-10-406. Report of findings.

31 Upon the allowance or disallowance of any claim, the Workers'  
32 Compensation Commission shall immediately transmit a copy of its findings to  
33 the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration and  
34 interested parties.

35  
36 SECTION 3473. Arkansas Code § 19-11-271 is amended to read as follows:

1 19-11-271. Compliance reporting.

2 (a) Each report required under this subchapter shall be copied to the  
3 ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration, who shall  
4 review each report for compliance with the fiscal responsibility and  
5 management laws of the state under the State Fiscal Management Responsibility  
6 Act, § 19-1-601 et seq.

7 (b) If the ~~director~~ secretary determines that a state agency, agency  
8 procurement official, or state official or employee may be in violation of  
9 the fiscal responsibility and management laws of the state under the State  
10 Fiscal Management Responsibility Act, § 19-1-601 et seq., the ~~director~~  
11 secretary shall notify the chief executive officer of the relevant state  
12 agency.

13  
14 SECTION 3474. Arkansas Code § 19-11-705(b) and (c), concerning an  
15 employee's conflict of interest, are amended to read as follows:

16 (b) Financial Interest in a Blind Trust. Where an employee or any  
17 member of the employee's immediate family holds a financial interest in a  
18 blind trust, the employee shall not be deemed to have a conflict of interest  
19 with regard to matters pertaining to that financial interest if disclosure of  
20 the existence of the blind trust has been made to the ~~Director~~ Secretary of  
21 the Department of Finance and Administration.

22 (c) Discovery of Conflict of Interest, Disqualification, and Waiver.  
23 Upon discovery of a possible conflict of interest, an employee shall promptly  
24 file a written statement of disqualification with the ~~director~~ secretary and  
25 shall withdraw from further participation in the transaction involved. The  
26 employee may, at the same time, apply to the ~~director~~ secretary in accordance  
27 with § 19-11-715(b) for an advisory opinion as to what further application,  
28 if any, the employee may have in the transaction, or for a waiver in  
29 accordance with § 19-11-715(c).

30  
31 SECTION 3475. Arkansas Code § 19-11-706 is amended to read as follows:

32 19-11-706. Employee disclosure requirements.

33 (a) Disclosure of Benefit Received from Contract. Any employee who  
34 has or obtains any benefit from any state contract with a business in which  
35 the employee has a financial interest shall report such benefit to the  
36 ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration. However,

1 this section shall not apply to a contract with a business where the  
2 employee's interest in the business has been placed in a disclosed blind  
3 trust.

4 (b) Failure to Disclose Benefit Received. Any employee who knows or  
5 should have known of such benefit and fails to report the benefit to the  
6 ~~director~~ secretary is in breach of the ethical standards of this section.

7  
8 SECTION 3476. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 19-11-  
9 712(b), concerning the civil and administrative remedies against employees  
10 who breach ethical standards, is amended to read as follows:

11 (b) Supplemental Remedies. In addition to existing remedies for  
12 breach of the ethical standards of this subchapter, or regulations  
13 promulgated under this subchapter, the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department  
14 of Finance and Administration may impose any one (1) or more of the  
15 following:

16  
17 SECTION 3477. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 19-11-  
18 713(b), concerning the civil and administrative remedies against nonemployees  
19 who breach ethical standards, is amended to read as follows:

20 (b) Supplemental Remedies. In addition to the existing remedies for  
21 breach of the ethical standards of this subchapter, or regulations  
22 promulgated under this subchapter, the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department  
23 of Finance and Administration may impose any one (1) or more of the  
24 following:

25  
26 SECTION 3478. Arkansas Code § 19-11-715 is amended to read as follows:

27 19-11-715. Duties of ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance  
28 and Administration.

29 (a) Regulations. The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance  
30 and Administration shall promulgate regulations to implement this subchapter  
31 and shall do so in accordance with this subchapter and the applicable  
32 provisions of the Arkansas Administrative Procedure Act, § 25-15-201 et seq.

33 (b) Advisory Opinions. On written request of employees or contractors  
34 and in consultation with the Attorney General, the ~~director~~ secretary may  
35 render written advisory opinions regarding the appropriateness of the course  
36 of conduct to be followed in proposed transactions. Such requests and

1 advisory opinions may be duly published in the manner in which regulations of  
2 this state are published. Compliance with the requirements of a duly  
3 promulgated advisory opinion of the ~~director~~ secretary shall be deemed to  
4 constitute compliance with the ethical standards of this subchapter.

5 (c) Waiver. On written request of an employee, the ~~director~~ secretary  
6 may grant an employee a written waiver from the application of § 19-11-705,  
7 which refers to employee conflict of interest, and grant permission to  
8 proceed with the transaction to such extent and upon such terms and  
9 conditions as may be specified. Such waiver and permission may be granted  
10 when the interests of the state so require or when the ethical conflict is  
11 insubstantial or remote.

12  
13 SECTION 3479. Arkansas Code § 19-11-716(b)(1), concerning  
14 participation in business incubators, regulations, and guidelines, is amended  
15 to read as follows:

16 (b)(1) The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and  
17 Administration shall promulgate rules and regulations pursuant to the  
18 procedure for adoption as provided under the Arkansas Administrative  
19 Procedure Act, § 25-15-201 et seq., and under § 10-3-309 to implement a  
20 program allowing admittance to business incubators by faculty or staff of  
21 state-supported institutions of higher education or admittance by companies  
22 in which faculty or staff may hold an ownership interest.

23  
24 SECTION 3480. Arkansas Code § 19-11-1014 is amended to read as  
25 follows:

26 19-11-1014. Compliance reporting.

27 (a) Each report required under this subchapter shall be copied to the  
28 ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration, who shall  
29 review each report for compliance with the fiscal responsibility and  
30 management laws of the state under the State Fiscal Management Responsibility  
31 Act, § 19-1-601 et seq.

32 (b) If the ~~director~~ secretary determines that a state agency, agency  
33 procurement official, or state official or employee may be in violation of  
34 the fiscal responsibility and management laws of the state under the State  
35 Fiscal Management Responsibility Act, § 19-1-601 et seq., the ~~director~~  
36 secretary shall notify the chief executive officer of the relevant state

1 agency.

2

3 SECTION 3481. Arkansas Code § 20-9-305(a)(1), concerning annual  
4 reports by nonprofit hospitals, is amended to read as follows:

5 (a)(1) Any nonprofit hospital association or corporation organized  
6 under the laws of this state that operates and maintains a hospital facility  
7 in this state primarily for providing hospital services for the employees of  
8 any corporation or company engaged in interstate commerce shall file annually  
9 with the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration a  
10 detailed report of income, fees, charges, and contributions from all sources  
11 received by it during the year, together with the expenses and disbursements  
12 of the corporation or association during the year.

13

14 SECTION 3482. Arkansas Code § 20-17-502(c), concerning the Organ Donor  
15 Awareness Education Trust Fund, is amended to read as follows:

16 (c) The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and  
17 Administration may accept any gifts, grants, bequests, devises, and donations  
18 made to the State of Arkansas for the purposes of organ donor awareness  
19 education. Moneys received for the purposes stated in this section shall be  
20 deposited into the fund.

21

22 SECTION 3483. Arkansas Code § 20-17-502(e), concerning the Organ Donor  
23 Awareness Education Trust Fund, is amended to read as follows:

24 (e) The ~~director~~ secretary shall grant funds available and  
25 appropriated from the fund to the Arkansas Regional Organ Recovery Agency,  
26 Inc. or its successor agency to be used for educational or informational  
27 materials and other related costs associated with informing or educating the  
28 public about organ donations and organ donation awareness.

29

30 SECTION 3484. Arkansas Code § 20-27-2105(c), concerning certification  
31 and product change regarding cigarettes, is amended to read as follows:

32 (c) The Director of Arkansas Tobacco Control shall make the  
33 certifications available to the Attorney General and the ~~Director~~ Secretary  
34 of the Department of Finance and Administration for purposes consistent with  
35 this subchapter.

36

1 SECTION 3485. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 20-27-  
2 2107(f)(1), concerning penalties for selling cigarettes other than by a  
3 retail sale, is amended to read as follows:

4 (f)(1) An authorized representative of the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the  
5 Department of Finance and Administration or the Director of Arkansas Tobacco  
6 Control may seize and take possession of cigarettes:

7  
8 SECTION 3486. Arkansas Code § 20-27-2108(b), concerning implementation  
9 of the Arkansas Cigarette Fire Safety Standard Act, is amended to read as  
10 follows:

11 (b)(1) The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and  
12 Administration, the Director of Arkansas Tobacco Control, and their  
13 employees, in the regular course of conducting inspections of wholesalers and  
14 retailers, as authorized under the Arkansas Tobacco Products Tax Act of 1977,  
15 § 26-57-201 et seq., may inspect cigarettes to determine if the cigarettes  
16 are marked as required by § 20-27-2106.

17 (2) If the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and  
18 Administration discovers cigarettes that are not marked as required, the  
19 ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration shall  
20 notify the Director of Arkansas Tobacco Control.

21  
22 SECTION 3487. Arkansas Code § 20-27-2109 is amended to read as  
23 follows:

24 20-27-2109. Inspection.

25 (a) To enforce the provisions of this subchapter, the Attorney  
26 General, the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and  
27 Administration, the Director of Arkansas Tobacco Control, and their  
28 authorized representatives may examine the books, papers, invoices, and other  
29 records of a person in possession, control, or occupancy of premises where  
30 cigarettes are placed, stored, sold, or offered for sale, as well as the  
31 stock of cigarettes on the premises.

32 (b) Every person in possession, control, or occupancy of premises  
33 where cigarettes are placed, stored, sold, or offered for sale shall give the  
34 Attorney General, the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and  
35 Administration, the Director of Arkansas Tobacco Control, and their  
36 authorized representatives the means, facilities, and opportunity for the

1 examinations authorized by this section.

2

3 SECTION 3488. Arkansas Code § 20-79-206(b), concerning the operation  
4 of rehabilitation facilities by Arkansas Rehabilitation Services, is amended  
5 to read as follows:

6 (b) Gifts, grants, fees for services, income from the sale of products  
7 or items of manufacture or handwork, and donations may be deposited into one  
8 (1) or more banks and expended by the appropriate division of the Department  
9 of Human Services, in compliance with the rules and regulations of the  
10 ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration, in the  
11 establishment and operation of rehabilitation facilities and such other  
12 program services as may be determined by the appropriate division of the  
13 Department of Human Services, which are consistent with the purposes of this  
14 subchapter.

15

16 SECTION 3489. Arkansas Code § 21-1-404(a), concerning the rules,  
17 regulations, and disclosure statements regarding the Director of the  
18 Department of Finance and Administration, is amended to read as follows:

19 (a) The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and  
20 Administration is authorized to promulgate and implement any necessary rules,  
21 regulations, or policies to ensure compliance with this subchapter subject to  
22 the prior review and approval of the Joint Budget Committee during  
23 legislative sessions and the Legislative Council between legislative  
24 sessions.

25

26 SECTION 3490. Arkansas Code § 21-1-704(c)(2)(A)(ii), concerning  
27 nonbinding mediation, is amended to read as follows:

28 (ii) The mediator shall report within ten (10)  
29 business days of the nonbinding mediation his or her suggested resolution to  
30 the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration.

31

32 SECTION 3491. Arkansas Code § 21-2-705(a)(3) and (4), concerning the  
33 creation of the Governmental Bonding Board, are amended to read as follows:

34 (3) The Commissioner of Elementary and Secondary Education;

35 (4) The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and  
36 Administration; and

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SECTION 3492. Arkansas Code § 21-2-705(b)(1), concerning the creation of the Governmental Bonding Board, is amended to read as follows:

(b)(1) The members of the board shall receive no compensation for their services, but members other than the Commissioner of Elementary and Secondary Education, the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration, and the Insurance Commissioner may receive expense reimbursement in accordance with § 25-16-901 et seq.

SECTION 3493. Arkansas Code § 21-2-710(a)(1)(A), concerning billing certification, payment, and deposits regarding the Governmental Bonding Board, is amended to read as follows:

(1)(A) Department of Finance and Administration. Upon receipt of this certification, the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration shall pay it from funds specifically appropriated for it by the General Assembly or from other funds available therefor.

SECTION 3494. Arkansas Code § 21-3-802(d)(2), concerning the recruitment of retired employees, is amended to read as follows:

(2) Upon receiving certification of the cost by the Executive Director of the Arkansas Public Employees' Retirement System, the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration shall transfer the actuarial cost from the fund of the agency that employed the person under the program to the Arkansas Public Employees' Retirement System Fund.

SECTION 3495. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 21-4-214(g), concerning the catastrophic leave program, is amended to read as follows:

(g) The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration, or the ~~director's~~ secretary's designee, shall establish policies and procedures:

SECTION 3496. Arkansas Code § 21-5-402(a)(1)(D) and (E), concerning the creation and members of the State and Public School Life and Health Insurance Board, are amended to read as follows:

(D) The Commissioner of Elementary and Secondary Education

1 or his or her designee;

2 (E) The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance  
3 and Administration or his or her designee;

4

5 SECTION 3497. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 21-5-  
6 511(f), concerning the automatic enrollment in deferred compensation plans,  
7 is amended to read as follows:

8 (f) The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and  
9 Administration shall promulgate rules to:

10

11 SECTION 3498. Arkansas Code § 21-11-105(a)(2), concerning the  
12 Suggestion Award Board, is amended to read as follows:

13 (2) The membership of the board shall consist of the ~~Director~~  
14 Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration, the ~~Personnel~~  
15 ~~Director~~ State Personnel Administrator, who shall serve as chair, and the  
16 cochairs of the Legislative Council.

17

18 SECTION 3499. Arkansas Code § 22-3-1902(a), concerning rules regarding  
19 the Sustainable Design Program for State Agencies, is amended to read as  
20 follows:

21 (a) The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of ~~Finance and~~  
22 ~~Administration~~ Transformation and Shared Services shall promulgate rules for  
23 the implementation of the Sustainable Building Design Program for State  
24 Agencies.

25

26 SECTION 3500. Arkansas Code § 22-6-601(h)(2)(A)(i)(a), concerning the  
27 sale procedure of state lands, is amended to read as follows:

28 (2)(A)(i)(a) Upon approval by the Governor, lands may be sold to  
29 the highest responsible bidder for less than the amount of the appraisal if  
30 the bid process has been utilized and it has been determined and recommended  
31 by the agency director and the ~~Director of the Department of Finance and~~  
32 ~~Administration~~ Secretary of the Department of Transformation and Shared  
33 Services that further solicitation of bids is unnecessary.

34

35 SECTION 3501. Arkansas Code § 22-6-601(k)(2), concerning the procedure  
36 for the sale of state lands, is amended to read as follows:

1           (2) The ~~Director of the Department of Finance and Administration~~  
2 Secretary of the Department of Transformation and Shared Services shall  
3 forward a recommendation to the Governor.  
4

5           SECTION 3502. Arkansas Code § 22-8-101 is amended to read as follows:

6           22-8-101. Registration of state-owned motor vehicles – Report.

7           (a)(1) In order that a complete inventory of all state-owned motor  
8 vehicles is maintained, every state agency, including the Arkansas Department  
9 of Transportation, the Arkansas State Game and Fish Commission, the  
10 ~~Department~~ Division of Arkansas State Police, the Arkansas National Guard,  
11 and all constitutional offices shall annually register each motor vehicle  
12 owned by the State of Arkansas with the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department  
13 of Finance and Administration in a manner prescribed by the ~~director~~  
14 secretary.

15           (2) The registration shall include a description of each motor  
16 vehicle, including the year, make, model, license number, vehicle  
17 identification number, and other information which the ~~director~~ secretary  
18 might require.

19           (3) Whenever any state agency sells or disposes of a motor  
20 vehicle, a complete record thereof shall be furnished to the ~~director~~  
21 secretary as authorization for the removal of the vehicle from the official  
22 state inventory.

23           (4) Whenever any state agency acquires a new or additional motor  
24 vehicle, the information required by this subsection to be placed in the  
25 state inventory shall be furnished to the ~~director~~ secretary within ten (10)  
26 days after the acquisition of the vehicle by the agency.

27           (5) The ~~director~~ secretary shall keep the inventory of motor  
28 vehicles owned by the State of Arkansas and its agencies current at all  
29 times, categorized in accordance with the motor vehicles owned by each of the  
30 respective state agencies.

31           (b)(1) The ~~director~~ secretary shall make an annual report to the  
32 Legislative Council as to the number of motor vehicles owned by the State of  
33 Arkansas.

34           (2) The report shall include a comparison of the current  
35 inventory of motor vehicles with an inventory of the preceding year.  
36

1 SECTION 3503. Arkansas Code § 22-8-205(c) and (d), concerning the  
2 allocation of vehicles and priority listing, are amended to read as follows:

3 (c) The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and  
4 Administration, through the Marketing and Redistribution Section, shall have  
5 the authority to reassign a vehicle from a state agency to another state  
6 agency based upon need, age, condition, utilization, and justification but  
7 not to decrease a state agency's actual number of vehicles owned.

8 (d) The ~~director~~ secretary shall review the schedule of prioritized  
9 ranking for acquiring vehicles, and he or she shall have the authority to  
10 make changes, as he or she deems necessary, to the priority listing. He or  
11 she shall then forward the priority listing to the Governor for his or her  
12 approval or modification.

13  
14 SECTION 3504. Arkansas Code § 22-8-206(a), concerning the purchase of  
15 automobiles by the Director of the Department of Finance and Administration,  
16 is amended to read as follows:

17 (a) The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and  
18 Administration shall purchase vehicles for state agencies from moneys as  
19 appropriated and made available by the General Assembly.

20  
21 SECTION 3505. Arkansas Code § 22-8-207 is amended to read as follows:  
22 22-8-207. Purchase from qualified vendors.

23 The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration  
24 shall have the authority to purchase new or used vehicles from qualified  
25 vendors in accordance with the Arkansas Procurement Law, § 19-11-201 et seq.

26  
27 SECTION 3506. Arkansas Code § 22-8-209 is amended to read as follows:  
28 22-8-209. Rules and regulations.

29 The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration,  
30 through his or her disbursing officer, is authorized to promulgate such rules  
31 and regulations as deemed necessary to implement the provisions and intent of  
32 this subchapter.

33  
34 SECTION 3507. Arkansas Code § 23-13-307(a), concerning the revocation  
35 of a license, permit, or certificate, is amended to read as follows:

36 (a) In the event the Arkansas Department of Transportation finds that

1 the defendant is guilty upon any complaint filed and proceeding had, and that  
2 the provisions of § 23-13-102 or the rules, regulations, or orders of the  
3 Arkansas Department of Transportation have been willfully and knowingly  
4 violated and that a motor vehicle was used in the violation, the Arkansas  
5 Department of Transportation shall forthwith deliver a certified copy of its  
6 findings and order to the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and  
7 Administration.

8  
9 SECTION 3508. Arkansas Code § 23-13-603(a), concerning the  
10 implementation and administration of the duties regarding the Unified Carrier  
11 Registration Act of 2005, is amended to read as follows:

12 (a) The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and  
13 Administration has oversight over the implementation and administration of  
14 the Unified Carrier Registration Act of 2005, Pub. L. No. 109-59, § 4301 et  
15 seq.

16  
17 SECTION 3509. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 23-13-  
18 603(b), concerning the implementation and administration of the duties  
19 regarding the Unified Carrier Registration Act, is amended to read as  
20 follows:

21 (b) The ~~director~~ secretary is vested with the following powers and has  
22 the following duties:

23  
24 SECTION 3510. Arkansas Code § 23-13-604(a), concerning registration  
25 fees to be collected by the Director of the Department of Finance and  
26 Administration, is amended to read as follows:

27 (a) Any fees collected by the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of  
28 Finance and Administration under this section shall be classified as special  
29 revenues and shall be deposited into the State Treasury.

30  
31 SECTION 3511. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 23-13-  
32 604(c), concerning registration fees to be collected by the Director of the  
33 Department of Finance and Administration, is amended to read as follows:

34 (c) The net amount of the fees collected by the ~~director~~ secretary  
35 under this section shall be:

36

1 SECTION 3512. Arkansas Code § 23-17-413 is amended to read as follows:  
2 23-17-413. Optional provision of database to vendors.

3 In order to assign the place of primary use for mobile  
4 telecommunications services pursuant to the Mobile Telecommunications  
5 Sourcing Act, Pub. L. No. 106-252, the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department  
6 of Finance and Administration may choose whether to furnish vendors with a  
7 database that matches addresses with taxing jurisdictions or to allow vendors  
8 to employ an enhanced zip code of at least nine (9) digits in lieu of  
9 providing a database.

10  
11 SECTION 3513. Arkansas Code § 23-110-105(a), concerning racing passes,  
12 is amended to read as follows:

13 (a) The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and  
14 Administration shall set a maximum number of racing passes to be printed and  
15 issued annually, and it shall not be less than the number printed in 1990.

16  
17 SECTION 3514. Arkansas Code § 23-110-202 is amended to read as  
18 follows:

19 23-110-202. Officers.

20 (a) The Governor shall from time to time select from the membership of  
21 the Arkansas Racing Commission a chair and a vice chair.

22 (b)(1) The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and  
23 Administration shall be ex officio ~~secretary~~ director of the commission  
24 unless the Governor shall designate another person from the Revenue Division  
25 of the Department of Finance and Administration to serve in that capacity,  
26 but the ~~Secretary~~ Director of the Arkansas Racing Commission shall not be a  
27 member of the commission nor shall he or she have a vote on matters coming  
28 before it.

29 (2) The ~~secretary~~ director shall be the commission's executive  
30 officer and shall administer the provisions of this chapter and the rules,  
31 regulations, and orders established under this chapter.

32 (3) By resolution duly adopted, the commission may delegate to  
33 the ~~secretary~~ director any of the powers or duties vested in or imposed upon  
34 the commission by this chapter, and the delegated powers and duties may be  
35 exercised by the ~~secretary~~ director in the name of the commission.

36 (4) The ~~secretary~~ director shall be custodian of all property

1 held in the name of the commission and shall be the ex officio disbursing  
2 agent of all funds available for its use.

3 (5) The ~~secretary~~ director shall furnish bond to the state, with  
4 a corporate surety thereon, in the penal sum of twenty-five thousand dollars  
5 (\$25,000), conditioned that he or she will faithfully perform his or her  
6 duties of office and properly account for all funds received and disbursed by  
7 him or her as ~~secretary~~ director.

8 (6) Within such limitations as may be provided by appropriations  
9 therefor, the ~~secretary~~ director may employ such assistants and other  
10 personnel as are, in his or her opinion, necessary to properly administer the  
11 provisions of this chapter.

12

13 SECTION 3515. Arkansas Code § 23-111-105(a), concerning racing passes,  
14 is amended to read as follows:

15 (a) The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and  
16 Administration shall set a maximum number of racing passes to be printed and  
17 issued annually, and it shall not be fewer than the number printed in 1990.

18

19 SECTION 3516. Arkansas Code § 23-111-509(c)(2)(C)(i), concerning the  
20 disposition of wagering money, is amended to read as follows:

21 (C)(i) The commission shall seek the assistance of the  
22 Department of Finance and Administration to audit and verify receipts and  
23 expenditures of the franchise holder in determining compliance with this  
24 section. The franchise holder must deliver to the department any documents  
25 requested to check and verify compliance with this section within thirty (30)  
26 days of receiving a written request for the documents. If the department does  
27 not receive the requested documents within the time provided, the ~~Director~~  
28 Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration shall notify the  
29 commission, which shall issue an order to show cause why such documents have  
30 not been provided.

31

32 SECTION 3517. Arkansas Code § 23-113-103(4), concerning the definition  
33 of "director" under the Local Option Horse Racing and Greyhound Racing  
34 Electronic Games of Skill Act, is repealed.

35 (4) ~~"Director" means the Director of the Department of Finance~~  
36 ~~and Administration;~~

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SECTION 3518. Arkansas Code § 23-113-501(a)(1), concerning privilege fees to be paid to the Director of the Department of Finance and Administration, is amended to read as follows:

(1) An amount equal to eighteen percent (18%) of the net wagering revenues from electronic games of skill shall be paid by the franchise holder to the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration for disposition under § 23-113-604;

SECTION 3519. Arkansas Code § 23-113-604(a), concerning the disposition of privilege fees and license fees, etc., is amended to read as follows:

(a) All privilege fees received by the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration under this chapter for the benefit of the state shall be deposited into the State Treasury as general revenues.

SECTION 3520. Arkansas Code § 23-114-102(7), concerning the definition of "director" under the Charitable Bingo and Raffles Enabling Act, is repealed.

~~(7) "Director" means the Director of the Department of Finance and Administration;~~

SECTION 3521. Arkansas Code § 23-114-201 is amended to read as follows:

23-114-201. Control and supervision of games of bingo and raffles.

(a) The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration shall administer this chapter under the Arkansas Tax Procedure Act, § 26-18-101 et seq.

(b) The ~~director~~ secretary has authority over all games of bingo and raffles conducted in this state so that games of bingo and raffles are fairly conducted and the proceeds derived from games of bingo and raffles are used only for an authorized purpose.

SECTION 3522. Arkansas Code § 23-114-202(a), concerning the approval of bingo faces and raffle tickets, is amended to read as follows:

(a) The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and

1 Administration by rule shall provide for the form of bingo faces and raffle  
2 tickets used in the State of Arkansas.

3

4 SECTION 3523. Arkansas Code § 23-114-203 is amended to read as  
5 follows:

6 23-114-203. Rulemaking authority.

7 The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration  
8 may adopt rules to aid in the enforcement and administration of this chapter.

9

10 SECTION 3524. Arkansas Code § 23-114-303(c)(2), concerning a license  
11 application and authorized organizations, is amended to read as follows:

12 (2)(A) In order to determine a responsible person's suitability  
13 to organize, conduct, and administer raffles and bingo sessions, the ~~Director~~  
14 Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration may require that  
15 the responsible person be fingerprinted and the fingerprints forwarded for a  
16 criminal background check through the ~~Department~~ Division of Arkansas State  
17 Police.

18 (B) After the completion of the criminal background check  
19 through the ~~Department~~ Division of Arkansas State Police, the fingerprints  
20 shall be forwarded by the ~~Department~~ Division of Arkansas State Police to the  
21 Federal Bureau of Investigation for a national criminal history record check;  
22 and

23

24 SECTION 3525. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 23-114-  
25 303(c)(3), concerning a license application and authorized organizations, is  
26 amended to read as follows:

27 (3) The responsible person shall sign a release that allows the  
28 ~~Department~~ Division of Arkansas State Police to release:

29

30 SECTION 3526. Arkansas Code § 23-114-304(c)(2), concerning  
31 distributors' and manufacturers' license applications, is amended to read as  
32 follows:

33 (2)(A) In order to determine the person's or persons'  
34 suitability to be involved in the sale of bingo equipment, the ~~Director~~  
35 Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration may require that  
36 the person or persons be fingerprinted and the fingerprints forwarded for a

1 criminal background check through the ~~Department~~ Division of Arkansas State  
2 Police.

3 (B) After the completion of the criminal background check  
4 through the ~~Department~~ Division of Arkansas State Police, the fingerprints  
5 shall be forwarded by the ~~Department~~ Division of Arkansas State Police to the  
6 Federal Bureau of Investigation for a national criminal history record check;  
7 and

8  
9 SECTION 3527. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 23-114-  
10 304(c)(3), concerning distributors' and manufacturers' license applications,  
11 is amended to read as follows:

12 (3) The person or persons responsible for an applicant's sales  
13 of bingo equipment shall sign a release that allows the ~~Department~~ Division  
14 of Arkansas State Police to release the following:

15  
16 SECTION 3528. Arkansas Code § 23-114-405(a)(1), concerning raffle and  
17 bingo records, is amended to read as follows:

18 (a)(1) A licensed authorized organization shall provide to the  
19 ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration at the  
20 time of application for license the address of its primary business office.

21  
22 SECTION 3529. Arkansas Code § 23-114-602(b) and (c), concerning the  
23 payment and reporting of taxes, are amended to read as follows:

24 (b) The report shall be filed under oath on forms prescribed by the  
25 ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration.

26 (c) The ~~director~~ secretary shall adopt any rules necessary for the  
27 proper reporting and payment of the tax.

28  
29 SECTION 3530. Arkansas Code § 23-114-603(a)(2), concerning information  
30 required on excise tax reports, is amended to read as follows:

31 (2) Any other information that the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the  
32 Department of Finance and Administration determines is necessary to properly  
33 administer the excise tax levied by this subchapter.

34  
35 SECTION 3531. Arkansas Code § 23-114-704(a), concerning the filing of  
36 injunctions by the Department of Finance and Administration, is amended to

1 read as follows:

2 (a) If the Department of Finance and Administration has reason to  
3 believe that this chapter has been violated, the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the  
4 Department of Finance and Administration may petition a court for injunctive  
5 relief to restrain the violation.

6

7 SECTION 3532. Arkansas Code § 23-115-204(d)(1), concerning the Lottery  
8 Retailer Advisory Board, is amended to read as follows:

9 (1) A member of the immediate family of the ~~Director~~ Secretary  
10 of the Department of Finance and Administration;

11

12 SECTION 3533. Arkansas Code § 23-115-206(a)(8)(D)(ix)(a) and (b),  
13 concerning internal controls and an annual audit regarding the Office of the  
14 Arkansas Lottery, are amended to read as follows:

15 (a) Demographic reports from the ~~Department~~  
16 Division of Higher Education for each full semester during the fiscal year on  
17 accessibility to scholarships, award amounts for each approved institution of  
18 higher education; and

19 (b) The ~~Department~~ Division of Higher  
20 Education's report to the Legislative Council required by § 6-85-219;

21

22 SECTION 3534. Arkansas Code § 23-115-206(b)(3), concerning internal  
23 controls and annual audits, is amended to read as follows:

24 (3)(A) If the office, the General Assembly, the Legislative  
25 Council, or the Legislative Joint Auditing Committee requests additional  
26 audits or performance reviews of the fiscal affairs or operations of the  
27 office to be conducted by a private certified public accountant or other  
28 consultant, the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and  
29 Administration shall select and contract with appropriate certified public  
30 accountants or consultants to provide the services.

31 (B) The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance  
32 and Administration shall contract for the services which shall be paid  
33 directly to the contractor by the office.

34 (C) A copy of any report or management correspondence  
35 prepared by the certified public accountants or consultants shall be  
36 forwarded to Arkansas Legislative Audit, the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the

1 Department of Finance and Administration, and the Legislative Council.

2

3 SECTION 3535. Arkansas Code § 23-115-212(a), concerning the duties and  
4 responsibilities of an internal auditor, is amended to read as follows:

5 (a) The internal auditor employed by the Office of the Arkansas  
6 Lottery shall report directly to the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of  
7 Finance and Administration.

8

9 SECTION 3536. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 23-115-  
10 212(b), concerning the duties and responsibilities of an internal auditor, is  
11 amended to read as follows:

12 (b) The ~~director~~ secretary shall determine the duties and  
13 responsibilities of the internal auditor that:

14

15 SECTION 3537. Arkansas Code § 23-115-212(b)(2)(A), concerning the  
16 duties and responsibilities of an internal auditor, is amended to read as  
17 follows:

18 (A) Preparing a formal written three-year audit plan and  
19 presenting it to the ~~director~~ secretary for the ~~director's~~ secretary's  
20 approval;

21

22 SECTION 3538. Arkansas Code § 23-115-212(b)(2)(C), concerning the  
23 duties and responsibilities of an internal auditor, is amended to read as  
24 follows:

25 (C) Advising the ~~director~~ secretary of inconsistencies  
26 within or improvements needed to the internal controls, operating procedures,  
27 or accounting procedures of the office or the lotteries.

28

29 SECTION 3539. Arkansas Code § 23-115-212(c)(1)(A), concerning the  
30 duties and responsibilities of an internal auditor, is amended to read as  
31 follows:

32 (A) Advise the Legislative Council concerning current  
33 issues and problems reported to the ~~director~~ secretary under subsection (b)  
34 of this section; and

35

36 SECTION 3540. Arkansas Code § 23-115-501(e)(1)(A) and (B), concerning

1 vendors, requirements when submitting a bid, proposals, offers, and major  
2 procurement contracts, are amended to read as follows:

3 (A) The Director of the Office of the Arkansas Lottery, an  
4 employee of the Office of the Arkansas Lottery, the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the  
5 Department of Finance and Administration, the Deputy Director of the  
6 Department of Finance and Administration, or a member of the Legislative  
7 Council; or

8 (B) A member of the immediate family of the Director of  
9 the Office of the Arkansas Lottery, an employee of the office, the ~~Director~~  
10 Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration, the Deputy  
11 Director of the Department of Finance and Administration, or a member of the  
12 Legislative Council.

13

14 SECTION 3541. Arkansas Code § 23-115-501(f), concerning vendors,  
15 requirements when submitting a bid, proposals, offers, and major procurement  
16 contracts, is amended to read as follows:

17 (f)(1) A public official, the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of  
18 Finance and Administration, and the Deputy Director of the Department of  
19 Finance and Administration shall not knowingly own a financial interest in a  
20 vendor.

21 (2)(A) If a public official, the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the  
22 Department of Finance and Administration, or the Deputy Director of the  
23 Department of Finance and Administration becomes aware that he or she owns a  
24 financial interest in a vendor, the public official, the ~~Director~~ Secretary  
25 of the Department of Finance and Administration, or the Deputy Director of  
26 the Department of Finance and Administration shall divest the financial  
27 interest as soon as possible.

28 (B) A public official, the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the  
29 Department of Finance and Administration, or the Deputy Director of the  
30 Department of Finance and Administration shall not divest the financial  
31 interest to a member of his or her immediate family.

32

33 SECTION 3542. Arkansas Code § 23-115-601(e)(1), concerning retailers,  
34 is amended to read as follows:

35 (e)(1) A person seeking to be a retailer shall apply to the  
36 Identification Bureau of the ~~Department~~ Division of Arkansas State Police for

1 a state and federal criminal background check, to be conducted by the  
2 Identification Bureau of the ~~Department~~ Division of Arkansas State Police and  
3 the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

4  
5 SECTION 3543. Arkansas Code § 23-115-601(e)(5), concerning retailers,  
6 is amended to read as follows:

7 (5) Upon completion of the state and federal criminal background  
8 check, the Identification Bureau of the ~~Department~~ Division of Arkansas State  
9 Police shall forward to the office all releasable information obtained  
10 concerning the applicant.

11  
12 SECTION 3544. Arkansas Code § 23-115-601(j)(1)(A) and (B), concerning  
13 retailers, are amended to read as follows:

14 (A) The Director of the Office of the Arkansas Lottery, an  
15 employee of the Office of the Arkansas Lottery, the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the  
16 Department of Finance and Administration, or the Deputy Director of the  
17 Department of Finance and Administration; or

18 (B) A member of the immediate family of the Director of  
19 the Office of the Arkansas Lottery, an employee of the Office of the Arkansas  
20 Lottery, the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and  
21 Administration, or the Deputy Director of the Department of Finance and  
22 Administration.

23  
24 SECTION 3545. Arkansas Code § 23-115-610(c), concerning business  
25 closure procedures, is amended to read as follows:

26 (c) The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and  
27 Administration may request the assistance of the ~~Department~~ Division of  
28 Arkansas State Police or any state or local law enforcement official to post  
29 the notice or to secure the business as authorized in this section.

30  
31 SECTION 3546. Arkansas Code § 23-115-801(b)(1)(B)(i)(b)(1), concerning  
32 lottery proceeds, is amended to read as follows:

33 (1) Transfers under subdivision (c)(2)  
34 of this section the funds requested by the ~~Department~~ Division of Higher  
35 Education; and

36

1 SECTION 3547. Arkansas Code § 23-115-801(b)(1)(B)(iii), concerning  
2 lottery proceeds, is amended to read as follows:

3 (iii) Annually, the office shall transfer to the  
4 ~~Department~~ Division of Higher Education the funds from the previous academic  
5 year, if any, that were transferred by the office into the trust account for  
6 the Arkansas Workforce Challenge Scholarship Program, § 6-85-301 et seq.,  
7 under subdivision (b)(1)(B)(i) of this section for distribution of Arkansas  
8 Workforce Challenge Scholarships.

9  
10 SECTION 3548. Arkansas Code § 23-115-801(c) and (d), concerning  
11 lottery proceeds, are amended to read as follows:

12 (c)(1) The Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of Higher Education  
13 shall certify to the office the amount of net proceeds from the lottery  
14 needed to fund the scholarships awarded to recipients under § 6-85-201 et  
15 seq. for each semester of an academic year.

16 (2)(A) The office shall transfer the funds requested by the  
17 Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of Higher Education under subdivision  
18 (c)(1) of this section into one (1) or more trust accounts at one (1) or more  
19 financial institutions meeting the requirements of subdivision (b)(2) of this  
20 section maintained by the ~~Department~~ Division of Higher Education.

21 (B) The Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of Higher  
22 Education shall disburse trust account funds only in the name of the  
23 recipient:

24 (i) To an approved institution of higher education;  
25 or

26 (ii) If a recipient transfers to another approved  
27 institution of higher education, to the approved institution of higher  
28 education where the recipient transferred.

29 (3) By August 1 of each year, the Director of the ~~Department~~  
30 Division of Higher Education shall provide to the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the  
31 Department of Finance and Administration and to the Legislative Council for  
32 the academic year just ended an accounting of all trust accounts maintained  
33 by the ~~Department~~ Division of Higher Education, including without limitation:

34 (A) Total deposits to all trust accounts;

35 (B) Total disbursements from the trust accounts; and

36 (C) The balance remaining in the trust accounts.

1 (d)(1) The General Assembly finds that:

2 (A) The administration of scholarships with proceeds from  
3 the lottery are expenses of the office; and

4 (B) Because the ~~Department~~ Division of Higher Education  
5 has the expertise and experienced staff needed to efficiently and  
6 appropriately administer the scholarships, the office shall use the services  
7 of the ~~Department~~ Division of Higher Education to administer scholarships  
8 funded with net proceeds from the lottery.

9 (2)(A) Annually by April 1, the ~~Department~~ Division of Higher  
10 Education shall provide to the office and to the Legislative Council the  
11 ~~Department~~ Division of Higher Education's budget for the administrative  
12 expenditures allowed under this subsection.

13 (B) Annually by October 31, the ~~Department~~ Division of  
14 Higher Education shall provide an invoice to the office for reimbursement of  
15 the administrative expenditures allowed under this subsection, including  
16 without limitation:

17 (i) For each employee the:

18 (a) Type of position, whether full-time, part-  
19 time, permanent, or temporary; and

20 (b) Salary paid;

21 (ii) A description of other expenditures requested  
22 in the invoice; and

23 (iii) An explanation of the increase, if any, of  
24 actual expenditures over the budgeted expenditures.

25 (C) Only direct expenditures of the ~~department~~ division to  
26 administer scholarship funding with net proceeds from the lottery may be  
27 invoiced to the office under subdivision (d)(2)(B) of this section.

28 (3)(A) Annually by November 1, the office shall file a copy of  
29 the invoice with the Legislative Council for its review.

30 (B) The Legislative Council shall review the invoice and  
31 forward its comments, if any, to the office.

32 (C) The office shall reimburse the ~~Department~~ Division of  
33 Higher Education for the costs of administering the scholarship awards funded  
34 with net proceeds from the lottery after the Legislative Council's review  
35 under this subsection.

36

1 SECTION 3549. Arkansas Code § 23-116-104(b)(1), concerning tax on paid  
2 fantasy sports games, is amended to read as follows:

3 (1) Reported and remitted to the Department of Finance and  
4 Administration on a quarterly basis through the Arkansas Taxpayer Access  
5 Point or its successor on forms prescribed by the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the  
6 Department of Finance and Administration; and

7  
8 SECTION 3550. Arkansas Code § 23-116-104(c), concerning tax on paid  
9 fantasy sports games, is amended to read as follows:

10 (c) The ~~director~~ secretary shall promulgate rules to administer the  
11 tax levied under this section.

12  
13 SECTION 3551. Arkansas Code § 24-4-201(a)(1), concerning the creation  
14 and system accounts of the Arkansas Public Employees' Retirement System Fund,  
15 is amended to read as follows:

16 (a)(1) There is established on the books of the Treasurer of State,  
17 the Auditor of State, and the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance  
18 and Administration a fund to be known as the "Arkansas Public Employees'  
19 Retirement System Fund".

20  
21 SECTION 3552. Arkansas Code § 24-4-207(a)(3), concerning bonds,  
22 payments on vouchers and warrants, and adjustment of erroneous payments, is  
23 amended to read as follows:

24 (3) The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and  
25 Administration is authorized and directed to designate such additional  
26 personnel within his or her office and to provide for such services as are  
27 necessary for the proper operation of the system.

28  
29 SECTION 3553. Arkansas Code § 24-4-207(c)(4)(C), concerning bonds,  
30 payments on vouchers and warrants, and adjustment of erroneous payments, is  
31 amended to read as follows:

32 (C) The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance  
33 and Administration shall promptly hear all appeals of annuity determinations  
34 or redeterminations and shall conduct such hearings in accordance with  
35 procedures set forth by the board.

36

1 SECTION 3554. Arkansas Code § 24-5-104(b)(1)(C), concerning the Board  
2 of Trustees of the Arkansas State Highway Employees' Retirement System, is  
3 amended to read as follows:

4 (C) The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance  
5 and Administration;

6  
7 SECTION 3555. Arkansas Code § 24-6-209(a), concerning an employer's  
8 contribution, is amended to read as follows:

9 (a) The ~~Department~~ Division of Arkansas State Police, as employer,  
10 shall make contributions to the State Police Retirement System of twenty-two  
11 percent (22%) of active member payroll.

12  
13 SECTION 3556. Arkansas Code § 24-6-209(b)(1), concerning an employer's  
14 contribution, is amended to read as follows:

15 (b)(1) At the request of the Executive Secretary of the State Police  
16 Retirement System, the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and  
17 Administration shall make annual transfers on each June 30 to the system from  
18 the remainder of insurance premium taxes enumerated in § 19-6-301(27) before  
19 those taxes are transferred to general revenues enumerated in § 19-6-201(19)  
20 the amounts of money necessary to amortize the unfunded liabilities over a  
21 period not to exceed thirty (30) years.

22  
23 SECTION 3557. Arkansas Code § 24-6-218(a)(1), concerning survivors'  
24 benefits upon the death of an officer killed in the line of duty while not a  
25 member of the State Police Retirement System, is amended to read as follows:

26 (a)(1) In the event any uniformed employee of the ~~Department~~ Division  
27 of Arkansas State Police is killed while in the performance of his or her  
28 duties, yet the surviving spouse and surviving children of the uniformed  
29 employee of the ~~department~~ division are deprived of receiving benefits as  
30 prescribed in § 24-6-217 because the uniformed employee was not a member of  
31 the system at the time of his or her death, or had not completed any  
32 probationary period of service required by regulations of the Arkansas State  
33 Police Commission, or had not obtained sufficient service for benefits, the  
34 surviving spouse may make application to the Board of Trustees of the State  
35 Police Retirement System.

36

1 SECTION 3558. Arkansas Code § 24-6-218(d), concerning survivors'  
2 benefits upon the death of an officer killed in the line of duty while not a  
3 member of the system, is amended to read as follows:

4 (d) Upon certification of these facts by the board, the ~~Director~~  
5 Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration shall direct the  
6 Treasurer of State to transfer from the ~~Department~~ Division of Arkansas State  
7 Police Fund, annually, to the State Police Retirement Fund an amount equal to  
8 the funds expended from the State Police Retirement Fund for the payment of  
9 survivors' benefits as authorized in this section in order to reimburse the  
10 fund therefor.

11  
12 SECTION 3559. Arkansas Code § 24-11-102(c), concerning an increase in  
13 benefits under the municipal firemen's relief and pension funds, is amended  
14 to read as follows:

15 (c) If it is determined by the review board that a local pension plan  
16 is not complying with the provisions of law governing benefit increases, the  
17 executive director shall certify that noncompliance to the ~~Director~~ Secretary  
18 of the Department of Finance and Administration who shall withhold all moneys  
19 otherwise due the plan from the state until compliance is achieved.

20  
21 SECTION 3560. Arkansas Code § 24-11-202(a), concerning noncompliance  
22 with the Arkansas Fire and Police Pension Review Board, is amended to read as  
23 follows:

24 (a) If it is determined that a plan is not complying with the  
25 provisions of this subchapter, the Executive Director of the Arkansas Fire  
26 and Police Pension Review Board shall certify the noncompliance to the  
27 ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration, who shall  
28 withhold all moneys otherwise due the plan from the state until compliance is  
29 achieved.

30  
31 SECTION 3561. Arkansas Code § 24-11-203(b)(1)(E), concerning the  
32 creation of the Arkansas Fire and Police Pension Review Board, is amended to  
33 read as follows:

34 (E) The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance  
35 and Administration or the ~~director's~~ secretary's designee.

36

1 SECTION 3562. Arkansas Code § 24-11-215(c), concerning the allocation  
2 of insurance premium tax and special provisions, is amended to read as  
3 follows:

4 (c) After transfers are made to cover funds distributed under  
5 subsection (b) of this section and the portion of those premium taxes set  
6 aside for transfer to the State Police Retirement Fund under § 24-6-209(b),  
7 the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration is  
8 directed to make annual transfers from the police portion of the revenues to  
9 the Policemen's Pension Supplement Program Fund on or before July 25, 1999,  
10 and each year thereafter as certified by the Arkansas Fire and Police Pension  
11 Review Board on July 1 each year as the amount needed to pay the expenses of  
12 and to make payments to the eligible retired police officers and survivors  
13 under the Arkansas Policemen's Pension Supplement Program for the coming year  
14 of the program.

15  
16 SECTION 3563. Arkansas Code § 25-1-104 is amended to read as follows:

17 25-1-104. Access of Department of Finance and Administration to agency  
18 records.

19 The Revenue Division of the Department of Finance and Administration,  
20 the ~~Department~~ Division of Workforce Services, the University of Arkansas at  
21 Little Rock, the University of Arkansas at Fayetteville, the Arkansas  
22 Economic Development Commission, and any other state agency, board,  
23 commission, department, institution, college, university, or authority shall  
24 make data, information, statistics, or other records of information available  
25 to the Department of Finance and Administration. Provided, however, that such  
26 information and records shall not identify persons, people, conglomerates,  
27 corporations, monopolies, or others that would from any published data or  
28 data within the possession of the office of the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the  
29 Department of Finance and Administration reveal the identity or any  
30 information or data of that particular identity that would be in conflict  
31 with federal laws.

32  
33 SECTION 3564. Arkansas Code § 25-8-101 is amended to read as follows:

34 25-8-101. ~~Creation—~~ Director Secretary – Organization – Personnel.

35 ~~(a) There is created a Department of Finance and Administration.~~

36 ~~(b) The executive head of the Department of Finance and Administration~~

1 ~~shall be the Director of the Department of Finance and Administration. The~~  
2 ~~director shall be appointed by the Governor and shall serve at the pleasure~~  
3 ~~of the Governor.~~

4 ~~(e)(1)(a)(1)~~ The Department of Finance and Administration shall  
5 consist of the divisions which existed as of July 1, 1971, within the State  
6 Administration Department and the Department of Revenues and any other  
7 divisions which may be created by law and placed under the Department of  
8 Finance and Administration, subject to the transfer of a division or  
9 department of the Department of Finance and Administration as a state entity  
10 under the Transformation and Efficiencies Act of 2019, § 25-43-101 et. seq.

11 (2) There is created a Racing Division and an Alcoholic  
12 Beverage Control Division within the Department of Finance and  
13 Administration.

14 ~~(d)(b)~~ The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and  
15 Administration, with the advice and consent of the Governor, shall appoint  
16 the heads of the respective divisions. The ~~director~~ secretary may appoint an  
17 Administrative Assistant for Revenue to serve as the ~~director's~~ secretary's  
18 agent. All other personnel of the Department of Finance and Administration  
19 shall be employed by and serve at the pleasure of the ~~Director~~ Secretary of  
20 the Department of Finance and Administration, provided that nothing in this  
21 section shall be so construed as to reduce any right which an employee of the  
22 Department of Finance and Administration shall have under any civil service  
23 or merit system.

24 ~~(e)(c)~~ Each division of the Department of Finance and Administration  
25 shall be under the direction, control, and supervision of the ~~director~~  
26 secretary of the department. The ~~director~~ secretary may delegate his or her  
27 functions, powers, and duties to the various divisions of the Department of  
28 Finance and Administration as he or she shall deem desirable and necessary  
29 for the effective and efficient operation of the ~~department~~ Department of  
30 Finance and Administration.

31 ~~(f)(d)~~ For the purposes of the tax, driver's license, and motor  
32 vehicle registration and licensing laws, the term "~~director~~ secretary" shall  
33 mean the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration,  
34 the Administrative Assistant for Revenue, or his or her authorized agent. The  
35 Administrative Assistant for Revenue shall act as the ~~director's~~ secretary's  
36 agent and take any and all actions necessary to administer the laws.

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SECTION 3565. Arkansas Code § 25-8-102 is amended to read as follows:  
25-8-102. Authority of ~~director~~ secretary generally.

(a) The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration, with the approval of the Governor, may adopt reasonable rules, regulations, and procedures, not inconsistent with the law, which he or she deems desirable for the effective administration of the Department of Finance and Administration and any of its divisions.

(b) The ~~director~~ secretary shall have authority to install any recordkeeping and other procedures in his or her office and in other offices and departments of the state which he or she shall deem necessary or advisable to carry out his or her functions and duties. However, nothing in this section shall be construed to grant the ~~director~~ secretary any authority to establish recordkeeping or other procedures, or rules and regulations with respect to the elected constitutional officers of the state, the General Assembly and its committees, or other agencies who are exempt from all or a part of the procedures set forth in the Arkansas Procurement Law, § 19-11-201 et seq., and the General Accounting and Budgetary Procedures Law, § 19-4-101 et seq.

(c) The ~~director~~ secretary may from time to time establish within the department any sections or other administrative units which he or she may deem desirable for the effective operation of the department and any division thereof, provided that the duties and functions of the sections or administrative units are within the purpose authorized by law.

(d) The ~~director~~ secretary may appoint a designee to appear on behalf of the ~~director~~ secretary at meetings of any board or commission of which the ~~director~~ secretary is a member in his or her capacity as ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration or Chief Fiscal Officer of the State. The designee may vote on behalf of the ~~director~~ secretary.

SECTION 3566. Arkansas Code § 25-8-104 is amended to read as follows:  
25-8-104. Director of Division of Budgets and Accounting.

The Director of the Division of Budgets and Accounting shall be the Deputy Director of the Department of Finance and Administration. He or she shall have all functions, powers, and duties granted under § 19-1-203 and all other laws pertaining to his or her office and any other functions, powers,

1 and duties which are assigned and delegated to him or her by the ~~Director~~  
2 Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration.

3  
4 SECTION 3567. Arkansas Code § 25-8-105(b), concerning federal aid  
5 programs, is amended to read as follows:

6 (b) All applications for federal grants submitted by state agencies  
7 shall be processed through the department. However, the ~~Director~~ Secretary of  
8 the Department of Finance and Administration shall have the discretion to  
9 authorize state agencies to file copies of grant applications with the  
10 department as a substitute for the processing requirement.

11  
12 SECTION 3568. Arkansas Code § 25-8-106(b)(1), concerning the marketing  
13 and redistribution of state personal property, is amended to read as follows:

14 (b)(1) There is created within the Office of State Procurement ~~of the~~  
15 ~~Department of Finance and Administration~~ a Marketing and Redistribution  
16 Section for the purpose of promoting and ensuring effective utilization of  
17 surplus state property.

18 (2)(A) All state agencies, boards, commissions, departments, and  
19 colleges and universities are required and county, municipal, or other tax-  
20 supported institutions are authorized to utilize the services of the  
21 Marketing and Redistribution Section, unless specifically exempted in writing  
22 by the Director of the Office of State Procurement ~~of the Department of~~  
23 ~~Finance and Administration~~.

24 (B)(i) Nothing in this section shall be construed to make  
25 it mandatory that county, municipal, or other local government units utilize  
26 the services of the Marketing and Redistribution Section.

27 (ii) Nothing in this section shall be construed to  
28 make it mandatory that any agency, department, division, office, board,  
29 commission, or institution of this state, including state-supported  
30 institutions of higher education, utilize the services of the Marketing and  
31 Redistribution Section in the sale of surplus computer equipment and  
32 electronics to state agency employees for a price not less than ten percent  
33 (10%) above depreciated value.

34 (3) The ~~Department of Finance and Administration~~ Department of  
35 Transformation and Shared Services shall maintain adequate and accurate  
36 records of the costs for operating the Marketing and Redistribution Section

1 and is authorized to establish fair and reasonable charges for the services  
2 of the section. The charges for services shall be deposited in the State  
3 Treasury as nonrevenue receipts, there to be credited to the Property Sales  
4 Holding Fund for the operation, maintenance, and improvement of the Marketing  
5 and Redistribution Section.

6  
7 SECTION 3569. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 25-8-  
8 106(e), concerning the marketing and redistribution of state personal  
9 property, is amended to read as follows:

10 (e) Proceeds from the sale, transfer, or rental of property by the  
11 Director of the Office of State Procurement ~~of the Department of Finance and~~  
12 ~~Administration~~ shall be accounted for as follows:

13  
14 SECTION 3570. Arkansas Code § 25-8-106(f), concerning the marketing  
15 and redistribution of state personal property, is amended to read as follows:

16 (f) The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of ~~Finance and~~  
17 ~~Administration~~ Transformation and Shared Services is authorized to promulgate  
18 reasonable rules and regulations, not inconsistent with law, for compliance  
19 with the provisions of this section, the Arkansas Procurement Law, § 19-11-  
20 201 et seq., the General Accounting and Budgetary Procedures Law, § 19-4-101  
21 et seq., and the sale of surplus commodities to not-for-profit organizations  
22 under § 22-1-101.

23  
24 SECTION 3571. Arkansas Code § 25-8-108 is amended to read as follows:  
25 25-8-108. Contract labor.

26 The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration  
27 may authorize use of contract labor in the Revenue Division of the Department  
28 of Finance and Administration from January until July of a given year without  
29 regard to any limitation of duration or hours.

30  
31 SECTION 3572. Arkansas Code § 25-8-109 is amended to read as follows:  
32 25-8-109. Loans to marketing and redistribution.

33 In the event the moneys available in the Property Sales Holding Fund  
34 are not adequate during any month of each year of the fiscal biennium to meet  
35 the payroll commitments of the Marketing and Redistribution Section of the  
36 Office of State Procurement ~~of the Department of Finance and Administration~~

1 for the regular salaries and personal services matching appropriation, the  
2 Chief Fiscal Officer of the State is hereby authorized to make loans, from  
3 time to time as needed, from the Budget Stabilization Trust Fund to the  
4 Property Sales Holding Fund to provide the moneys required to meet the  
5 payroll and personal services matching appropriation requirements for any  
6 such month. Provided that, if at the end of each fiscal year the Property  
7 Sales Holding Fund did not receive sufficient income to repay the entire  
8 amount of any such moneys borrowed from the Budget Stabilization Trust Fund  
9 for the purposes as authorized herein, the Chief Fiscal Officer of the State  
10 is hereby authorized to transfer from the State Central Services Fund such  
11 amount as is necessary to reimburse the Budget Stabilization Trust Fund in  
12 behalf of loans made to the Property Sales Holding Fund to reimburse the  
13 Budget Stabilization Trust Fund for the amount of any such loan remaining  
14 unpaid at the end of each fiscal year.

15  
16 SECTION 3573. Arkansas Code § 25-8-110 is amended to read as follows:

17 25-8-110. ~~Additional duties~~ Duties of Department of Transformation and  
18 Shared Services and Department of Finance and Administration.

19 (a) The Department of ~~Finance and Administration~~ Transformation and  
20 Shared Services shall:

21 (1) Develop retention schedules for control, preservation,  
22 protection, and disposition of the electronic records of state agencies under  
23 § 25-18-601 et seq.;

24 (2) Direct the development of policies and procedures that state  
25 agencies shall follow in developing information technology plans and  
26 technology-related budgets and technology project justification;

27 (3) Review procurements to ensure conformity with information  
28 policies and standards and state-level plans and implementation strategies;

29 (4) Advise state agencies on information technology contracts  
30 and agreements; and

31 (5) Develop and promulgate rules and guidelines governing the  
32 retention and management of public records commonly found in most state  
33 agencies under § 25-18-601 et seq. ~~and~~

34 ~~(6)-(A)-(b)(1)~~ With assistance from the Department Division of  
35 Workforce Services, the Department of Finance and Administration shall  
36 establish and maintain a web page to:

1                    ~~(i)~~(A) Provide a menu of links to employer-related  
2 state web applications for required reporting, tax payments, and other data  
3 submissions;

4                    ~~(ii)~~(B) Allow an employer to select a link based  
5 upon a desired type of function or application and be redirected to the  
6 appropriate agency web application; and

7                    ~~(iii)~~(C) Provide information about tax submissions,  
8 employment reports, and child support submissions on the respective agency  
9 sites, including without limitation due dates, payment options, and agency  
10 contact information.

11                   ~~(B)~~(2) The initial scope of the web page shall include  
12 links to:

13                    ~~(i)~~(A) Online taxpayer services administered by the  
14 Department of Finance and Administration through the Arkansas Taxpayer Access  
15 Point web page;

16                    ~~(ii)~~(B) Unemployment and new hire submissions  
17 administered by the ~~Department~~ Division of Workforce Services; and

18                    ~~(iii)~~(C) Information concerning employer reporting  
19 and payment functions provided by the Office of Child Support Enforcement of  
20 the Revenue Division of the Department of Finance and Administration.

21                    ~~(C)~~(3) The web page shall be designed with sufficient  
22 flexibility to allow additional links to other state agencies to be added as  
23 appropriate.

24  
25           SECTION 3574. Arkansas Code § 25-28-101 is amended to read as follows:

26           25-28-101. Creation – Director – Organization – Personnel.

27           (a) There is created the Assessment Coordination ~~Department~~ Division.

28           (b)(1) The executive head of the ~~department~~ Assessment Coordination  
29 Division shall be the Director of the Assessment Coordination ~~Department~~  
30 Division.

31                   (2) The director shall be appointed by the Governor, subject to  
32 confirmation by the Senate, and shall serve at the pleasure of the Governor.

33                   (3) The director shall report to the Secretary of the Department  
34 of Finance and Administration.

35           (c) The ~~department~~ Assessment Coordination Division shall consist of  
36 the divisions which may be necessary to fulfill its purposes and which may be

1 created by law and placed under the ~~department~~ Assessment Coordination  
2 Division.

3 (d)(1) The director, in consultation with the Secretary of the  
4 Department of Finance and Administration, shall appoint the heads of the  
5 respective divisions.

6 (2) All personnel of the ~~department~~ Assessment Coordination  
7 Division shall be employed by the Department of Finance and Administration  
8 and shall serve at the pleasure of the ~~director~~ secretary.

9 (3) However, nothing in this section shall be so construed as to  
10 reduce any right which an employee of the ~~department~~ Assessment Coordination  
11 Division shall have under any civil service or merit system.

12 (e)(1) Each division of the ~~department~~ Assessment Coordination  
13 Division shall be under the direction, control, and supervision of the  
14 director.

15 (2) The director may delegate his or her functions, powers, and  
16 duties to the various divisions of the Assessment Coordination Division as he  
17 or she shall deem desirable and necessary for the effective and efficient  
18 operation of the ~~department~~ division.

19

20 SECTION 3575. Arkansas Code § 25-28-102 is repealed.

21 ~~25-28-102. Transfer.~~

22 ~~(a) The Assessment Coordination Division of the Arkansas Public~~  
23 ~~Service Commission is transferred by a type 2 transfer as provided in § 25-2-~~  
24 ~~105 to the Assessment Coordination Department.~~

25 ~~(b) For purposes of this subchapter, the Assessment Coordination~~  
26 ~~Department shall be considered a principal department established by Acts~~  
27 ~~1971, No. 38.~~

28

29 SECTION 3576. Arkansas Code § 25-28-103(c)-(e), concerning the  
30 authority of the Arkansas Public Service Commission over the Assessment  
31 Coordination Division, are repealed.

32 ~~(c) Any and all other statutory authority, powers, duties, functions,~~  
33 ~~records, property, and funds administered or provided by other support~~  
34 ~~divisions within the commission or by the commission for the Assessment~~  
35 ~~Coordination Division shall be transferred by a type 2 transfer as provided~~  
36 ~~in § 25-2-105 to the Assessment Coordination Department.~~

1           ~~(d) Any and all other statutory authority, powers, duties, and~~  
2 ~~functions of the commission regarding assessment and equalization of~~  
3 ~~properties and the administration of the tax laws of this state not~~  
4 ~~specifically retained by the commission or the Tax Division of the Arkansas~~  
5 ~~Public Service Commission in this chapter shall be transferred by a type 2~~  
6 ~~transfer as provided in § 25-2-105 to the Assessment Coordination Department.~~

7           ~~(e) Any and all other prescribed powers, duties, and functions of the~~  
8 ~~commission regarding assessment and equalization of properties and the~~  
9 ~~administration of the tax laws of this state not specifically retained by the~~  
10 ~~commission or the Tax Division of the Arkansas Public Service Commission in~~  
11 ~~this chapter, including rulemaking and regulation; promulgation of rules,~~  
12 ~~rates, regulation and standards; and the rendering of findings, orders, and~~  
13 ~~adjudications are transferred by a type 2 transfer as provided in § 25-2-105~~  
14 ~~to the Director of the Assessment Coordination Department.~~

15  
16           SECTION 3577. Arkansas Code § 25-28-104 is amended to read as follows:  
17           25-28-104. Administrative Procedure Act.

18           The Assessment Coordination ~~Department~~ Division shall be subject to the  
19 Arkansas Administrative Procedure Act, § 25-15-201 et seq.

20  
21           SECTION 3578. Arkansas Code § 25-28-107 is amended to read as follows:  
22           25-28-107. Requirements of Director of the Assessment Coordination  
23 ~~Department~~ Division.

24           ~~From and after July 1, 2000, the~~ The Director of the Assessment  
25 ~~Coordination Department~~ Division shall meet the qualifications required for  
26 certification or licensure as a Level 4 Appraiser in Arkansas, provided that  
27 the formal course work was or is satisfactorily completed in another state.  
28 At the time of appointing the director, the Governor shall include in the  
29 appointment document a statement that the appointee meets the qualifications  
30 prescribed by law.

31  
32           SECTION 3579. Arkansas Code § 25-28-108 is amended to read as follows:  
33           25-28-108. Specifications for computer-assisted mass appraisal  
34 software.

35           (a) By July 1, 2005, the Assessment Coordination ~~Department~~ Division  
36 shall adopt and implement by rules final specifications for computer-assisted

1 mass appraisal software.

2 (b)(1) The rules may provide a procedure by which the ~~department~~  
3 division may directly compensate computer-assisted mass appraisal software  
4 providers who are in compliance with requirements set forth in the final  
5 specifications for computer-assisted mass appraisal software.

6 (2) The ~~department~~ division shall require computer-assisted mass  
7 appraisal software providers to comply with requirements set forth in the  
8 final specifications for computer-assisted mass appraisal software.

9

10 SECTION 3580. Arkansas Code § 25-16-205(b), concerning the transition  
11 of funds, is amended to read as follows:

12 (b) The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and  
13 Administration shall issue limitations and guidelines on the expenditure of  
14 transition funds and make those limitations and guidelines a part of any  
15 appropriation.

16

17 SECTION 3581. Arkansas Code § 25-16-511(c)(1) and (2), concerning  
18 recordkeeping requirements, are amended to read as follows:

19 (c)(1) The Auditor of State is authorized and directed to keep a  
20 register in his or her office of all checks which have been drawn upon state  
21 agency bank funds and approved for payment by the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the  
22 Department of Finance and Administration.

23 (2) The ~~director~~ secretary is directed to transmit to the  
24 Auditor of State all documents and information necessary to prepare this  
25 register.

26

27 SECTION 3582. Arkansas Code § 25-18-214(b), concerning clerks and  
28 personal liability, is amended to read as follows:

29 (b) The volume shall not be loaned or removed except that the clerk,  
30 upon approval of the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and  
31 Administration, may remove or otherwise dispose of bound volumes if the  
32 official reports are available in electronic or other readily accessible  
33 medium in each county in the State of Arkansas for the general use of the  
34 courts, county officials, and attorneys.

35

36 SECTION 3583. Arkansas Code § 25-18-224(a)(2), concerning the

1 distribution of quasijudicial opinions and orders, is amended to read as  
2 follows:

3 (2) Such quasijudicial board, commission, or agency may make a  
4 charge for providing such opinions and orders, but the charge shall be  
5 limited to the actual cost of reproduction and shall be approved by the  
6 ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration.

7

8 SECTION 3584. Arkansas Code § 25-18-402 is amended to read as follows:  
9 25-18-402. Exemptions.

10 This subchapter does not prohibit the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the  
11 Department of Finance and Administration and his or her authorized agents  
12 from entering into agreements with taxpayers pursuant to § 26-18-705 which  
13 shall not be subject to public disclosure if the subject matter of the  
14 agreement is protected from public disclosure by the Freedom of Information  
15 Act of 1967, § 25-19-101 et seq., or § 26-18-303, or other state law.

16

17 SECTION 3585. Arkansas Code § 25-19-105(b)(3), concerning the  
18 examination and copying of public records, is amended to read as follows:

19 (3) The site files and records maintained by the Arkansas  
20 Historic Preservation Program of the ~~Department~~ Division of Arkansas Heritage  
21 and the Arkansas Archeological Survey;

22

23 SECTION 3586. Arkansas Code § 25-30-205 is amended to read as follows:  
24 25-30-205. Office facilities.

25 The Building Authority Division ~~of the Department of Finance and~~  
26 ~~Administration~~ shall ensure that all offices of Arkansas Rehabilitation  
27 Services of the ~~Department of Career Education~~ are exemplary models of  
28 accessibility and conform to the Americans with Disabilities Act, 42 U.S.C. §  
29 12101 et seq., accessibility guidelines.

30

31 SECTION 3587. Arkansas Code § 26-5-102(a), concerning an election to  
32 report tax on the basis of volume percentage, is amended to read as follows:

33 (a) Every taxpayer required to file an income tax return pursuant to  
34 provisions of the Income Tax Act of 1929, § 26-51-101 et seq., whose only  
35 activity within this state consists of sales and does not include owning or  
36 renting real estate or tangible personal property in this state and whose

1 dollar volume of gross sales made during the last year within the State of  
2 Arkansas or its subdivisions, as the case may be, is not in excess of one  
3 hundred thousand dollars (\$100,000) may elect to report any tax due the State  
4 of Arkansas on the basis of a percentage of this volume, and the ~~Director~~  
5 Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration is authorized to  
6 adopt rates which are calculated to produce a tax thereon which reasonably  
7 approximates the tax otherwise due under the laws of this state from these  
8 taxpayers.

9  
10 SECTION 3588. Arkansas Code § 26-5-103 is amended to read as follows:

11 26-5-103. State representative.

12 The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration  
13 of the State of Arkansas shall represent this state on the Multistate Tax  
14 Commission. The ~~director~~ secretary may, with the approval of the Governor,  
15 designate an alternate to serve on the commission in his or her place if  
16 there is on file with the commission written notification of the designation  
17 and the identity of the alternate.

18  
19 SECTION 3589. Arkansas Code § 26-5-106 is amended to read as follows:

20 26-5-106. Legal counsel.

21 The chief attorney of the Revenue Division of the Department of Finance  
22 and Administration is designated as counsel to represent this state at  
23 meetings of the Multistate Tax Commission. However, the ~~Director~~ Secretary of  
24 the Department of Finance and Administration may request the Attorney General  
25 of this state to attend meetings of the commission or to designate one (1) of  
26 his or her assistant attorneys general to attend commission meetings.

27  
28 SECTION 3590 Arkansas Code § 26-5-107 is amended to read as follows:

29 26-5-107. Interstate audit procedures.

30 The provisions of Article VIII of the Multistate Tax Compact, § 26-5-  
31 101, pertaining to interstate audits, shall not be applicable to this state  
32 unless the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration  
33 shall, with the approval of the Governor, determine that compliance with the  
34 interstate audits procedures would be in the better interest of this state  
35 and shall notify the commission of this fact in writing.

36

1 SECTION 3591. Arkansas Code § 26-5-108 is amended to read as follows:  
2 26-5-108. Authorized forms.

3 The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration  
4 is authorized to adopt and use forms promulgated by the Multistate Tax  
5 Commission pursuant to Article VII of the Multistate Tax Compact, § 26-5-101.  
6

7 SECTION 3592. Arkansas Code § 26-17-201 is amended to read as follows:  
8 26-17-201. Authority to employ.

9 The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration  
10 shall employ such clerical and legal assistants as he or she may deem  
11 necessary for the proper function of the Revenue Division of the Department  
12 of Finance and Administration.  
13

14 SECTION 3593. Arkansas Code § 26-17-202(a), concerning attorneys  
15 employed by the Department of Finance and Administration, is amended to read  
16 as follows:

17 (a) The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and  
18 Administration shall employ one (1) or more attorneys for the Revenue  
19 Division of the Department of Finance and Administration if he or she deems  
20 it necessary and if a saving of money can be had by employing one (1) or more  
21 attorneys for the division.  
22

23 SECTION 3594. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 26-17-203,  
24 concerning field auditors, is amended to read as follows:

25 It shall be the duty of the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of  
26 Finance and Administration in selecting field auditors to be employed by the  
27 Revenue Division of the Department of Finance and Administration to require  
28 that the applicants meet the following qualifications:  
29

30 SECTION 3595. Arkansas Code § 26-17-204 is amended to read as follows:  
31 26-17-204. Bond.

32 All deputy commissioners and other employees of the Revenue Division of  
33 the Department of Finance and Administration collecting or handling funds  
34 shall be placed under bond, premium on which shall be paid by the state upon  
35 vouchers issued by the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and  
36 Administration payable out of funds appropriated for that purpose.

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SECTION 3596. Arkansas Code § 26-17-301 is amended to read as follows:  
26-17-301. Performance required.

All of the employees of the Revenue Division of the Department of Finance and Administration shall perform such duties and respond to such directions as the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration from time to time may enjoin.

SECTION 3597. Arkansas Code § 26-17-302 is amended to read as follows:  
26-17-302. Motor vehicle license fees.

The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration shall collect the motor vehicle license fees prescribed by law, and he or she is empowered to make and enforce the necessary rules and regulations to ensure those collections.

SECTION 3598. Arkansas Code § 26-17-303 is amended to read as follows:  
26-17-303. Petroleum products.

Inspection of petroleum oils and products required to be made by law shall devolve on the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration who shall collect the fees therefor provided by law.

SECTION 3599. Arkansas Code § 26-17-304 is amended to read as follows:  
26-17-304. Suits and other proceedings.

(a)(1)(A) The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration may:

(i) Institute and prosecute in his or her name as such all suits and other proceedings necessary for the collection of any taxes or fees collectible by him or her and which have become delinquent; and

(ii) Defend all suits and other proceedings concerning taxes, fees, or licenses administered by the ~~director~~ secretary.

(B) All suits and proceedings instituted by the ~~director~~ secretary or defended by the ~~director~~ secretary that concern taxes, fees, or licenses administered by the Revenue Division of the Department of Finance and Administration may be maintained or defended by an attorney authorized to represent the interests of the division pursuant to § 26-17-202.

(2) No deposits of advance cost shall be required of the

1 ~~director~~ secretary in any suit or proceedings, nor shall he or she be  
2 required to give bond for cost, indemnity, or stay as a condition to the  
3 institution of any suit or proceedings or to the issuance, service, or  
4 execution of any process in any suit or proceedings or ancillary to any suit  
5 or proceedings or to the appeal from any adverse action.

6 (b)(1) The ~~director~~ secretary shall not be required to advance or pay  
7 any court costs to any court clerk for the institution or prosecution of any  
8 suit filed in his or her official capacity.

9 (2) No bond shall be required of the ~~director~~ secretary in  
10 obtaining restraining orders, injunctions, or any other cases in which a bond  
11 is required to be made by a litigant, including supersedeas bond upon appeal.  
12

13 SECTION 3600. Arkansas Code § 26-17-402 is amended to read as follows:

14 26-17-402. Authority to enter agreements.

15 The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration  
16 is authorized and empowered, on behalf of the State of Arkansas, to enter  
17 into reciprocal pacts and agreements with other states and with the  
18 government of the United States for the exchange of information and copies of  
19 public and private records, documents, books, and all other matters relative  
20 to taxes in which any state may be interested if the state or United States  
21 government is a party to such an agreement or pact.  
22

23 SECTION 3601. Arkansas Code § 26-17-403 is amended to read as follows:

24 26-17-403. Powers and duties – Definition.

25 The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration  
26 and his or her agents are authorized and empowered to perform the duties  
27 necessary to comply with any pact or agreement with any other state or with  
28 the government of the United States as provided:

29 (1) Upon request of any state or government of the United States  
30 that is a party to a reciprocal pact or agreement with the State of Arkansas,  
31 the ~~director~~ secretary and his or her agents are empowered to furnish such  
32 information from public or private records as may be requested by a state;

33 (2) The ~~director~~ secretary and his or her agents in the  
34 performance of these duties are empowered to require any person, firm, or  
35 corporation to make records available to the ~~director~~ secretary for  
36 examination and copying. These records shall be available to the ~~director~~

1 secretary or his or her agents at all reasonable times;

2 (3) The ~~director~~ secretary and his or her agents are empowered  
3 to question any person with reference to any matter involving Arkansas taxes  
4 or the taxes of any state or government of the United States with which the  
5 State of Arkansas may be a party to a pact or agreement for exchange of tax  
6 information if the state or government of the United States shall request  
7 assistance of the State of Arkansas in obtaining information. The ~~director~~  
8 secretary and his or her agents are empowered to take depositions or written  
9 sworn statements in the performance of these duties. All persons, firms, or  
10 corporations shall, upon demand of the ~~director~~ secretary or his or her  
11 agents, supply full and accurate information. That information shall not be  
12 used against the person, firm, or corporation supplying the information in  
13 any grand jury investigation, indictment, or trial of any person, firm, or  
14 corporation involving violation of tax laws, it being the intent of this  
15 provision to comply fully with constitutional rights guaranteed to defendants  
16 which permit defendants to refrain from giving information or testimony  
17 against themselves;

18 (4) The ~~director~~ secretary and his or her agents shall not be  
19 empowered to make arrests of persons in Arkansas charged with violating tax  
20 laws of other states, unless those persons shall have been charged in the  
21 courts of other states with such offenses and notices thereof, together with  
22 a certified copy of the charges, shall have been transmitted to the ~~director~~  
23 secretary. Any person so arrested shall be permitted to maintain all rights  
24 relative to extradition of prisoners;

25 (5)(A) As used in this subdivision (5), "affected person" means  
26 a person who may be authorized by the ~~director~~ secretary to access or view  
27 federal tax information as a requirement of the person's job duties and who  
28 is also:

29 (i) A current employee of the Department of Finance  
30 and Administration;

31 (ii) An applicant for employment with the Department  
32 of Finance and Administration;

33 (iii) A current employee of a contractor of the  
34 Department of Finance and Administration; or

35 (iv) An applicant for employment with a contractor  
36 of the Department of Finance and Administration.

1 (B) The ~~director~~ secretary shall establish a criminal  
2 background investigation policy for all affected persons that shall include  
3 at least the following provisions:

4 (i) An affected person shall authorize the ~~director~~  
5 secretary or his or her designee to obtain a state and national criminal  
6 background check at the expense of the Department of Finance and  
7 Administration;

8 (ii) A criminal background check shall be conducted  
9 by the Identification Bureau of the ~~Department~~ Division of Arkansas State  
10 Police and the Federal Bureau of Investigation and shall include the taking  
11 of fingerprints;

12 (iii) A criminal background check shall satisfy the  
13 background investigation standards established by the Internal Revenue  
14 Service with regard to access to federal tax information;

15 (iv) A criminal background check performed on an  
16 affected person before his or her employment by the ~~director~~ secretary or a  
17 contractor of the Department of Finance and Administration shall be conducted  
18 before an offer of employment is extended by the ~~director~~ secretary or the  
19 contractor of the Department of Finance and Administration;

20 (v) A criminal background check performed on an  
21 affected person who is already employed by the ~~director~~ secretary or a  
22 contractor of the Department of Finance and Administration shall be conducted  
23 at least one (1) time every ten (10) years;

24 (vi) An affected person shall authorize the release  
25 of the criminal background check results to the ~~director~~ secretary or his or  
26 her designee, and the Identification Bureau of the ~~Department~~ Division of  
27 Arkansas State Police shall forward to the ~~director~~ secretary or his or her  
28 designee all information obtained as a result of the criminal background  
29 check;

30 (vii) Information received from a criminal  
31 background check shall be used only for the purpose of making decisions  
32 regarding the employment or retention of an affected person in a position in  
33 which access to federal tax information may or will be authorized;

34 (viii) Information received by the ~~director~~  
35 secretary or his or her designee from the Identification Bureau of the  
36 ~~Department~~ Division of Arkansas State Police under this section shall not be

1 released to any party other than the affected person or his or her authorized  
2 representative; and

3 (ix)(a) An affected person who is employed by the  
4 Department of Finance and Administration or by a contractor of the Department  
5 of Finance and Administration shall notify the ~~director~~ secretary or his or  
6 her designee of an arrest for a misdemeanor or felony offense.

7 (b) Any information received under subdivision  
8 (5)(B)(ix)(a) of this section shall be used only for the purpose of the  
9 ~~director~~ secretary making a decision regarding retention of an affected  
10 person following the arrest.

11 (c) Failure to provide notice of a subsequent  
12 arrest under subdivision (5)(B)(ix)(a) of this section may be grounds for  
13 immediate termination of the affected person's employment or other action as  
14 the ~~director~~ secretary or his or her designee deems appropriate.

15

16 SECTION 3602. Arkansas Code § 26-17-501 is amended to read as follows:  
17 26-17-501. Penalty.

18 (a) If the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and  
19 Administration, or any of his or her deputies or assistants shall collect or  
20 receive any tax, revenue, or funds by virtue of his or her official duties or  
21 position and shall neglect or fail to turn them over to the Treasurer of  
22 State within ten (10) days after the tax, revenue, or funds shall have come  
23 into his or her hands or possession, the offender shall be deemed guilty of a  
24 felony and be punished by confinement in the state penitentiary for a period  
25 of not less than one (1) year and not more than five (5) years.

26 (b) The ~~director~~ secretary shall be liable upon his or her official  
27 bond for all funds not turned into the Treasurer of State within ten (10)  
28 days after they may come into the hands of the ~~director~~ secretary or any of  
29 his or her deputies or assistants.

30

31 SECTION 3603. Arkansas Code § 26-17-502 is amended to read as follows:  
32 26-17-502. Duty to remit revenues.

33 The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration  
34 shall turn over to the Treasurer of State all revenues that may come into his  
35 or her possession or into the possession of any of his or her deputies,  
36 promptly on the day the funds reach his or her office unless received after

1 the office of the Treasurer of State shall have closed for the day, in which  
2 event the funds shall be turned over to the Treasurer of State on the first  
3 day the Treasurer of State's office is open after the funds are received at  
4 the office of the ~~director~~ secretary.

5  
6 SECTION 3604. Arkansas Code § 26-17-503 is amended to read as follows:

7 26-17-503. Daily remittance.

8 All collectors and field inspectors shall daily report and remit to the  
9 ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration all  
10 collections made by them.

11  
12 SECTION 3605. Arkansas Code § 26-17-504 is amended to read as follows:

13 26-17-504. Deposits and collections.

14 (a) The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and  
15 Administration shall make daily deposits into the State Treasury of all  
16 moneys and checks collected by him or her.

17 (b) The Treasurer of State shall promptly return to the ~~director~~  
18 secretary all checks which for any reason were not paid, and it shall be the  
19 duty of the ~~director~~ secretary to collect all such checks.

20  
21 SECTION 3606. Arkansas Code § 26-18-104(1), concerning the definition  
22 of the "assessment" under the Arkansas Tax Procedure Act, is amended to read  
23 as follows:

24 (1) "Assessment" means the determination and imposition of the  
25 amount of any state tax due and owing, whether made on a return filed by a  
26 taxpayer or by the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and  
27 Administration on audit or otherwise;

28  
29 SECTION 3607. Arkansas Code § 26-18-104(4), concerning the definition  
30 of the "director" under the Arkansas Tax Procedure Act, is amended to read as  
31 follows:

32 (4) "~~Director~~ Secretary" means the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the  
33 Department of Finance and Administration, State of Arkansas, or the  
34 Administrative Assistant for Revenue, or his or her authorized agent;

35  
36 SECTION 3608. Arkansas Code § 26-18-211 is amended to read as follows:

1 26-18-211. Failure to correct noncompliance after notification.

2 If a taxpayer has been previously advised that he or she has failed to  
3 comply with the provisions of the Arkansas Code or the rules and regulations  
4 as promulgated by the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and  
5 Administration by his or her failure to include all of the information  
6 required to be shown on the return or the inclusion of incorrect information  
7 and he or she continues to disregard those provisions, there shall be  
8 assessed a penalty of fifty dollars (\$50.00) per return, unless the failure  
9 is due to reasonable cause and not due to willful neglect.

10  
11 SECTION 3609. Arkansas Code § 26-18-212 is amended to read as follows:

12 26-18-212. Failure to file a return after notification.

13 If a taxpayer has previously been advised that the taxpayer has not  
14 complied with the provisions of §§ 26-51-804(a), 26-51-908(g)(2), 26-52-  
15 501(a), 26-53-125(a)(1), or 26-55-229(b), because the taxpayer has not filed  
16 a return or notified the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and  
17 Administration that the taxpayer is no longer required to file a return, even  
18 though no tax is due, and the taxpayer continues to disregard those  
19 provisions, there shall be assessed a penalty of fifty dollars (\$50.00) per  
20 return, unless the failure is due to reasonable cause and not due to willful  
21 neglect.

22  
23 SECTION 3610. Arkansas Code § 26-18-301 is amended to read as follows:

24 26-18-301. Duties of ~~director~~ secretary.

25 (a) The ~~director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and  
26 Administration shall:

27 (1) Administer and enforce the provisions of every state tax law  
28 and when necessary shall promulgate and enforce the rules and regulations;

29 (2) Audit and properly determine and compute the state tax  
30 payable by any taxpayer subject to taxation under any state tax law;

31 (3) Assess and collect any state tax; and

32 (4) Administer and enforce all state tax laws.

33 (b) The ~~director~~ secretary shall make available at cost to the general  
34 public all rules and regulations promulgated by the ~~director~~ secretary.

35 (c) The ~~director~~ secretary shall provide forms, schedules, and returns  
36 for all state tax laws.

1 (d) The ~~director~~ secretary may accept electronic or digital signatures  
2 as binding, valid signatures on all reports, forms, or schedules required to  
3 be filed by state law.

4  
5 SECTION 3611. Arkansas Code § 26-18-302 is amended to read as follows:  
6 26-18-302. Preservation of records and copies.

7 (a)(1) The ~~director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and  
8 Administration shall keep and permanently preserve the original of all  
9 official rules, regulations, decisions, and orders and the effective date  
10 thereof.

11 (2)(A) A copy of a rule, regulation, decision, or order made by  
12 the ~~director~~ secretary in the administration of any state tax law may be  
13 authenticated under his or her official seal.

14 (B) An authenticated copy is admissible in any court in  
15 this state under § 16-46-101.

16 (C) The ~~director~~ secretary may charge a reasonable fee,  
17 not to exceed five dollars (\$5.00), to cover the cost of authentication.

18 (D) Under no circumstances shall the ~~director~~ secretary  
19 furnish copies of records which may by law be prohibited from being made  
20 public.

21 (b)(1) The ~~director~~ secretary may microfilm any returns, reports,  
22 records, or documents received or issued by him or her in the administration  
23 of any state tax law.

24 (2) The microfilm records shall be properly indexed for easy  
25 retrieval, and one (1) copy shall be placed in a fireproof vault.

26 (3) These records are admissible as evidence in any court in  
27 this state under § 16-46-101 and shall have the same weight and force as the  
28 original thereof.

29 (c) If the ~~director~~ secretary determines that a method for the  
30 reproduction of records is more practicable than the use of microfilm, he or  
31 she may use that method.

32  
33 SECTION 3612. Arkansas Code § 26-18-303(a), concerning confidential  
34 records, privilege, and exceptions, is amended to read as follows:

35 (a)(1) The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and  
36 Administration is the official custodian of all records and files required by

1 any state tax law to be filed with the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department  
2 of Finance and Administration and is required to take all steps necessary to  
3 maintain their confidentiality.

4 (2)(A)(i) Except as otherwise provided by this chapter, the  
5 records and files of the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and  
6 Administration concerning the administration of any state tax law are  
7 confidential and privileged.

8 (ii) These records and files and any information  
9 obtained from these records or files or from any examination or inspection of  
10 the premises or property of any taxpayer shall not be divulged or disclosed  
11 by the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration or  
12 any other person who may have obtained these records and files.

13 (B) It is the specific intent of this chapter that all tax  
14 returns, audit reports, and information pertaining to any tax returns,  
15 whether filed by individuals, corporations, partnerships, or fiduciaries,  
16 shall not be subject to the provisions of the Freedom of Information Act of  
17 1967, § 25-19-101 et seq.

18  
19 SECTION 3613. Arkansas Code § 26-18-303(b)(1)-(10), concerning  
20 confidential records, privilege, and exceptions, are amended to read as  
21 follows:

22 (1) Publication of statistics by the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the  
23 Department of Finance and Administration classified to prevent the  
24 identification of a particular taxpayer;

25 (2) Use of the information in records filed under any state tax  
26 law by the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration  
27 when conducting any audit or investigation of any taxpayer in regard to any  
28 state tax;

29 (3)(A) Disclosure of information to the Attorney General of this  
30 state, any prosecuting attorney, or any other individual who is empowered by  
31 law to prosecute criminal and civil violations of any state tax law when the  
32 ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration initiates  
33 the investigation.

34 (B) If the prosecution is initiated by the Attorney  
35 General or a prosecuting attorney, the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department  
36 of Finance and Administration shall not disclose any information unless

1 required by subpoena issued by a circuit court.

2 (C) Information may be introduced as evidence by the  
3 Attorney General, a prosecuting attorney, or other individual so empowered  
4 when the individual is prosecuting any civil or criminal violation of state  
5 tax law;

6 (4) Disclosure compelled by any Arkansas circuit court, the  
7 Supreme Court, the Court of Appeals, or by any federal court of information  
8 involved in any case or controversy before that court;

9 (5) Disclosure by the taxpayer or the taxpayer's authorized  
10 agent or by the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and  
11 Administration, at the taxpayer's request, of any information which the  
12 ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration has  
13 concerning that taxpayer;

14 (6) Disclosure by the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of  
15 Finance and Administration, at the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of  
16 Finance and Administration's discretion, of information from the records of  
17 any state tax law to comparable officials of any other state or the United  
18 States who are charged with the administration of a similar tax;

19 (7) Disclosure of motor vehicle titling and registration  
20 information, all licenses and permits issued to owners and operators of coin-  
21 operated amusement machines pursuant to §§ 26-57-402, 26-57-408 – 26-57-421,  
22 and 26-77-303, and tax records, files, and other information relating to  
23 sales of aviation fuel at airports and other aviation fuel outlets;

24 (8) Disclosure of information other than income tax information  
25 at an administrative hearing held regarding the issuance, cancellation,  
26 revocation, or suspension of licenses or permits issued by the ~~Director~~  
27 Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration or any other state  
28 agency or department;

29 (9)(A) Disclosure to the Student Loan Authority Division of the  
30 Arkansas Development Finance Authority, the ~~Department~~ Division of Higher  
31 Education, the Student Loan Guarantee Foundation of Arkansas, or any Arkansas  
32 public institution of higher education of the last known address or  
33 whereabouts or the last known employer of any person from whom these agencies  
34 are charged with collecting a student loan or other student indebtedness.

35 (B) In providing such information, the ~~Director~~ Secretary  
36 of the Department of Finance and Administration shall not allow the Student

1 Loan Authority Division of the Arkansas Development Finance Authority, the  
2 Student Loan Guarantee Foundation of Arkansas, the ~~Department~~ Division of  
3 Higher Education, or any Arkansas public institution of higher education to  
4 examine the tax return;

5 (10)(A) In order to ensure proper payment to vendors by all  
6 agencies of state government or by county governments or city governments,  
7 information about the receipt or nonreceipt of sales tax permits by vendors  
8 must be made available by the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance  
9 and Administration upon request by these agencies of state government or by  
10 county governments or city governments.

11 (B) Therefore, notwithstanding any provision of this  
12 chapter or any other law to the contrary, in instances when state agencies,  
13 boards, commissions, and other branches of state government or county  
14 governments or city governments identify to the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the  
15 Department of Finance and Administration the identity of vendors receiving  
16 payments and ask the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and  
17 Administration whether these vendors have been issued sales tax permits, the  
18 ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration shall  
19 answer these inquiries;

20

21 SECTION 3614. Arkansas Code § 26-18-303(16)(B) and (C), concerning  
22 confidential records, privilege, and exceptions, are amended to read as  
23 follows:

24 (B) This information may be released only following  
25 completion of an audit or investigation by the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the  
26 Department of Finance and Administration and following a determination by the  
27 ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration that there  
28 is a strong possibility the taxpayer has failed to properly assess the  
29 taxpayer's personal property in the county.

30 (C) In providing this information, the ~~Director~~ Secretary  
31 of the Department of Finance and Administration shall not allow the county  
32 assessors to examine any tax returns or audit records;

33

34 SECTION 3615. Arkansas Code § 26-18-303(b)(21), concerning  
35 confidential records, privilege, and exceptions, is amended to read as  
36 follows:

1 (21)(A) To perform audit and compliance duties, disclosure to  
2 the ~~Department~~ Division of Workforce Services of withholding tax information  
3 reported by companies doing business in Arkansas, including without  
4 limitation taxpayer names, taxpayer addresses, tax identification numbers,  
5 and tax withholding information.

6 (B) Information received by the ~~Department~~ Division of  
7 Workforce Services under this section shall remain confidential and is not  
8 subject to disclosure except in accordance with this section;

9  
10 SECTION 3616. Arkansas Code § 26-18-303(c), concerning confidential  
11 records, privilege, and exceptions, is amended to read as follows:

12 (c) The provisions of this section shall be strictly interpreted and  
13 shall not permit any other disclosure of tax information concerning a  
14 taxpayer, whether the taxpayer is an individual, a corporation, a  
15 partnership, or a fiduciary, that is contained in the records and files of  
16 the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration  
17 relating to income tax or any other state tax administered under this  
18 chapter.

19  
20 SECTION 3617. Arkansas Code § 26-18-303(e) and (f), concerning  
21 confidential records, privilege, and exceptions, are amended to read as  
22 follows:

23 (e) Any person who knowingly obtains or attempts to obtain any of the  
24 confidential and privileged records and files of the ~~Director~~ Secretary of  
25 the Department of Finance and Administration who is not so permitted by law  
26 is guilty of a Class A misdemeanor.

27 (f) The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and  
28 Administration shall report all violations of this section to the appropriate  
29 prosecuting attorney in this state.

30  
31 SECTION 3618. Arkansas Code § 26-18-303(g)(1), concerning confidential  
32 records, privilege, and exceptions, is amended to read as follows:

33 (g)(1) The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and  
34 Administration shall promulgate such regulations as are necessary to  
35 establish a reasonable procedure for making requests for and release of  
36 information under subdivision (b)(11) of this section, for allowing a

1 taxpayer reasonable notice in advance of the release of the requested  
2 information, for a period of time up to seven (7) days from the date a  
3 request for information is made to provide notice and make necessary  
4 determinations, and to provide the methods by which the ~~Director~~ Secretary of  
5 the Department of Finance and Administration shall determine if the  
6 information requested is subject to disclosure under Arkansas law.

7  
8 SECTION 3619. Arkansas Code § 26-18-303(h)(1), concerning confidential  
9 records, privilege, and exceptions, is amended to read as follows:

10 (h)(1) Upon the request of a county government or a city government,  
11 the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration shall  
12 provide a list of vendors within the requesting county or city who hold  
13 permits issued pursuant to the Arkansas Gross Receipts Act of 1941, § 26-52-  
14 101 et seq.

15  
16 SECTION 3620. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 26-18-  
17 303(i)(1), concerning confidential records, privilege, and exceptions, is  
18 amended to read as follows:

19 (i)(1) The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and  
20 Administration may disclose information from a return filed by a person,  
21 partnership, corporation, trust, or estate to any of the parties who signed  
22 the return:

23  
24 SECTION 3621. Arkansas Code § 26-18-303(i)(2) and (3), concerning  
25 confidential records, privilege, and exceptions, are amended to read as  
26 follows:

27 (2) The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and  
28 Administration may also disclose all information concerning the collection  
29 activity related to a tax return to any party who signed the return.

30 (3) The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and  
31 Administration shall promulgate such regulations as are necessary to  
32 establish a reasonable procedure for making requests for and for the release  
33 of information under this section.

34  
35 SECTION 3622. Arkansas Code § 26-18-303(j)(1)(C), concerning  
36 confidential records, privilege, and exceptions, is amended to read as

1 follows:

2 (C) The sharing of documents and other information between  
3 the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration, the  
4 Attorney General, and the Director of Arkansas Tobacco Control will put the  
5 state in a better position to prevent tobacco diversion and prevent  
6 cigarettes from being sold to youth and an already addicted adult population.

7

8 SECTION 3623. Arkansas Code § 26-18-303(j)(2), concerning confidential  
9 records, privilege, and exceptions, is amended to read as follows:

10 (2) The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and  
11 Administration may disclose documents and other information submitted by  
12 stamp deputies appointed under § 26-57-236 or those persons licensed or  
13 permitted under the terms of the Arkansas Tobacco Products Tax Act of 1977, §  
14 26-57-201 et seq., to the Attorney General or the Director of Arkansas  
15 Tobacco Control upon the request of the Attorney General or the Director of  
16 Arkansas Tobacco Control.

17

18 SECTION 3624. Arkansas Code § 26-18-303(j)(4)(A), concerning  
19 confidential records, privilege, and exceptions, is amended to read as  
20 follows:

21 (4)(A) The Attorney General and the Director of Arkansas Tobacco  
22 Control may use the documents and other information provided under this  
23 subsection by the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and  
24 Administration in proceedings before any court.

25

26 SECTION 3625. Arkansas Code § 26-18-303(j)(4)(B)(i), concerning  
27 confidential records, privilege, and exceptions, is amended to read as  
28 follows:

29 (B)(i) However, the documents and other information shall  
30 not be presented in court except with the approval of the court in which the  
31 action is pending and after adequate notice to the person who initially  
32 furnished the documents or other information to the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the  
33 Department of Finance and Administration.

34

35 SECTION 3626. Arkansas Code § 26-18-312(a), concerning signatures on  
36 electronic forms, is amended to read as follows:

1 (a) The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and  
2 Administration shall develop procedures for the acceptance of signatures on  
3 state tax returns or reports in digital or other electronic form.  
4

5 SECTION 3627. Arkansas Code § 26-18-509 is amended to read as follows:  
6 26-18-509. Liability for payment of taxes – Falsification of sales  
7 transaction records.

8 A person who violates § 5-37-507 is liable to the state for a civil  
9 penalty equal to the total amount of the tax evaded, not collected, or not  
10 accounted for and paid over to the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of  
11 Finance and Administration that results from the violation.  
12

13 SECTION 3628. Arkansas Code § 26-18-701(a)(1), concerning the issuance  
14 of certificates of indebtedness and execution, is amended to read as follows:

15 (a)(1)(A) If a taxpayer does not timely and properly pursue his or her  
16 remedies seeking relief from a decision of the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the  
17 Department of Finance and Administration and a final assessment is made  
18 against the taxpayer, or if the taxpayer fails to pay the deficiency assessed  
19 upon notice and demand, then the ~~director~~ secretary shall, as soon as  
20 practicable thereafter, issue to the circuit clerk of any county of the state  
21 a certificate of indebtedness certifying that the person named in the  
22 certificate of indebtedness is indebted to the state for the amount of the  
23 tax established by the ~~director~~ secretary as due.

24 (B)(i) If a taxpayer has a delinquent tax liability to the  
25 State of Arkansas of less than one thousand dollars (\$1,000), the ~~director~~  
26 secretary may enter into an agreement with the taxpayer to allow the taxpayer  
27 to pay the delinquency in installments.

28 (ii) The ~~director~~ secretary may choose not to issue  
29 a certificate of indebtedness during the period of the installment agreement  
30 if he or she determines that it is in the best interest of the state.

31 (C)(i) If a taxpayer has a total delinquent individual  
32 income tax liability to the State of Arkansas of less than two thousand  
33 dollars (\$2,000), the ~~director~~ secretary may enter into an agreement with the  
34 taxpayer to allow the taxpayer to pay the delinquency in installments if:

35 (a) The installment agreement is for a period  
36 of twelve (12) months or less; and

1 (b) The installments are to be paid  
2 electronically.

3 (ii) The ~~director~~ secretary may choose not to issue  
4 a certificate of indebtedness during the period of the installment agreement  
5 if he or she determines that the issuance of a certificate of indebtedness is  
6 not in the best interest of the state.

7  
8 SECTION 3629. Arkansas Code § 26-18-701(a)(3)(C)(iii), concerning the  
9 issuance of certificates of indebtedness and execution, is amended to read as  
10 follows:

11 (iii) The ~~director~~ secretary shall not be required  
12 to file a release on a lien which has expired, and the provisions of § 26-18-  
13 808 dealing with failure to release liens are not applicable to this section.

14  
15 SECTION 3630. Arkansas Code § 26-18-701(b), concerning the issuance of  
16 certificates of indebtedness and execution, is amended to read as follows:

17 (b)(1) After entry of the certificate of indebtedness, the circuit  
18 clerk shall issue a writ of execution directed to the ~~director~~ secretary,  
19 authorizing the ~~director~~ secretary to levy upon and against all real and  
20 personal property of the taxpayer.

21 (2) The ~~director~~ secretary shall have all remedies and may take  
22 all proceedings for the collection of the tax which may be taken for the  
23 recovery of a judgment at law.

24 (3) The writ of execution shall be issued, served, and executed  
25 in the same manner as provided for in the issuance and service of executions  
26 rendered by the circuit courts of this state, except the ~~director~~ secretary  
27 shall act in the place of the county sheriffs.

28 (4) The ~~director~~ secretary shall have this authority for all  
29 liens either presently filed or filed after the passage of this act.

30  
31 SECTION 3631. Arkansas Code § 26-18-701(c)(1), concerning the issuance  
32 of certificates of indebtedness and execution, is amended to read as follows:

33 (c)(1) Nothing in this chapter shall preclude the ~~director~~ secretary  
34 from resorting to any other means provided by law for collecting delinquent  
35 taxes.

36

1 SECTION 3632. Arkansas Code § 26-18-701(c)(4), concerning the issuance  
2 of certificates of indebtedness and execution, is amended to read as follows:

3 (4) In the name of the state, the ~~director~~ secretary may sue to  
4 the same effect and extent as for the enforcement of a right of action for  
5 debt.

6  
7 SECTION 3633. Arkansas Code § 26-18-701(d)(1)(A), concerning the  
8 issuance of certificates of indebtedness and execution, is amended to read as  
9 follows:

10 (d)(1)(A) In addition to the remedies provided in subsections (b) and  
11 (c) of this section, the ~~director~~ secretary may direct the circuit clerk to  
12 issue a writ of execution directed to the county sheriff of any county  
13 authorizing the county sheriff to levy upon and against all real and personal  
14 property of the taxpayer.

15  
16 SECTION 3634. Arkansas Code § 26-18-701(d)(2)(B) and (C), concerning  
17 the issuance of certificates of indebtedness and execution, are amended to  
18 read as follows:

19 (B) These fees shall be collected from the taxpayer by  
20 either the ~~director~~ secretary or the county sheriff in addition to the tax,  
21 penalties, and interest included in the certificate of indebtedness.

22 (C) If the county sheriff is unable after diligent effort  
23 to collect the tax, interest, penalties, and costs, the ~~director~~ secretary  
24 may pay such fees as are properly shown to be due to the circuit clerk and  
25 county sheriff.

26  
27 SECTION 3635. Arkansas Code § 26-18-701(e), concerning the issuance of  
28 certificates of indebtedness and execution, is amended to read as follows:

29 (e) The ~~director~~ secretary may contract with persons inside or outside  
30 the state to help the ~~director~~ secretary collect delinquencies of resident or  
31 nonresident taxpayers.

32  
33 SECTION 3636. Arkansas Code § 26-18-705 is amended to read as follows:  
34 26-18-705. Settlement or compromise of liability controversies.

35 (a) The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and  
36 Administration may enter into an agreement to compound, settle, or compromise

1 any controversy relating to a state tax or any admitted or established tax  
2 liability as to any tax collectible under any state law when:

3 (1) The controversy is over the amount of tax due; or

4 (2) The inability to pay results from the insolvency of the  
5 taxpayer.

6 (b) The ~~director~~ secretary may waive or remit the interest or penalty,  
7 or any portion of the interest or penalty, ordinarily accruing because of a  
8 taxpayer's failure to pay a state tax within the statutory period allowed for  
9 its payment:

10 (1) If the taxpayer's failure to pay the tax is satisfactorily  
11 explained to the ~~director~~ secretary;

12 (2) If the failure results from a mistake by the taxpayer of  
13 either the law or the facts subjecting him or her to such tax; or

14 (3) If the inability to pay the interest or penalty results from  
15 the insolvency or bankruptcy of the taxpayer.

16 (c)(1) In settling or compromising any controversy relating to the  
17 liability of a person for any state tax for any taxable period, the ~~director~~  
18 secretary may enter into a written closing agreement concerning the  
19 liability.

20 (2) When the closing agreement is signed by the ~~director~~  
21 secretary, it shall be final and conclusive, and except upon a showing of  
22 fraud or misrepresentation of a material fact, no additional assessment or  
23 collection shall be made by the ~~director~~ secretary, and the taxpayer shall  
24 not institute any judicial proceeding to recover such liabilities as agreed  
25 to in the closing agreement.

26 (d) The ~~director~~ secretary shall promulgate rules and regulations  
27 establishing guidelines for determining whether a proposed offer in  
28 compromise is adequate and is acceptable to resolve a tax dispute.

29  
30 SECTION 3637. Arkansas Code § 26-18-901 is amended to read as follows:  
31 26-18-901. Office of Problems Resolution and Tax Information.

32 (a) The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and  
33 Administration shall request the General Assembly to appropriate funds and  
34 create positions for an Office of Problems Resolution and Tax Information,  
35 which shall resolve taxpayer problems directly and provide information to  
36 taxpayers concerning tax law. This office shall report directly to the

1 ~~Administrative Assistant of Revenues~~ secretary or his or her designee.

2 (b) The ~~director~~ secretary shall have the authority to establish the  
3 duties of the office. The office shall give highest priority to reviewing  
4 taxpayer problems and taking prompt and appropriate action to resolve  
5 problems and respond to taxpayers.

6  
7 SECTION 3638. Arkansas Code § 26-18-902(a), concerning the creation of  
8 the Tax Advisory Council, is amended to read as follows:

9 (a) The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and  
10 Administration shall establish a Tax Advisory Council consisting of  
11 representatives of the Arkansas Bar Association, the Arkansas Society of  
12 Certified Public Accountants, the Arkansas Society of Public Accountants, the  
13 Office of Problems Resolution and Tax Information, other taxpayer-oriented  
14 groups, and other representatives of the Revenue Division of the Department  
15 of Finance and Administration.

16

17 SECTION 3639. Arkansas Code § 26-18-903 is amended to read as follows:  
18 26-18-903. Employee evaluation criteria.

19 The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration  
20 shall develop employee evaluation criteria requiring compliance with the  
21 Taxpayer Bill of Rights, § 26-18-801 et seq., and quality taxpayer  
22 assistance, which shall be included in the annual evaluation of each employee  
23 whose job responsibilities include taxpayer contact.

24

25 SECTION 3640. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 26-18-  
26 904(a), concerning collection activity, erroneous action, and a claim for  
27 damages, is amended to read as follows:

28 (a) A claim may be filed with the Department of Finance and  
29 Administration for any actual damages sustained as a result of any erroneous  
30 action taken in a collection activity. Each claimant applying for  
31 reimbursement shall file a claim in such form as may be prescribed by the  
32 ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration. In order  
33 for the claim to be granted, the claimant must establish that:

34

35 SECTION 3641. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 26-18-  
36 1001(a), concerning business closure authority and notice, is amended to read

1 as follows:

2 (a) In addition to all other remedies provided by law for the  
3 collection of unpaid taxes, the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of  
4 Finance and Administration may close the business of a noncompliant taxpayer  
5 as defined by § 26-18-104, subject to the administrative and judicial appeal  
6 procedures in this subchapter, if the noncompliant taxpayer for three (3)  
7 times within any consecutive twenty-four-month period fails to either:

8

9 SECTION 3642. Arkansas Code § 26-18-1001(b)(1), concerning business  
10 closure authority and notice, is amended to read as follows:

11 (b)(1) The ~~director~~ secretary shall give notice to the noncompliant  
12 taxpayer that the third delinquency in reporting or remitting tax in any  
13 consecutive twenty-four-month period will result in the closure of the  
14 business.

15

16 SECTION 3643. Arkansas Code § 26-18-1001(c)(1), concerning business  
17 closure authority and notice, is amended to read as follows:

18 (c)(1) If the noncompliant taxpayer has a third delinquency in  
19 reporting or remitting tax in any consecutive twenty-four-month period after  
20 the issuance of the notice provided in subsection (b) of this section, the  
21 ~~director~~ secretary shall notify the noncompliant taxpayer by certified mail  
22 or by hand delivery that the business will be closed within five (5) business  
23 days from the date of the notice unless the noncompliant taxpayer makes  
24 arrangements with the ~~director~~ secretary to satisfy the tax delinquency.

25

26 SECTION 3644. Arkansas Code § 26-18-1001(d)(2), concerning business  
27 closure authority and notice, is amended to read as follows:

28 (2) Entering into a payment agreement approved by the ~~director~~  
29 secretary to satisfy the tax delinquency.

30

31 SECTION 3645. Arkansas Code § 26-18-1001(e), concerning business  
32 closure authority and notice, is amended to read as follows:

33 (e) After written notice delivered to a lottery retailer by the United  
34 States Postal Service or by hand delivery, the ~~director~~ secretary may pursue  
35 a remedy under this subchapter against a lottery retailer as a noncompliant  
36 taxpayer upon receiving a referral from the Office of the Arkansas Lottery

1 under § 23-115-605.

2

3 SECTION 3646. Arkansas Code § 26-18-1002(a), concerning administrative  
4 hearings, is amended to read as follows:

5 (a) A noncompliant taxpayer may request an administrative hearing  
6 concerning the decision of the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of  
7 Finance and Administration to close the noncompliant taxpayer's business by  
8 following the procedures in this section.

9

10 SECTION 3647. Arkansas Code § 26-18-1002(c)(2), concerning  
11 administrative hearings, is amended to read as follows:

12 (2) The ~~director~~ secretary has the discretion to determine  
13 whether an administrative hearing at which testimony is to be presented will  
14 be conducted in person or by telephone.

15

16 SECTION 3648. Arkansas Code § 26-18-1002(d), concerning administrative  
17 hearings, is amended to read as follows:

18 (d) The administrative hearing will be conducted by a hearing officer  
19 appointed by the ~~director~~ secretary under § 26-18-405.

20

21 SECTION 3649. Arkansas Code § 26-18-1002(f), concerning administrative  
22 hearings, is amended to read as follows:

23 (f)(1) The hearing may be held in any city in which the Revenue  
24 Division of the Department of Finance and Administration maintains a field  
25 audit district office or in such other city as the ~~director~~ secretary may  
26 designate.

27 (2) The administrative hearing will be held within fourteen (14)  
28 calendar days of receipt by the ~~director~~ secretary of the request for  
29 hearing.

30

31 SECTION 3650. Arkansas Code § 26-18-1002(h)(2), concerning  
32 administrative hearings, is amended to read as follows:

33 (2) That the noncompliant taxpayer has entered into a written  
34 payment agreement, approved by the ~~director~~ secretary, to satisfy the tax  
35 delinquency.

36

1 SECTION 3651. Arkansas Code § 26-18-1002(j), concerning administrative  
2 hearings, is amended to read as follows:

3 (j) A decision of the hearing officer to sustain the ~~director's~~  
4 secretary's decision to close the business of the noncompliant taxpayer is  
5 effective twenty (20) days after the date of the decision and, except as  
6 provided under § 26-18-1003, acts as an injunction prohibiting further  
7 operation of the business.

8  
9 SECTION 3652. Arkansas Code § 26-18-1003(a)(1), concerning the  
10 definition of "administrative decision" under the laws regarding judicial  
11 relief, is amended to read as follows:

12 (1) "Administrative decision" means a decision issued under §  
13 26-18-1002 to affirm the decision of the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department  
14 of Finance and Administration to close the business of a noncompliant  
15 taxpayer;

16  
17 SECTION 3653. Arkansas Code § 26-18-1003(a)(3), concerning the  
18 definition of "business closure order" under the laws regarding judicial  
19 relief, is amended to read as follows:

20 (3) "Business closure order" means a notice of closure issued by  
21 the ~~director~~ secretary under § 26-18-1001.

22  
23 SECTION 3654. Arkansas Code § 26-18-1003(c)(1)(B), concerning judicial  
24 relief, is amended to read as follows:

25 (B) An order of a circuit court to stay the effect of an  
26 administrative decision may be revoked if the ~~director~~ secretary provides  
27 proof that the taxpayer has failed to timely file returns for or make full  
28 payment of the taxes identified in § 26-18-1001(a) after the date suit is  
29 filed under this section.

30  
31 SECTION 3655. Arkansas Code § 26-18-1003(c)(2), concerning judicial  
32 relief, is amended to read as follows:

33 (2) If a noncompliant taxpayer fails to obtain an order staying  
34 the effect of the administrative decision or if an order staying the effect  
35 of the administrative decision is later revoked, the ~~director~~ secretary shall  
36 follow the procedures in §§ 26-18-1004 and 26-18-1005 to enforce the closure

1 of the business pending the outcome of the suit filed under this section.

2

3 SECTION 3656. Arkansas Code § 26-18-1003(d), concerning judicial  
4 relief, is amended to read as follows:

5 (d) The noncompliant taxpayer or the ~~director~~ secretary may file an  
6 appeal of the circuit court decision to the appropriate appellate court as  
7 provided by law.

8

9 SECTION 3657. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 26-18-  
10 1004(a), concerning the procedures for business closure, is amended to read  
11 as follows:

12 (a) If a noncompliant taxpayer fails to timely seek administrative or  
13 judicial review of a business closure decision or if the business closure  
14 decision is affirmed after administrative or judicial review, the ~~Director~~  
15 Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration shall affix a  
16 written notice to all entrances of the business that:

17

18 SECTION 3658. Arkansas Code § 26-18-1004(b), concerning the procedures  
19 for business closure, is amended to read as follows:

20 (b)(1) The ~~director~~ secretary may also lock or otherwise secure the  
21 business so that it may not be operated.

22 (2) However, if the business is located in the noncompliant  
23 taxpayer's home, the ~~director~~ secretary shall not lock or otherwise secure  
24 the business but may post the notice under subsection (a) of this section.

25

26 SECTION 3659. Arkansas Code § 26-18-1004(c) and (d), concerning the  
27 procedures for business closure, are amended to read as follows:

28 (c) The ~~director~~ secretary may request the assistance of the  
29 ~~Department~~ Division of Arkansas State Police or any state or local law  
30 enforcement official to post the notice or to secure the business as  
31 authorized in this section.

32 (d) Any taxpayer information disclosed by the ~~director~~ secretary under  
33 the procedures outlined in this section shall not be subject to the  
34 confidentiality provisions of § 26-18-303.

35

36 SECTION 3660. Arkansas Code § 26-18-1005(a), concerning the suspension

1 of a business license, is amended to read as follows:

2 (a) After the decision to close the noncompliant taxpayer's business  
3 becomes final, the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and  
4 Administration shall contact the appropriate administrative body responsible  
5 for granting licenses to operate the business and report the closure of the  
6 business.

7

8 SECTION 3661. Arkansas Code § 26-18-1006 is amended to read as  
9 follows:

10 26-18-1006. Authority to promulgate rules.

11 The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration  
12 may promulgate rules necessary for the enforcement of this subchapter.

13

14 SECTION 3662. Arkansas Code § 26-19-103 is amended to read as follows:

15 26-19-103. Authority of ~~director~~ Secretary of the Department of  
16 Finance and Administration.

17 The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration  
18 is authorized to require, and to contract for services necessary to  
19 implement, payment of taxes as specified in this subchapter by electronic  
20 funds transfer. Provided, however, that this subchapter shall not be  
21 construed to require the ~~director~~ secretary to contract for such services or  
22 implement a system for payment of any taxes by electronic funds transfer if  
23 the ~~director~~ secretary determines that it is fiscally unsound or  
24 administratively burdensome to do so.

25

26 SECTION 3663. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 26-19-  
27 105(a)(1), concerning tax payments by a taxpayer, is amended to read as  
28 follows:

29 (a)(1) If the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and  
30 Administration determines that a taxpayer's monthly liability for the  
31 following taxes for any calendar year equals or exceeds twenty thousand  
32 dollars (\$20,000), the taxpayer shall pay any tax due by electronic funds  
33 transfer:

34

35 SECTION 3664. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 26-19-  
36 105(a)(2), concerning tax payments by a taxpayer, is amended to read as

1 follows:

2 (2) If the ~~director~~ secretary determines that a taxpayer's  
3 monthly liability for the following taxes for any calendar year equals or  
4 exceeds twenty thousand dollars (\$20,000), the taxpayer shall pay the taxes  
5 due by electronic funds transfer:

6

7 SECTION 3665. Arkansas Code § 26-19-105(c)(2)(C), concerning tax  
8 payments by a taxpayer, is amended to read as follows:

9 (C) The annual withholding return shall be made on such a  
10 form and shall include such information as the ~~director~~ secretary prescribes.

11

12 SECTION 3666. Arkansas Code § 26-19-106(a), concerning tax payments by  
13 corporations, is amended to read as follows:

14 (a) If the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and  
15 Administration determines that a corporation's estimated quarterly state  
16 income tax liability under § 26-51-911 et seq. equals or exceeds twenty  
17 thousand dollars (\$20,000), the corporation shall pay the quarterly income  
18 taxes due by electronic funds transfer.

19

20 SECTION 3667. Arkansas Code § 26-19-106(c)(1), concerning tax payments  
21 by corporations, is amended to read as follows:

22 (c)(1) The transfer shall be made no later than the day before the due  
23 date for payment of the taxes so that payment of the taxes is received by the  
24 ~~director~~ secretary on or before the due date for payment of the taxes as  
25 required by the laws of this state.

26

27 SECTION 3668. Arkansas Code § 26-19-107(c)(1)(B), concerning penalties  
28 in regards to electronic funds, is amended to read as follows:

29 (B) The taxpayer accurately provides the ~~Director~~  
30 Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration with sufficient  
31 information from which the payment may be applied to the correct account,  
32 including, but not limited to, the taxpayer's name, account number, tax type,  
33 tax period, and the amount of the payment; and

34

35 SECTION 3669. Arkansas Code § 26-19-107(c)(2)(B), concerning penalties  
36 in regards to electronic funds, is amended to read as follows:

1 (B) The transfer contains an electronic addenda which  
2 allows the ~~director~~ secretary to identify the taxpayer, tax account number,  
3 tax payment amount, tax type, and tax period in accordance with instructions  
4 provided by the ~~director~~ secretary;

5  
6 SECTION 3670. Arkansas Code § 26-19-107(c)(3)(B), concerning penalties  
7 in regards to electronic funds, is amended to read as follows:

8 (B) The ~~director~~ secretary will notify the taxpayer in  
9 writing of the failure to meet the conditions with respect to a particular  
10 reporting period.

11  
12 SECTION 3671. Arkansas Code § 26-19-108 is amended to read as follows:  
13 26-19-108. Rules and regulations.

14 The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration  
15 is authorized to adopt rules and regulations which he or she deems necessary  
16 to implement and enforce the provisions of this subchapter.

17  
18 SECTION 3672. Arkansas Code § 26-20-102(4), concerning the definition  
19 of "director" under the Uniform Sales and Use Tax Administration Act, is  
20 repealed.

21 ~~(4) "Director" means the Director of the Department of Finance~~  
22 ~~and Administration;~~

23  
24 SECTION 3673. Arkansas Code § 26-20-104 is amended to read as follows:  
25 26-20-104. Authority to enter agreement.

26 (a) The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and  
27 Administration is authorized and directed to enter into the Streamlined Sales  
28 and Use Tax Agreement with one (1) or more states to simplify and modernize  
29 sales and use tax administration in order to substantially reduce the burden  
30 of tax compliance for all sellers and for all types of commerce.

31 (b) In furtherance of the agreement, the ~~director~~ secretary is  
32 authorized to act jointly with other states that are members of the agreement  
33 to establish standards for certification of a certified service provider and  
34 certified automated system and establish performance standards for multistate  
35 sellers.

36 (c) The ~~director~~ secretary is further authorized to take other actions

1 reasonably required to implement the provisions set forth in this chapter.

2 (d) Other actions authorized by this section include, but are not  
3 limited to, the adoption of rules and regulations and the joint procurement,  
4 with other member states, of goods and services in furtherance of the  
5 cooperative agreement.

6 (e) The ~~director~~ secretary or his or her designee is authorized to  
7 represent this state before the other states that are signatories to the  
8 agreement.

9

10 SECTION 3674. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 26-20-106,  
11 concerning the requirements for the Director of the Department of Finance and  
12 Administration to enter into an agreement, is amended to read as follows:

13 The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration  
14 shall not enter into the agreement unless it requires each state to abide by  
15 the following requirements:

16

17 SECTION 3675. Arkansas Code § 26-21-107(b)(1), concerning the  
18 administration of use-based exemptions, is amended to read as follows:

19 (b)(1) A seller that follows the exemption requirements as prescribed  
20 by the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration  
21 shall be relieved from any tax otherwise applicable if it is determined that  
22 the purchaser improperly claimed an exemption.

23

24 SECTION 3676. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 26-21-  
25 108(a), concerning returns and remittance of funds, is amended to read as  
26 follows:

27 (a) The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and  
28 Administration shall promulgate rules to provide:

29

30 SECTION 3677. Arkansas Code § 26-21-110(a), concerning amnesty for  
31 unpaid sales or use tax upon registration, is amended to read as follows:

32 (a) The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and  
33 Administration shall provide amnesty for uncollected or unpaid sales or use  
34 tax to a seller that registers to pay or to collect and remit applicable  
35 sales or use tax on sales made to purchasers in the state in accordance with  
36 the terms of the agreement, provided that the seller was not registered to

1 collect sales and use tax in the State of Arkansas in the twelve-month period  
2 preceding the effective date of the state's participation in the agreement.

3  
4 SECTION 3678. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 26-21-  
5 110(g), concerning amnesty for unpaid sales or use tax upon registration, is  
6 amended to read as follows:

7 (g) The ~~director~~ secretary shall also provide amnesty to a seller for  
8 uncollected or unpaid sales or use tax if:

9  
10 SECTION 3679. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 26-21-  
11 111(a), concerning the certification and payment of service providers and  
12 automated systems, is amended to read as follows:

13 (a) The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and  
14 Administration may:

15  
16 SECTION 3680. Arkansas Code § 26-21-113 is amended to read as follows:  
17 26-21-113. Promulgation of rules.

18 The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration  
19 shall promulgate rules and develop forms to implement the provisions of this  
20 chapter.

21  
22 SECTION 3681. Arkansas Code § 26-21-114(4), concerning the governing  
23 board under the Streamlined Sales Tax Administrative Act, is amended to read  
24 as follows:

25 (4) The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and  
26 Administration or his or her designee.

27  
28 SECTION 3682. Arkansas Code § 26-25-107 is amended to read as follows:  
29 26-25-107. Ordinance.

30 (a)(1) Every city or county that adopts an ordinance levying a local  
31 sales and use tax which is collected by the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the  
32 Department of Finance and Administration shall submit the ordinance to the  
33 ~~director~~ secretary at least forty-five (45) days prior to the election on the  
34 levy.

35 (2) The ~~director~~ secretary shall review the ordinance to  
36 determine if the proposed levy complies with all statutory requirements and

1 limitations, including a separate levy of the sales and use tax, and an  
2 authorized sales or use tax rate.

3 (b)(1) The ~~director~~ secretary shall approve or reject the ordinance  
4 and provide written notice to the city or county within fifteen (15) days of  
5 receipt of the ordinance.

6 (2)(A) If the ordinance is rejected, the ~~director~~ secretary  
7 shall note the defects.

8 (B) If the ordinance is rejected and the city or county  
9 fails to correct the noted defects, any tax levied by the defective ordinance  
10 shall not be collected by the ~~director~~ secretary.

11 (c) Whenever a special election is called for the purpose of  
12 submitting an initiated measure which levies a city or county sales and use  
13 tax to be collected by the ~~director~~ secretary, the county board of election  
14 commissioners shall submit the initiated measure to the ~~director~~ secretary  
15 and the provisions of subsections (a) and (b) of this section shall apply.

16 (d) No ordinance or initiated measure shall be deemed invalid because  
17 of the failure to submit the ordinance or measure to the ~~director~~ secretary  
18 or to use a sample form, and such failure shall not constitute a cause of  
19 action to invalidate an ordinance or initiated measure.

20

21 SECTION 3683. Arkansas Code § 26-26-502 is amended to read as follows:

22 26-26-502. Deputy county assessors.

23 The county assessor in each county, with the approval of the ~~Director~~  
24 Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration, is authorized to  
25 deputize one (1) or more full-time or part-time clerks or other employees in  
26 the county revenue office and to authorize these deputies to assess personal  
27 property or to list personal property for assessment for ad valorem taxes.

28

29 SECTION 3684. Arkansas Code § 26-26-706(a), concerning a list of motor  
30 vehicle licenses, is amended to read as follows:

31 (a) The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and  
32 Administration shall institute a system in which the county assessor and the  
33 county collector shall notify the ~~director~~ secretary that a vehicle owner has  
34 assessed a vehicle and has paid all personal property taxes that were due by  
35 the preceding October 15. Upon receipt of the notification, the ~~director~~  
36 secretary shall renew the vehicle license.

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SECTION 3685. Arkansas Code § 26-26-1604(a)(2), concerning delinquency in a filing statement, is amended to read as follows:

(2) The Tax Division of the Arkansas Public Service Commission shall advise the company in writing of the delinquency, and, thereafter, should the company fail to file the statement before May 1, the division shall immediately report the delinquency to the appropriate commission, and should delinquency exist on May 31 of the assessment year, the commission shall certify the delinquency to the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration.

SECTION 3686. Arkansas Code § 26-26-1604(b), concerning delinquency in a filing statement, is amended to read as follows:

(b)(1) By proper action in the name of the state, the ~~director~~ secretary may recover from any delinquent company a penalty not to exceed one hundred dollars (\$100) for each day's delinquency, beginning as of March 1 of the assessment year.

(2) In the alternative, the ~~director~~ secretary may petition the commission for revocation of the certificate or permit of authority issued to the delinquent company to operate in the State of Arkansas.

SECTION 3687. Arkansas Code § 26-26-1610(b)(2)(A), concerning the notice of assessment and review of funds, is amended to read as follows:

(2)(A) All hearings on the petition shall be had before the appropriate commission or its agent on or before November 1 after assessment notice has been given. However, hearings on petitions for review of assessments of bus lines, motor carriers, airlines, water transportation companies, and private car companies, which assessments are certified to the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration for collection of tax, shall be to the appropriate commission or its agent, on or before December 31 of the assessing year.

SECTION 3688. Arkansas Code § 26-26-1614 is amended to read as follows:

26-26-1614. Levy and collection of taxes.

(a)(1) Having ascertained and fixed the taxable value of the tangible

1 and intangible property used or held for use in the operation of each  
2 intercounty bus line, intercounty motor freight, airline, or water  
3 transportation company, as required by law, the Tax Division of the Arkansas  
4 Public Service Commission shall levy and extend against each valuation the  
5 average rate of ad valorem levy prevailing throughout this state for the  
6 assessment year, and then ten (10) days before the due date, the division  
7 shall certify the tax to the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance  
8 and Administration for collection.

9 (2) The ~~director~~ secretary shall immediately forward by first-  
10 class mail a notice showing the assessed valuation, applicable rate of levy,  
11 the amount of tax charged, and the due date of the tax charged to each  
12 company against which a tax has been extended and so certified.

13 (b)(1) If the taxes are not paid on or before the date on which ad  
14 valorem taxes or any part of ad valorem taxes on personal property become  
15 delinquent, the ~~director~~ secretary shall add a penalty of ten percent (10%)  
16 and mail a statement of the tax and penalty to each person, company, or  
17 corporation so delinquent.

18 (2)(A) If the tax and penalty are not paid on or before the date  
19 on which a county collector may collect taxes by distraint, in lieu of the  
20 ten percent (10%) penalty, the ~~director~~ secretary shall add to the tax a  
21 penalty of twenty-five percent (25%).

22 (B) The statement of tax and ten percent (10%) penalty  
23 from the ~~director~~ secretary shall warn that if the tax and penalty are not  
24 paid within the time stated, in lieu of the ten percent (10%) penalty, a  
25 penalty of twenty-five percent (25%) will be added.

26 (c)(1) For the purpose of collecting the taxes and penalties, in  
27 addition to the powers vested in the ~~director~~ secretary for the collection of  
28 taxes, the ~~director~~ secretary shall have all the powers vested in county  
29 collectors for the purpose of collecting delinquent personal property taxes.

30 (2) The ~~director~~ secretary may petition the Arkansas Public  
31 Service Commission for revocation of the certificate or permit of authority  
32 issued to the delinquent company to operate in the State of Arkansas.

33  
34 SECTION 3689. Arkansas Code § 26-26-1706 is amended to read as  
35 follows:

36 26-26-1706. Levy of tax, collection, and penalty for delinquency.

1 (a) The Tax Division of the Arkansas Public Service Commission, having  
2 ascertained and fixed the assessed valuation of the cars of each private car  
3 company as provided in § 26-26-1705, shall levy and extend against each  
4 valuation the average rate of ad valorem levy prevailing throughout the state  
5 for the respective assessment year, this rate to be determined as provided by  
6 § 26-26-1615, whereupon, the division, ten (10) days before due date, shall  
7 certify the tax so extended to the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of  
8 Finance and Administration for collection.

9 (b) The ~~director~~ secretary shall immediately forward by first-class  
10 mail to each private car company against which a tax has been extended and so  
11 certified a notice showing the assessed valuation, the applicable rate of  
12 levy, the amount of tax charged, and the due date thereof.

13 (c)(1) If the taxes are not paid on or before the date on which taxes,  
14 ad valorem, or any part thereof, on personal property become delinquent, the  
15 ~~director~~ secretary shall add a penalty of ten percent (10%) and mail to each  
16 company so delinquent a statement of the tax and penalty.

17 (2)(A) If the tax and penalty are not paid on or before the date  
18 on which county collectors are authorized to collect taxes by distraint, the  
19 ~~director~~ secretary shall, in lieu of the ten percent (10%) penalty, add to  
20 the tax a penalty of twenty-five percent (25%) and certify the tax and  
21 penalty to the Attorney General for collection.

22 (B) The ~~director's~~ secretary's statement of tax and ten  
23 percent (10%) penalty shall warn that if the tax and penalty are not paid  
24 within the time therein stated, in lieu of the ten percent (10%) penalty, a  
25 penalty of twenty-five percent (25%) will be added, and the tax and penalty  
26 shall be certified to the Attorney General for collection.

27 (d) For the purpose of collecting these taxes and penalties, the  
28 ~~director~~ secretary or the Attorney General, in addition to the powers in them  
29 vested for the collection of taxes, shall have all the powers vested in  
30 county collectors for the purpose of collecting delinquent personal property  
31 taxes.

32  
33 SECTION 3690. Arkansas Code § 26-34-109(d), concerning common carriers  
34 and not carrying goods on which taxes are not paid, is amended to read as  
35 follows:

36 (d) All taxes due under this section may be recovered by a civil

1 action brought at the instance of the Attorney General in the name of the  
2 ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration of the  
3 State of Arkansas.

4  
5 SECTION 3691. Arkansas Code § 26-36-306 is amended to read as follows:  
6 26-36-306. Minimum sum collectible.

7 A claimant agency shall not be allowed to effect final setoff and  
8 collect debts through use of the remedy established under this subchapter  
9 unless the debt is at least twenty dollars (\$20.00). However, the Revenue  
10 Division of the Department of Finance and Administration may set off any  
11 lesser sum, regardless of this provision, which the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the  
12 Department of Finance and Administration shall establish as economically  
13 justifiable.

14  
15 SECTION 3692. Arkansas Code § 26-36-309(b)(2), concerning the  
16 notification of a debtor, is amended to read as follows:

17 (2) The notification form shall be approved by the ~~Director~~  
18 Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration.

19  
20 SECTION 3693. Arkansas Code § 26-36-315(b)(1), concerning joint  
21 refunds, is amended to read as follows:

22 (b)(1) The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and  
23 Administration shall notify each taxpayer due a joint refund of the amount  
24 and the date of a proposed setoff for a debt certified by a claimant agency  
25 to the Revenue Division of the Department of Finance and Administration.

26  
27 SECTION 3694. Arkansas Code § 26-36-315(c)(2), concerning joint  
28 refunds, is amended to read as follows:

29 (2) The nondebtor taxpayer may request the ~~director~~ secretary to  
30 consider his or her request for relief upon written documents furnished by  
31 the nondebtor taxpayer or upon the written document and the evidence produced  
32 by the nondebtor taxpayer at a hearing conducted under the Arkansas Tax  
33 Procedure Act, § 26-18-101 et seq.

34  
35 SECTION 3695. Arkansas Code § 26-36-315(d), concerning joint refunds,  
36 is amended to read as follows:

1 (d) A nondebtor taxpayer who requests the ~~director~~ secretary to render  
2 his or her decision based on written documents is not entitled by law to any  
3 other administrative hearing before the ~~director's~~ secretary's rendering of  
4 his or her decision.

5  
6 SECTION 3696. Arkansas Code § 26-36-320, is amended to read as  
7 follows:

8 26-36-320. Rules and regulations.

9 The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration  
10 is authorized to prescribe forms and make all rules which he or she deems  
11 necessary in order to effectuate the intent of this subchapter.

12  
13 SECTION 3697. Arkansas Code § 26-36-321(a), concerning a setoff for  
14 debt to the Internal Revenue Service, is amended to read as follows:

15 (a) The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and  
16 Administration may enter into an agreement with the Internal Revenue Service  
17 to setoff state income tax refunds to satisfy a past-due and legally  
18 enforceable debt to the Internal Revenue Service.

19  
20 SECTION 3698. Arkansas Code § 26-50-102(a)(1) and (2), concerning the  
21 requirement of a wholesaler to furnish a list of retailers, are amended to  
22 read as follows:

23 (a)(1) It shall be the duty of all persons, firms, and corporations,  
24 and all business establishments of every kind engaged in the wholesale  
25 business of selling merchandise in this state to furnish, upon the request in  
26 writing of the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and  
27 Administration of this state, the names of any retailers or other persons to  
28 whom sales have been made, together with the amount of the sales for any  
29 given period, to be used by the ~~director~~ secretary or his or her agents for  
30 the purposes of collecting the gross receipts, use, or other tax as may be  
31 due this state, but for no other purpose.

32 (2) The information provided for shall be furnished to the  
33 ~~director~~ secretary within thirty (30) days.

34  
35 SECTION 3699. Arkansas Code § 26-50-102(b), concerning the requirement  
36 of a wholesaler to furnish a list of retailers, is amended to read as

1 follows:

2 (b) Any wholesale concern selling merchandise in this state failing  
3 and refusing to give the information in writing, as requested by the ~~director~~  
4 secretary, is declared to be liable for any and all tax and penalty found to  
5 be due by the retailer for such period of time as is determined by the  
6 ~~director~~ secretary in event the tax is not collectible from the retailer.

7

8 SECTION 3700. Arkansas Code § 26-51-102(2), concerning the definition  
9 of "director" under the laws governing income taxes, is repealed.

10 ~~(2) "Director" means the Director of the Department of Finance~~  
11 ~~and Administration;~~

12

13 SECTION 3701. Arkansas Code § 26-51-104 is amended to read as follows:  
14 26-51-104. Administration.

15 The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration  
16 shall administer and enforce the tax imposed by the Income Tax Act of 1929.

17

18 SECTION 3702. Arkansas Code § 26-51-105 is amended to read as follows:  
19 26-51-105. Income tax director, officers, agents, and employees.

20 (a) The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and  
21 Administration, with the approval of the Governor, may appoint and remove a  
22 person to be known as the "Income Tax Director" who, under the ~~Director~~  
23 Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration's supervision,  
24 shall have the direction and control of the assessment and collection of the  
25 taxes imposed by the Income Tax Act of 1929.

26 (b) The Income Tax Director, with the approval of the Governor, may  
27 appoint such other officers, agents, deputies, clerks, and employees as he or  
28 she may deem necessary, such appointees to have the duties and powers which  
29 the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration may  
30 from time to time prescribe.

31 (c) The salaries of all such officers, agents, and employees shall be  
32 fixed by the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and  
33 Administration not to exceed the amounts appropriated by the General  
34 Assembly; and the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and  
35 Administration and such officers, agents, and employees shall be allowed  
36 reasonable and necessary traveling and other expenses incurred in the

1 performance of their duties not to exceed the amounts appropriated by the  
2 General Assembly.

3 (d) The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and  
4 Administration may require such of the officers, agents, and employees as he  
5 or she may designate to give bond for the faithful performance of their  
6 duties and in such sum and with such sureties as he or she may determine, and  
7 all premiums on these bonds shall be paid by the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the  
8 Department of Finance and Administration out of moneys appropriated for the  
9 purposes of the Income Tax Act of 1929.

10  
11 SECTION 3703. Arkansas Code § 26-51-106 is amended to read as follows:  
12 26-51-106. Publication of statistics.

13 The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration  
14 shall prepare and publish annually statistics reasonably available, with  
15 respect to the operation of the Income Tax Act of 1929, including amounts  
16 collected, classifications of taxpayers, income, exemptions, and such other  
17 facts as are deemed pertinent and valuable.

18  
19 SECTION 3704. Arkansas Code § 26-51-201(d)(1), concerning taxes for  
20 individuals, trusts, and estates, is amended to read as follows:

21 (d)(1) The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and  
22 Administration shall prescribe annually a table which shall apply in lieu of  
23 the table contained in subsection (a) of this section with respect to each  
24 succeeding taxable year. The ~~director~~ secretary shall increase the minimum  
25 and maximum dollar amounts for each rate bracket, rounding to the nearest one  
26 hundred dollars (\$100), for which a tax is imposed under the table by the  
27 cost-of-living adjustment for each calendar year and by not changing the rate  
28 applicable to any rate bracket as adjusted.

29  
30 SECTION 3705. Arkansas Code § 26-51-201(d)(3), concerning taxes for  
31 individuals, trusts, and estates, is amended to read as follows:

32 (3) The new tables, as adjusted annually, shall be used by the  
33 ~~director~~ secretary in preparing the income tax withholding tables pursuant to  
34 § 26-51-907.

35  
36 SECTION 3706. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 26-51-

1 201(e), concerning taxes for individuals, trusts, and estates, is amended to  
2 read as follows:

3 (e) If the ~~director~~ secretary determines that federal law authorizes  
4 the state to collect sales and use tax from sellers that do not have a  
5 physical presence in the state, then after the first twelve (12) months of  
6 collecting sales and use tax from sellers that do not have a physical  
7 presence in the state, the ~~director~~ secretary shall:

8

9 SECTION 3707. Arkansas Code § 26-51-202(e)(3)(B), concerning taxes for  
10 nonresidents, is amended to read as follows:

11 (B) Likewise, the provisions of subdivision (e)(1) of this  
12 section shall not apply to corporate partners of an investment partnership  
13 except as provided by regulations adopted by the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the  
14 Department of Finance and Administration.

15

16 SECTION 3708. Arkansas Code § 26-51-206(c), concerning exceptions to  
17 commercial ventures by churches, is amended to read as follows:

18 (c) The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and  
19 Administration is authorized to promulgate reasonable rules and regulations  
20 to carry out the provisions of this section.

21

22 SECTION 3709. Arkansas Code § 26-51-401(b), concerning the tax year  
23 and accounting methods, is amended to read as follows:

24 (b) A taxpayer must provide to the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the  
25 Department of Finance and Administration a copy of any certification or  
26 approval from the federal Internal Revenue Service authorizing the taxpayer  
27 to change his or her accounting method.

28

29 SECTION 3710. Arkansas Code § 26-51-402(b), concerning the tax year  
30 and a basis for determining liability, is amended to read as follows:

31 (b) A taxpayer must provide to the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the  
32 Department of Finance and Administration a copy of any certification or  
33 approval from the federal Internal Revenue Service authorizing the taxpayer  
34 to change his or her income year.

35

36 SECTION 3711. Arkansas Code § 26-51-403(c)(2), concerning income in

1 regards to taxes, is amended to read as follows:

2 (2) If no such method of accounting has been employed or if the  
3 method employed does not clearly reflect the income, the computation shall be  
4 made upon such basis and in such manner as in the opinion of the ~~Director~~  
5 Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration does clearly  
6 reflect the income.

7

8 SECTION 3712. Arkansas Code § 26-51-404(b)(7)(B), concerning gross  
9 income, is amended to read as follows:

10 (B) When books of account do not clearly and accurately  
11 reflect the income earned from sources without the state, the Arkansas income  
12 shall be determined by processes or formulas of general apportionment  
13 prescribed by the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and  
14 Administration and approved by the Governor;

15

16 SECTION 3713. Arkansas Code § 26-51-409(c)(1), concerning the adoption  
17 of Federal Subchapter S, is amended to read as follows:

18 (c)(1) However, all nonresident shareholders of S corporations  
19 receiving a prorated share of income, loss, deduction, or credit pursuant to  
20 the provisions of this section must file a properly executed state income tax  
21 return with the ~~director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and  
22 Administration and remit the applicable state income tax due.

23

24 SECTION 3714. Arkansas Code § 26-51-410 is amended to read as follows:  
25 26-51-410. Inventory.

26 Whenever, in the opinion of the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of  
27 Finance and Administration, the use of inventories is necessary in order to  
28 clearly determine the income of any taxpayer, inventories shall be taken by  
29 the taxpayer, upon such basis as the ~~director~~ secretary may prescribe,  
30 conforming as nearly as may be possible to the best accounting practice in  
31 the trade or business and most clearly reflecting the income.

32

33 SECTION 3715. Arkansas Code § 26-51-411(a)(2)(B), concerning gains,  
34 losses, and sales of property, is amended to read as follows:

35 (B) If the facts necessary to determine such basis are  
36 unknown to the donee, the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and

1 Administration shall use the assessed valuation of the property;

2

3 SECTION 3716. Arkansas Code § 26-51-418(c), concerning deductions for  
4 disabled children, is amended to read as follows:

5 (c) The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and  
6 Administration may adopt appropriate rules and regulations to carry out the  
7 purpose and intent of this section and to prevent abuse of the deduction  
8 provided for in this section.

9

10 SECTION 3717. Arkansas Code § 26-51-423(a)(3), concerning deductions  
11 and expenses, is amended to read as follows:

12 (3) Travel Expenses. In determining travel expenses deductible  
13 as a business expense in computing net income as provided under subdivision  
14 (a)(1) of this section, the deduction for vehicle miles shall be determined  
15 by the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration  
16 under his or her regulatory authority in § 26-18-301; and

17

18 SECTION 3718. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 26-51-  
19 423(g)(1)(C), concerning deductions and expenses, is amended to read as  
20 follows:

21 (C) The taxpayer and the ~~director~~ secretary enter into a  
22 written agreement prior to the due date of the taxpayer's Arkansas income tax  
23 return:

24

25 SECTION 3719. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 26-51-  
26 447(b), concerning deductions for tuition at post-secondary educational  
27 institutions, is amended to read as follows:

28 (b) On or before November 30, 1998, of each year thereafter, the  
29 ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration shall  
30 determine the weighted average tuition of post-secondary institutions of each  
31 of the following classifications:

32

33 SECTION 3720. Arkansas Code § 26-51-457(c), concerning a claim of  
34 right, is amended to read as follows:

35 (c) The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and  
36 Administration may promulgate rules to administer this section.

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SECTION 3721. Arkansas Code § 26-51-458(d), concerning tax deductions for volunteer firefighters, is amended to read as follows:

(d) The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration may promulgate rules to implement this section.

SECTION 3722. Arkansas Code § 26-51-459(d), concerning a teacher's classroom investment deductions, is amended to read as follows:

(d) The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration shall promulgate rules to implement this section, including without limitation a form for a taxpayer to use in claiming the deduction provided for under this section.

SECTION 3723. Arkansas Code § 26-51-501(a)(2)(A)(ii), concerning personal tax credits, is amended to read as follows:

(ii) Subdivision (a)(2)(A)(i) of this section shall apply if the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration continues to provide a tax return on which a husband and wife can elect to file jointly or separately on the same return.

SECTION 3724. Arkansas Code § 26-51-501(e)(1)(A), concerning personal tax credits, is amended to read as follows:

(e)(1)(A) Not later than July 15 of each calendar year, the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration shall increase the adjusted individual credit and adjusted joint credit by the cost-of-living adjustment for that current calendar year, rounding each amount to the nearest dollar.

SECTION 3725. Arkansas Code § 26-51-501(e)(4), concerning personal tax credits, is amended to read as follows:

(4) The ~~director~~ secretary shall not increase the adjusted credit for any calendar year unless the conditions of subsection (f) of this section are met.

SECTION 3726. Arkansas Code § 26-51-504(b), concerning income from sources outside of Arkansas, is amended to read as follows:

1 (b) Before a resident of Arkansas may claim the credit allowed under  
2 this section, he or she shall file with his or her income tax return any such  
3 additional information as the Director of the State Income Tax Division or  
4 the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration may by  
5 regulation require showing in detail the amount of gross and net income  
6 derived from property owned or business transacted without this state,  
7 together with the amount of tax actually owed on the income to another state  
8 or territory.

9  
10 SECTION 3727. Arkansas Code § 26-51-513(a), concerning the Arkansas  
11 historic rehabilitation income tax credit, is amended to read as follows:

12 (a) In addition to any income tax credit not related to the same  
13 eligible property for which a taxpayer qualifies, the taxpayer is allowed an  
14 income tax credit for the amount of the Arkansas historic rehabilitation  
15 income tax credit allowed by the certification of completion issued by the  
16 ~~Department of~~ Division Arkansas Heritage of the Department of Parks,  
17 Heritage, and Tourism under the Arkansas Historic Rehabilitation Income Tax  
18 Credit Act, § 26-51-2201 et seq.

19  
20 SECTION 3728. Arkansas Code § 26-51-513(d), concerning the Arkansas  
21 historic rehabilitation income tax credit, is amended to read as follows:

22 (d) The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and  
23 Administration shall promulgate rules to implement this section.

24  
25 SECTION 3729. Arkansas Code § 26-51-712 is amended to read as follows:  
26 26-51-712. Average value of property.

27 The average value of property shall be determined by averaging the  
28 values at the beginning and ending of the tax period, but the ~~Director~~  
29 Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration may require the  
30 averaging of monthly values during the tax period if reasonably required to  
31 reflect properly the average value of the taxpayer's property.

32  
33 SECTION 3730. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 26-51-718,  
34 concerning the procedure when allocation does not fairly represent taxpayer's  
35 business activity, is amended to read as follows:

36 If the allocation and apportionment provisions of this Act do not

1 fairly represent the extent of the taxpayer's business activity in this  
2 state, the taxpayer may petition for or the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the  
3 Department of Finance and Administration may require, in respect to all or  
4 any part of the taxpayer's business activity, if reasonable:

5  
6 SECTION 3731. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 26-51-  
7 801(a), concerning tax returns by individuals, is amended to read as follows:

8 (a) Every person owning property or doing business in the State of  
9 Arkansas shall file a return with the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of  
10 Finance and Administration showing his or her gross income and the deductions  
11 or credits allowed by §§ 26-51-301, 26-51-302 [repealed], and 26-51-436 if he  
12 or she has a gross income of:

13  
14 SECTION 3732. Arkansas Code § 26-51-801(e), concerning tax returns by  
15 individuals, is amended to read as follows:

16 (e) If a person is not required to file a return, the person must  
17 complete and submit to his or her employer a statement to that effect on  
18 forms approved by the ~~director~~ secretary in order to be exempt from the state  
19 withholding tax.

20  
21 SECTION 3733. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 26-51-  
22 802(c)(3), concerning partnership tax returns, is amended to read as follows:

23 (3) If the apportionment of income by a partnership having  
24 income from both within and without Arkansas does not fairly represent the  
25 extent of the partnership's business activity in this state, the partnership  
26 may petition for or the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and  
27 Administration may require, in respect to all or any part of the taxpayer's  
28 business activity, if reasonable:

29  
30 SECTION 3734. Arkansas Code § 26-51-805(d)(1), concerning consolidated  
31 corporate returns, is amended to read as follows:

32 (d)(1) The election to file an Arkansas consolidated corporate income  
33 tax return for any income year shall require the filing of consolidated  
34 corporate income tax returns for all subsequent income years so long as the  
35 individual corporations remain members of the affiliated group unless the  
36 ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration consents

1 to the filing of separate returns by any members of the affiliated group.

2  
3 SECTION 3735. Arkansas Code § 26-51-805(e), concerning consolidated  
4 corporate returns, is amended to read as follows:

5 (e) In any case of two (2) or more corporations, whether or not  
6 affiliated, owned, or controlled directly or indirectly by the same  
7 interests, the ~~director~~ secretary may distribute, apportion, or allocate  
8 gross income, deductions, credits, or allowances between or among such  
9 corporations if he or she determines that the distribution, apportionment, or  
10 allocation is necessary in order to prevent evasion of taxes or clearly to  
11 reflect the income to any such corporation. This subsection is based upon the  
12 concept of 26 U.S.C. § 482 as of January 1, 1989, as that section applies to  
13 corporations.

14  
15 SECTION 3736. Arkansas Code § 26-51-806(a)(1), concerning the time,  
16 place, and forms for filing tax returns, is amended to read as follows:

17 (a)(1) Returns shall be in the form the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the  
18 Department of Finance and Administration prescribes and shall be filed with  
19 the ~~director's~~ secretary's office at Little Rock.

20  
21 SECTION 3737. Arkansas Code § 26-51-806(b), concerning the time,  
22 place, and forms for filing tax returns, is amended to read as follows:

23 (b)(1) The ~~director~~ secretary shall cause to be prepared blank forms  
24 for the returns and shall cause them to be furnished upon application, but  
25 failure to receive or secure the forms shall not relieve any taxpayer from  
26 the obligation of making any return required by the Income Tax Act of 1929, §  
27 26-51-101 et seq.

28 (2) As far as possible and practicable for filing returns for  
29 income tax, the ~~director~~ secretary shall use the same form of blanks as is  
30 used by the United States down to the net income part of the form.

31  
32 SECTION 3738. Arkansas Code § 26-51-807(b)(1), concerning the filing  
33 of returns and extensions of time, is amended to read as follows:

34 (b)(1) The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and  
35 Administration shall assess the taxpayer interest at the rate of ten percent  
36 (10%) per annum on the amount of tax finally determined to be due.

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SECTION 3739. Arkansas Code § 26-51-807(c) and (d), concerning the filing of returns and extensions of time, are amended to read as follows:

(c) The ~~director~~ secretary may grant a taxpayer's written request to extend the time for filing a corporation income tax return for a period of time not to exceed sixty (60) days in addition to the extensions provided in subsection (a) of this section that correspond to the extensions for filing a federal return.

(d) The ~~director~~ secretary may promulgate regulations granting automatic extensions of time to file income tax returns and information returns without the taxpayer being required to submit a written application, a copy of the federal request for extension, or a copy of the document granting the federal extension if the ~~director~~ secretary determines that such requirements are unnecessary for the administration of the income tax laws.

SECTION 3740. Arkansas Code § 26-51-808(a) and (b), concerning the failure to file return or to include income and return or supplemental return, are amended to read as follows:

(a) If the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration shall be of the opinion that any taxpayer has failed to file a return or failed to include in a return filed, either intentionally or through error, items of taxable income, the ~~director~~ secretary may require from the taxpayer a return or a supplementary return, under oath, in such form as he or she shall prescribe, of all the items of income which the taxpayer received during the year for which the return is made, whether or not taxable under the provisions of the Income Tax Act of 1929.

(b) If from a supplementary return or otherwise, the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration finds that any items of income taxable under the Income Tax Act of 1929 have been omitted from the original return, he or she may require the items so omitted to be disclosed to him or her, under oath of the taxpayer, and to be added to the original return.

SECTION 3741. Arkansas Code § 26-51-809 is amended to read as follows:

26-51-809. Receipts for taxes.

The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration

1 shall give to any person making any payment a full written or printed receipt  
2 stating the amount paid and the particular account for which the payment was  
3 made and show for which installment it is paid.

4  
5 SECTION 3742. Arkansas Code § 26-51-810(a), concerning forms provided  
6 to tax practitioners, is amended to read as follows:

7 (a) The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and  
8 Administration may impose a postage fee sufficient to defray the cost of  
9 postage for mailing out tax forms to tax practitioners.

10  
11 SECTION 3743. Arkansas Code § 26-51-811(a), concerning information at  
12 the source as to recipients of income, is amended to read as follows:

13 (a)(1) Every individual, partnership, limited liability company,  
14 corporation, joint-stock company or association, or insurance company, being  
15 a resident or having a place of business in this state; members of a  
16 partnership or employees in whatever capacity acting, including lessees or  
17 mortgagees, of real or personal property; members or managers of limited  
18 liability companies or employees in whatever capacity acting; fiduciaries;  
19 employers and all officers and employees of this state, or of any political  
20 subdivision of this state, having the control, receipt, custody, disposal, or  
21 payment of interest, rent, salaries, wages, premiums, annuities,  
22 compensations, remunerations, emoluments, or other fixed or determinable  
23 annual or periodical gains, profits, and income amounting to two thousand  
24 five hundred dollars (\$2,500) or over, paid or payable during any year to any  
25 taxpayer shall make complete returns under oath to the ~~Director~~ Secretary of  
26 the Department of Finance and Administration, under such regulations and in  
27 such form and manner and to such extent as may be prescribed by the ~~director~~  
28 secretary with the approval of the Governor.

29 (2) Unless the income is so reported, the ~~director~~ secretary may  
30 disallow such payments as deductions or credits in computing the tax of the  
31 payer.

32  
33 SECTION 3744. Arkansas Code § 26-51-812(a) and (b), concerning the  
34 withholding of taxes at the source, are amended to read as follows:

35 (a) The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and  
36 Administration, whenever he or she deems it necessary to ensure compliance

1 with the provisions of the Income Tax Act of 1929, may, under rules and  
2 regulations prescribed by him or her, require any individual, partnership,  
3 limited liability company, corporation, joint-stock company, or association,  
4 including lessees or mortgagors and employees of the state or of any  
5 political subdivision of the state having control, receipt, custody,  
6 disposal, or payment of interest, other than interest coupons payable to  
7 bearer, rent, salaries, wages, premiums, compensation, remunerations,  
8 emoluments, or other fixed or determinable annual or periodical gains,  
9 profits, and income paid or payable to any taxpayer, to deduct and withhold  
10 the tax due from the taxpayer and make return thereof and pay the tax to the  
11 ~~director~~ secretary.

12 (b)(1) Upon the giving of notice by the ~~director~~ secretary to the  
13 fiduciary of an estate or trust that the taxes due under the Income Tax Act  
14 of 1929 from the grantor or beneficiary of an estate or trust on income of  
15 the estate or trust, which is taxable to the grantor or beneficiary under the  
16 provisions of § 26-51-201, have not been paid, the fiduciary shall withhold  
17 the amount of the taxes from any payments or distribution due or to become  
18 due from the estate or trust to the grantor or beneficiary and transmit the  
19 amount so withheld to the ~~director~~ secretary.

20 (2) The notice required in this section is to be served on the  
21 fiduciary or other person named above by registered mail, the letter to be  
22 directed to the last known address of the fiduciary or other person so named  
23 above, as the address appears in the records of the ~~director~~ secretary.

24 (3) Any person failing or refusing to deduct and withhold the  
25 tax due from any taxpayer as required by the ~~director~~ secretary pursuant to  
26 this section shall be personally liable for such tax, and the ~~director~~  
27 secretary may proceed against him or her as provided for in § 27 [repealed]  
28 of the Income Tax Act of 1929.

29

30 SECTION 3745. Arkansas Code § 26-51-813(b) and (c), concerning  
31 reports, returns, confidentiality, and exceptions in regards to tax returns,  
32 are amended to read as follows:

33 (b) The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and  
34 Administration may furnish a copy of any taxpayer's return to any official of  
35 the United States or of any state having duties to perform in respect to the  
36 assessment or collection of any tax imposed upon or measured by income if the

1 taxpayer is required by the laws of the United States or of the state to make  
2 a return in the United States or that state and if the laws of the United  
3 States or of the state provide substantially for the same secrecy in respect  
4 to the information revealed by the taxpayer's return as is provided by  
5 Arkansas laws.

6 (c) The ~~director~~ secretary and all other public officials and  
7 employees shall keep and maintain the same secrecy in respect to any  
8 information furnished by any department, commission, or official of the  
9 United States or of any other state in respect to the income of any person as  
10 is required by the Income Tax Act of 1929 in respect to information  
11 concerning the affairs of the taxpayer under the Income Tax Act of 1929.

12  
13 SECTION 3746. Arkansas Code § 26-51-813(e)(1), concerning reports,  
14 returns, confidentiality, and exceptions in regards to tax returns, is  
15 amended to read as follows:

16 (e)(1) Nothing in this section shall be construed to prohibit the  
17 Department of Finance and Administration from disclosing from any return or  
18 other record maintained by the ~~director~~ secretary to the Office of Child  
19 Support Enforcement ~~of the Revenue Division of the Department of Finance and~~  
20 ~~Administration~~ the last known address or whereabouts or the last known  
21 employer of any deserting parent from whom the office is charged with  
22 collecting child support.

23  
24 SECTION 3747. Arkansas Code § 26-51-813(f)(1), concerning reports,  
25 returns, confidentiality, and exceptions in regards to tax returns, is  
26 amended to read as follows:

27 (f)(1) Nothing in this section shall be construed to prohibit the  
28 Department of Finance and Administration from disclosing from any return or  
29 other record maintained by the ~~director~~ secretary to the Student Loan  
30 Guarantee Foundation of Arkansas, the last known address or whereabouts or  
31 the last known employer of any person from whom the Student Loan Guarantee  
32 Foundation of Arkansas is charged with collecting a student loan  
33 indebtedness.

34  
35 SECTION 3748. Arkansas Code § 26-51-813(g), concerning reports,  
36 returns, confidentiality, and exceptions in regards to tax returns, is

1 amended to read as follows:

2 (g)(1) Nothing in this section shall be construed to prohibit the  
3 Department of Finance and Administration from disclosing from any return or  
4 other record maintained by the ~~director~~ secretary to the ~~Department~~ Division  
5 of Higher Education or any Arkansas public institution of higher education  
6 the last known address or whereabouts or the last known employer of any  
7 person from whom these institutions are charged with collecting student  
8 indebtedness.

9 (2) In providing this information, the Department of Finance and  
10 Administration shall not allow the ~~Department~~ Division of Higher Education or  
11 the Arkansas public institutions of higher education to examine the tax  
12 return.

13

14 SECTION 3749. Arkansas Code § 26-51-814 is amended to read as follows:

15 26-51-814. Reports and returns – Preservation and destruction.

16 All reports and returns required by the Income Tax Act of 1929 shall be  
17 preserved for three (3) years and thereafter until the ~~Director~~ Secretary of  
18 the Department of Finance and Administration orders them destroyed.

19

20 SECTION 3750. Arkansas Code § 26-51-816(a), concerning a signature on  
21 a prepared income tax form, is amended to read as follows:

22 (a) The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and  
23 Administration may require the originator, transmitter, or paid preparer of  
24 an electronically filed Arkansas income tax return to retain the signature  
25 document, form AR8453, as well as all other forms and schedules which support  
26 the return.

27

28 SECTION 3751. Arkansas Code § 26-51-816(c) and (d), concerning a  
29 signature on a prepared income tax form, are amended to read as follows:

30 (c) The signature document and all supporting documents for an  
31 electronically filed Arkansas return must be made available for inspection by  
32 the ~~director~~ secretary upon the ~~director's~~ secretary's request.

33 (d) The ~~director~~ secretary may promulgate rules and regulations for  
34 the proper enforcement of this section.

35

36 SECTION 3752. Arkansas Code § 26-51-902(3), concerning the definition

1 of "director" under the Arkansas Income Tax Withholding Act, is repealed.

2 ~~(3) "Director" means the Director of the Department of Finance~~  
3 ~~and Administration of the State of Arkansas;~~

4  
5 SECTION 3753. Arkansas Code § 26-51-904 is amended to read as follows:  
6 26-51-904. Rules and regulations – Forms.

7 The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration  
8 shall make and prescribe such rules, regulations, and forms as he or she  
9 shall deem necessary to carry out the purposes of this subchapter.

10  
11 SECTION 3754. Arkansas Code § 26-51-905 is amended to read as follows:  
12 26-51-905. Withholding of tax.

13 (a)(1) Every employer making payments of wages to employees shall  
14 deduct and withhold from the employees' wages an amount determined from  
15 withholding tables promulgated by the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of  
16 Finance and Administration and furnished to the employer.

17 (2) The full amount deducted and withheld from any employee's  
18 wages during the income year shall be credited against the tax liability of  
19 the employee under the Income Tax Act of 1929, § 26-51-101 et seq., for that  
20 year.

21 (b)(1) Notwithstanding the provisions of subsection (a) of this  
22 section, every employer who withholds less than one thousand dollars (\$1,000)  
23 for a full year's withholding shall report and remit annually on a date  
24 specified by the ~~director~~ secretary any amounts so withheld by the employer.

25 (2) An employer shall be advised by the ~~director~~ secretary of  
26 the employer's classification and shall report as classified until such time  
27 as the employer advises the ~~director~~ secretary in writing that the employer  
28 no longer has employees or the employer is closing the business.

29 (3) However, it shall be the duty of the employer to report to  
30 the ~~director~~ secretary at the end of each income year all wages paid to any  
31 such employees on the same forms provided in this subchapter for making  
32 employer annual withholding statements in order that the ~~director~~ secretary  
33 may determine the tax liability, if any, of those employees during that  
34 income year.

35  
36 SECTION 3755. Arkansas Code § 26-51-906 is amended to read as follows:

1           26-51-906. Withholding state income taxes of federal employees by  
2 federal agencies.

3           The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration  
4 is authorized and directed to enter into an agreement with the United States  
5 Secretary of the Treasury ~~of the United States~~ with respect to withholding of  
6 income tax as provided by this subchapter and pursuant to ~~an~~ Pub. Law L. No.  
7 587 of 1952 and to Executive Order No. 10407 of November 7, 1952.

8  
9           SECTION 3756. Arkansas Code § 26-51-907 is amended to read as follows:  
10         26-51-907. Withholding tables.

11          The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration  
12 shall prepare and furnish to employers state income tax withholding tables  
13 based on the current income tax laws of the state, taking into consideration  
14 the various deductions and personal tax credits allowed therein. The tables  
15 shall be designed to provide for a yearly aggregate withholding that will  
16 approximate the state income tax liability of the average taxpayer with the  
17 various personal tax credits.

18  
19          SECTION 3757. Arkansas Code § 26-51-908 is amended to read as follows:  
20         26-51-908. Employer's return and payment of taxes withheld.

21          (a)(1) Every employer required to deduct and withhold from wages under  
22 this subchapter shall file a withholding return on an annual basis as  
23 prescribed by the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and  
24 Administration and annually pay over to the ~~director~~ secretary the full  
25 amount required to be deducted and withheld from the wages of the employees  
26 if the amount is less than one thousand dollars (\$1,000) per year.

27          (2) Every employer required to deduct and withhold from wages  
28 under this subchapter shall file a withholding return on a monthly basis as  
29 prescribed by the ~~director~~ secretary and pay over on a monthly basis to the  
30 ~~director~~ secretary the full amount required to be deducted and withheld from  
31 the wages of the employees if the amount is one thousand dollars (\$1,000) or  
32 more per year.

33          (3) However, the ~~director~~ secretary may provide by regulation  
34 that every such employer shall on or before the fifteenth day of each month  
35 pay over to the ~~director~~ secretary or a depository designated by the ~~director~~  
36 secretary the amount required to be deducted and withheld by the employer for

1 the preceding month if the amount is one hundred dollars (\$100) or more.

2 (b)(1) Notwithstanding any other provision of this section, all  
3 transient employers shall make return and pay over to the ~~director~~ secretary,  
4 on a monthly basis, the full amounts required to be deducted and withheld  
5 from the wages by the transient employer for the calendar month.

6 (2) The returns and payments to the ~~director~~ secretary by  
7 transient employers shall be made on or before the last day of the month  
8 following the month for which the amounts were deducted and withheld from the  
9 wages of the transient employer's employees.

10 (c)(1) Notwithstanding any other provision of this section, all  
11 employers engaged in any business which is seasonal shall make return and pay  
12 over to the ~~director~~ secretary on a monthly basis the amounts required to be  
13 deducted and withheld from the wages by the employer for the calendar month.

14 (2) Returns and payments to the ~~director~~ secretary by employers  
15 engaged in seasonal business shall be made on or before the last day of the  
16 month following the month for which those amounts were deducted and withheld  
17 from the wages of the employer's employees.

18 (d) When the ~~director~~ secretary has justifiable reason to believe that  
19 the collection of funds required to be withheld by any employer as provided  
20 in this subchapter is in jeopardy, the ~~director~~ secretary may require the  
21 employer to file a return and pay the amounts required to be withheld at any  
22 time.

23 (e) Every employer who fails to withhold or pay to the ~~director~~  
24 secretary any sums required by this subchapter to be withheld and paid shall  
25 be personally and individually liable for the sums except as provided in §  
26 26-51-916.

27 (f) Any sum withheld in accordance with the provisions of this  
28 subchapter shall be deemed to be held in trust for the State of Arkansas and  
29 shall be recorded by the employer in a ledger account so as to clearly  
30 indicate the amount of tax withheld and that the amount is the property of  
31 the State of Arkansas.

32 (g)(1) When an employer has become liable to an annual return of  
33 withholding, the employer must continue to file an annual report, even though  
34 no tax has been withheld, until such time as the employer notifies the  
35 ~~director~~ secretary, in writing, that the employer no longer has employees or  
36 that the employer is no longer liable for an annual return.

1           (2) When an employer has become liable to a monthly return of  
2 withholding, the employer must continue to file a monthly report, even though  
3 no tax has been withheld until such time as the employer notifies the  
4 ~~director~~ secretary, in writing, that the employer no longer has employees or  
5 that the employer is no longer liable for monthly returns.

6           (h)(1) For any withholding tax reporting period, a company or any  
7 other business enterprise which provides the service of reporting and  
8 remitting withholding tax on the wages paid to Arkansas employees by other  
9 employers shall remit all such withholding taxes to the ~~director~~ secretary by  
10 electronic funds transfer, as more particularly described in § 26-19-105.

11           (2) However, a company or business which provides tax reporting  
12 and remitting services shall not be required to remit withholding taxes by  
13 electronic funds transfer if the company or business provides those services  
14 for fewer than one hundred (100) Arkansas employers.

15           (3) As used in this subsection, "Arkansas employer" means any  
16 employer required by Arkansas law to withhold, report, and remit Arkansas  
17 income tax on the wages, salary, or other compensation paid to its employees  
18 within this state.

19  
20           SECTION 3758. Arkansas Code § 26-51-909(b)(1) and (2), concerning  
21 annual withholding statements, are amended to read as follows:

22           (b)(1) The annual statement of withholding shall be in the form  
23 prescribed by the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and  
24 Administration.

25           (2)(A) The statement from the employer shall be filed with the  
26 ~~director~~ secretary on or before January 31 following the close of the income  
27 year.

28           (B) For tax years beginning on or after January 1, 2006,  
29 an employer who has two hundred fifty (250) or more employees during the  
30 employer's income year shall file the statement either:

31                   (i) Electronically;  
32                   (ii) On magnetic media; or  
33                   (iii) In any other machine-readable form approved by  
34 the ~~director~~ secretary.

35  
36           SECTION 3759. Arkansas Code § 26-51-909(c)(5), concerning annual

1 withholding statements, is amended to read as follows:

2 (5) Such other information as the ~~director~~ secretary shall  
3 require by rule or regulation.

4  
5 SECTION 3760. Arkansas Code § 26-51-910 is amended to read as follows:  
6 26-51-910. Refunds to employer for overpayment.

7 Any employer who makes an overpayment of the tax required to be  
8 remitted to the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and  
9 Administration by § 26-51-908 may file application with the ~~director~~  
10 secretary, on a form prescribed by the ~~director~~ secretary, to have the amount  
11 of such overpayment refunded to him or her or to have the amount credited  
12 against the payment which he or she is required to make for a subsequent  
13 quarterly period. However, the refund or credit shall be allowed only to the  
14 extent that the amount of the overpayment was not withheld under § 26-51-905  
15 by the employer.

16

17 SECTION 3761. Arkansas Code § 26-51-911(a) and (b), concerning the  
18 declaration of estimated tax, are amended to read as follows:

19 (a) Every taxpayer subject to the tax levied by the Income Tax Act of  
20 1929, § 26-51-101 et seq., shall make and file with the ~~Director~~ Secretary of  
21 the Department of Finance and Administration a declaration of the estimated  
22 tax for the income year if the taxpayer can reasonably expect the estimated  
23 tax to be more than one thousand dollars (\$1,000).

24 (b) The declaration of estimated tax shall be made on such forms and  
25 shall include such information as the ~~director~~ secretary shall prescribe.

26

27 SECTION 3762. Arkansas Code § 26-51-911(c)(1), concerning the  
28 declaration of estimated tax, is amended to read as follows:

29 (c)(1) The declaration shall be filed with the ~~director~~ secretary on  
30 or before the fifteenth day of the fourth month of the income year of the  
31 taxpayer.

32

33 SECTION 3763. Arkansas Code § 26-51-911(f), concerning the declaration  
34 of estimated tax, is amended to read as follows:

35 (f) A taxpayer may file amendments to a declaration at such times,  
36 under such rules and regulations, and in such form as the ~~director~~ secretary

1 shall prescribe.

2

3 SECTION 3764. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 26-51-  
4 913(a), concerning payments of estimated tax, is amended to read as follows:

5 (a) The estimated tax as shown on the declaration filed with the  
6 ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration shall be  
7 paid as follows:

8

9 SECTION 3765. Arkansas Code § 26-51-915 is amended to read as follows:  
10 26-51-915. Deposits of payments – Refunds.

11 (a) All payments received by the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department  
12 of Finance and Administration from employers for taxes withheld from  
13 employees and all payments received by the ~~director~~ secretary from taxpayers  
14 as herein provided shall be deposited into the State Treasury as general  
15 revenues to the credit of the State Apportionment Fund.

16 (b) Based upon information provided by the ~~director~~ secretary, the  
17 Chief Fiscal Officer of the State shall determine the amount estimated to be  
18 necessary to meet any refunds of state income taxes under the provisions of  
19 this subchapter, and, upon certification of the Chief Fiscal Officer of the  
20 State, the Treasurer of State shall transfer from any general revenues in the  
21 General Revenue Allotment Reserve Fund the amount so certified to the  
22 Individual Income Tax Withholding Fund, from which the ~~director~~ secretary is  
23 authorized to make refunds as provided for by law and by this subchapter.

24 (c) All refund warrants drawn against the Individual Income Tax  
25 Withholding Fund which are not presented for payment within one (1) year of  
26 issuance shall be void.

27 (d) Neither the ~~director~~ secretary nor any member or employee of the  
28 Revenue Division of the Department of Finance and Administration shall be  
29 held personally liable for making any refund by reason of a fraudulent  
30 withholding certificate being used as a basis for the refund.

31

32 SECTION 3766. Arkansas Code § 26-51-917 is amended to read as follows:  
33 26-51-917. Employer's withholding account number.

34 Every employer, as defined in this subchapter, shall make application  
35 to the Revenue Division of the Department of Finance and Administration for  
36 and be assigned an employer's withholding account number. The account number

1 assigned to an employer shall be used by the employer on all returns,  
2 reports, and inquiries addressed to the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department  
3 of Finance and Administration or the division.

4  
5 SECTION 3767. Arkansas Code § 26-51-919(b)(1)(A)(ii), concerning pass-  
6 through entities, is amended to read as follows:

7 (ii) The pass-through entity is liable to the  
8 ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration for the  
9 payment of the tax required to be withheld and is not liable to the member  
10 for the amount withheld and paid to the ~~director~~ secretary.

11  
12 SECTION 3768. Arkansas Code § 26-51-919(b)(1)(B)(ii), concerning pass-  
13 through entities, is amended to read as follows:

14 (ii) The ~~director~~ secretary shall apply the tax  
15 withheld and paid by a pass-through entity on distributions to a lower-tier  
16 pass-through entity to the withholding required of that lower-tier pass-  
17 through entity.

18  
19 SECTION 3769. Arkansas Code § 26-51-919(b)(2), concerning pass-through  
20 entities, is amended to read as follows:

21 (2)(A) On or before the due date for the pass-through entity's  
22 composite income tax return described in subsection (d) of this section, a  
23 pass-through entity shall file an annual return with the ~~director~~ secretary  
24 showing the total amount of income distributed or credited to its nonresident  
25 members and the amount of tax withheld and shall remit the amount of tax  
26 withheld.

27 (B) The annual return shall be in an electronic format  
28 prescribed by the ~~director~~ secretary.

29  
30 SECTION 3770. Arkansas Code § 26-51-919(c)(2), concerning pass-through  
31 entities, is amended to read as follows:

32 (2) The ~~director~~ secretary has determined that the nonresident  
33 member's income is not subject to withholding;

34  
35 SECTION 3771. Arkansas Code § 26-51-919(c)(4)(B), concerning pass-  
36 through entities, is amended to read as follows:

1 (B) Has agreed to file an annual information return  
2 reporting the name, address, and taxpayer identification number of each  
3 member with an annual Arkansas income greater than five hundred dollars  
4 (\$500) along with any other information requested by the ~~director~~ secretary;

5  
6 SECTION 3772. Arkansas Code § 26-51-919(c)(5)(A), concerning pass-  
7 through entities, is amended to read as follows:

8 (5)(A) The pass-through entity has filed with the ~~director~~  
9 secretary on forms prescribed by the ~~director~~ secretary the nonresident  
10 member's signed agreement to timely file an Arkansas corporation, nonresident  
11 individual, or trust income tax return, to pay any tax due on the return, and  
12 to be subject to the jurisdiction of the Department of Finance and  
13 Administration in the courts of this state for the purpose of determining and  
14 collecting any Arkansas income tax together with interest and penalties owed  
15 by the nonresident member.

16  
17 SECTION 3773. Arkansas Code § 26-51-919(d)(4), concerning pass-through  
18 entities, is amended to read as follows:

19 (4) On or before the fifteenth day of the fourth month following  
20 the end of the pass-through entity's tax year, a pass-through entity shall  
21 file an annual composite return with the ~~director~~ secretary showing the total  
22 amount of income distributed or credited to its nonresident members and the  
23 amount of tax withheld and shall remit the tax due on the composite income  
24 tax return.

25  
26 SECTION 3774. Arkansas Code § 26-51-919(e), concerning pass-through  
27 entities, is amended to read as follows:

28 (e) The ~~director~~ secretary may promulgate rules necessary to  
29 administer this section.

30  
31 SECTION 3775. Arkansas Code § 26-51-1104(b) and (c), concerning the  
32 requirement of documentation to claim a tax credit for the donation or sale  
33 of equipment to educational institutions, are amended to read as follows:

34 (b) To claim the credit granted by § 26-51-1102, the taxpayer must  
35 show that the Division of Science and Technology of the Arkansas Economic  
36 Development Commission and the ~~Department~~ Division of Higher Education have

1 approved the qualified research expenditure as a part of a qualified research  
2 program.

3 (c) Copies of each of the above documents shall be filed by the  
4 taxpayer with his or her return as an attachment to the form prescribed by  
5 the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration.  
6

7 SECTION 3776. Arkansas Code § 26-51-1105 is amended to read as  
8 follows:

9 26-51-1105. Rules and regulations.

10 The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration,  
11 the Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of Higher Education, the Director of  
12 the ~~Department~~ Division of Career and Technical Education, ~~the Director of~~  
13 ~~the Department of Workforce Education~~, and the Executive Director of the  
14 Arkansas Economic Development Commission shall promulgate such reasonable  
15 rules as they shall deem necessary and appropriate to carry out the purposes  
16 of this subchapter.  
17

18 SECTION 3777. Arkansas Code § 26-51-1306 is amended to read as  
19 follows:

20 26-51-1306. Withholding return and payment for racing winnings.

21 Every franchise holder required to deduct and withhold income tax from  
22 racing winnings under this subchapter shall file, within sixty (60) days  
23 after the termination of its racing season, a withholding return as  
24 prescribed by the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and  
25 Administration and pay over to the ~~director~~ secretary the full amount  
26 required to be deducted and withheld from the racing winnings by the  
27 franchise holder for the income year.  
28

29 SECTION 3778. Arkansas Code § 26-51-1307(b)(1), concerning the annual  
30 statement of withholdings for racing winnings, is amended to read as follows:

31 (b)(1) The annual statement shall be in the form prescribed by the  
32 ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration and shall  
33 be filed with the ~~director~~ secretary.  
34

35 SECTION 3779. Arkansas Code § 26-51-1307(c)(5), concerning the annual  
36 statement of withholdings for racing winnings, is amended to read as follows:

1           (5) Such other information as the ~~director~~ secretary shall  
2 require by rule or regulation.

3  
4           SECTION 3780. Arkansas Code § 26-51-1308(a), concerning the duties of  
5 franchise holders and payees, is amended to read as follows:

6           (a) Every holder of a franchise to conduct dog racing, horse racing,  
7 or electronic games of skill who fails to withhold or pay to the ~~Director~~  
8 Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration any sums required  
9 by this subchapter to be withheld and paid shall be personally and  
10 individually liable therefor. Any sum or sums withheld in accordance with the  
11 provisions of this subchapter shall be deemed to be held in trust for the  
12 State of Arkansas and shall be recorded by the franchise holder in a ledger  
13 account so as to clearly indicate the amount of tax withheld and that the  
14 amount is the property of the State of Arkansas.

15  
16           SECTION 3781. Arkansas Code § 26-51-1309(b)(2), concerning the taxing  
17 of game winnings, withholdings, and remittance, is amended to read as  
18 follows:

19           (2) Remit the tax to the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of  
20 Finance and Administration as provided in § 26-51-1310 and as prescribed by  
21 rules promulgated by the ~~director~~ secretary.

22  
23           SECTION 3782. Arkansas Code § 26-51-1310(a), concerning withholdings,  
24 reporting, payment, and electronic games of skill, is amended to read as  
25 follows:

26           (a) The holder of a franchise to conduct electronic games of skill in  
27 this state shall register to withhold the gaming winnings tax under § 26-51-  
28 1309 from winnings from electronic games of skill in the manner prescribed by  
29 the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration.

30  
31           SECTION 3783. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 26-51-  
32 1401(d), concerning the apportionment allocation of net income, is amended to  
33 read as follows:

34           (d) If the allocation and apportionment provisions of this subchapter  
35 do not fairly represent the extent of the taxpayer's business activity in  
36 this state, the taxpayer may petition for, or the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the

1 Department of Finance and Administration may require, in respect to all or  
2 any part of the taxpayer's business activity, if reasonable:

3  
4 SECTION 3784. Arkansas Code § 26-51-1402(8)(J)(iii), concerning the  
5 apportionment and allocation of net income of financial institutions, is  
6 amended to read as follows:

7 (iii) The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of  
8 Finance and Administration is authorized to exclude any person from the  
9 application of this subdivision (8)(J) upon such person's proving, by clear  
10 and convincing evidence, that the income-producing activity of such person is  
11 not in substantial competition with those persons described in subdivisions  
12 (8)(B)-(G) and (I) of this section;

13  
14 SECTION 3785. Arkansas Code § 26-51-1403(m)(4), concerning the  
15 receipts factor, is amended to read as follows:

16 (4) If the taxpayer elects or is required by the ~~Director~~  
17 Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration to use the method  
18 set forth in subdivision (m)(3) of this section, it shall use this method on  
19 all subsequent returns unless the taxpayer receives prior permission from the  
20 ~~director~~ secretary to use, or the ~~director~~ secretary requires, a different  
21 method.

22  
23 SECTION 3786 Arkansas Code § 26-51-1404(d)(2), concerning the property  
24 factor, is amended to read as follows:

25 (2) If averaging on this basis does not properly reflect average  
26 value, the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration  
27 may require averaging on a more frequent basis.

28  
29 SECTION 3787. Arkansas Code § 26-51-1404(d)(4), concerning the  
30 property factor, is amended to read as follows:

31 (4) When averaging on a more frequent basis is required by the  
32 ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration or is  
33 elected by the taxpayer, the same method of valuation must be used  
34 consistently by the taxpayer with respect to property within and without this  
35 state and on all subsequent returns unless the taxpayer receives prior  
36 permission from the ~~director~~ secretary or the ~~director~~ secretary requires a

1 different method of determining average value.

2

3 SECTION 3788. Arkansas Code § 26-51-1404(e)(2), concerning the  
4 property factor, is amended to read as follows:

5 (2)(A) Where the use of the general method described in this  
6 subsection results in inaccurate valuations of rented property, any other  
7 method which properly reflects the value may be adopted by the ~~director~~  
8 secretary or by the taxpayer when approved in writing by the ~~director~~  
9 secretary.

10 (B) Once approved, such other method of valuation must be  
11 used on all subsequent returns unless the taxpayer receives prior approval  
12 from the ~~director~~ secretary or unless the ~~director~~ secretary requires a  
13 different method of valuation.

14

15 SECTION 3789. Arkansas Code § 26-51-1404(g)(2)(B), concerning the  
16 property factor, is amended to read as follows:

17 (B) The presumption of proper assignment of a loan  
18 provided in subdivisions (g)(1)(B) and (g)(2)(A) of this section may be  
19 rebutted upon a showing by the ~~director~~ secretary, supported by a  
20 preponderance of the evidence, that the preponderance of substantive contacts  
21 regarding such loan did not occur at the regular place of business to which  
22 it was assigned on the taxpayer's records.

23

24 SECTION 3790. Arkansas Code § 26-51-1701(2), concerning the definition  
25 of "director" under the low income housing tax credit, is repealed.

26 ~~(2) "Director" means the Director of the Department of Finance~~  
27 ~~and Administration;~~

28

29 SECTION 3791. Arkansas Code § 26-51-1702(d) and (e), concerning the  
30 allowance and calculation of tax credit, are amended to read as follows:

31 (d) All or any portion of the Arkansas low income housing tax credits  
32 may be allocated to parties who are eligible under the provisions of  
33 subsection (a) of this section. An owner of a qualified project shall certify  
34 to the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration the  
35 amount of the Arkansas low income housing tax credit allocated to each  
36 taxpayer.

1 (e) In the event that recapture of Arkansas low income housing tax  
2 credits is required pursuant to § 26-51-1703(b) of this subchapter, any  
3 statement submitted to the ~~director~~ secretary as provided in this section  
4 shall include the proportion of the Arkansas low income housing tax credit  
5 required to be recaptured, the identity of each taxpayer subject to the  
6 recapture and the amount of Arkansas low income housing tax credit previously  
7 allocated to such taxpayer.

8  
9 SECTION 3792. Arkansas Code § 26-51-1704(b) and (c), concerning the  
10 sale, assignment, and transfer of tax credit, are amended to read as follows:

11 (b) An owner or transferee desiring to make a transfer, sale, or  
12 assignment as described in subsection (a) of this section shall submit to the  
13 ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration a  
14 statement which describes the amount of Arkansas low income housing tax  
15 credit for which transfer, sale, or assignment of Arkansas low income housing  
16 tax credit is eligible. The owner shall provide to the ~~director~~ secretary  
17 such information as is specified by the Department of Finance and  
18 Administration in regulations so that the Arkansas low income housing tax  
19 credit may be properly allocated.

20 (c) In the event that recapture of Arkansas low income housing tax  
21 credit is required pursuant to § 26-51-1703(b) of this subchapter, the  
22 statements submitted to the ~~director~~ secretary as provided in this section  
23 shall include the proportion of the Arkansas low income housing tax credit  
24 required to be recaptured, the identity of each transferee subject to  
25 recapture, and the amount of Arkansas low income housing tax credit  
26 previously transferred to such transferee and such other information as is  
27 specified by the department in regulations.

28  
29 SECTION 3793. Arkansas Code § 26-51-1705 is amended to read as  
30 follows:

31 26-51-1705. Rules and regulations.

32 The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration  
33 and the Arkansas Development Finance Authority shall promulgate rules and  
34 regulations necessary to administer the provisions of this subchapter. No  
35 rule or portion of a rule promulgated under the authority of this section  
36 shall become effective until it has been approved by the ~~director~~ secretary

1 in accordance with the Arkansas Administrative Procedure Act, § 25-15-201 et  
2 seq.

3

4 SECTION 3794. Arkansas Code § 26-51-2005(b), concerning qualification  
5 and determination of credit, is amended to read as follows:

6 (b)(1) Upon determination by the Director of the Arkansas Economic  
7 Development Commission that the project qualifies for credit under this  
8 subchapter, the Director of the Arkansas Economic Development Commission  
9 shall certify to the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and  
10 Administration that the project is qualified and transmit with his or her  
11 certification the documents upon which the certification was based or copies.

12 (2) Upon receipt by the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of  
13 Finance and Administration of a certification from the Director of the  
14 Arkansas Economic Development Commission that an eligible business is  
15 entitled to credit under this subchapter, the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the  
16 Department of Finance and Administration shall provide forms to the eligible  
17 business on which to claim the credit.

18

19 SECTION 3795. Arkansas Code § 26-51-2005(c)(1), concerning  
20 qualification and determination of credit, is amended to read as follows:

21 (c)(1) At the end of the calendar year in which the application was  
22 made to the Director of the Arkansas Economic Development Commission and at  
23 the end of each calendar year thereafter until the project is completed, the  
24 eligible business shall certify on the form provided by the ~~Director~~  
25 Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration the amount of  
26 expenditures on the project during the preceding calendar year.

27

28 SECTION 3796. Arkansas Code § 26-51-2005(c)(2)(A), concerning  
29 qualification and determination of credit, is amended to read as follows:

30 (2)(A) Upon receipt of the form certifying expenditures, the  
31 ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration shall  
32 determine the amount due as a credit for the preceding calendar year and  
33 issue a memorandum of credit to the eligible business in the amount of seven  
34 percent (7%) of the expenditure.

35

36 SECTION 3797. Arkansas Code § 26-51-2005(c)(2)(B)(iii) and (iv),

1 concerning qualification and determination of credit, are amended to read as  
2 follows:

3 (iii) The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of  
4 Finance and Administration may require proof of these expenditures.

5 (iv) The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of  
6 Finance and Administration may examine those records necessary and specific  
7 to the project to determine credit eligibility. Any credits disallowed shall  
8 be subject to payment in full.

9

10 SECTION 3798. Arkansas Code § 26-51-2303(b), concerning the  
11 administration of the Arkansas Tax Procedure Act, is amended to read as  
12 follows:

13 (b) The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and  
14 Administration shall make and prescribe such rules, regulations, and forms as  
15 he or she deems necessary to administer this subchapter.

16

17 SECTION 3799. Arkansas Code § 26-51-2305(a), concerning lottery  
18 withholdings, reporting, and payment, is amended to read as follows:

19 (a) A claim center shall register to withhold income tax under § 26-  
20 51-2304 from lottery winnings in the manner prescribed by the ~~Director~~  
21 Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration.

22

23 SECTION 3800. Arkansas Code § 26-51-2305(f)(2)(E), concerning lottery  
24 withholdings, reporting, and payment, is amended to read as follows:

25 (E) Such other information as the ~~director~~ secretary shall  
26 require by rule.

27

28 SECTION 3801. Arkansas Code § 26-51-2411(a)(1), concerning the  
29 enforcement and deposit of fees, is amended to read as follows:

30 (a)(1) The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and  
31 Administration may make rules and prescribe forms for a taxpayer to claim the  
32 investment tax credit provided by this subchapter and for the proper  
33 enforcement of the claim.

34

35 SECTION 3802. Arkansas Code § 26-51-2411(d), concerning the  
36 enforcement and deposit of fees, is amended to read as follows:

1 (d) The ~~director~~ secretary shall demand the repayment of any  
2 investment tax credits taken in excess of the investment tax credit allowed  
3 by this subchapter.

4  
5 SECTION 3803. Arkansas Code § 26-51-2502(c) and (d), concerning the  
6 Disaster Relief Income Tax Check-Off Program, are amended to read as follows:

7 (c) The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and  
8 Administration shall have the authority to promulgate all rules and  
9 regulations and all income tax forms, returns, and schedules necessary to  
10 carry out this program.

11 (d) The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and  
12 Administration is authorized to accept any gifts, grants, bequests, devises,  
13 and donations made to the State of Arkansas for the purposes of funding the  
14 Arkansas Disaster Relief Program. The ~~director~~ secretary shall deposit any of  
15 these gifts, grants, bequests, devises, and donations so received into the  
16 Arkansas Disaster Relief Program Trust Fund. These gifts, grants, bequests,  
17 devises, and donations shall be used together with any other funds  
18 appropriated for funding the program provided for in this section. ~~All gifts,~~  
19 ~~grants, bequests, devises, and donations shall be deposited, disbursed,~~  
20 ~~budgeted, and regulated under the procedures prescribed by the Chief Fiscal~~  
21 ~~Officer of the State under § 19-4-807 [repealed].~~

22  
23 SECTION 3804. Arkansas Code § 26-51-2502(e)(1)(A), concerning the  
24 Disaster Relief Income Tax Check-Off Program, is amended to read as follows:

25 (e)(1)(A) There is created on the books of the Treasurer of State, the  
26 Auditor of State, and the Chief Fiscal Officer of the State an Arkansas  
27 Disaster Relief Program Trust Fund to be used by the ~~Arkansas Department~~  
28 Division of Emergency Management for disaster relief.

29  
30 SECTION 3805. Arkansas Code § 26-51-2502(f), concerning the Disaster  
31 Relief Income Tax Check-Off Program, is amended to read as follows:

32 (f)(1) The Revenue Division of the Department of Finance and  
33 Administration may establish any rule to effectively carry out the revenue  
34 producing provisions of this section.

35 (2) The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and  
36 Administration may promulgate rules to carry out the provisions of this

1 section that allow the ~~director~~ secretary to accept gifts, grants, bequests,  
2 devises, and donations.

3  
4 SECTION 3806. Arkansas Code § 26-51-2503(a)(3), concerning  
5 contributions to the Arkansas School for the Blind and the Arkansas School  
6 for the Deaf, is amended to read as follows:

7 (3) The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and  
8 Administration may promulgate all rules and regulations and all income tax  
9 forms, returns, and schedules necessary to implement this section.

10  
11 SECTION 3807. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 26-51-  
12 2504(d), concerning the Baby Sharon Act, is amended to read as follows:

13 (d) The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and  
14 Administration may:

15  
16 SECTION 3808. Arkansas Code § 26-51-2504(f), concerning the Baby  
17 Sharon Act, is amended to read as follows:

18 (f) The ~~director~~ secretary shall promulgate all rules and regulations  
19 and all income tax forms, returns, and schedules necessary to carry out the  
20 revenue-producing provisions of this section.

21  
22 SECTION 3809. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 26-51-  
23 2506(d), concerning the Military Family Relief Check-off Program, is amended  
24 to read as follows:

25 (d) The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and  
26 Administration may:

27  
28 SECTION 3810. Arkansas Code § 26-51-2506(f), concerning the Military  
29 Family Relief Check-off Program, is amended to read as follows:

30 (f) The ~~director~~ secretary shall promulgate rules and all income tax  
31 forms, returns, and schedules necessary to carry out the revenue-producing  
32 provisions of this section.

33  
34 SECTION 3811. Arkansas Code § 26-51-2506(j)(2), concerning the  
35 Military Family Relief Check-off Program, is amended to read as follows:

36 (2) The provisions of this section allowing the ~~director~~

1 secretary to accept gifts, grants, bequests, devises, and donations shall be  
2 effective on August 1, 2005.

3  
4 SECTION 3812. Arkansas Code § 26-51-2507(a)(3), concerning  
5 contributions to the Arkansas Area Agencies on Aging, is amended to read as  
6 follows:

7 (3) The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and  
8 Administration may promulgate rules and develop all income tax forms,  
9 returns, and schedules necessary to implement this section.

10  
11 SECTION 3813. Arkansas Code § 26-51-2508(d), concerning the income tax  
12 check-off program for contributions to the Newborn Umbilical Cord Blood  
13 Initiative, is amended to read as follows:

14 (d) The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and  
15 Administration shall promulgate all rules and all income tax forms, returns,  
16 and schedules necessary to carry out the program.

17  
18 SECTION 3814. Arkansas Code § 26-51-2509(c), concerning contributions  
19 to the Arkansas Tax-Deferred Tuition Savings Program account, is amended to  
20 read as follows:

21 (c) The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and  
22 Administration shall promulgate rules and develop all income tax forms,  
23 returns, and schedules necessary to implement this section.

24  
25 SECTION 3815. Arkansas Code § 26-51-2510(d), concerning contributions  
26 to the Arkansas Game and Fish Foundation, is amended to read as follows:

27 (d) The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and  
28 Administration may promulgate rules necessary to carry out the program  
29 established under this section.

30  
31 SECTION 3816. Arkansas Code § 26-52-103(14), concerning the definition  
32 of "director" under the laws regarding gross receipts tax, is repealed.

33 ~~(14) "Director" means the Director of the Department of Finance~~  
34 ~~and Administration or any of his or her authorized agents;~~

35  
36 SECTION 3817. Arkansas Code § 26-52-103(31), concerning the definition

1 of "tax period" under the laws regarding gross receipts tax, is amended to  
2 read as follows:

3 (31) "Tax period" or "taxable period" means either the calendar  
4 period or the taxpayer's fiscal period when a taxpayer has obtained a permit  
5 from the ~~director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration  
6 or from any of his or her authorized agents to use a fiscal period in lieu of  
7 a calendar period;

8

9 SECTION 3818. Arkansas Code § 26-52-105 is amended to read as follows:  
10 26-52-105. Administration – Rules and regulations.

11 (a) The administration of this chapter is vested in and shall be  
12 exercised by the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and  
13 Administration.

14 (b) The ~~director~~ secretary shall promulgate rules and regulations and  
15 prescribe forms for the proper enforcement of this chapter.

16

17 SECTION 3819. Arkansas Code § 26-52-106(b), concerning the cost of  
18 administration and the distribution of an annual surplus, is amended to read  
19 as follows:

20 (b) If any funds appropriated for the administration of this chapter  
21 shall remain in the hands of the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of  
22 Finance and Administration at the end of each fiscal year that shall not have  
23 been actually used in the administration of this chapter, then the funds  
24 shall be remitted by the ~~director~~ secretary to the Treasurer of State for  
25 distribution in the same manner and for the same purposes provided for in §  
26 26-52-107.

27

28 SECTION 3820. Arkansas Code § 26-52-107 is amended to read as follows:  
29 26-52-107. Disposition of taxes, interest, and penalties.

30 All taxes, interest, penalties, and costs received by the ~~Director~~  
31 Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration under the  
32 provisions of this chapter shall be general revenues and shall be deposited  
33 into the State Treasury to the credit of the State Apportionment Fund. The  
34 Treasurer of State shall allocate and transfer the same to the various State  
35 Treasury funds participating in general revenues in the respective  
36 proportions to each as provided by, and to be used for the respective

1 purposes set forth in, the Revenue Stabilization Law, § 19-5-101 et seq.

2  
3 SECTION 3821. Arkansas Code § 26-52-108 is amended to read as follows:  
4 26-52-108. Changes in law – Notice to permit holders.

5 The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration  
6 shall give each gross receipts tax permit holder under § 26-52-201 written  
7 notice of any new state sales and use tax law or any change in the present  
8 state sales and use tax law within thirty (30) days after the adjournment of  
9 the General Assembly.

10  
11 SECTION 3822. Arkansas Code § 26-52-110(f), concerning sellers and  
12 affiliated persons, referral agreements, and requirement of notice, is  
13 amended to read as follows:

14 (f) The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and  
15 Administration shall promulgate rules to implement this section.

16  
17 SECTION 3823. Arkansas Code § 26-52-201(a) and (b), concerning the  
18 requirement for a gross receipts tax permit, are amended to read as follows:

19 (a) It shall be unlawful for any taxpayer to transact business within  
20 this state prior to issuance and receipt of an Arkansas gross receipts tax  
21 permit from the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and  
22 Administration.

23 (b) A separate permit for each business location must be obtained from  
24 the ~~director~~ secretary.

25  
26 SECTION 3824. Arkansas Code § 26-52-201(e), concerning the requirement  
27 for a gross receipts tax permit, are amended to read as follows:

28 (e) The ~~director~~ secretary is authorized to establish types and  
29 classifications of Arkansas gross receipts tax permits, including without  
30 limitation special permits for taxpayers whose principal line of business  
31 does not include the retail selling of tangible personal property, specified  
32 digital products, or a digital code or the performing of taxable services.

33  
34 SECTION 3825. Arkansas Code § 26-52-202(a), concerning an application  
35 for a gross receipts tax permit, is amended to read as follows:

36 (a) Every taxpayer shall file with the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the

1 Department of Finance and Administration an application for a gross receipts  
2 tax permit to conduct the taxpayer's business, setting forth such information  
3 as the ~~director~~ secretary may require.  
4

5 SECTION 3826. Arkansas Code § 26-52-202(c), concerning an application  
6 for a gross receipts tax permit, is amended to read as follows:

7 (c) A taxpayer is permitted to file an application through an agent if  
8 the registration is filed with the ~~director~~ secretary and is made in writing.  
9

10 SECTION 3827. Arkansas Code § 26-52-203(a) and (b), concerning fee  
11 deposits or the requirement of a bond, are amended to read as follows:

12 (a) The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and  
13 Administration shall require prior to the issuance of any new Arkansas gross  
14 receipts tax permit the payment of a nonrefundable fee of fifty dollars  
15 (\$50.00), which shall be remitted with each new application for a permit.

16 (b) All persons doing a retail business in this state, which business  
17 is subject to the provisions of this chapter, who do not have a permanent  
18 domicile in this state, shall make a sufficient cash deposit or sufficient  
19 bond with the ~~director~~ secretary to cover their annual sales tax before doing  
20 business in this state or before receiving a permit to do business in this  
21 state as provided in § 26-52-201.  
22

23 SECTION 3828. Arkansas Code § 26-52-207(a)(1) and (2), concerning the  
24 discontinuance of a business and unpaid taxes, are amended to read as  
25 follows:

26 (a)(1) Any taxpayer operating under a permit as provided in this  
27 subchapter, upon discontinuance of business by sale or otherwise, shall  
28 return the permit to the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and  
29 Administration for cancellation together with a remittance of any unpaid or  
30 accrued taxes.

31 (2) Failure to surrender a permit and pay any and all accrued  
32 taxes shall be sufficient cause for the ~~director~~ secretary to refuse the  
33 issuance of any permit in the future to the taxpayer to engage in or transact  
34 any other business in this state.  
35

36 SECTION 3829. Arkansas Code § 26-52-207(b), concerning the

1 discontinuance of a business and unpaid taxes, is amended to read as follows:

2 (b) The ~~director~~ secretary shall not issue a permit to continue or  
3 conduct the business to the purchaser of the business until all tax claims  
4 due in the State of Arkansas under this section have been settled and paid.  
5

6 SECTION 3830. Arkansas Code § 26-52-210(a)(1)(B), concerning an  
7 automatic expiration of gross receipts tax permits, is amended to read as  
8 follows:

9 (B)(i) The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance  
10 and Administration shall notify the taxpayer in writing that the gross  
11 receipts tax permit has expired.

12 (ii) Within thirty (30) days after the date of the  
13 notice, the taxpayer shall return the permit to the ~~director~~ secretary.  
14

15 SECTION 3831. Arkansas Code § 26-52-210(b), concerning an automatic  
16 expiration of gross receipts tax permits, is amended to read as follows:

17 (b)(1) Any taxpayer who has been notified that his or her gross  
18 receipts tax permit will expire may petition the ~~director~~ secretary to retain  
19 the taxpayer's gross receipts tax permit if the taxpayer reasonably expects  
20 to engage in business within the twelve-month period immediately following  
21 the notification.

22 (2) The ~~director~~ secretary may allow a taxpayer to retain the  
23 taxpayer's gross receipts tax permit if the taxpayer demonstrates to the  
24 ~~director's~~ secretary's satisfaction that the taxpayer will require a gross  
25 receipts tax permit within the following twelve (12) months to engage in  
26 business.  
27

28 SECTION 3832. Arkansas Code § 26-52-303(c)(1), concerning border  
29 cities or towns, tax rates, and exemptions, is amended to read as follows:

30 (c)(1) The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and  
31 Administration shall require any person claiming this exemption to file a  
32 sworn statement in writing that the person is a resident of that city or  
33 incorporated town and such other information as the ~~director~~ secretary may  
34 determine is necessary to establish the residence of the person.  
35

36 SECTION 3833. Arkansas Code § 26-52-314(e), concerning prepaid calling

1 services and prepaid wireless calling services, is amended to read as  
2 follows:

3 (e) The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and  
4 Administration shall promulgate rules to implement this section.

5  
6 SECTION 3834. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 26-52-  
7 317(a)(1), concerning food and food ingredients, is amended to read as  
8 follows:

9 (a)(1) The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and  
10 Administration shall determine the following conditions:

11

12 SECTION 3835. Arkansas Code § 26-52-317(a)(1)(C)(ii), concerning food  
13 and food ingredients, is amended to read as follows:

14 (ii) The ~~director~~ secretary shall make the  
15 determination under subdivision (a)(1)(C)(i) of this section on a monthly  
16 basis following the determination that the conditions under subdivision  
17 (a)(1)(A) of this section have been met.

18

19 SECTION 3836. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 26-52-  
20 317(a)(2)(A), concerning food and food ingredients, is amended to read as  
21 follows:

22 (2)(A) ~~Beginning July 1, 2013, the director~~ The secretary shall  
23 make a monthly determination as to whether the aggregate amount of deductions  
24 from net general revenues attributable to the following during the most  
25 recently ended six-month consecutive period, as compared with the same six-  
26 month period in the prior year, has declined by thirty-five million dollars  
27 (\$35,000,000) or more:

28

29 SECTION 3837. Arkansas Code § 26-52-317(a)(2)(B), concerning food and  
30 food ingredients, is amended to read as follows:

31 (B)(i) In making the determination in this subdivision  
32 (a)(2), the ~~director~~ secretary shall consider all economic factors existing  
33 at the time of the determination that could potentially affect the decline in  
34 the aggregate amount of deductions, including without limitation pending  
35 litigation.

36

(ii) If the consideration of additional economic

1 factors under subdivision (a)(2)(B)(i) of this section results in a  
2 determination that the decline in the aggregate amount of deductions is not  
3 likely to remain at that reduced level, the ~~director~~ secretary shall conclude  
4 that the conditions in this subdivision (a)(2) have not been met.

5  
6 SECTION 3838. Arkansas Code § 26-52-317(a)(3), concerning food and  
7 food ingredients, is amended to read as follows:

8 (3) When the ~~director~~ secretary finds that all of the conditions  
9 in either subdivision (a)(1) of this section or subdivision (a)(2) of this  
10 section have been met, then the gross receipts or gross proceeds taxes levied  
11 under subsection (c) of this section shall be levied at the rate of zero  
12 percent (0%) on the sale of food and food ingredients beginning on the first  
13 day of the calendar quarter that is at least thirty (30) days following the  
14 determination of the ~~director~~ secretary.

15  
16 SECTION 3839. Arkansas Code § 26-52-317(c)(1)(A)-(C), concerning food  
17 and food ingredients, are amended to read as follows:

18 (A) Seventy-six and six-tenths percent (76.6%) of the  
19 taxes, interest, penalties, and costs received by the ~~director~~ secretary  
20 under this subdivision (c)(1) shall be deposited as general revenues;

21 (B) Eight and five-tenths percent (8.5%) of the taxes,  
22 interest, penalties, and costs received by the ~~director~~ secretary under this  
23 subdivision (c)(1) shall be deposited into the Property Tax Relief Trust  
24 Fund; and

25 (C) Fourteen and nine-tenths percent (14.9%) of the taxes,  
26 interest, penalties, and costs received by the ~~director~~ secretary under this  
27 subdivision (c)(1) shall be deposited into the Educational Adequacy Fund.

28  
29 SECTION 3840. Arkansas Code § 26-52-318(a)(21), concerning heavy  
30 equipment, is amended to read as follows:

31 (21) Any other equipment determined by the ~~Director~~ Secretary of  
32 the Department of Finance and Administration to be heavy equipment.

33  
34 SECTION 3841. Arkansas Code § 26-52-319(a)(2)(A)-(C), concerning  
35 natural gas and electricity used by manufacturers, are amended to read as  
36 follows:

1 (A) Seventy-six and six-tenths percent (76.6%) of the tax,  
2 interest, penalties, and costs received by the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the  
3 Department of Finance and Administration shall be deposited as general  
4 revenues;

5 (B) Eight and five-tenths percent (8.5%) of the tax,  
6 interest, penalties, and costs received by the ~~director~~ secretary shall be  
7 deposited into the Property Tax Relief Trust Fund; and

8 (C) Fourteen and nine-tenths percent (14.9%) of the tax,  
9 interest, penalties, and costs received by the ~~director~~ secretary shall be  
10 deposited into the Educational Adequacy Fund.

11  
12 SECTION 3842. Arkansas Code § 26-52-319(e) and (f), concerning natural  
13 gas and electricity used by manufacturers, are amended to read as follows:

14 (e) Before the sale of natural gas or electricity at the reduced  
15 excise tax rate levied in this section, the ~~director~~ secretary may require  
16 any seller of natural gas or electricity to obtain a certificate from the  
17 consumer, in the form prescribed by the ~~director~~ secretary, certifying that  
18 the manufacturer is eligible to purchase natural gas and electricity at the  
19 reduced excise tax rate.

20 (f) The ~~director~~ secretary shall promulgate rules for the proper  
21 administration of this section.

22  
23 SECTION 3843. Arkansas Code § 26-52-320(c), concerning portable  
24 toilets and associated services, is amended to read as follows:

25 (c) The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and  
26 Administration may promulgate rules to implement this section.

27  
28 SECTION 3844. Arkansas Code § 26-52-321(b), concerning fishing guide  
29 services, is amended to read as follows:

30 (b) The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and  
31 Administration shall promulgate rules to implement this section.

32  
33 SECTION 3845. Arkansas Code § 26-52-322(c), concerning withdrawals  
34 from stock, is amended to read as follows:

35 (c) The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and  
36 Administration may promulgate rules to implement this section.

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SECTION 3846. Arkansas Code § 26-52-402(d), concerning tax exemptions for certain machinery and equipment, is amended to read as follows:

(d) The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration may promulgate rules and regulations for the orderly and efficient administration of this section.

SECTION 3847. Arkansas Code § 26-52-403(c), concerning farm equipment and machinery, is amended to read as follows:

(c) The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration shall promulgate rules and prescribe forms for claiming the exemption provided by this section.

SECTION 3848. Arkansas Code § 26-52-406(b), concerning prescription drugs and oxygen, is amended to read as follows:

(b) The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration shall adopt such appropriate rules and regulations as the ~~director~~ secretary deems necessary to assume the effective and efficient administration of the exemption provided for in this section and to prevent abuse thereof.

SECTION 3849. Arkansas Code § 26-52-414(b), concerning products sold to humane societies, is amended to read as follows:

(b) The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration shall issue a certificate to the officers of each humane society organized under § 20-19-101, which shall indicate the identity of the humane society officer and the humane society with which the humane society officer is associated. Sales to a humane society shall be exempt from the Arkansas gross receipts tax upon presentation of the certificate.

SECTION 3850. Arkansas Code § 26-52-416(d), concerning electricity sold to low-income households, is amended to read as follows:

(d) On forms provided by the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration, a residential customer qualifying for the exemption in this section shall notify the electric utility providing service to the residential customer of the residential customer's intention to claim

1 the exemption in this section.

2

3 SECTION 3851. Arkansas Code § 26-52-416(e)(2), concerning electricity  
4 sold to low-income households, is amended to read as follows:

5 (2) When a residential customer who has qualified for the  
6 exemption in this section has household income exceeding the twelve-thousand-  
7 dollar limit, the residential customer is disqualified from the exemption in  
8 this section and shall notify the electric utility on forms provided by the  
9 ~~director~~ secretary. The notice form shall be mailed to the electric utility  
10 on or before March 1 of the year following the year the household income  
11 exceeds twelve thousand dollars (\$12,000).

12

13 SECTION 3852. Arkansas Code § 26-52-416(f)(2), concerning electricity  
14 sold to low-income households, is amended to read as follows:

15 (2) The electric utility shall bill a residential customer for  
16 the amount of tax due as a result of the residential customer's  
17 disqualification under this section and remit the tax to the ~~director~~  
18 secretary.

19

20 SECTION 3853. Arkansas Code § 26-52-427(f), concerning property  
21 purchased for use in the performance of construction contracts, is amended to  
22 read as follows:

23 (f) The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and  
24 Administration shall promulgate rules and prescribe forms for claiming a  
25 rebate as provided by this section.

26

27 SECTION 3854. Arkansas Code § 26-52-440(a)(1), concerning the  
28 definition of "exemption certificate" under the laws concerning tax  
29 exemptions for qualified museums, is amended to read as follows:

30 (1) "Exemption certificate" means an exemption certificate  
31 issued by the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and  
32 Administration under subdivision (d)(1) of this section;

33

34 SECTION 3855. Arkansas Code § 26-52-440(a)(3)(B), concerning the  
35 definition of "exemption certificate" under the laws concerning tax  
36 exemptions for qualified museums, is amended to read as follows:

1 (B) The ~~director~~ secretary has issued an exemption  
2 certificate to the nonprofit organization; and

3  
4 SECTION 3856. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 26-52-  
5 440(c), concerning the definition of "exemption certificate" under the laws  
6 concerning tax exemptions for qualified museums, is amended to read as  
7 follows:

8 (c) A nonprofit organization requesting recognition as a qualified  
9 museum shall file with the ~~director~~ secretary on forms prescribed by the  
10 ~~director~~ secretary a written statement under oath:

11  
12 SECTION 3857. Arkansas Code § 26-52-440(d) and (e), concerning the  
13 definition of "exemption certificate" under the laws concerning tax  
14 exemptions for qualified museums, are amended to read as follows:

15 (d)(1) After filing the statement required under subdivision (c)(1) of  
16 this section, if the ~~director~~ secretary finds that the nonprofit organization  
17 has a good faith plan and intent to satisfy the conditions of subdivision  
18 (c)(2) of this section prior to January 1, 2013, the ~~director~~ secretary shall  
19 issue an exemption certificate to the nonprofit organization within sixty  
20 (60) days after the filing of the statement.

21 (2) The ~~director~~ secretary may revoke the exemption certificate  
22 at any time after it is issued if the ~~director~~ secretary determines that the  
23 nonprofit organization is unable to satisfy the conditions under subdivision  
24 (c)(2) of this section prior to January 1, 2013.

25 (3) After filing the statement required under subdivision (c)(2)  
26 of this section, if the ~~director~~ secretary determines that the nonprofit  
27 organization has not met the conditions under subdivision (c)(2) of this  
28 section, the ~~director~~ secretary shall revoke the exemption certificate of the  
29 nonprofit organization.

30 (4) If the nonprofit organization fails to file the statement  
31 described in subdivision (c)(2) of this section on or prior to June 30, 2013,  
32 the ~~director~~ secretary shall revoke the exemption certificate.

33 (5) Revocation by the ~~director~~ secretary of an exemption  
34 certificate shall be retroactive to the date of its issuance subject to  
35 subsection (e) of this section.

36 (e)(1) If the ~~director~~ secretary revokes the exemption certificate,

1 any tax deficiency, related interest, and applicable penalties due under this  
2 chapter, the Arkansas Compensating Tax Act of 1949, § 26-53-101 et seq., or  
3 the Arkansas Tax Procedure Act, § 26-18-101 et seq., may be assessed against  
4 the nonprofit organization but may not be assessed against a third party that  
5 has relied in good faith on the exemption certificate prior to its  
6 revocation.

7 (2) If the ~~director~~ secretary revokes the exemption certificate,  
8 any tax deficiency, related interest, and applicable penalties assessed  
9 against the nonprofit organization shall also include any tax deficiency,  
10 related interest, and applicable penalties assessed on purchases made by the  
11 nonprofit organization's contractors and agents for the benefit of the  
12 nonprofit organization in reliance on the exemption certificate.

13 (3)(A) Any assessment by the ~~director~~ secretary under  
14 subdivision (e)(1) of this section or subdivision (e)(2) of this section  
15 shall be made in accordance with the Arkansas Tax Procedure Act, § 26-18-101  
16 et seq.

17 (B) However, the time period for the ~~director~~ secretary to  
18 make the assessment is extended to whichever of the following occurs first:

19 (i) Three (3) years from the date the nonprofit  
20 organization files the statement under subdivision (c)(2) of this section; or

21 (ii) July 1, 2016.

22 (4) The nonprofit organization may contest any assessment or  
23 other determination by the ~~director~~ secretary in accordance with the Arkansas  
24 Tax Procedure Act, § 26-18-101 et seq.

25  
26 SECTION 3858. Arkansas Code § 26-52-441(d), concerning natural gas and  
27 electricity used in the manufacturing of tires, is amended to read as  
28 follows:

29 (d) The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and  
30 Administration shall promulgate rules for the proper administration of this  
31 section.

32  
33 SECTION 3859. Arkansas Code § 26-52-446(d) and (e), concerning grain  
34 drying and storage facilities, are amended to read as follows:

35 (d) Before allowing the exemption of a utility under this section, the  
36 ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration may

1 require a seller of a utility to obtain a certificate from the taxpayer in  
2 the form prescribed by the ~~director~~ secretary, certifying that the taxpayer  
3 is eligible for the exemption.

4 (e) The ~~director~~ secretary shall promulgate rules for the proper  
5 administration of this section.

6  
7 SECTION 3860. Arkansas Code § 26-52-450(d) and (e), concerning  
8 utilities used for qualifying agricultural structures and qualifying  
9 aquaculture and horticulture equipment, are amended to read as follows:

10 (d) Before allowing the exemption of a utility under this section, the  
11 ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration may  
12 require a seller of a utility to obtain a certificate from the taxpayer in  
13 the form prescribed by the ~~director~~ secretary, certifying that the taxpayer  
14 is eligible for the exemption.

15 (e) The ~~director~~ secretary shall promulgate rules for the proper  
16 administration of this section.

17  
18 SECTION 3861. Arkansas Code § 26-52-501(a)(2), concerning preparation  
19 of returns and payment of taxes, is amended to read as follows:

20 (2) When a taxpayer becomes liable to file a report with the  
21 ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration, the  
22 taxpayer must continue to file the report, even though no tax is due, until  
23 such time as the taxpayer notifies the ~~director~~ secretary, in writing, that  
24 the taxpayer is no longer liable for the report.

25  
26 SECTION 3862. Arkansas Code § 26-52-501(b), concerning preparation of  
27 returns and payment of taxes, is amended to read as follows:

28 (b)(1) For the purpose of ascertaining the amount of tax payable under  
29 this chapter, it shall be the duty of all taxpayers on or before the  
30 twentieth day of each month to deliver to the ~~director~~ secretary, upon forms  
31 prescribed and furnished by the ~~director~~ secretary, returns showing the total  
32 tax due derived from all taxable sales during the preceding calendar month.

33 (2) The returns shall show such further information as the  
34 ~~director~~ secretary may require to enable the ~~director~~ secretary to compute  
35 correctly and collect the tax levied.

36 (3) Whether an individual, corporation, partnership, limited

1 liability company, or other entity, every taxpayer shall file a single report  
2 combining all taxes due derived from sales made from all Arkansas locations  
3 of the taxpayer's business which are registered and permitted with the  
4 ~~director~~ secretary under the same federal employer's identification number or  
5 Social Security number.

6  
7 SECTION 3863. Arkansas Code § 26-52-501(e), concerning preparation of  
8 returns and payment of taxes, is amended to read as follows:

9 (e) The taxpayer shall compute and remit to the ~~director~~ secretary the  
10 required tax due for the preceding calendar month, with the remittance of the  
11 tax to accompany the returns required in this subchapter.

12  
13 SECTION 3864. Arkansas Code § 26-52-501(h)-(j), concerning preparation  
14 of returns and payment of taxes, are amended to read as follows:

15 (h) When the average amount of tax for which the taxpayer is liable  
16 for the previous fiscal year beginning on July 1 and ending on June 30 does  
17 not exceed one hundred dollars (\$100) per month, the ~~director~~ secretary may  
18 notify the taxpayer that a quarterly report and remittance in lieu of a  
19 monthly report may be made on or before July 20, October 20, January 20, and  
20 April 20 of each year for the preceding three-month period.

21 (i) When the average amount of tax for which the taxpayer is liable  
22 for the previous fiscal year beginning on July 1 and ending on June 30 does  
23 not exceed twenty-five dollars (\$25.00) per month, the ~~director~~ secretary may  
24 notify the taxpayer that a yearly report and remittance in lieu of a monthly  
25 report may be made on or before January 20 of each year for the preceding  
26 twelve-month period.

27 (j) The ~~director~~ secretary may establish by regulation separate  
28 requirements for filing reports and returns and paying the tax levied under  
29 this chapter for taxpayers whose principal line of business does not include  
30 the retail selling of tangible personal property, specified digital products,  
31 or a digital code or performing taxable services.

32  
33 SECTION 3865. Arkansas Code § 26-52-502 is amended to read as follows:  
34 26-52-502. Tax return on basis of cash actually received.

35 (a) Any person taxable under this chapter doing business wholly or  
36 partly on a credit basis may make application to the ~~Director~~ Secretary of

1 the Department of Finance and Administration for permission to prepare his or  
2 her returns on the basis of cash actually received.

3 (b) The application shall be granted by the ~~director~~ secretary under  
4 such rules and regulations as the ~~director~~ secretary may prescribe.

5 (c) Any person making the application shall be taxable on all moneys  
6 collected during the taxable period.

7  
8 SECTION 3866. Arkansas Code § 26-52-503(a) and (b), concerning a  
9 discount for early payment of taxes, are amended to read as follows:

10 (a) At the time of transmitting the returns required under this  
11 chapter to the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and  
12 Administration, the taxpayer shall remit with the returns to the ~~director~~  
13 secretary ninety-eight percent (98%) of the state tax due under this chapter  
14 and ninety-eight percent (98%) of the city and county gross receipts taxes  
15 collected by the ~~director~~ secretary.

16 (b) Failure of the taxpayer to remit the tax on or before the  
17 twentieth day of the applicable month shall cause the taxpayer to forfeit his  
18 or her claim to the discount, and the taxpayer shall remit to the ~~director~~  
19 secretary one hundred percent (100%) of the amount of tax plus any penalty  
20 and interest due.

21  
22 SECTION 3867. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 26-52-  
23 503(c)(2)(C), concerning a discount for early payment of taxes, is amended to  
24 read as follows:

25 (C) The limitations on the state tax discount under this  
26 section apply to early payment of city and county gross receipts taxes  
27 collected by the ~~director~~ secretary, under the following schedule:

28  
29 SECTION 3868. Arkansas Code § 26-52-505(a), concerning the sales of  
30 aircraft, is amended to read as follows:

31 (a) Every person selling new or used aircraft in this state, whether  
32 from an established business, under a dealership, as a flying service, or as  
33 a private individual, shall obtain and hold a permit as provided in § 26-52-  
34 202 and shall make a monthly report and remittance to the ~~Director~~ Secretary  
35 of the Department of Finance and Administration as provided in this chapter,  
36 together with copies of invoices, sales tickets, or bills of sale reflecting

1 the date of all sales of aircraft, the purchaser's name and address, the  
2 make, year, model, serial number, and gross sales price of each aircraft, and  
3 the amount of tax collected from the purchaser.

4  
5 SECTION 3869. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 26-52-  
6 508(a), concerning the collection of taxes by sellers or admissions  
7 collectors, is amended to read as follows:

8 (a) The tax levied by this chapter shall be paid to the ~~Director~~  
9 Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration by:

10  
11 SECTION 3870. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 26-52-  
12 509(a)(1), concerning the direct payment of taxes by a consumer or user, is  
13 amended to read as follows:

14 (a)(1) The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and  
15 Administration by agreement with any consumer or user may:

16  
17 SECTION 3871. Arkansas Code § 26-52-509(a)(3), concerning the direct  
18 payment of taxes by a consumer or user, is amended to read as follows:

19 (3) A person who has entered into a limited direct pay agreement  
20 under this section and makes purchases of property or services under the  
21 authority of that agreement without paying the gross receipts or compensating  
22 use taxes due on those purchases is responsible for remitting the proper  
23 amount of tax due to the ~~director~~ secretary as required by law.

24  
25 SECTION 3872. Arkansas Code § 26-52-509(b), concerning the direct  
26 payment of taxes by a consumer or user, is amended to read as follows:

27 (b) The agreements may be revoked at any time by the ~~director~~  
28 secretary whenever the ~~director~~ secretary determines that the revocation  
29 thereof should be in the best interests of collection of gross receipts  
30 taxes.

31  
32 SECTION 3873. Arkansas Code § 26-52-510(a)(1) and (2), concerning the  
33 direct payment of tax by a consumer on new and used motor vehicles, trailers,  
34 or semitrailers, are amended to read as follows:

35 (a)(1) On or before the time for registration as prescribed by § 27-  
36 14-903(a), a consumer shall pay to the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department

1 of Finance and Administration the tax levied by this chapter and all other  
2 gross receipts taxes levied by the state with respect to the sale of a new or  
3 used motor vehicle, trailer, or semitrailer required to be licensed in this  
4 state, instead of the taxes being collected by the dealer or seller.

5 (2) The ~~director~~ secretary shall require the payment of the  
6 taxes at the time of registration before issuing a license for the new or  
7 used motor vehicle, trailer, or semitrailer.

8  
9 SECTION 3874. Arkansas Code § 26-52-510(a)(4)(B), concerning the  
10 direct payment of tax by a consumer on new and used motor vehicles, trailers,  
11 or semitrailers, are amended to read as follows:

12 (B) The consumer shall pay to the ~~director~~ secretary the  
13 penalty under subdivision (a)(4)(A) of this section and the taxes due before  
14 the ~~director~~ secretary issues a license for the motor vehicle, trailer, or  
15 semitrailer.

16  
17 SECTION 3875. Arkansas Code § 26-52-510(g)(1)(B) and (C), concerning  
18 the direct payment of tax by a consumer on new and used motor vehicles,  
19 trailers, or semitrailers, are amended to read as follows:

20 (B) If the published loan value exceeds the invoiced  
21 price, then the taxpayer must establish to the ~~director's~~ secretary's  
22 satisfaction that the price reflected on the invoice or other document is  
23 true and correct.

24 (C) If the ~~director~~ secretary determines that the invoiced  
25 price is not the actual selling price of the vehicle, then the total  
26 consideration will be deemed to be the published loan value.

27  
28 SECTION 3876. Arkansas Code § 26-52-510(g)(2), concerning the direct  
29 payment of tax by a consumer on new and used motor vehicles, trailers, or  
30 semitrailers, is amended to read as follows:

31 (2)(A) For purposes of this section, the total consideration for  
32 a new or used trailer or semitrailer shall be the actual sales price as  
33 provided on a bill of sale, invoice, or financing agreement.

34 (B) The ~~director~~ secretary may require additional  
35 information to conclusively establish the true selling price of the new or  
36 used trailer or semitrailer.

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SECTION 3877. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 26-52-514(a), concerning the determination of total consideration for the sale of a vehicle and an alternative method, is amended to read as follows:

(a) The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration is authorized to adopt an alternative method for determining the total consideration for the sale of new or used:

SECTION 3878. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 26-52-515(a), concerning the refund of sales tax on vehicles returned as defective, is amended to read as follows:

(a) The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration shall refund to a manufacturer any state and local sales or use tax which the manufacturer refunded to the consumer, lessee, or lessor pursuant to the Arkansas New Motor Vehicle Quality Assurance Act, § 4-90-401 et seq., or other defective vehicle buy-back agreement, if the manufacturer provides to the Department of Finance and Administration:

SECTION 3879. Arkansas Code § 26-52-515(a)(5), concerning the refund of sales tax on vehicles returned as defective, is amended to read as follows:

(5) Such other information as shall be required by the ~~director~~ secretary.

SECTION 3880. Arkansas Code § 26-52-515(c)(2), concerning the refund of sales tax on vehicles returned as defective, is amended to read as follows:

(2) The ~~director~~ secretary shall prescribe the forms and other information necessary to issue the voucher.

SECTION 3881. Arkansas Code § 26-52-517(a), concerning exemption certificates, is amended to read as follows:

(a) The sales tax liability for all sales of tangible personal property, specified digital products, digital codes, and taxable services is upon the seller unless the purchaser claims an exemption and the seller obtains identifying information of the purchaser and the reason the purchaser

1 is claiming the exemption in the manner prescribed by the ~~Director~~ Secretary  
2 of the Department of Finance and Administration.

3  
4 SECTION 3882. Arkansas Code § 26-52-517(b)(1), concerning exemption  
5 certificates, is amended to read as follows:

6 (b)(1) When tangible personal property, specified digital products, a  
7 digital code, or taxable services are purchased tax-free under subsection (a)  
8 of this section and the tangible personal property, specified digital  
9 products, digital code, or taxable service is not resold by the purchaser,  
10 the purchaser is solely liable for reporting and remitting to the ~~director~~  
11 secretary any tax which should have been paid at the time of purchase.

12  
13 SECTION 3883. Arkansas Code § 26-52-517(c)(1), concerning exemption  
14 certificates, is amended to read as follows:

15 (c)(1) The ~~director~~ secretary may provide sale for resale certificates  
16 to assist retailers in properly accounting for nontaxable sales of tangible  
17 personal property or taxable services.

18  
19 SECTION 3884. Arkansas Code § 26-52-517(e), concerning exemption  
20 certificates, is amended to read as follows:

21 (e) A seller that follows the exemption requirements as prescribed by  
22 the ~~director~~ secretary is relieved from any tax otherwise applicable if it is  
23 determined that the purchaser improperly claimed an exemption.

24  
25 SECTION 3885. Arkansas Code § 26-52-518(c), concerning special events,  
26 is amended to read as follows:

27 (c) Promoters or organizers of special events shall register for sales  
28 tax collection with the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and  
29 Administration and shall provide to special event vendors special event sales  
30 tax reporting forms and any other information which may be required by the  
31 ~~director~~ secretary.

32  
33 SECTION 3886. Arkansas Code § 26-52-518(f)(2), concerning special  
34 events, is amended to read as follows:

35 (2) Promoters and organizers shall be liable for their failure  
36 to remit to the ~~director~~ secretary sales taxes which are remitted to them by

1 special event vendors.

2

3 SECTION 3887. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 26-52-  
4 519(a), concerning a credit voucher for sales tax on motor vehicles destroyed  
5 by catastrophic events, is amended to read as follows:

6 (a) When a consumer has paid sales taxes on a motor vehicle within the  
7 last one hundred eighty (180) days and the motor vehicle is destroyed or  
8 damaged by some catastrophic event resulting from a natural cause to the  
9 extent that the value of the motor vehicle is less than thirty percent (30%)  
10 of its retail value, as found in the National Automobile Dealers  
11 Association's Official Price Guide, or other source approved by the Office of  
12 Motor Vehicle, the consumer may apply to the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the  
13 Department of Finance and Administration for a sales tax credit voucher in  
14 the amount of any state and local sales or use taxes paid on the motor  
15 vehicle transaction, if the consumer provides to the Department of Finance  
16 and Administration:

17

18 SECTION 3888. Arkansas Code § 26-52-519(a)(5), concerning a credit  
19 voucher for sales tax on motor vehicles destroyed by catastrophic events, is  
20 amended to read as follows:

21 (5) Any other information as shall be required by the ~~director~~  
22 secretary as necessary to issue the voucher.

23

24 SECTION 3889. Arkansas Code § 26-52-519(c), concerning a credit  
25 voucher for sales tax on motor vehicles destroyed by catastrophic events, is  
26 amended to read as follows:

27 (c) When a consumer has tendered a trade-in motor vehicle toward the  
28 purchase of the vehicle which is credited under subsection (a) of this  
29 section, the consumer may apply to the ~~director~~ secretary for a credit  
30 voucher in the amount of the trade-in vehicle's consideration also.

31

32 SECTION 3890. Arkansas Code § 26-52-519(e), concerning a credit  
33 voucher for sales tax on motor vehicles destroyed by catastrophic events, is  
34 amended to read as follows:

35 (e) The ~~director~~ secretary shall prescribe the forms, the nature of  
36 satisfactory proof of the vehicle's values, and any other information as is

1 necessary to issue the credit vouchers under this section.

2

3 SECTION 3891. Arkansas Code § 26-52-523(c)(1) and (2), concerning a  
4 credit or rebate on local sales and use tax, are amended to read as follows:

5 (c)(1) A purchaser that is required by § 26-52-501, § 26-52-509, or §  
6 26-53-125 to file a sales or use tax return may file a claim for a credit or  
7 rebate under this section with the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of  
8 Finance and Administration in connection with the sales or use tax return and  
9 offset the amount of credit or rebate claimed against any municipal or county  
10 sales or use tax due to be remitted with the return.

11 (2) A purchaser that qualifies for a credit or rebate under this  
12 section and is not required to file a sales or use tax return as provided in  
13 subdivision (c)(1) of this section may file a claim for a credit or rebate  
14 under this section with the ~~director~~ secretary.

15

16 SECTION 3892. Arkansas Code § 26-52-523(g), concerning a credit or a  
17 rebate on local sales and use tax, is amended to read as follows:

18 (g) The ~~director~~ secretary may promulgate rules to administer this  
19 section, including without limitation providing an administratively feasible  
20 method for filing a claim for a credit or rebate and any necessary forms.

21

22 SECTION 3893. Arkansas Code § 26-52-523(i), concerning a credit or a  
23 rebate on local sales and use tax, is amended to read as follows:

24 (i) Except as provided in subsection (h) of this section, this section  
25 applies to any local sales or use tax collected by the ~~director~~ secretary  
26 pursuant to any state tax law authorizing a county or municipality to levy a  
27 sales or use tax.

28

29 SECTION 3894. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 26-52-  
30 802(a), concerning the sale of manufactured homes, modular homes, or mobile  
31 homes, is amended to read as follows:

32 (a) Whether from an established business or by a licensed retailer,  
33 every person selling manufactured homes or modular homes in this state shall  
34 obtain a permit and report and remit to the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the  
35 Department of Finance and Administration as provided in this chapter,  
36 together with:

1  
2 SECTION 3895. Arkansas Code § 26-53-102(9), concerning the definition  
3 of "director" under the Arkansas Compensating Tax Act of 1949, is repealed.

4 ~~(9) "Director" means the Director of the Department of Finance~~  
5 ~~and Administration;~~

6  
7 SECTION 3896. Arkansas Code § 26-53-103(a), concerning the  
8 administration of the Arkansas Compensating Tax Act of 1949, is amended to  
9 read as follows:

10 (a) The administration of this subchapter is vested in and shall be  
11 exercised by the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and  
12 Administration.

13  
14 SECTION 3897. Arkansas Code § 26-53-104(a), concerning rules,  
15 regulations, and forms under the Arkansas Compensating Tax Act of 1949, is  
16 amended to read as follows:

17 (a) The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and  
18 Administration shall promulgate rules and regulations and prescribe forms for  
19 the proper enforcement of this subchapter.

20  
21 SECTION 3898. Arkansas Code § 26-53-104(b)(2), concerning rules,  
22 regulations, and forms under the Arkansas Compensating Tax Act of 1949, is  
23 amended to read as follows:

24 (2) A complete file of all the rules, regulations, and forms  
25 shall be kept in the office of the ~~director~~ secretary.

26  
27 SECTION 3899. Arkansas Code § 26-53-105 is amended to read as follows:  
28 26-53-105. Sales and Use Tax Section.

29 The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration  
30 shall create within the Revenue Division of the Department of Finance and  
31 Administration the Sales and Use Tax Section for the collection, enforcement,  
32 and administration of the tax levied by this subchapter.

33  
34 SECTION 3900. Arkansas Code § 26-53-114(d), concerning an exemption  
35 for certain machinery and equipment, is amended to read as follows:

36 (d) The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and

1 Administration may promulgate rules and regulations for the orderly and  
2 efficient administration of this section.

3

4 SECTION 3901. Arkansas Code § 26-53-121(1), concerning the  
5 registration of vendors, is amended to read as follows:

6 (1) Register with the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of  
7 Finance and Administration;

8

9 SECTION 3902. Arkansas Code § 26-53-121(3), concerning the  
10 registration of vendors, is amended to read as follows:

11 (3) Provide other information as the ~~director~~ secretary may  
12 require.

13

14 SECTION 3903. Arkansas Code § 26-53-123(b), concerning tax liability,  
15 is amended to read as follows:

16 (b) However, a receipt from a vendor authorized by the ~~Director~~  
17 Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration under such rules  
18 and regulations as he or she may prescribe to collect the tax imposed given  
19 to the purchaser in accordance with the provisions of §§ 26-53-121 and 26-53-  
20 122 shall be sufficient to relieve the purchaser from further liability for  
21 the tax to which the receipt may refer.

22

23 SECTION 3904. Arkansas Code § 26-53-125(a)(1) and (2), concerning the  
24 return and payment of taxes, are amended to read as follows:

25 (a)(1)(A) The tax imposed by this subchapter shall be due and payable  
26 to the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration  
27 monthly on or before the twentieth day of each month except as provided in  
28 this subchapter.

29

30 (B) When a taxpayer has become liable to file a report  
31 with the ~~director~~ secretary, the taxpayer must continue to file a report,  
32 even though no tax is due, until the taxpayer notifies the ~~director~~ secretary  
33 in writing that the taxpayer is no longer liable for those reports.

34

35 (2) Every vendor selling tangible personal property, specified  
36 digital products, a digital code, or taxable services for storage, use,  
distribution, or consumption in this state shall file with the ~~director~~  
secretary on or before the twentieth day of each month a sales and use tax

1 return for the preceding monthly period in such form as may be prescribed by  
2 the ~~director~~ secretary, showing:

3 (A) The total tax levied by this subchapter due on all  
4 tangible personal property, specified digital products, digital codes, or  
5 taxable services sold by the vendor during the preceding monthly period, the  
6 storage, use, distribution, or consumption of which is subject to the tax  
7 levied by this subchapter; and

8 (B) Such other information as the ~~director~~ secretary may  
9 deem necessary for the proper administration of this subchapter.

10  
11 SECTION 3905. Arkansas Code § 26-53-125(b)(1), concerning the return  
12 and payment of taxes, is amended to read as follows:

13 (b)(1) Every person purchasing tangible personal property, specified  
14 digital products, a digital code, or taxable services of which the storage,  
15 use, distribution, or consumption is subject to the tax levied by this  
16 subchapter and who has not paid the tax due with respect to the tangible  
17 personal property, specified digital products, digital code, or taxable  
18 services to a vendor registered in accordance with the provisions of §§ 26-  
19 53-121 and 26-53-122 shall file a return with the ~~director~~ secretary on or  
20 before the twentieth day of each month for the preceding monthly period in  
21 such a form as may be prescribed by the ~~director~~ secretary showing:

22 (A) The tax levied by this subchapter due on the tangible  
23 personal property, specified digital products, digital code, or taxable  
24 services purchased during the preceding monthly period; and

25 (B) Such other information as the ~~director~~ secretary may  
26 deem necessary for the proper administration of this subchapter.

27  
28 SECTION 3906. Arkansas Code § 26-53-125(c)(1), concerning the return  
29 and payment of taxes, is amended to read as follows:

30 (1) Upon registration, the ~~director~~ secretary shall provide the  
31 vendor the required Arkansas returns;

32  
33 SECTION 3907. Arkansas Code § 26-53-125(d)(1), concerning the return  
34 and payment of taxes, is amended to read as follows:

35 (d)(1) When the average amount of tax for which the taxpayer is liable  
36 for the previous fiscal year beginning on July 1 and ending on June 30 does

1 not exceed one hundred dollars (\$100) per month, the ~~director~~ secretary may  
2 notify the taxpayer that a quarterly report and remittance in lieu of a  
3 monthly report may be made on or before July 20, October 20, January 20, and  
4 April 20 of each year for the preceding three-month period.

5  
6 SECTION 3908. Arkansas Code § 26-53-126(a)(2), concerning taxes,  
7 payment, and collections on new and used motor vehicles, trailers, and  
8 semitrailers, is amended to read as follows:

9 (2)(A) On or before the time for registration as prescribed by §  
10 27-14-903(a), the person making application to register the motor vehicle,  
11 trailer, or semitrailer shall pay the taxes to the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the  
12 Department of Finance and Administration instead of the taxes being collected  
13 by the dealer or individual seller.

14 (B) The ~~director~~ secretary shall collect the taxes before  
15 issuing a license for the motor vehicle, trailer, or semitrailer.

16  
17 SECTION 3909. Arkansas Code § 26-53-126(a)(4)(B), concerning taxes,  
18 payment, and collections on new and used motor vehicles, trailers, and  
19 semitrailers, is amended to read as follows:

20 (B) The person making application to register the motor  
21 vehicle, trailer, or semitrailer shall pay to the ~~director~~ secretary the  
22 penalty under subdivision (a)(4)(A) of this section and the taxes due before  
23 the ~~director~~ secretary issues a license for the motor vehicle, trailer, or  
24 semitrailer.

25  
26 SECTION 3910. Arkansas Code § 26-53-126(f)(1)(B) and (C), concerning  
27 taxes, payment, and collections on new and used motor vehicles, trailers, and  
28 semitrailers, are amended to read as follows:

29 (B) If the published loan value exceeds the invoiced  
30 price, then the taxpayer must establish to the ~~director's~~ secretary's  
31 satisfaction that the price reflected on the invoice or other document is  
32 true and correct.

33 (C) If the ~~director~~ secretary determines that the invoiced  
34 price is not the actual selling price of the vehicle, then the total  
35 consideration will be deemed to be the published loan value.

36

1 SECTION 3911. Arkansas Code § 26-53-126(f)(2)(B), concerning taxes,  
2 payment, and collections on new and used motor vehicles, trailers, and  
3 semitrailers, is amended to read as follows:

4 (B) The ~~director~~ secretary may require additional  
5 information to conclusively establish the true selling price of the new or  
6 used trailer or semitrailer.

7  
8 SECTION 3912. Arkansas Code § 26-53-127 is amended to read as follows:  
9 26-53-127. Refunds to governmental agencies.

10 A governmental agency may apply to the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the  
11 Department of Finance and Administration for refund of the amount of the tax  
12 levied and paid upon sales to it for food and food ingredients used for free  
13 distribution to the poor and needy or to public penal and eleemosynary  
14 institutions, as provided by law.

15  
16 SECTION 3913. Arkansas Code § 26-53-129 is amended to read as follows:  
17 26-53-129. Suits for violations of subchapter – Agent for service.

18 (a) In all suits brought in any of the courts of this state by the  
19 ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration against  
20 any vendor for any violation of this subchapter, the suits shall be brought  
21 thereon in any courts of this state having jurisdiction of the subject  
22 matter.

23 (b)(1) Every vendor shall designate with the ~~director~~ Secretary of the  
24 Department of Finance and Administration an agent for service within this  
25 state for the purpose of enforcing this subchapter.

26 (2) If a vendor has not designated or shall fail to designate  
27 with the ~~director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration  
28 an agent for service within this state, then the Secretary of State shall be  
29 deemed the agent for service, or any agent or employee of the vendor within  
30 this state shall be deemed agent for service.

31  
32 SECTION 3914. Arkansas Code § 26-53-131(a)(1)(A)(ii), concerning  
33 credit for taxes paid in another state, is amended to read as follows:

34 (ii) Proof of payment of such a tax shall be made  
35 according to the rules and regulations promulgated by the ~~Director~~ Secretary  
36 of the Department of Finance and Administration.

1  
2 SECTION 3915. Arkansas Code § 26-53-131(a)(1)(B), concerning credit  
3 for taxes paid in another state, is amended to read as follows:

4 (B) If the amount of tax paid in another state is less  
5 than the amount of Arkansas compensating tax imposed on the property or  
6 services by this subchapter, then the taxpayer shall pay to the ~~director~~  
7 secretary an amount of Arkansas compensating tax sufficient to make the  
8 combined amount of tax paid in the other state and this state equal to the  
9 total amount of Arkansas compensating tax that would be due if no tax on the  
10 property or services had been paid to any other state.

11  
12 SECTION 3916. Arkansas Code § 26-53-138(f), concerning exemptions for  
13 property purchased for the use and performance of a construction contract, is  
14 amended to read as follows:

15 (f) The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and  
16 Administration shall promulgate rules and prescribe forms for claiming a  
17 rebate as provided by this section.

18  
19 SECTION 3917. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 26-53-  
20 145(a)(1), concerning food and food ingredients, is amended to read as  
21 follows:

22 (a)(1) The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and  
23 Administration shall determine the following conditions:

24  
25 SECTION 3918. Arkansas Code § 26-53-145(a)(1)(C)(ii), concerning food  
26 and food ingredients, is amended to read as follows:

27 (ii) The ~~director~~ secretary shall make the  
28 determination under subdivision (a)(1)(C)(i) of this section on a monthly  
29 basis following the determination that the conditions under subdivision  
30 (a)(1)(A) of this section have been met.

31  
32 SECTION 3919. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 26-53-  
33 145(a)(2)(A), concerning food and food ingredients, is amended to read as  
34 follows:

35 (2)(A) Beginning July 1, 2013, the ~~director~~ secretary shall make  
36 a monthly determination as to whether the aggregate amount of deductions from

1 net general revenues attributable to the following during the most recently  
2 ended six-month consecutive period, as compared with the same six-month  
3 period in the prior year, has declined by thirty-five million dollars  
4 (\$35,000,000) or more:

5  
6 SECTION 3920. Arkansas Code § 26-53-145(a)(2)(B), concerning food and  
7 food ingredients, is amended to read as follows:

8 (B)(i) In making the determination in this subdivision  
9 (a)(2), the ~~director~~ secretary shall consider all economic factors existing  
10 at the time of the determination that could potentially affect the decline in  
11 the aggregate amount of deductions, including without limitation pending  
12 litigation.

13 (ii) If the consideration of additional economic  
14 factors under subdivision (a)(2)(B)(i) of this section results in a  
15 determination that the decline in the aggregate amount of deductions is not  
16 likely to remain at that reduced level, the ~~director~~ secretary shall conclude  
17 that the conditions in this subdivision (a)(2) have not been met.

18  
19 SECTION 3921. Arkansas Code § 26-53-145(a)(3), concerning food and  
20 food ingredients, is amended to read as follows:

21 (3) When the ~~director~~ secretary finds that all of the conditions  
22 in either subdivision (a)(1) or subdivision (a)(2) of this section have been  
23 met, then the compensating use taxes levied under subsection (c) of this  
24 section shall be levied at the rate of zero percent (0%) on the sale of food  
25 and food ingredients beginning on the first day of the calendar quarter that  
26 is at least thirty (30) days following the determination of the ~~director~~  
27 secretary.

28  
29 SECTION 3922. Arkansas Code § 26-53-145(c)(1)(A)-(C), concerning food  
30 and food ingredients, are amended to read as follows:

31 (A) Seventy-six and six-tenths percent (76.6%) of the  
32 taxes, interest, penalties, and costs received by the ~~director~~ secretary  
33 under this subdivision (c)(1) shall be deposited as general revenues;

34 (B) Eight and five-tenths percent (8.5%) of the taxes,  
35 interest, penalties, and costs received by the ~~director~~ secretary under this  
36 subdivision (c)(1) shall be deposited into the Property Tax Relief Trust

1 Fund; and

2 (C) Fourteen and nine-tenths percent (14.9%) of the taxes,  
3 interest, penalties, and costs received by the ~~director~~ secretary under this  
4 subdivision (c)(1) shall be deposited into the Educational Adequacy Fund.

5

6 SECTION 3923. Arkansas Code § 26-53-146(a)(1), concerning the  
7 definition of "exemption certification" under the exemptions for qualified  
8 museums, is amended to read as follows:

9 (1) "Exemption certificate" means an exemption certificate  
10 issued by the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and  
11 Administration under subdivision (d)(1) of this section;

12

13 SECTION 3924. Arkansas Code § 26-53-146(a)(3)(B), concerning the  
14 exemptions for qualified museums, is amended to read as follows:

15 (B) The ~~director~~ secretary has issued an exemption  
16 certificate to the nonprofit organization; and

17

18 SECTION 3925. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 26-53-  
19 146(c), concerning the exemptions for qualified museums, is amended to read  
20 as follows:

21 (c) A nonprofit organization requesting recognition as a qualified  
22 museum shall file with the ~~director~~ secretary on forms prescribed by the  
23 ~~director~~ secretary a written statement under oath:

24

25 SECTION 3926. Arkansas Code § 26-53-146(d) and (e), concerning the  
26 exemptions for qualified museums, are amended to read as follows:

27 (d)(1) After filing the statement required under subdivision (c)(1) of  
28 this section, if the ~~director~~ secretary finds that the nonprofit organization  
29 has a good faith plan and intent to satisfy the conditions of subdivision  
30 (c)(2) of this section prior to January 1, 2013, the ~~director~~ secretary shall  
31 issue an exemption certificate to the nonprofit organization within sixty  
32 (60) days after the filing of the statement.

33

34 (2) The ~~director~~ secretary may revoke the exemption certificate  
35 at any time after it is issued if the ~~director~~ secretary determines that the  
36 nonprofit organization is unable to satisfy the conditions under subdivision  
(c)(2) of this section prior to January 1, 2013.

1 (3) After filing the statement required under subdivision (c)(2)  
2 of this section, if the ~~director~~ secretary determines that the nonprofit  
3 organization has not met the conditions under subdivision (c)(2) of this  
4 section, the ~~director~~ secretary shall revoke the exemption certificate of the  
5 nonprofit organization.

6 (4) If the nonprofit organization fails to file the statement  
7 described in subdivision (c)(2) of this section on or prior to June 30, 2013,  
8 the ~~director~~ secretary shall revoke the exemption certificate.

9 (5) Revocation by the ~~director~~ secretary of an exemption  
10 certificate shall be retroactive to the date of its issuance subject to  
11 subsection (e) of this section.

12 (e)(1) If the ~~director~~ secretary revokes the exemption certificate,  
13 any tax deficiency, related interest, and applicable penalties due under the  
14 Arkansas Gross Receipts Act of 1941, § 26-52-101 et seq., this subchapter, or  
15 the Arkansas Tax Procedure Act, § 26-18-101 et seq., may be assessed against  
16 the nonprofit organization but may not be assessed against a third party that  
17 has relied in good faith on the exemption certificate prior to its  
18 revocation.

19 (2) If the ~~director~~ secretary revokes the exemption certificate,  
20 any tax deficiency, related interest, and applicable penalties assessed  
21 against the nonprofit organization shall also include any tax deficiency,  
22 related interest, and applicable penalties assessed on purchases made by the  
23 nonprofit organization's contractors and agents for the benefit of the  
24 nonprofit organization in reliance on the exemption certificate.

25 (3)(A) Any assessment by the ~~director~~ secretary under  
26 subdivision (e)(1) ~~of this section~~ or subdivision (e)(2) of this section  
27 shall be made in accordance with the Arkansas Tax Procedure Act, § 26-18-101  
28 et seq.

29 (B) However, the time period for the ~~director~~ secretary to  
30 make the assessment is extended to whichever of the following occurs first:

- 31 (i) Three (3) years from the date the nonprofit  
32 organization files the statement under subdivision (c)(2) of this section; or  
33 (ii) July 1, 2016.

34 (4) The nonprofit organization may contest any assessment or  
35 other determination by the ~~director~~ secretary in accordance with the Arkansas  
36 Tax Procedure Act, § 26-18-101 et seq.

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SECTION 3927. Arkansas Code § 26-53-147(b) and (c), concerning heavy equipment, are amended to read as follows:

(b) The purchaser shall pay the use tax to the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration.

(c) If the purchaser pays the use tax to an out-of-state dealer, the purchaser shall present proof to the ~~director~~ secretary that the Arkansas use tax has been paid.

SECTION 3928. Arkansas Code § 26-53-148(a)(2)(A)-(C), concerning natural gas and electricity used by manufacturers, are amended to read as follows:

(A) Seventy-six and six-tenths percent (76.6%) of the tax, interest, penalties, and costs received by the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration shall be deposited as general revenues;

(B) Eight and five-tenths percent (8.5%) of the tax, interest, penalties, and costs received by the ~~director~~ secretary shall be deposited into the Property Tax Relief Trust Fund; and

(C) Fourteen and nine-tenths percent (14.9%) of the tax, interest, penalties, and costs received by the ~~director~~ secretary shall be deposited into the Educational Adequacy Fund.

SECTION 3929. Arkansas Code § 26-53-148(e) and (f), concerning natural gas and electricity used by manufacturers, are amended to read as follows:

(e) Before purchasing any natural gas or electricity at the reduced excise tax rate levied in this section, the ~~director~~ secretary may require any seller of natural gas or electricity to obtain a certificate from the consumer, in the form prescribed by the ~~director~~ secretary, certifying that the manufacturer is eligible to purchase natural gas and electricity at the reduced excise tax rate.

(f) The ~~director~~ secretary shall promulgate rules for the proper administration of this section.

SECTION 3930. Arkansas Code § 26-53-203(b), concerning tangible personal property, specified digital products, or a digital code procured

1 from outside the state for use by contractors, is amended to read as follows:

2 (b) In the case of leases or rentals of tangible personal property,  
3 specified digital products, or a digital code by a contractor for use,  
4 storage, distribution, or consumption in this state, the contractor shall  
5 report and remit the compensating tax on the basis of rental or lease  
6 payments made to the lessor of the tangible personal property, specified  
7 digital products, or digital code during the term of the lease or rental,  
8 which lease rentals shall be in accordance with written contracts between the  
9 lessor and the lessee furnished to the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department  
10 of Finance and Administration.

11  
12 SECTION 3931. Arkansas Code § 26-53-203(c)(1) and (2), concerning  
13 tangible personal property, specified digital products, or a digital code  
14 procured from outside the state for use by contractors, are amended to read  
15 as follows:

16 (c)(1) This subchapter does not apply in respect to the use,  
17 consumption, distribution, or storage of tangible personal property,  
18 specified digital products, or a digital code as defined in this chapter for  
19 use or consumption in this state upon which a like tax equal to or greater  
20 than the amount imposed by this subchapter has been paid in another state,  
21 the proof of payment of the tax to be according to rules and regulations made  
22 by the ~~director~~ secretary.

23 (2) If the amount of tax paid in another state is not at least  
24 equal to or greater than the amount of tax imposed by the Arkansas  
25 Compensating Tax Act of 1949, § 26-53-101 et seq., then the contractor shall  
26 pay to the ~~director~~ secretary an amount sufficient to make the tax paid in  
27 the other state and this state equal to the total amount of tax due under  
28 Arkansas law.

29  
30 SECTION 3932. Arkansas Code § 26-53-301 is amended to read as follows:

31 26-53-301. Authority of ~~director~~ secretary to negotiate enforcement  
32 agreements with other states.

33 (a) When in the judgment of the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department  
34 of Finance and Administration it is necessary in order to secure the  
35 collection of any tax, penalties, or interest due or to become due under this  
36 subchapter, the ~~director~~ secretary may negotiate agreements with the tax

1 departments of other states in respect to the collecting, reporting, payment,  
2 and enforcement of tax on sales of tangible personal property, specified  
3 digital products, a digital code, or taxable services to residents of  
4 Arkansas by a retailer maintaining a place of business in the other state.

5 (b) In consideration of the agreement, the ~~director~~ secretary may make  
6 similar agreements for the collecting, reporting, payment, and enforcement of  
7 tax as imposed by the other states on sales of tangible personal property,  
8 specified digital products, a digital code, or taxable services to residents  
9 of other states by retailers maintaining places of business in Arkansas.

10  
11 SECTION 3933. Arkansas Code § 26-53-302 is amended to read as follows:  
12 26-53-302. Arrangements for collection and payment.

13 The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration,  
14 in negotiating an agreement with the tax department of another state, may as  
15 part of the agreement provide for reciprocal arrangements whereby the parties  
16 collecting the tax in the other state may deduct at the time of making  
17 returns to the ~~director~~ secretary such percentage of the amount due and  
18 accounted for, which may be retained by the parties reporting as an offset  
19 against costs of collecting and reporting as is allowed by other states to  
20 parties in this state collecting the tax for the other state. No deduction  
21 shall be allowed, however, if the amount due is delinquent at the time of the  
22 tax payment.

23  
24 SECTION 3934. Arkansas Code § 26-53-303 is amended to read as follows:  
25 26-53-303. Waiver of collection and enforcement of taxes.

26 (a) The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and  
27 Administration, in negotiating agreements, is authorized by way of compromise  
28 to waive the collection and enforcement of taxes on sales to residents of  
29 Arkansas made in another state and delivered into Arkansas when the sales  
30 were made prior to the effective date of any agreement negotiated.

31 (b) However, the ~~director~~ secretary in any case shall not be  
32 authorized to waive payment and enforcement of the tax in another state  
33 unless the tax department of the other state waives collection, payment, and  
34 enforcement of their tax in this state in the same manner as the tax payment  
35 is waived by this state.

36

1 SECTION 3935. Arkansas Code § 26-54-109(e), concerning a list to be  
2 prepared of all organizing and qualifying corporations, is amended to read as  
3 follows:

4 (e) The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and  
5 Administration shall provide the Secretary of State a list of corporations  
6 doing business in this state and filing tax reports with the Department of  
7 Finance and Administration. However, the ~~director~~ Secretary of the Department  
8 of Finance and Administration shall not include any information deemed  
9 confidential by any other law.

10  
11 SECTION 3936. Arkansas Code § 26-55-101(b), concerning an exemption  
12 for the United States Government's vehicles and refunds, is amended to read  
13 as follows:

14 (b) When motor vehicle fuel upon which the tax has been paid is sold  
15 to any agent or employee of the United States Government for use in a motor  
16 vehicle belonging to the United States Government, and is used in its  
17 business exclusively, the wholesaler or dealer may not charge the consumer  
18 with the amount of the tax but may claim the refund of the tax under such  
19 regulations as the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and  
20 Administration may prescribe.

21  
22 SECTION 3937. Arkansas Code § 26-55-204 is amended to read as follows:  
23 26-55-204. Rules and regulations.

24 The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration  
25 shall prescribe and publish such rules and regulations as may be necessary  
26 for the enforcement of this subchapter.

27  
28 SECTION 3938. Arkansas Code § 26-55-207(2), concerning tax exemptions,  
29 is amended to read as follows:

30 (2) The sale of motor fuel by a duly licensed distributor for  
31 export from the State of Arkansas, and shipped by common carrier FOB  
32 destination, to any other state or territory or to any foreign country, or  
33 the export of motor fuel by a duly licensed distributor from the State of  
34 Arkansas to any other state or territory or to any foreign country, if  
35 satisfactory proof of actual exportation of all the motor fuel is furnished  
36 at the time and in the manner prescribed by the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the

1 Department of Finance and Administration;

2

3 SECTION 3939. Arkansas Code § 26-55-207(4), concerning tax exemptions,  
4 is amended to read as follows:

5 (4) The sale of motor fuel for use in propelling airplanes,  
6 provided that satisfactory proof is furnished in the manner prescribed by the  
7 ~~director~~ secretary that the motor fuel is to be used in the propelling of  
8 airplanes.

9

10 SECTION 3940. Arkansas Code § 26-55-213(a), concerning a distributor's  
11 license, requirements, and the penalty for noncompliance, is amended to read  
12 as follows:

13 (a) It shall be unlawful for any distributor to receive, use, sell, or  
14 distribute any motor fuel or to engage in business within this state unless  
15 the distributor is the holder of an uncanceled license issued by the  
16 ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration to engage  
17 in the business or, if the distributor is an agent, commission or otherwise,  
18 of a distributor as defined in this subchapter, unless the agent is the  
19 holder of a certified duplicate copy of an uncanceled license issued by the  
20 ~~director~~ secretary to the agent's principal.

21

22 SECTION 3941. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 26-55-  
23 214(a), concerning a distributor's license, application, and bond, is amended  
24 to read as follows:

25 (a) To procure a distributor's license, every distributor shall file  
26 with the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration  
27 an application upon oath and in a form prescribed by the ~~director~~ secretary,  
28 setting forth:

29

30 SECTION 3942. Arkansas Code § 26-55-214(b)(1), concerning a  
31 distributor's license, application, and bond, is amended to read as follows:

32 (b)(1) Concurrent with the filing of an application for a  
33 distributor's license, every distributor shall file with the ~~director~~  
34 secretary a bond of the character stipulated and in the amount provided for  
35 in § 26-55-222.

36

1 SECTION 3943. Arkansas Code § 26-55-214(c), concerning a distributor's  
2 license, application, and bond, is amended to read as follows:

3 (c) The ~~director~~ secretary shall keep and file all applications and  
4 bonds with an alphabetical index together with a record of all licensed  
5 distributors.

6  
7 SECTION 3944. Arkansas Code § 26-55-215 is amended to read as follows:  
8 26-55-215. Distributor's license – Issuance of certificate.

9 The application in proper form having been accepted for filing, the  
10 bond having been accepted and approved, and the other conditions and  
11 requirements of §§ 26-55-213 and 26-55-214 having been complied with, the  
12 ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration shall  
13 issue to the distributor a license certificate to transact business as a  
14 distributor in the State of Arkansas.

15  
16 SECTION 3945. Arkansas Code § 26-55-216 is amended to read as follows:  
17 26-55-216. Distributor's license – Nonassignable.

18 The license certificate issued by the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the  
19 Department of Finance and Administration shall not be assignable and shall be  
20 valid only for the distributor in whose name it was issued.

21  
22 SECTION 3946. Arkansas Code § 26-55-217(a), concerning the requirement  
23 to display a distributor's license, is amended to read as follows:

24 (a) The license certificate issued by the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the  
25 Department of Finance and Administration shall be displayed conspicuously in  
26 the principal place of business of the distributor in the State of Arkansas.

27  
28 SECTION 3947. Arkansas Code § 26-55-219 is amended to read as follows:  
29 26-55-219. Distributor's license – Refusal.

30 (a) In the event that any application for a license to transact  
31 business as a distributor in the State of Arkansas shall be filed by any  
32 person whose license shall at any time have been cancelled for cause by the  
33 ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration, or in  
34 case the ~~director~~ secretary shall be of the opinion that the application is  
35 not filed in good faith or in the event that the application is filed by some  
36 person as a subterfuge for the real person in interest whose license or

1 registration shall theretofore have been cancelled for cause by the ~~director~~  
2 secretary, or for any other valid reason, then and in any of said events the  
3 ~~director~~ secretary, after a hearing of which the applicant shall have been  
4 given five (5) days' notice in writing and at which the applicant shall have  
5 the right to appear in person or by counsel and present testimony, shall have  
6 and is given the right and authority to refuse to issue to the person a  
7 license certificate to transact business as a distributor in the State of  
8 Arkansas.

9 (b) Any distributor who is aggrieved by the action of the ~~director~~  
10 secretary in refusing to issue the license applied for, within thirty (30)  
11 days from the time of the refusal, may appeal to the circuit court of the  
12 county of the distributor's residence where the distributor shall be entitled  
13 to a hearing de novo. An appeal shall lie from the circuit court to the  
14 Supreme Court as in other cases now provided by law.

15  
16 SECTION 3948. Arkansas Code § 26-55-221 is amended to read as follows:  
17 26-55-221. Licenses – Persons other than distributors.

18 Persons, other than distributors, purchasing or otherwise acquiring  
19 motor fuel in tank car, tank truck, or cargo lots for sale, distribution, or  
20 use within the State of Arkansas, in the discretion of the ~~Director~~ Secretary  
21 of the Department of Finance and Administration shall also be licensed as set  
22 forth in §§ 26-55-213 – 26-55-220 upon compliance with the provisions of §§  
23 26-55-213 – 26-55-220 and thereupon shall be deemed to be the distributor for  
24 all purposes of this subchapter with respect to the motor fuel received while  
25 the license remains unrevoked.

26  
27 SECTION 3949. Arkansas Code § 26-55-222 is amended to read as follows:  
28 26-55-222. Bonds – Requirement – Amounts – Waiver.

29 (a)(1) Every distributor shall file with the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the  
30 Department of Finance and Administration a surety bond of not less than one  
31 and one-half ( $1\frac{1}{2}$ ) times or one hundred fifty percent (150%) of the prior six  
32 (6) months average motor fuel tax due, based upon the gallonage of motor fuel  
33 to be sold or distributed as shown by the application for a permit if the  
34 applicant has not heretofore been engaged in the business of a distributor as  
35 herein defined, or as shown by sales for the previous year if the applicant  
36 theretofore has been engaged in the business in this state.

1 (2) However, no bond shall be filed for less than one thousand  
2 dollars (\$1,000).

3 (3) If the ~~director~~ secretary deems it necessary to protect the  
4 state in the collection of gasoline taxes, the ~~director~~ secretary may require  
5 any distributor to post a bond in an amount up to three (3) times or three  
6 hundred percent (300%) of the prior six (6) months average motor fuel tax  
7 due.

8 (b)(1) Provided further, the ~~director~~ secretary or the ~~director's~~  
9 secretary's authorized agent is authorized to waive the posting of bond by  
10 any licensed motor fuel distributor that is organized and operating under the  
11 laws of Arkansas and that is wholly owned by residents of this state and who  
12 has been licensed for a period of at least three (3) years and who has not  
13 been delinquent in remitting motor fuel taxes during the three-year period  
14 immediately preceding application by the distributor for waiver of bond.

15 (2) If any motor fuel distributor whose bond has been waived by  
16 the ~~director~~ secretary or the ~~director's~~ secretary's agent as authorized in  
17 this subsection subsequently becomes delinquent in remitting motor fuel taxes  
18 to the ~~director~~ secretary, the ~~director~~ secretary or the ~~director's~~  
19 secretary's agent may require that the distributor post a bond in the amount  
20 required in this section, and the distributor shall not be eligible to  
21 petition for a waiver of bond for a period of three (3) years thereafter.

22  
23 SECTION 3950. Arkansas Code § 26-55-223 is amended to read as follows:  
24 26-55-223. Bonds – Deposit or pledge of government obligations as  
25 alternative.

26 In lieu of furnishing a bond executed by a surety company, as  
27 hereinbefore provided, any distributor may furnish the distributor's bond or  
28 bonds not so executed, if the distributor concurrently therewith deposits and  
29 pledges with the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and  
30 Administration direct obligations of the United States or obligations of any  
31 agency of the United States fully guaranteed by it or bonds of the State of  
32 Arkansas of equal full amount to the amount of the bond required by § 26-55-  
33 222, as collateral security for the payment of the bonds.

34  
35 SECTION 3951. Arkansas Code § 26-55-224 is amended to read as follows:  
36 26-55-224. Bonds – Additional bonds – Conditions for requirement.

1 (a) In the event that upon a hearing, of which the distributor shall  
2 be given five (5) days' notice in writing, the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the  
3 Department of Finance and Administration shall decide that the amount of the  
4 existing bond is insufficient to ensure payment to the State of Arkansas of  
5 the amount of the tax and any penalties and interest for which the  
6 distributor is or may at any time become liable, then the distributor upon  
7 the written demand of the ~~director~~ secretary shall immediately file an  
8 additional bond in the same manner and form with a surety company thereon  
9 approved by the ~~director~~ secretary in any amount determined by the ~~director~~  
10 secretary to be necessary to secure at all times the payment by the  
11 distributor to the State of Arkansas of all taxes, penalties, and interest  
12 due under the provisions of this subchapter.

13 (b) If the distributor fails to do so, the ~~director~~ secretary shall  
14 immediately cancel the license certificate of the distributor.

15  
16 SECTION 3952. Arkansas Code § 26-55-225 is amended to read as follows:

17 26-55-225. Bonds – New bonds – Conditions for requirement.

18 (a) In the event that liability upon the bond thus filed by the  
19 distributor with the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and  
20 Administration shall be discharged or reduced, whether by judgment rendered,  
21 payment made, or otherwise, or if in the opinion of the ~~director~~ secretary  
22 any surety on the bond theretofore given shall have become unsatisfactory or  
23 unacceptable, then the ~~director~~ secretary may require the distributor to file  
24 a new bond with a satisfactory surety in the same form and amount, failing  
25 which the ~~director~~ secretary shall immediately cancel the license certificate  
26 of said distributor.

27 (b) If the new bond is furnished by the distributor as above provided,  
28 the ~~director~~ secretary shall cancel and surrender the bond of the distributor  
29 for which the new bond shall be substituted.

30  
31 SECTION 3953. Arkansas Code § 26-55-226 is amended to read as follows:

32 26-55-226. Bonds – Release or discharge of surety.

33 (a)(1) Any surety on any bond furnished by a distributor as provided  
34 in §§ 26-55-222 – 26-55-225 shall be released and discharged from any and all  
35 liability to the State of Arkansas accruing on the bond after the expiration  
36 of sixty (60) days from the date upon which the surety shall have lodged with

1 the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration  
2 written request to be released and discharged.

3 (2) However, the request shall not operate to relieve, release,  
4 or discharge the surety from any liability already accrued, or which shall  
5 accrue, before the expiration of the sixty-day period.

6 (b)(1) The ~~director~~ secretary shall promptly on receipt of notice of  
7 the request notify the distributor who furnished the bond, and unless the  
8 distributor on or before the expiration of the sixty-day period files with  
9 the ~~director~~ secretary a new bond with a surety company satisfactory to the  
10 ~~director~~ secretary in the amount and form provided in § 26-55-222, the  
11 ~~director~~ secretary shall immediately cancel the license of the distributor.

12 (2) If the new bond is furnished by the distributor as provided  
13 above, the ~~director~~ secretary shall cancel and surrender the bond of the  
14 distributor for which the new bond shall be substituted.

15  
16 SECTION 3954. Arkansas Code § 26-55-229(a) and (b), concerning tax  
17 reports, are amended to read as follows:

18 (a) For the purpose of determining the amount of the tax imposed by  
19 this subchapter, the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and  
20 Administration may require such supporting documents as the ~~director~~  
21 secretary may deem necessary to assure accurate reporting.

22 (b)(1) The reports shall be filed on forms prescribed by the ~~director~~  
23 secretary and shall be filed with the ~~director~~ secretary on or before the  
24 twenty-fifth day of each calendar month following the reporting month in  
25 question.

26 (2) Once a distributor has become liable to file a monthly  
27 report with the ~~director~~ secretary, the distributor must continue to file a  
28 monthly report, even though no tax is due, until such time as the distributor  
29 notifies the ~~director~~ secretary in writing that the distributor is no longer  
30 liable for monthly reports.

31  
32 SECTION 3955. Arkansas Code § 26-55-229(c)(4) and (5), concerning tax  
33 reports, are amended to read as follows:

34 (4) An itemized statement of the number of gallons of motor fuel  
35 sold by the distributor during the preceding calendar month and exempted from  
36 the tax by § 26-55-207(1)-(4), separately itemizing the amount of motor fuel

1 sold and claimed to be exempt under each of the subdivisions (1)-(4) of § 26-  
2 55-207, and the statement shall furnish such information relating to such  
3 sales as shall be required by the ~~director~~ secretary and reasonably necessary  
4 to the enforcement by the ~~director~~ secretary of the provisions of this  
5 subchapter;

6 (5) An itemized statement of the number of gallons of motor fuel  
7 sold by the distributor within a border rate area and at the border rate tax,  
8 as is permitted by §§ 26-55-210 and 26-55-212, together with such information  
9 relating to such sales as shall be required by the ~~director~~ secretary and  
10 reasonably necessary to the enforcement by the ~~director~~ secretary of the  
11 provisions of this subchapter;

12  
13 SECTION 3956. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 26-55-  
14 230(a), concerning the computation and payment of taxes, is amended to read  
15 as follows:

16 (a) At the time of filing of each monthly report with the ~~Director~~  
17 Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration, each distributor  
18 shall pay to the ~~director~~ secretary the full amount of the motor fuel tax for  
19 the next-preceding calendar month, which shall be computed as follows:

20  
21 SECTION 3957. Arkansas Code § 26-55-230(c), concerning the computation  
22 and payment of taxes, is amended to read as follows:

23 (c) The ~~director~~ secretary by regulation shall provide for the payment  
24 and collection of the motor fuel tax when it is due but which under the terms  
25 of this subchapter is not required to be remitted by a distributor.

26  
27 SECTION 3958. Arkansas Code § 26-55-231 is amended to read as follows:  
28 26-55-231. Failure to report or pay tax – Revocation or cancellation  
29 of license.

30 (a)(1) If a distributor at any time files a false monthly report of  
31 the data or information required by this subchapter or fails, refuses, or  
32 neglects to file the monthly report required by this subchapter, or to pay  
33 the full amount of the tax as required by this subchapter, the ~~Director~~  
34 Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration may give notice to  
35 the distributor of an intention to revoke the license of the distributor.

36 (2) The distributor shall be entitled to a period of five (5)

1 days after receipt of the notice from the ~~director~~ secretary, within which to  
2 apply for a hearing before the ~~director~~ secretary on the question of having  
3 the distributor's license revoked. The ~~director~~ secretary shall grant a  
4 hearing at such time and place as the ~~director~~ secretary may designate of  
5 which the distributor shall have five (5) days' advance notice in writing.

6 (3) After the hearing, at which time the distributor shall be  
7 entitled to present evidence and argument of counsel, the ~~director~~ secretary  
8 shall decide whether the distributor's license shall be revoked.

9 (4)(A) Upon the issuance of an order revoking the license, the  
10 distributor shall be entitled to an appeal to the circuit court in the county  
11 where the distributor may do business where the question shall be tried de  
12 novo.

13 (B) An appeal shall lie from the circuit court of that  
14 county as in other cases provided by law.

15 (5) If the distributor fails to apply for a hearing within the  
16 time set out in subdivision (a)(2) of this section, the ~~director~~ secretary  
17 may forthwith cancel the license of the distributor and notify the  
18 distributor of the cancellation by registered mail to the last known address  
19 of the distributor appearing on the files of the ~~director~~ secretary. The  
20 ~~director~~ secretary shall also notify the surety company on the distributor's  
21 bond in like manner.

22 (b)(1) Upon receipt of a written request from any duly licensed  
23 distributor under this subchapter to cancel the license issued to the  
24 distributor, the ~~director~~ secretary shall have the power to cancel the  
25 license effective sixty (60) days from the date of the receipt of the written  
26 request.

27 (2) However, no license shall be cancelled upon the request of  
28 any distributor unless and until the distributor prior to the date of the  
29 cancellation shall have paid to the State of Arkansas all excise taxes  
30 payable under the laws of the State of Arkansas, together with any and all  
31 penalties, interest, and fines accruing under any of the provisions of this  
32 subchapter, and unless and until the distributor shall have surrendered to  
33 the ~~director~~ secretary the license certificate theretofore issued to the  
34 distributor.

35 (c) If upon investigation the ~~director~~ secretary ascertains and finds  
36 that any person to whom a license has been issued under this subchapter is no

1 longer engaged in the receipt, use, or sale of motor fuel as a distributor  
2 and has not been so engaged for a period of sixty (60) days, the ~~director~~  
3 secretary shall have the power to cancel the license by giving the person  
4 thirty (30) days' notice of the cancellation mailed to the last known address  
5 of the person, in which event the license certificate theretofore issued to  
6 the person shall be surrendered to the ~~director~~ secretary.

7 (d) In the event that the license of any distributor shall be  
8 cancelled by the ~~director~~ secretary as provided in this section and in the  
9 further event that the distributor shall have paid to the State of Arkansas  
10 all excise taxes due and payable by it under this subchapter, together with  
11 any and all penalties accruing under any of the provisions of this  
12 subchapter, then the ~~director~~ secretary shall cancel and surrender the bond  
13 filed by the distributor.

14  
15 SECTION 3959. Arkansas Code § 26-55-232 is amended to read as follows:  
16 26-55-232. Failure to report or pay taxes promptly – Penalties.

17 (a) When any distributor fails to file its monthly report with the  
18 ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration on or  
19 before the time fixed in this subchapter for the filing thereof, when the  
20 distributor fails to submit the data outlined in §§ 26-55-229 and 26-55-230  
21 in the monthly report, or when the distributor fails to pay to the ~~director~~  
22 secretary the amount of excise taxes due to the State of Arkansas when the  
23 excise taxes are payable, the distributor shall be subject to applicable  
24 penalty and interest provisions of the Arkansas Tax Procedure Act, § 26-18-  
25 101 et seq.

26 (b)(1) If the excise tax is not paid within sixty (60) days after the  
27 date the excise tax is due, then the ~~director~~ secretary shall suspend the  
28 license of the distributor.

29 (2)(A) When the ~~director~~ secretary issues a notice of proposed  
30 assessment to the distributor under § 26-18-403, the ~~director~~ secretary may  
31 notify the bonding company of the excise tax delinquency.

32 (B) At the end of the ten-day demand for payment period  
33 that begins on the date a final assessment is issued under § 26-18-401, the  
34 ~~director~~ secretary shall notify the bonding company of the excise tax  
35 delinquency and declare the bond forfeited.

36

1 SECTION 3960. Arkansas Code § 26-55-234(b)(1), concerning the  
2 statements and reports from persons that are not distributors, is amended to  
3 read as follows:

4 (b)(1) On or before the twenty-fifth day of each calendar month on  
5 forms prescribed by the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and  
6 Administration, the person shall report to the ~~director~~ secretary all  
7 purchases or other acquisitions and sales or other disposition of motor fuel  
8 during the next preceding calendar month giving a record of each tank car,  
9 tank truck, or cargo lot delivered to a point within the state and of all  
10 motor fuel otherwise delivered to the person.

11  
12 SECTION 3961. Arkansas Code § 26-55-234(b)(2)(J), concerning the  
13 statements and reports from persons that are not distributors, is amended to  
14 read as follows:

15 (J) Any other additional information the ~~director~~  
16 secretary may require relative to the motor fuel.

17  
18 SECTION 3962. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 26-55-  
19 234(c), concerning the statements and reports from persons that are not  
20 distributors, is amended to read as follows:

21 (c) On or before the twenty-fifth day of each calendar month on forms  
22 prescribed by the ~~director~~ secretary, the terminal shall report to the  
23 ~~director~~ secretary all purchases or other acquisitions and sales or other  
24 disposition of motor fuel during the next preceding calendar month, which  
25 report shall include the following:

26  
27 SECTION 3963. Arkansas Code § 26-55-234(c)(4)(E), concerning the  
28 statements and reports from persons that are not distributors, is amended to  
29 read as follows:

30 (E) The person possessing a license from the ~~director~~  
31 secretary who requested the removal of the motor fuel from that storage.

32  
33 SECTION 3964. Arkansas Code § 26-55-234(d), concerning the statements  
34 and reports from persons that are not distributors, is amended to read as  
35 follows:

36 (d) When any person or terminal purchasing or otherwise acquiring

1 motor fuel by pipeline, in a tank car, tank truck, or cargo lot and selling  
2 or otherwise disposing of the motor fuel for delivery in Arkansas and not  
3 required by a provision of this subchapter to register as a distributor in  
4 motor fuel, fails to submit the person's or terminal's monthly report to the  
5 ~~director~~ secretary by the twenty-fifth day of each calendar month or when the  
6 person or terminal fails to submit in the monthly report the data required by  
7 this subchapter, the person or terminal shall be guilty of a violation and  
8 shall be fined an amount not greater than one hundred dollars (\$100) for the  
9 first offense and shall be fined an amount not less than one hundred dollars  
10 (\$100) nor more than one thousand dollars (\$1,000) for each subsequent  
11 offense.

12

13 SECTION 3965. Arkansas Code § 26-55-235(a), concerning the reports  
14 from carriers transporting motor fuels, is amended to read as follows:

15 (a) Every railroad company, and every street, suburban, or interurban  
16 railroad company, every pipeline company, every water transportation company,  
17 and every common carrier transporting motor fuel, kerosene, or other  
18 hydrocarbon products, either in interstate or in intrastate commerce, to  
19 points within Arkansas, and every person transporting motor fuel or kerosene  
20 by whatever manner to a point within the state from any point outside of the  
21 state shall report under oath to the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of  
22 Finance and Administration, on forms prescribed by the ~~director~~ secretary,  
23 all deliveries of motor fuel, kerosene, or other hydrocarbon products, so  
24 made to points within Arkansas.

25

26 SECTION 3966. Arkansas Code § 26-55-235(c), concerning the reports  
27 from carriers transporting motor fuels, is amended to read as follows:

28 (c) The reports shall also show such additional information relative  
29 to shipments of motor fuel as the ~~director~~ secretary may require.

30

31 SECTION 3967. Arkansas Code § 26-55-236 is amended to read as follows:

32 26-55-236. Failure to file reports, statements, or returns –  
33 Falsification – Penalties.

34 Upon conviction, a person who refuses or neglects to make any  
35 statement, report, or return required by this subchapter or who knowingly  
36 makes, aids, or assists another person in making a false statement in a

1 return or report required by this subchapter to the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the  
2 Department of Finance and Administration is guilty of an unclassified  
3 misdemeanor and shall be punished by a fine of not less than one thousand  
4 dollars (\$1,000) nor more than ten thousand dollars (\$10,000) or imprisonment  
5 for a term of not less than thirty (30) days and not more than one (1) year,  
6 or both fine and imprisonment.

7  
8 SECTION 3968. Arkansas Code § 26-55-239 is amended to read as follows:  
9 26-55-239. Forms for reports or records.

10 The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration  
11 shall have the authority to prescribe all forms upon which reports shall be  
12 made to the ~~director~~ secretary or forms of records to be used by  
13 distributors.

14  
15 SECTION 3969. Arkansas Code § 26-55-240(a)(1), concerning the  
16 discontinuance or transfer of a business, is amended to read as follows:

17 (a)(1) Whenever a distributor ceases to engage in business as a  
18 distributor within the State of Arkansas by reason of the discontinuance,  
19 sale, or transfer of the business of the distributor, it shall be the duty of  
20 the distributor to notify the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance  
21 and Administration in writing at least ten (10) days prior to the time the  
22 discontinuance, sale, or transfer takes effect.

23  
24 SECTION 3970. Arkansas Code § 26-55-240(b)(2), concerning the  
25 discontinuance or transfer of a business, is amended to read as follows:

26 (2) It shall be the duty of any distributor concurrently with  
27 the discontinuance, sale, or transfer to make a report and pay all taxes,  
28 interest, and penalties, and to surrender to the ~~director~~ secretary the  
29 license certificate theretofore issued to the distributor by the ~~director~~  
30 secretary.

31  
32 SECTION 3971. Arkansas Code § 26-55-240(c), concerning the  
33 discontinuance or transfer of a business, is amended to read as follows:

34 (c) Unless the notice provided for in subsection (a) of this section  
35 shall have been given to the ~~director~~ secretary as provided in subsection (a)  
36 of this section, the purchaser or transferee shall be liable to the State of

1 Arkansas for the amount of all taxes, penalties, and interest under this  
2 subchapter accrued against any distributor selling or transferring the  
3 distributor's business, on the date of the sale or transfer but only to the  
4 extent of the value of the property and business acquired from the  
5 distributor.

6  
7 SECTION 3972. Arkansas Code § 26-55-241(b), concerning unpaid taxes,  
8 liens on property, and enforcement, is amended to read as follows:

9 (b)(1) The lien may be enforced by the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the  
10 Department of Finance and Administration by filing a certificate of  
11 indebtedness as provided for in § 26-18-701 or by any other legal means.

12 (2) The action of the ~~director~~ secretary in attempting to  
13 collect the delinquent taxes by issuing the certificate of indebtedness shall  
14 not be construed to be an election of remedies.

15  
16 SECTION 3973. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 26-55-  
17 242(a), concerning the sale of a distributor's property and the certificate  
18 of lien, is amended to read as follows:

19 (a) Neither the sheriff of any county where the property affected is  
20 situated nor any receiver, assignee, or other officer shall sell the property  
21 or franchise of any person who is a distributor without first filing with the  
22 ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration a  
23 statement containing:

24  
25 SECTION 3974. Arkansas Code § 26-55-242(b) and (c), concerning the  
26 sale of a distributor's property and the certificate of lien, are amended to  
27 read as follows:

28 (b) It shall be the duty of the ~~director~~ secretary, after receiving  
29 notice as provided in subsection (a) of this section, to furnish to the  
30 sheriff, receiver, assignee, or other officer having charge of the sale,  
31 certified copies of all motor fuel tax, penalties, and interest on file as  
32 liens against the person and, in the event that there are no liens, a  
33 certificate showing that fact. The certified copies of the certificate shall  
34 be publicly read by that officer at and immediately before the sale of the  
35 property or franchise of the person.

36 (c) It shall be the duty of the ~~director~~ secretary to furnish to any

1 person applying therefor a certificate showing the amount of all liens for  
2 motor fuel tax, penalties, and interest that may be in the files of the  
3 ~~director~~ secretary against any person under the provisions of this  
4 subchapter.

5  
6 SECTION 3975. Arkansas Code § 26-55-245 is amended to read as follows:

7 26-55-245. Refunds – Taxes erroneously or illegally collected – Lost  
8 fuel.

9 (a) In the event it appears to the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the  
10 Department of Finance and Administration that any taxes or penalties imposed  
11 by this subchapter have been erroneously or illegally collected from any  
12 distributor, the ~~director~~ secretary shall certify the amount thereof and  
13 authorize and permit the distributor to make an equivalent deduction from the  
14 distributor's next motor fuel tax payment to the State of Arkansas.

15 (b) In the event any distributor sustains a loss of motor fuel due to  
16 fire, flood, storm, theft, or other causes beyond the distributor's control  
17 other than through evaporation, which product has been received as defined by  
18 § 26-55-202(13), the ~~director~~ secretary shall authorize and permit the  
19 distributor to deduct the quantity so lost from the quantity subject to tax  
20 on the motor fuel tax report filed for the month in which the loss occurred  
21 or any subsequent report filed within a period of one (1) year. However, the  
22 same loss may be allowed only one (1) time.

23 (c)(1) Before the ~~director~~ secretary shall certify or authorize any  
24 distributor to make any deduction or take any credit on its reports on  
25 account of any tax having been erroneously or illegally collected or on  
26 account of any loss as provided in subsections (a) and (b) of this section,  
27 satisfactory evidence, upon such forms and in such a manner as shall be  
28 prescribed by the Revenue Division of the Department of Finance and  
29 Administration, shall be submitted to the supervisor of the Motor Fuel Tax  
30 Section of the Department of Finance and Administration, who shall determine  
31 from the evidence if any deduction or credit is to be allowed.

32 (2) Thereupon the supervisor of the section shall transmit to  
33 the ~~director~~ secretary his or her certificate of approval, and the ~~director~~  
34 secretary may in his or her discretion allow the deduction or credit in the  
35 amount the ~~director~~ secretary thinks proper or may reject the deduction or  
36 credit altogether.

1 (3) The rejection or confirmation of the deduction or credit  
2 shall be final, and upon the confirmation by the ~~director~~ secretary, the  
3 deduction or credit shall then be allowed in due course by the supervisor of  
4 the section.

5  
6 SECTION 3976. Arkansas Code § 26-55-247 is amended to read as follows:  
7 26-55-247. Confiscation and sale of equipment of persons transporting  
8 motor fuel unlawfully.

9 (a) Any person who knowingly transports or causes to be transported  
10 any motor fuel in any manner in violation of the provisions of this  
11 subchapter in addition to other penalties and punishment provided for in this  
12 subchapter shall be subject to the immediate confiscation of the tank truck  
13 or vehicle and the contents therein which are thus unlawfully transported, by  
14 the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration or the  
15 ~~director's~~ secretary's agents.

16 (b) Unless the operator or owner of the tank truck or vehicle can  
17 prove to the satisfaction of the ~~director~~ secretary at a hearing for that  
18 purpose within ten (10) days that the motor fuel was being transported,  
19 transferred, or delivered in accordance with this subchapter or any other act  
20 affecting the transportation of motor fuel, and in accordance with any  
21 regulations issued pursuant to this subchapter or any other act, the tank  
22 truck or vehicle and the contents therein shall be sold by the ~~director~~  
23 secretary at auction without any recourse or liability on the ~~director~~  
24 secretary or any of the ~~director's~~ secretary's agents or the State of  
25 Arkansas.

26  
27 SECTION 3977. Arkansas Code § 26-55-249 is amended to read as follows:  
28 26-55-249. Public inspection of records.

29 The records of the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and  
30 Administration pertaining to motor fuel taxes shall at all reasonable times  
31 be open to the inspection of the public with the approval of the ~~director~~  
32 secretary.

33  
34 SECTION 3978. Arkansas Code § 26-55-250 is amended to read as follows:  
35 26-55-250. Exchange of information among states.

36 The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration

1 upon request duly received from the officials to whom are intrusted the  
2 enforcement of the motor fuel tax laws of any other state shall forward to  
3 the officials any information which the ~~director~~ secretary may have in his or  
4 her possession relative to the manufacture, receipt, sale, use,  
5 transportation, or shipment by any person of motor fuel.

6  
7 SECTION 3979. Arkansas Code § 26-55-403 is amended to read as follows:  
8 26-55-403. ~~Director's powers~~ Authority of secretary.

9 The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration  
10 shall have the authority to make, amend, and enforce regulations, to subpoena  
11 witnesses and documents, to administer oaths, and to do and perform all other  
12 acts the ~~director~~ secretary shall deem necessary to carry out the purpose and  
13 intent of this subchapter.

14  
15 SECTION 3980. Arkansas Code § 26-55-405 is amended to read as follows:  
16 26-55-405. Refund permits.

17 (a) No person, firm, or corporation shall secure a refund of tax under  
18 this subchapter unless that person is the holder of an unrevoked permit  
19 issued by the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and  
20 Administration before the purchase of the motor fuel.

21 (b) The permit shall be numbered and issued annually and shall entitle  
22 the holder to make application for refund under this subchapter.

23 (c) Applications for the permits shall be filed with the ~~director~~  
24 secretary on forms prescribed by the ~~director~~ secretary and shall contain the  
25 same information, so far as applicable, as is required in § 26-55-305  
26 [repealed], and such other information as the ~~director~~ secretary may require.

27  
28 SECTION 3981. Arkansas Code § 26-55-406 is amended to read as follows:  
29 26-55-406. Applications for refund.

30 Applications for refund pursuant to this subchapter shall be sworn to  
31 and shall be made to the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and  
32 Administration and shall be in the same form and contain the same  
33 information, so far as applicable, as is required in § 26-55-301 et seq.  
34 [repealed], and in addition, shall contain such other information as may be  
35 required by the ~~director~~ secretary.

36

1 SECTION 3982. Arkansas Code § 26-55-408 is amended to read as follows:  
2 26-55-408. Dealers' and sellers' records and reports.

3 Dealers and sellers of motor fuel shall keep the same records and shall  
4 prepare the same invoices and make the same reports to the ~~Director~~ Secretary  
5 of the Department of Finance and Administration with respect to motor fuel  
6 sold to permit holders under this subchapter as is required by § 26-55-301 et  
7 seq. [repealed], with respect to agricultural motor fuel sales.

8  
9 SECTION 3983. Arkansas Code § 26-55-604 is amended to read as follows:  
10 26-55-604. Rules and regulations – Audit assistance.

11 The Director of State Highways and Transportation shall prescribe and  
12 promulgate rules and regulations necessary for the proper enforcement of this  
13 subchapter with the advice of the Legislative Council, and in any audits  
14 conducted by the Arkansas Department of Transportation relating to the Motor  
15 Fuel Tax Law, § 26-55-201 et seq., or the Special Motor Fuels Tax Law, § 26-  
16 56-101 et seq., or this subchapter or other pertinent laws, may call upon the  
17 ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration for  
18 assistance.

19  
20 SECTION 3984. Arkansas Code § 26-55-605(a)(1), concerning the  
21 import/export load permit required and exceptions, is amended to read as  
22 follows:

23 (1) Being a supplier or distributor, licensed by the ~~Director~~  
24 Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration under the laws of  
25 the State of Arkansas, as those terms are defined in the Motor Fuel Tax Law,  
26 § 26-55-201 et seq., and the Special Motor Fuels Tax Law, § 26-56-101 et  
27 seq.; and

28  
29 SECTION 3985. Arkansas Code § 26-55-608(b), concerning the authority  
30 of the Arkansas Highway Police Division of the Arkansas Department of  
31 Transportation to stop, investigate, and impound vehicles, is amended to read  
32 as follows:

33 (b) If after the examination or investigation it is determined that  
34 the transporter should have secured an import/export load permit as required  
35 by this subchapter, but has failed to secure that permit, the enforcement  
36 officer shall immediately cause the offending vehicle and its operator to be

1 removed to the nearest Arkansas Department of Transportation property, port  
2 of entry, or any designated location where the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the  
3 Department of Finance and Administration's representative shall immediately  
4 assess the tax on that load together with the penalty provided in § 26-55-609  
5 against the person found to be responsible for the payment of the tax.

6  
7 SECTION 3986. Arkansas Code § 26-55-705 is amended to read as follows:  
8 26-55-705. License required – Application.

9 (a) Before any person, firm, or corporation subject to § 26-55-702  
10 imports for use on the highways of this state gasoline in the fuel supply  
11 tanks of any motor vehicle, or in any other container, with a gross loaded  
12 weight of twenty-six thousand one pounds (26,001 lbs.) or more, the person  
13 shall file application for and obtain a license from the ~~Director~~ Secretary  
14 of the Department of Finance and Administration.

15 (b) The application required by this section shall be verified by  
16 affidavit and filed on a form prescribed and furnished by the ~~director~~  
17 secretary, stating the name, address, kind of business of the applicant, the  
18 applicant's principal place of business, and such other relevant information  
19 as the ~~director~~ secretary may require.

20 (c) The applications must also contain, as a condition to the issuance  
21 of the license, an agreement by the applicant to comply with the requirements  
22 of the subchapter and the lawful rules and regulations of the ~~director~~  
23 secretary.

24  
25 SECTION 3987. Arkansas Code § 26-55-706 is amended to read as follows:  
26 26-55-706. Bond of applicant.

27 (a) Before any license application shall be approved by the ~~Director~~  
28 Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration, the applicant  
29 shall file a bond, with surety satisfactory to the ~~director~~ secretary,  
30 payable to the State of Arkansas and conditioned upon the applicant's  
31 compliance with the provisions of this subchapter and the rules and  
32 regulations of the ~~director~~ secretary.

33 (b)(1) The bond shall be in the sum of not less than five hundred  
34 dollars (\$500) and not more than twenty thousand dollars (\$20,000), the  
35 amount to be fixed in each case by the ~~director~~ secretary.

36 (2) However, the amount of any bond may be increased or

1 decreased within the foregoing limits by the ~~director~~ secretary at any time.

2 (c) No bond shall be cancelled by the surety thereon until the  
3 expiration of sixty (60) days after receipt of notice of the cancellation by  
4 the ~~director~~ secretary, and the cancellation shall have no retroactive  
5 effect.

6  
7 SECTION 3988. Arkansas Code § 26-55-707(a), concerning licenses,  
8 issuance, and terms and conditions, is amended to read as follows:

9 (a) Upon approval of the application and bond, the ~~Director~~ Secretary  
10 of the Department of Finance and Administration shall issue to the applicant  
11 a nontransferable fuel user's license bearing a distinctive number, to remain  
12 in full force until surrendered, suspended, or cancelled in the manner  
13 provided in this subchapter.

14  
15 SECTION 3989. Arkansas Code § 26-55-708 is amended to read as follows:  
16 26-55-708. Registration of licensee's motor vehicles.

17 (a)(1) Before any motor vehicle with a gross loaded weight of twenty-  
18 six thousand one pounds (26,001 lbs.) or more is operated on the public  
19 highways of this state, the operation of which is subject to the tax levied  
20 by this subchapter, the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and  
21 Administration shall issue to each permitted gasoline, diesel, and liquefied  
22 petroleum gas user a distinctive marking to be prominently displayed on the  
23 passenger door of each vehicle traveling the public highways within this  
24 state.

25 (2) This marking shall be a nontransferable marking which shall  
26 be renewed on an annual basis.

27 (b) Applications for gasoline, diesel, and liquefied petroleum gas  
28 users' permits must be on a form prescribed and furnished by the ~~director~~  
29 secretary, to include such relevant information as deemed necessary by the  
30 ~~director~~ secretary, for the proper administration of this subchapter.

31 (c) The ~~director~~ secretary shall maintain a record of the quantity of  
32 markings issued each permitted user.

33  
34 SECTION 3990. Arkansas Code § 26-55-710(a)(1), concerning quarterly  
35 mileage reports and tax computation, is amended to read as follows:

36 (a)(1) Every person, firm, or corporation licensed under this

1 subchapter on or before the last day of the month following the end of each  
2 calendar quarter shall file with the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of  
3 Finance and Administration, on forms prescribed by the ~~director~~ secretary, a  
4 report showing the quantities of gasoline purchased and used in this state  
5 during the preceding calendar quarter, together with payment of the tax due  
6 thereon.

7  
8 SECTION 3991. Arkansas Code § 26-55-710(b), concerning quarterly  
9 mileage reports and tax computation, is amended to read as follows:

10 (b) If it shall be determined by the quarterly reports filed with the  
11 ~~director~~ secretary that the interstate user has used more gallons of gasoline  
12 in this state than the gasoline tax due thereon has been paid, the interstate  
13 user shall remit to the ~~director~~ secretary an excise tax of eighteen and one-  
14 half cents (18½¢) per gallon on the gasoline.

15  
16 SECTION 3992. Arkansas Code § 26-55-710(g)(3), concerning quarterly  
17 mileage reports and tax computation, is amended to read as follows:

18 (3) An interstate user who had a total tax liability for motor  
19 fuel taxes during the previous calendar year of less than one hundred dollars  
20 (\$100) upon application to the ~~director~~ secretary may obtain permission to  
21 report the interstate user's motor fuel tax liability on an annual basis. The  
22 annual report shall be due on or before the last day of the month following  
23 the end of each fiscal year.

24  
25 SECTION 3993. Arkansas Code § 26-55-710(h), concerning quarterly  
26 mileage reports and tax computation, is amended to read as follows:

27 (h) The ~~director~~ secretary shall prescribe the appropriate forms  
28 necessary for the administration of this subchapter. The ~~director~~ secretary  
29 may make appropriate rules and regulations necessary to ensure the accurate  
30 reporting of mileage traveled and gallons used and purchased by the licensed  
31 interstate users.

32  
33 SECTION 3994. Arkansas Code § 26-55-713(a), concerning claims for  
34 refunds by nonbonded users, is amended to read as follows:

35 (a) Claims for refunds of motor fuel taxes by nonbonded users of motor  
36 fuel or claims for credits for motor fuel taxes shall not be valid unless

1 properly presented upon motor fuel tax forms as promulgated by and as  
2 required by the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and  
3 Administration.  
4

5 SECTION 3995. Arkansas Code § 26-55-713(b)(1), concerning claims for  
6 refunds by nonbonded users, is amended to read as follows:

7 (b)(1) The ~~director~~ secretary may assess and charge a fee upon all  
8 forms furnished by the Revenue Division of the Department of Finance and  
9 Administration when those forms pertain to the motor fuel tax laws of this  
10 state.  
11

12 SECTION 3996. Arkansas Code § 26-55-713(c), concerning claims for  
13 refunds by nonbonded users, is amended to read as follows:

14 (c) The ~~director~~ secretary shall not furnish forms for cash refunds or  
15 credits for motor fuel taxes to nonbonded users of motor fuel unless and  
16 until the General Assembly provides by law for the issuance of credits and  
17 cash refunds to nonbonded users of motor fuel who qualify for the credits or  
18 cash refunds or motor fuel taxes.  
19

20 SECTION 3997. Arkansas Code § 26-55-714(a)(1), concerning interstate  
21 users and tax refund procedures, is amended to read as follows:

22 (a)(1) The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and  
23 Administration shall quarterly determine the amount estimated to be necessary  
24 to pay refunds to interstate users of motor fuels who are entitled to refunds  
25 with respect to a portion of the motor fuel taxes paid in this state as  
26 authorized in § 26-55-710, and upon certification by the ~~director~~ secretary,  
27 the Treasurer of State shall transfer from the gross amount of motor fuel  
28 taxes collected each month the amount so certified and shall credit it to the  
29 Interstate Motor Fuel Tax Refund Fund, which is established on the books of  
30 the State Treasury, from which the Department of Finance and Administration  
31 shall make refunds as provided by law.  
32

33 SECTION 3998. Arkansas Code § 26-55-714(c), concerning interstate  
34 users and tax refund procedures, is amended to read as follows:

35 (c) Neither the ~~director~~ secretary nor any member or employee of the  
36 department shall be held personally liable for making any refund by reason of

1 a fraudulent claim being filed as a basis for that refund.

2  
3 SECTION 3999. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 26-55-  
4 714(d), concerning interstate users and tax refund procedures, is amended to  
5 read as follows:

6 (d) The ~~director~~ secretary is authorized to promulgate rules and  
7 regulations and to prescribe the necessary forms required for the  
8 administration of claims for tax refunds from interstate users of motor fuels  
9 in this state as authorized by law, which rules and regulations shall be in  
10 conformance with the following requirements:

11  
12 SECTION 4000. Arkansas Code § 26-55-714(d)(1) and (2), concerning  
13 interstate users and tax refund procedures, are amended to read as follows:

14 (1) The ~~director~~ secretary shall first determine with respect to  
15 each refund claim filed that the bond of the interstate user is adequate to  
16 compensate the State of Arkansas for any losses with respect to the recovery  
17 of any refunds illegally claimed by the interstate user, and the ~~director~~  
18 secretary may require the increase of the bond if the ~~director~~ secretary  
19 determines it to be inadequate before approving any claim for refund;

20 (2) Each interstate user of motor fuels claiming refunds shall  
21 maintain adequate records to substantiate each claim for refund, and the  
22 ~~director~~ secretary may reject any claim for refund if the ~~director~~ secretary  
23 determines the applicant has not maintained adequate records or has not  
24 conformed to the rules and regulations of the department in filing the claim;

25  
26 SECTION 4001. Arkansas Code § 26-55-719 is amended to read as follows:

27 26-55-719. Records – Preservation – Inspection.

28 (a) Each person, firm, or corporation subject to this subchapter must  
29 maintain and keep for a period of three (3) years records of mileage traveled  
30 by vehicles operated in this state, together with inventories, withdrawals,  
31 purchases supported by invoices, and all relevant records and papers that may  
32 be required by the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and  
33 Administration.

34 (b) The ~~director~~ secretary or his or her authorized representative  
35 shall be entitled to inspect these records at any time.

36

1 SECTION 4002. Arkansas Code § 26-55-803(a) and (b), concerning the  
2 requirement for entry slips and the computation taxes, are amended to read as  
3 follows:

4 (a) All licensed motor fuel user and distillate special fuel user out-  
5 of-state trucks with a gross loaded weight of twenty-six thousand one pounds  
6 (26,001 lbs.) or more entering the State of Arkansas at the point of entry  
7 shall secure a copy of an entry slip from the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the  
8 Department of Finance and Administration or his or her authorized agent or  
9 employee.

10 (b) The entry slip shall be signed by the ~~director~~ secretary or his or  
11 her authorized agent or employee, and the entry slip shall also be signed by  
12 the driver of the vehicle.

13  
14 SECTION 4003. Arkansas Code § 26-55-803(d), concerning the requirement  
15 for entry slips and the computation taxes, is amended to read as follows:

16 (d) The entry slip shall remain in the vehicle for the remainder of  
17 the trip over the highways of this state and shall be produced for the  
18 inspection of the ~~director~~ secretary or his or her authorized employee or  
19 representative, at any point within the state and shall also be produced at  
20 the port of exit to the ~~director~~ secretary or his or her authorized agent or  
21 employee, for determination of any fuel taxes due the state.

22  
23 SECTION 4004. Arkansas Code § 26-55-804(1)(B) and (C), concerning the  
24 payment of taxes, are amended to read as follows:

25 (B) At the time of the purchase of the fuel, the owner or  
26 operator of the vehicle shall obtain from the dealer from whom purchased an  
27 invoice or sales ticket, or forms approved by the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the  
28 Department of Finance and Administration, which shall contain the name and  
29 address of the seller of the fuel, the name and address of the purchaser, the  
30 date of purchase, the amount or quantity and kind of fuel purchased, and the  
31 invoice or sales ticket shall remain in the vehicle for the remainder of the  
32 trip over the highways of this state.

33 (C) The invoice or sales ticket shall be preserved and  
34 retained by the owner or operator for not less than three (3) years and shall  
35 be produced for the inspection and examination of the ~~director~~ secretary or  
36 his or her authorized agent or employee at any reasonable time and place,

1 either inside or outside this state, upon proper demand for the invoice or  
2 sales ticket; or

3

4 SECTION 4005. Arkansas Code § 26-55-804(2), concerning the payment of  
5 taxes, is amended to read as follows:

6 (2)(A) By the payment of the amount of tax which would be due  
7 upon a sufficient quantity of fuel to propel the vehicle over the highways of  
8 this state to the ~~director~~ secretary or to his or her agent, representative,  
9 or employee.

10 (B) At the time of payment of the tax, the ~~director~~  
11 secretary or his or her employee or representative shall issue to the person  
12 paying the tax a receipt showing the amount of tax paid, the name and address  
13 of the owner or operator of the vehicle, a description of the vehicle,  
14 including the license number and state of registration, the point at which  
15 the vehicle entered upon the highways of this state, the destination and the  
16 place where the vehicle is to leave the highways of this state, and any other  
17 information which the ~~director~~ secretary may require, which receipt shall be  
18 signed by the ~~director~~ secretary or his or her agent or representative.

19 (C) The receipt shall remain in the vehicle for the  
20 remainder of the trip over the highways of this state and thereafter shall be  
21 preserved and retained by the owner or operator for a period of not less than  
22 three (3) years, and shall be produced for the inspection of the ~~director~~  
23 secretary or his or her authorized agent or representative, at any reasonable  
24 time and place either within or without this state upon proper demand.

25

26 SECTION 4006. Arkansas Code § 26-55-901(1)(B), concerning vehicle tank  
27 inspections, is amended to read as follows:

28 (B) Otherwise, "compartment" means any one (1) of those  
29 subdivisions of a tank designed to hold petroleum products, unless otherwise  
30 provided by the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and  
31 Administration by regulations adopted pursuant to § 26-55-903.

32

33 SECTION 4007. Arkansas Code § 26-55-1004(a)(1), concerning the  
34 disposition of revenues, is amended to read as follows:

35 (a)(1) All taxes, interest, penalties, and costs received by the  
36 ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration from the

1 additional taxes and fees levied by this subchapter shall be classified as  
2 special revenues and shall be deposited into the State Treasury.

3  
4 SECTION 4008. Arkansas Code § 26-55-1101 is amended to read as  
5 follows:

6 26-55-1101. Definition.

7 As used in this subchapter, "~~director~~ secretary" means the ~~Director~~  
8 Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration or his or her  
9 authorized agent.

10  
11 SECTION 4009. Arkansas Code § 26-55-1102(a), concerning the authority  
12 of the Director of the Department of Finance and Administration to enter into  
13 fuel tax agreements, audits not precluded, and the identification of decal  
14 cost, is amended to read as follows:

15 (a) The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and  
16 Administration is authorized to enter into the International Fuel Tax  
17 Agreement of July 1987 with jurisdictions outside this state to provide for  
18 cooperation and assistance among member jurisdictions in the administration  
19 and collection of taxes imposed upon the consumption of all fuels used in  
20 vehicles operated or intended to operate interstate. Provided, however, that  
21 the agreement shall not be effective until stated and agreed to in writing  
22 and filed with the ~~director~~ secretary.

23  
24 SECTION 4010. Arkansas Code § 26-55-1102(c), concerning the authority  
25 of the Director of the Department of Finance and Administration to enter into  
26 fuel tax agreements, audits not precluded, and the identification of decal  
27 cost, is amended to read as follows:

28 (c) No agreement authorized by this subchapter shall preclude the  
29 ~~director~~ secretary from auditing the records of any person subject to the  
30 provisions of this chapter or the Special Motor Fuels Tax Law, § 26-56-101 et  
31 seq.

32  
33 SECTION 4011. Arkansas Code § 26-55-1301(1), concerning the definition  
34 of "director" under the laws governing refunds and motor fuels used by fire  
35 departments, is repealed.

36 ~~(1) "Director" means the Director of the Department of Finance and~~

1 ~~Administration or any of his or her deputies, employees, or agents;~~

2  
3 SECTION 4012. Arkansas Code § 26-55-1303(a), concerning a refund  
4 permit, is amended to read as follows:

5 (a) No fire department shall secure a refund of tax under this  
6 subchapter unless the fire department is the holder of an unrevoked permit  
7 which was issued by the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and  
8 Administration before the purchase of the motor fuel or the distillate  
9 special fuel.

10  
11 SECTION 4013. Arkansas Code § 26-55-1303(c), concerning a refund  
12 permit, is amended to read as follows:

13 (c) An application for the permit shall be filed with the ~~director~~  
14 secretary on forms prescribed by the ~~director~~ secretary and shall contain  
15 such information as the ~~director~~ secretary may require.

16  
17 SECTION 4014. Arkansas Code § 26-55-1303(e), concerning a refund  
18 permit, is amended to read as follows:

19 (e) The refund permit of any person who violates any provision of this  
20 subchapter shall be revoked by the ~~director~~ secretary and shall not be  
21 reissued until two (2) years have elapsed after the date of the revocation.

22  
23 SECTION 4015. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 26-55-  
24 1304(a), concerning an application for a refund, is amended to read as  
25 follows:

26 (a) The refund permit holder shall file with the ~~Director~~ Secretary of  
27 the Department of Finance and Administration an application for refund on  
28 forms furnished by the ~~director~~ secretary which shall include, but not be  
29 limited to, the following information:

30  
31 SECTION 4016. Arkansas Code § 26-55-1304(a)(6), concerning an  
32 application for a refund, is amended to read as follows:

33 (6) Other information as the ~~director~~ secretary shall require.

34  
35 SECTION 4017. Arkansas Code § 26-55-1304(b)(2), concerning an  
36 application for a refund, is amended to read as follows:

1 (2) The application shall be notarized and made to the ~~director~~  
2 secretary.

3  
4 SECTION 4018. Arkansas Code § 26-55-1304(d)(1), concerning an  
5 application for a refund, is amended to read as follows:

6 (d)(1) The ~~director~~ secretary shall promulgate a rule establishing the  
7 annual date for claiming a refund pursuant to this subchapter.

8  
9 SECTION 4019. Arkansas Code § 26-55-1305(b)(1), concerning refunds  
10 paid from the Gasoline Tax Refund Fund, is amended to read as follows:

11 (b)(1)(A) The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and  
12 Administration shall annually estimate the amount necessary to pay refunds to  
13 the users of distillate special fuel who are entitled to refunds with respect  
14 to distillate special fuel taxes paid in this state as authorized in this  
15 subchapter.

16 (B) Upon certification by the ~~director~~ secretary, the  
17 Treasurer of State shall transfer from the gross amount of distillate special  
18 fuel taxes collected each month the amount so certified and shall credit the  
19 amount to the fund.

20  
21 SECTION 4020. Arkansas Code § 26-55-1305(e), concerning refunds paid  
22 from the Gasoline Tax Refund Fund, is amended to read as follows:

23 (e) Neither the ~~director~~ secretary nor any member or employee of the  
24 Department of Finance and Administration shall be held personally liable for  
25 making any refund by reason of a fraudulent claim filed as a basis for the  
26 refund.

27  
28 SECTION 4021. Arkansas Code § 26-55-1306(a), concerning the inspection  
29 of records kept by a fire department, is amended to read as follows:

30 (a) The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and  
31 Administration shall keep a permanent record by fire department of the amount  
32 of refund claimed and paid to each claimant.

33  
34 SECTION 4022. Arkansas Code § 26-55-1308 is amended to read as  
35 follows:

36 26-55-1308. ~~Director's powers~~ Authority of secretary.

1           The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration  
2 may make, amend, and enforce regulations, subpoena witnesses and documents,  
3 administer oaths, and do and perform all other acts necessary to carry out  
4 the purpose and intent of this subchapter.

5  
6           SECTION 4023. Arkansas Code § 26-56-102(1)(F), concerning special  
7 motor fuels taxes, is amended to read as follows:

8                   (F) Such other information or forms as the ~~Director~~  
9 Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration by regulation may  
10 adopt or require to implement the intent of this subchapter;

11  
12           SECTION 4024. Arkansas Code § 26-56-102(5), concerning the definition  
13 of "director" under the laws governing special motor fuels taxes, is  
14 repealed.

15                   ~~(5) "Director" means the Director of the Department of Finance~~  
16 ~~and Administration or his or her duly authorized agents;~~

17  
18           SECTION 4025. Arkansas Code § 26-56-104 is amended to read as follows:  
19           26-56-104. Rules and regulations.

20           The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration  
21 is authorized and empowered to promulgate such rules and regulations, not  
22 inconsistent with this chapter, as the ~~director~~ secretary shall deem  
23 necessary and desirable to facilitate the collection of the taxes levied in  
24 this chapter and to otherwise effectuate the purposes of this chapter, and  
25 these rules and regulations shall have the same effect as if specifically set  
26 forth in this chapter.

27  
28           SECTION 4026. Arkansas Code § 26-56-105(b) and (c), concerning the  
29 payment of taxes by the Arkansas Department of Transportation, are amended to  
30 read as follows:

31                   (b) The department shall remit this tax each month to the ~~Director~~  
32 Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration who will distribute  
33 the tax as outlined in this chapter.

34                   (c) For purposes of computing this tax, the department shall use its  
35 fuel consumption reports and shall file with the ~~director~~ secretary an  
36 appropriate monthly report stating the gallons used in the department's motor

1 vehicles and the tax due and payable.

2

3 SECTION 4027. Arkansas Code § 26-56-201(b)(3), concerning the  
4 imposition of taxes and exemptions, is amended to read as follows:

5 (3) Sales of distillate special fuel by a licensed supplier for  
6 export from the State of Arkansas when shipped by common carrier FOB  
7 destination to any other state or territory or to any foreign country, or the  
8 export of distillate special fuel by a licensed supplier from the State of  
9 Arkansas to any other state or territory or to any foreign country, if  
10 satisfactory proof of actual exportation of all the distillate special fuel  
11 is furnished at the time and in the manner prescribed by the ~~Director~~  
12 Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration;

13

14 SECTION 4028. Arkansas Code § 26-56-204(a), concerning licenses and  
15 bonds for suppliers and users, is amended to read as follows:

16 (a)(1)(A) No person shall commence operations as a supplier, user, or  
17 off-road consumer of distillate special fuel without first procuring a  
18 license for that purpose from the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of  
19 Finance and Administration. The license shall be issued and remain in effect  
20 until revoked as provided in this section.

21 (B)(i) Any person holding or applying for a supplier's  
22 license after August 1, 1987, shall make an election to operate either as a  
23 pipeline importer or first receiver. Once having made an election in writing  
24 filed with the ~~director~~ secretary, the election will remain in force until  
25 such time as the supplier makes another written election to change the  
26 supplier's status.

27 (ii) The election and any change therein shall take  
28 effect on the first month following filing of the election.

29 (iii) The ~~director~~ secretary may promulgate such  
30 forms and regulations as may be necessary to ensure uniformity with federal  
31 usage of exemption certificates issued for nonhighway diesel purchases.

32

33 SECTION 4029. Arkansas Code § 26-56-204(b)(2)(B), concerning licenses  
34 and bonds for suppliers and users, is amended to read as follows:

35 (B) A taxable use of distillate special fuel purchased  
36 tax-free by an applicant for an annual registration as a user or off-road

1 consumer, in addition to the penal provisions prescribed in this subchapter,  
2 at the discretion of the ~~director~~ secretary shall forfeit the right of the  
3 applicant to purchase distillate special fuel tax-free.

4  
5 SECTION 4030. Arkansas Code § 26-56-204(c), concerning licenses and  
6 bonds for suppliers and users, is amended to read as follows:

7 (c)(1) Every supplier shall file with the ~~director~~ secretary a surety  
8 bond of not less than one and one-half (1½) times or one hundred fifty  
9 percent (150%) of the prior six (6) months average distillate special fuel  
10 tax due which is based upon the gallonage of distillate special fuel to be  
11 sold or distributed as shown by the application for a license if the  
12 applicant has not previously been engaged in the business of a supplier, or  
13 as shown by sales for the previous year if the applicant previously has been  
14 engaged in the business in this state. However, no bond shall be filed for  
15 less than one thousand dollars (\$1,000).

16 (2) If the ~~director~~ secretary deems it necessary to protect the  
17 state in the collection of distillate special fuel taxes, the ~~director~~  
18 secretary may require any supplier to post a bond in an amount up to three  
19 (3) times or three hundred percent (300%) of the prior six (6) months average  
20 distillate special fuel tax due.

21 (3)(A) However, the ~~director~~ secretary is authorized to waive  
22 the posting of bond by any licensed supplier organized and operating under  
23 the laws of Arkansas and wholly owned by residents of this state who has been  
24 licensed for a period of at least three (3) years and who has not been  
25 delinquent in remitting distillate special fuel taxes during the three-year  
26 period immediately preceding application by the supplier for waiver of bond.

27 (B) If any supplier whose bond has been waived by the  
28 ~~director~~ secretary as authorized in subdivision (c)(3)(A) of this section,  
29 subsequently becomes delinquent in remitting distillate special fuel taxes to  
30 the ~~director~~ secretary, the ~~director~~ secretary may require that the supplier  
31 post a bond in the amount required in this section, and the supplier shall  
32 not be eligible to petition for a waiver of bond for a period of three (3)  
33 years thereafter.

34  
35 SECTION 4031. Arkansas Code § 26-56-204(d)(1), concerning licenses and  
36 bonds for suppliers and users, is amended to read as follows:

1 (d)(1) Each application of an interstate user for a license shall be  
2 accompanied by a surety bond of a surety company authorized to do business in  
3 this state, in favor of the ~~director~~ secretary, satisfactory to the ~~director~~  
4 secretary, and in an amount to be fixed by the ~~director~~ secretary of not less  
5 than one thousand dollars (\$1,000) nor more than fifty thousand dollars  
6 (\$50,000), guaranteeing the payment of any and all taxes, penalties,  
7 interest, attorney's fees, and costs levied by, accrued, or accruing under  
8 this subchapter.

9  
10 SECTION 4032. Arkansas Code § 26-56-204(e)(2), concerning licenses and  
11 bonds for suppliers and users, is amended to read as follows:

12 (2) The bond shall be conditioned upon the prompt filing of true  
13 reports and the payment by the supplier or interstate user to the ~~director~~  
14 secretary of any and all distillate special fuel taxes which are levied or  
15 imposed by the State of Arkansas, together with any and all penalties and  
16 interest thereon, and generally upon faithful compliance with the provisions  
17 of this subchapter.

18  
19 SECTION 4033. Arkansas Code § 26-56-204(f)-(i), concerning licenses  
20 and bonds for suppliers and users, are amended to read as follows:

21 (f)(1) In the event that liability upon the bond filed pursuant to  
22 this section by the supplier or interstate user with the ~~director~~ secretary  
23 shall be discharged or reduced, whether by judgment rendered, payment made,  
24 or otherwise, or if in the opinion of the ~~director~~ secretary any surety on  
25 the bond shall have become unsatisfactory or unacceptable, then the ~~director~~  
26 secretary may require the filing of a new bond with a satisfactory surety in  
27 the same form and amount; failing which, the ~~director~~ secretary shall  
28 immediately cancel the license of the supplier or interstate user.

29 (2) If a new bond shall be furnished, the ~~director~~ secretary  
30 shall cancel the bonds for which the new bond shall be substituted.

31 (g) In the event that upon a hearing of which the supplier or  
32 interstate user shall be given five (5) days' notice in writing, the ~~director~~  
33 secretary shall decide that the amount of the existing bond is insufficient  
34 to ensure payment to the State of Arkansas of the amount of the tax and any  
35 penalties and interest for which said supplier or interstate user is or may  
36 at any time become liable, then the supplier or interstate user upon written

1 demand of the ~~director~~ secretary shall immediately file an additional bond in  
2 the same manner and form and with a surety company thereon approved by the  
3 ~~director~~ secretary in any amount determined by the ~~director~~ secretary to be  
4 necessary to secure at all times the payment to the State of Arkansas of all  
5 taxes, penalties, and interest due under the provisions of this section,  
6 failing which, the ~~director~~ secretary shall immediately cancel the license of  
7 the supplier or interstate user.

8 (h)(1) Any surety on any bond furnished as provided in this section  
9 shall be released and discharged from any and all liability to the State of  
10 Arkansas accruing on the bond after the expiration of sixty (60) days from  
11 the date upon which a surety shall have lodged with the ~~director~~ secretary  
12 written request to be released and discharged. However, the request shall not  
13 operate to relieve, release, or discharge the surety from any liability  
14 already accrued or which shall accrue before the expiration of the sixty-day  
15 period.

16 (2) Upon receipt of notice of the request, the ~~director~~  
17 secretary shall promptly notify the supplier or interstate user who furnished  
18 the bond, and unless the supplier or interstate user on or before the  
19 expiration of the sixty-day period files with the ~~director~~ secretary a new  
20 bond with a surety company satisfactory to the ~~director~~ secretary in the  
21 amount and form as provided in this section, the ~~director~~ secretary shall  
22 immediately cancel the license of that supplier or interstate user.

23 (3) If a new bond shall be furnished as provided in this  
24 section, the ~~director~~ secretary shall cancel the bond for which the new bond  
25 shall be substituted.

26 (i) In lieu of furnishing a bond or bonds executed by a surety company  
27 as provided in this section, any supplier or interstate user may furnish a  
28 bond or other instrument in a form prescribed by the ~~director~~ secretary of  
29 equal, full amount to the amount of the bond or bonds required by this  
30 section, which will provide security or payment of all amounts as described  
31 in this section and in compliance with all provisions of this subchapter.

32  
33 SECTION 4034. Arkansas Code § 26-56-204(k)(2), concerning licenses and  
34 bonds for suppliers and users, is amended to read as follows:

35 (2)(A) Should his or her license be revoked, any supplier or  
36 user may bring an action against the ~~director~~ secretary in the circuit court

1 of the county of his or her domicile within fifteen (15) days of the date of  
2 revocation to determine whether or not the supplier or user has in fact  
3 violated any of the provisions of this chapter.

4 (B) If the circuit court determines that the provisions of  
5 the law have been violated by the supplier or user, it shall affirm the  
6 ~~director's~~ secretary's action in revoking the license.

7  
8 SECTION 4035. Arkansas Code § 26-56-208(a)(1), concerning suppliers'  
9 and users' reports and the computation and remittance of taxes, is amended to  
10 read as follows:

11 (a)(1) On or before the twenty-fifth day of each calendar month on  
12 forms prescribed by the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and  
13 Administration, every supplier shall file with the ~~director~~ secretary a  
14 report accounting for the distillate special fuel handled during the  
15 preceding month.

16  
17 SECTION 4036. Arkansas Code § 26-56-208(a)(3)(D), concerning  
18 suppliers' and users' reports and the computation and remittance of taxes, is  
19 amended to read as follows:

20 (D) Such other documents as the ~~director~~ secretary  
21 requires.

22  
23 SECTION 4037. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 26-56-  
24 208(b)(1), concerning suppliers' and users' reports and the computation and  
25 remittance of taxes, is amended to read as follows:

26 (b)(1) When filing the report and paying the tax to the ~~director~~  
27 secretary as required in this section, the supplier shall be entitled to  
28 deduct from the total number of gallons upon which the tax levied under this  
29 chapter is due, the number of gallons:

30  
31 SECTION 4038. Arkansas Code § 26-56-208(c)(1), concerning suppliers'  
32 and users' reports and the computation and remittance of taxes, is amended to  
33 read as follows:

34 (c)(1) On forms prescribed by the ~~director~~ secretary, every pipeline  
35 company, water transportation company, and common carrier transporting  
36 distillate special fuel to points within Arkansas shall report under oath to

1 the ~~director~~ secretary all deliveries of distillate special fuel so made to  
2 points within Arkansas.

3  
4 SECTION 4039. Arkansas Code § 26-56-208(c)(2)(C), concerning  
5 suppliers' and users' reports and the computation and remittance of taxes, is  
6 amended to read as follows:

7 (C) The report shall also show such additional information  
8 relative to a shipment of distillate special fuel as the ~~director~~ secretary  
9 may require.

10  
11 SECTION 4040. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 26-56-  
12 208(d)(2), concerning suppliers' and users' reports and the computation and  
13 remittance of taxes, is amended to read as follows:

14 (2) On or before the twenty-fifth day of each calendar month on  
15 forms prescribed by the ~~director~~ secretary, the terminal shall report to the  
16 ~~director~~ secretary all purchases or other acquisitions and sales or other  
17 disposition of distillate special fuel during the next-preceding calendar  
18 month, which report shall include the following:

19  
20 SECTION 4041. Arkansas Code § 26-56-208(d)(2)(D)(v), concerning  
21 suppliers' and users' reports and the computation and remittance of taxes, is  
22 amended to read as follows:

23 (v) The person possessing a license from the  
24 ~~director~~ secretary who requested the removal of the distillate special fuel  
25 from that storage.

26  
27 SECTION 4042. Arkansas Code § 26-56-208(d)(3), concerning suppliers'  
28 and users' reports and the computation and remittance of taxes, is amended to  
29 read as follows:

30 (3) When any terminal purchasing or otherwise acquiring  
31 distillate special fuel by pipeline and selling or otherwise disposing of the  
32 distillate special fuel for delivery in Arkansas and not required by a  
33 provision of this subchapter to register as a supplier in distillate special  
34 fuel, fails to submit the terminal's monthly report to the ~~director~~ secretary  
35 by the twenty-fifth day of each calendar month or when the terminal fails to  
36 submit in the monthly report the data required by this subchapter, the

1 terminal shall be guilty of a violation and shall be fined an amount not  
2 greater than one hundred dollars (\$100) for the first offense and shall be  
3 fined an amount not less than one hundred dollars (\$100) nor more than one  
4 thousand dollars (\$1,000) for each subsequent offense.

5  
6 SECTION 4043. Arkansas Code § 26-56-209(b)(2)(C)(ii), concerning  
7 required records, invoices, and the falsification of records, is amended to  
8 read as follows:

9 (ii) Another counterpart shall be delivered to the  
10 operator of the motor vehicle and carried in the cab compartment of the motor  
11 vehicle for inspection by the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance  
12 and Administration or his or her representatives until the fuel it covers has  
13 been consumed.

14  
15 SECTION 4044. Arkansas Code § 26-56-209(c)(1), concerning required  
16 records, invoices, and the falsification of records, is amended to read as  
17 follows:

18 (c)(1) Every person who operates a motor vehicle that is equipped to  
19 use motor fuels taxable under the Motor Fuel Tax Law, § 26-55-201 et seq.,  
20 and distillate special fuel interchangeably in the propulsion of the motor  
21 vehicle shall carry in the cab compartment of the motor vehicle for  
22 inspection by the ~~director~~ secretary or his or her representative, not only  
23 the counterpart of the serially-numbered invoice required under subsection  
24 (b) of this section for the delivery of distillate special fuel into the fuel  
25 supply tanks of the motor vehicle but also an invoice or receipt from the  
26 seller for each delivery into the fuel supply tanks of the motor vehicle of  
27 motor fuels taxable under the Motor Fuel Tax Law, § 26-55-201 et seq., which  
28 latter invoice or receipt shall show the same information as to date of  
29 delivery, quantity, speedometer or hub meter mileage, and motor vehicle  
30 registration number as is required for the invoice covering distillate  
31 special fuel.

32  
33 SECTION 4045. Arkansas Code § 26-56-214(a), concerning interstate  
34 users, reports, and the computation of taxes and refunds, is amended to read  
35 as follows:

36 (a) Whenever an interstate user of distillate special fuel who is a

1 bonded user of distillate special fuel in all states in which he or she  
2 operates has exportations in excess of importations of tax-paid distillate  
3 special fuel in the fuel supply tanks of motor vehicles which distillate  
4 special fuel was delivered by a supplier into bulk storage facilities of the  
5 user within the State of Arkansas, the supplier may make a refund or allow a  
6 credit for the amount of the tax upon the excess upon approval by the  
7 ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration of a  
8 statement from the user to the effect that the tax-paid distillate special  
9 fuel was exported.

10  
11 SECTION 4046. Arkansas Code § 26-56-214(b)(2), concerning interstate  
12 users, reports, and the computation of taxes and refunds, is amended to read  
13 as follows:

14 (2) If it shall be determined by the quarterly report that the  
15 interstate user has used distillate special fuel in this state in excess of  
16 the number of gallons of the distillate special fuel upon which the Arkansas  
17 tax had been paid, the interstate user shall remit to the ~~director~~ secretary,  
18 at the time of filing the report, an excise tax of eighteen and one-half  
19 cents (18½¢) per gallon of the excess gallonage used.

20  
21 SECTION 4047. Arkansas Code § 26-56-214(c), concerning interstate  
22 users, reports, and the computation of taxes and refunds, is amended to read  
23 as follows:

24 (c) The quarterly report required by this subchapter shall be filed on  
25 or before the last day of the month following the end of each calendar  
26 quarter and shall be made on forms prescribed by the ~~director~~ secretary and  
27 shall include such information as the ~~director~~ secretary may require.

28  
29 SECTION 4048. Arkansas Code § 26-56-214(d)(1) and (2), concerning  
30 interstate users, reports, and the computation of taxes and refunds, are  
31 amended to read as follows:

32 (d)(1) For the purpose of determining whether a distillate special  
33 fuel user owes tax or is entitled to a credit or refund as provided in  
34 subsection (b) of this section, the distillate special fuel user shall file  
35 with the ~~director~~ secretary a report showing the quantities of special motor  
36 fuels used in this state during the preceding calendar quarter. This report

1 shall be due on or before the last day of the month following the end of each  
2 calendar quarter.

3 (2) If it shall be determined by the quarterly report filed with  
4 the ~~director~~ secretary that the distillate special fuel user has used more  
5 gallons of special motor fuel in this state than the special motor fuel tax  
6 due thereon has been paid, the distillate special fuel user shall remit to  
7 the ~~director~~ secretary an excise tax of eighteen and one-half cents (18½¢)  
8 per gallon of special motor fuel.

9

10 SECTION 4049. Arkansas Code § 26-56-214(i), concerning interstate  
11 users, reports, and the computation of taxes and refunds, is amended to read  
12 as follows:

13 (i)(1) The ~~director~~ secretary shall prescribe the appropriate forms  
14 necessary for the administration of this subchapter.

15 (2) The ~~director~~ secretary may make appropriate rules and  
16 regulations necessary to ensure the accurate reporting of the special motor  
17 fuel tax.

18

19 SECTION 4050. Arkansas Code § 26-56-215(a)(1), concerning interstate  
20 users and tax refund procedures, is amended to read as follows:

21 (a)(1) The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and  
22 Administration shall quarterly estimate the amount necessary to pay refunds  
23 to interstate users of special motor fuels who are entitled to refunds with  
24 respect to special motor fuel taxes paid in this state as authorized in § 26-  
25 56-214, and upon certification by the ~~director~~ secretary, the Treasurer of  
26 State shall transfer from the gross amount of special motor fuel taxes  
27 collected each month the amount so certified and shall credit the amount to  
28 the Interstate Motor Fuel Tax Refund Fund, which is established on the books  
29 of the State Treasury, from which the Department of Finance and  
30 Administration shall make refunds as provided by law.

31

32 SECTION 4051. Arkansas Code § 26-56-215(c), concerning interstate  
33 users and tax refund procedures, is amended to read as follows:

34 (c) Neither the ~~director~~ secretary nor any member or employee of the  
35 department shall be held personally liable for making any refund by reason of  
36 a fraudulent claim being filed as a basis for the refund.

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SECTION 4052. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 26-56-215(d), concerning interstate users and tax refund procedures, is amended to read as follows:

(d) The ~~director~~ secretary is authorized to promulgate rules and regulations and to prescribe the necessary forms required for the administration of claims for tax refunds from interstate users of special motor fuels in this state as authorized by law, which rules and regulations shall be in conformance with the following requirements:

SECTION 4053. Arkansas Code § 26-56-215(d)(1) and (2), concerning interstate users and tax refund procedures, are amended to read as follows:

(1) The ~~director~~ secretary shall first determine, with respect to each refund claim filed, that the bond of the interstate user is adequate to compensate the State of Arkansas for any losses with respect to the recovery of any refunds illegally claimed by the interstate user, and the ~~director~~ secretary may require the increase of the bond if the ~~director~~ secretary determines it to be inadequate before approving any claim for refund;

(2) Each interstate user of motor fuels and special motor fuels claiming refunds shall maintain adequate records to substantiate each claim for refund, and the ~~director~~ secretary may reject any claim for refund if the ~~director~~ secretary determines the applicant has not maintained adequate records or has not conformed to the rules and regulations of the department in filing the claim therefor;

SECTION 4054. Arkansas Code § 26-56-216 is amended to read as follows:  
26-56-216. Power to stop, investigate, and impound vehicles –  
Assessment of tax.

(a) In order to enforce the provisions of this subchapter, the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration or his or her authorized representative is empowered to stop any motor vehicle which appears to be operating with distillate special fuel for the purpose of examining the invoices and for other investigative purposes reasonably necessary to determine whether the taxes imposed by this subchapter have been paid, or whether the motor vehicle is being operated in compliance with the

1 provisions of this subchapter.

2 (b) If after examination or investigation it is determined by the  
3 ~~director~~ secretary or his or her authorized representative that the tax  
4 imposed by this subchapter has not been paid with respect to the fuels being  
5 used in the motor vehicle, the ~~director~~ secretary or his or her  
6 representative shall immediately assess the tax due, together with the  
7 penalty hereinafter provided, to the owner of the motor vehicle, and give the  
8 owner written notice of the assessment by handing it to the driver of the  
9 motor vehicle.

10 (c) The ~~director~~ secretary or his or her representative is empowered  
11 to impound any motor vehicle found to be operating in violation of this  
12 chapter by a person other than one who has furnished the bond required of  
13 users by § 26-56-204(c) until such time as any tax assessed as provided  
14 herein has been paid.

15

16 SECTION 4055. Arkansas Code § 26-56-217(b)(2)(C) and (D), concerning  
17 the separate storage tanks for taxable distillate special fuel and for tax-  
18 free storage, are amended to read as follows:

19 (C) Each city or county shall file a report with the  
20 ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration accounting  
21 for the taxable and nontaxable distillate special fuel used and miles driven  
22 by each motor vehicle which requires taxable distillate special fuel in such  
23 a manner, at such time, and on such forms as shall be prescribed by the  
24 ~~director~~ secretary.

25 (D) The ~~director~~ secretary may promulgate regulations to  
26 establish a system to periodically reconcile the taxable distillate special  
27 fuel purchased and actual taxable distillate special fuel used by the city or  
28 county.

29

30 SECTION 4056. Arkansas Code § 26-56-218(c), concerning bulk sales of  
31 distillate special fuels, is amended to read as follows:

32 (c) When a user, dealer, or off-road consumer registration has been  
33 revoked and written notice of the revocation has been received by the  
34 supplier from the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and  
35 Administration, it shall be unlawful for the supplier to make bulk sales or  
36 deliveries to the user, dealer, or off-road consumer of distillate special

1 fuel on which the tax has not been paid.

2

3 SECTION 4057. Arkansas Code § 26-56-219(b)(2), concerning cargo tank-  
4 to-carburetor connection being unlawful and penalties, is amended to read as  
5 follows:

6 (2) This penalty shall be assessed by the ~~Director~~ Secretary of  
7 the Department of Finance and Administration or his or her representative and  
8 shall be collected in the same manner as is provided for the collection of  
9 tax in § 26-56-216.

10

11 SECTION 4058. Arkansas Code § 26-56-220(d)(2), concerning unlawful  
12 activities regarding the operation of motor vehicles, is amended to read as  
13 follows:

14 (2) This penalty shall be assessed by the ~~Director~~ Secretary of  
15 the Department of Finance and Administration or his or her representative and  
16 shall be collected in the same manner as is provided for the collection of  
17 tax in § 26-56-216.

18

19 SECTION 4059. Arkansas Code § 26-56-224(f), concerning fuel used for  
20 off-road purposes and the imposition of tax on dyed distillate special fuel,  
21 is amended to read as follows:

22 (f) The excise taxes levied by subsection (b) of this section shall be  
23 reported and paid on or before the twentieth day of each month by electronic  
24 funds transfer as authorized pursuant to § 26-19-101 et seq. on forms to be  
25 prescribed by the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and  
26 Administration.

27

28 SECTION 4060. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 26-56-  
29 226(a)(1), concerning the penalty for improper use of dyed distillate special  
30 fuel, is amended to read as follows:

31 (a)(1) The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and  
32 Administration upon finding a motor vehicle using or utilizing dyed  
33 distillate special fuel for the purpose of operating that motor vehicle not  
34 excepted in § 26-56-225, shall:

35

36 SECTION 4061. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 26-56-

1 226(a)(2), concerning the penalty for improper use of dyed distillate special  
2 fuel, is amended to read as follows:

3 (2) Further, if any dyed distillate special fuel is found in any  
4 fuel storage tank or fuel storage facility outside of the terminal utilized  
5 by the operator of that motor vehicle, or any other person, for the purpose  
6 of fueling that motor vehicle, the ~~director~~ secretary shall:

7

8 SECTION 4062. Arkansas Code § 26-56-226(b)(2), concerning the penalty  
9 for improper use of dyed distillate special fuel, is amended to read as  
10 follows:

11 (2) The assessments shall be made against the operator or any  
12 other person the ~~director~~ secretary deems responsible for the usage or  
13 utilization of the dyed distillate special fuel in that motor vehicle.

14

15 SECTION 4063. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 26-56-  
16 227(b)(1), concerning mixed dyed and undyed distillate special fuel and  
17 additional penalties, is amended to read as follows:

18 (b)(1) The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and  
19 Administration upon finding any fuel supply tank of a motor vehicle, fuel  
20 storage tank, or fuel storage facility outside of the terminal containing  
21 mixed dyed and undyed distillate special fuel, which fuel is being used or  
22 utilized in a motor vehicle or is being stored for ultimate usage or  
23 utilization in a motor vehicle not excepted in § 26-56-225 shall:

24

25 SECTION 4064. Arkansas Code § 26-56-227(b)(3), concerning mixed dyed  
26 and undyed distillate special fuel and additional penalties, is amended to  
27 read as follows:

28 (3) The assessments shall be made against the operator of any  
29 motor vehicle, or owner or operator of the fuel storage tank or fuel storage  
30 facility outside of the terminal, or any other person the ~~director~~ secretary  
31 deems responsible for the usage or utilization of the distillate special fuel  
32 in any motor vehicle involved in the assessment.

33

34 SECTION 4065. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 26-56-  
35 228(a)(1), concerning the authority of the Director of the Department of  
36 Finance and Administration, is amended to read as follows:

1 (a)(1) The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and  
2 Administration shall have the authority to:

3  
4 SECTION 4066. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 26-56-  
5 228(a)(2), concerning the authority of the Director of the Department of  
6 Finance and Administration, is amended to read as follows:

7 (2) The ~~director~~ secretary shall have the authority to:

8  
9 SECTION 4067. Arkansas Code § 26-56-228(b)(1)(A), concerning the  
10 authority of the Director of the Department of Finance and Administration, is  
11 amended to read as follows:

12 (b)(1)(A) Any person who shall refuse to allow the ~~director~~ secretary  
13 to sample, test, and measure the fuel that could be contained in any fuel  
14 supply tank of a motor vehicle, or in any fuel storage tank, or in any fuel  
15 storage facility outside of the terminal shall be assessed taxes at the total  
16 per-gallon tax rates set out in this chapter upon all fuels as determined by  
17 the ~~director~~ secretary that could be contained in the fuel supply tank, fuel  
18 storage tank, or fuel storage facility, if filled to capacity.

19  
20 SECTION 4068. Arkansas Code § 26-56-228(b)(2)(B), concerning the  
21 authority of the Director of the Department of Finance and Administration, is  
22 amended to read as follows:

23 (B) The ~~director~~ secretary shall add a penalty of twenty  
24 percent (20%) of the total amount of the assessed taxes excluding the ten-  
25 dollar-per-gallon penalty to the total amount assessed for willful refusal to  
26 allow the sampling, measuring, or testing, which penalty shall be in addition  
27 to all other penalties provided in this section, this chapter, and in the  
28 Arkansas Tax Procedure Act, § 26-18-101 et seq.

29  
30 SECTION 4069. Arkansas Code § 26-56-228(b)(3), concerning the  
31 authority of the Director of the Department of Finance and Administration, is  
32 amended to read as follows:

33 (3) The assessments shall be made against the operator of any  
34 motor vehicle, fuel storage tank, or fuel storage facility outside of the  
35 terminal involved in the assessment or against any other person the ~~director~~  
36 secretary deems responsible for the use or utilization of the fuel in any

1 motor vehicle involved in the assessment.

2

3 SECTION 4070. Arkansas Code § 26-56-229(a)(1), concerning multiple  
4 violations of special motor fuels taxes, is amended to read as follows:

5 (a)(1) In the event that assessments are made by the ~~Director~~  
6 Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration against the same  
7 operator or the same person for violating the provisions of § 26-56-226, §  
8 26-56-227, or § 26-56-228 within three (3) years of any assessment made by  
9 the ~~director~~ secretary for previous violations of any of those provisions,  
10 the ~~director~~ secretary shall assess a penalty of twenty dollars (\$20.00) per  
11 gallon on all the fuel assessed, and for third and subsequent violations  
12 within a three-year period by the same operator or the same person, the  
13 ~~director~~ secretary shall assess a penalty of thirty dollars (\$30.00) per  
14 gallon on all the fuel assessed.

15

16 SECTION 4071. Arkansas Code § 26-56-231 is amended to read as follows:  
17 26-56-231. Rules and regulations.

18 (a) The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and  
19 Administration, in consultation with the Director of State Highways and  
20 Transportation, shall have the authority to make and promulgate rules and  
21 regulations to fully implement and enforce the provisions of §§ 26-56-223 –  
22 26-56-230.

23 (b) Provisions shall be included in the rules and regulations to allow  
24 any user enumerated in § 26-56-225, upon proper notice and certification to  
25 the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration that  
26 dyed distillate special fuel is unavailable to that user at that time, to  
27 utilize untaxed, undyed distillate special fuel in motor vehicles belonging  
28 to the users.

29

30 SECTION 4072. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 26-56-  
31 232(a), concerning electronic reports and electronic funds transfer, is  
32 amended to read as follows:

33 (a) The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and  
34 Administration shall make all necessary preparations in order that all  
35 reports submitted ~~beginning July 1, 1997, and thereafter, or beginning before~~  
36 ~~that date, if possible,~~ by:

1  
2 SECTION 4073. Arkansas Code § 26-56-232(a)(4), concerning electronic  
3 reports and electronic funds transfer, is amended to read as follows:

4 (4) All other persons required to submit any type of reports to  
5 the ~~director~~ secretary pursuant to those tax laws, shall be submitted by  
6 electronic means and to ensure that the reports shall be processed  
7 electronically by the Department of Finance and Administration.

8  
9 SECTION 4074. Arkansas Code § 26-56-232(b), concerning electronic  
10 reports and electronic funds transfer, is amended to read as follows:

11 (b) The ~~director~~ secretary shall also make and promulgate rules and  
12 regulations to ensure that the distributors, suppliers, and alternative fuel  
13 suppliers, ~~beginning July 1, 1997, and thereafter, or beginning before that~~  
14 ~~date, if possible,~~ remit all taxes due the state pursuant to those tax laws  
15 by electronic funds transfer.

16  
17 SECTION 4075. Arkansas Code § 26-56-301(b), concerning the levying and  
18 imposition of tax and alternative payment of fees, is amended to read as  
19 follows:

20 (b) However, in lieu of the gallonage tax levied in this section with  
21 respect to liquefied gas special fuels used under this subchapter, except as  
22 otherwise provided herein the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance  
23 and Administration shall require the payment of the fees prescribed in § 26-  
24 56-304 in the case of all vehicles required to obtain liquefied gas special  
25 fuels user's permits under this subchapter, except licensed liquefied gas  
26 special fuels suppliers.

27  
28 SECTION 4076. Arkansas Code § 26-56-303(b)-(d), concerning suppliers,  
29 dealers, licenses, and bonds for liquefied gas special fuel, are amended to  
30 read as follows:

31 (b)(1) Application for licenses shall be filed on a form prescribed by  
32 ~~Director~~ the Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration and  
33 verified by affidavit, and shall show the name, address, and kind of business  
34 of the applicant, a designation of the applicant's principal place of  
35 business, and such other pertinent information as the ~~director~~ secretary may  
36 require.

1           (2) The application must also contain as a condition to the  
2 issuance of the license an agreement under oath by the applicant to comply  
3 with the requirements of this subchapter and the rules and regulations of the  
4 ~~director~~ secretary.

5           (c)(1) Before an application may be approved by the ~~director~~  
6 secretary, the applicant shall file a bond with surety satisfactory to the  
7 ~~director~~ secretary, payable to the State of Arkansas, and conditioned upon  
8 the applicant's compliance with the provisions of this subchapter and the  
9 rules and regulations of the ~~director~~ secretary.

10           (2) The bond is to be in the sum of not less than five hundred  
11 dollars (\$500) and not more than twenty thousand dollars (\$20,000), the  
12 amount to be in each case fixed by the ~~director~~ secretary. However, the  
13 amount of the bond may be increased or decreased within the aforementioned  
14 limits by the ~~director~~ secretary at any time.

15           (3) No bond shall be cancelled by the sureties thereon until the  
16 expiration of sixty (60) days after receipt of notice of the cancellation by  
17 the ~~director~~ secretary, and the cancellation shall have no retroactive  
18 effect.

19           (d) Upon approval of the application and bond, the ~~director~~ secretary  
20 shall issue to the applicant a nontransferable liquefied gas special fuels  
21 supplier's license or dealer's license, as the case may be, bearing a  
22 distinctive number.

23  
24           SECTION 4077. Arkansas Code § 26-56-303(f)(2) and (3), concerning  
25 suppliers, dealers, licenses, and bonds for liquefied gas special fuel, are  
26 amended to read as follows:

27           (2) The application shall be made on a form prescribed by the  
28 ~~director~~ secretary showing the name, address, and the supplier or dealer  
29 license number of the applicant, the location of the station or facility for  
30 which the duplicate is applied, and such other pertinent information as the  
31 ~~director~~ secretary may require.

32           (3) Upon approval of the application, the ~~director~~ secretary  
33 shall issue to the applicant a nontransferable duplicate of the liquefied gas  
34 special fuels supplier's or dealer's license.

35  
36           SECTION 4078. Arkansas Code § 26-56-304(b) and (c), concerning users'

1 permits for liquefied gas special fuels, are amended to read as follows:

2 (b) The application must be made on a form prescribed by the ~~Director~~  
3 Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration, showing the name,  
4 address, and user license number or supplier or dealer license number of the  
5 applicant, the make, model, and motor number of the vehicle involved, the  
6 type of fuel used therein, and such other pertinent information as the  
7 ~~director~~ secretary may require.

8 (c) The fuel user's permit shall be obtained annually before the  
9 ~~director~~ secretary shall register and issue a motor vehicle license for the  
10 vehicle.

11

12 SECTION 4079. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 26-56-  
13 304(d), concerning users' permits for liquefied gas special fuels, is amended  
14 to read as follows:

15 (d)(1) At the time of applying for the permit and prior to the  
16 registration and issuance of a motor vehicle license for the vehicle, each  
17 applicant except licensed liquefied gas special fuels suppliers shall remit  
18 to the ~~director~~ secretary, in addition to the regular fee prescribed by law  
19 for the registration and licensing of the vehicle, an additional fee in an  
20 amount which is determined by the General Assembly, based upon information  
21 available from statistical studies of the motor vehicular use of liquefied  
22 gas special fuels by various classes of users, as follows:

23

24 SECTION 4080. Arkansas Code § 26-56-304(d)(2) and (3), concerning  
25 users' permits for liquefied gas special fuels, is amended to read as  
26 follows:

27 (2) If the ~~director~~ secretary determines that the flat fee  
28 provided herein in lieu of the gallonage tax on liquefied gas special fuels  
29 is, in the case of common or contract carriers or other vehicles for hire,  
30 inadequate to compensate for the gallonage tax, the ~~director~~ secretary may  
31 require the common or contract carriers or owners of other vehicles for hire  
32 to pay a fee based upon the actual mileage of the common or contract carrier  
33 or vehicle for hire for the previous year, the current year, or any other  
34 reasonable basis.

35 (3) The ~~director~~ secretary shall establish regulations for  
36 computing the fees and for the enforcement of the collection thereof.

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SECTION 4081. Arkansas Code § 26-56-305 is amended to read as follows:  
26-56-305. Users' permits – Transfer.

When a motor vehicle permitted to use liquefied gas special fuels under this subchapter is altered to operate on a fuel other than liquefied gas special fuels or destroyed prior to the expiration of the permit period, the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration upon the request of the motor vehicle owner within ten (10) days of the conversion or destruction and the payment of a two-dollar transfer fee shall transfer the permit for the remainder of the permit period to another motor vehicle operating on liquefied gas special fuels owned by the person.

SECTION 4082. Arkansas Code § 26-56-306(a), concerning users' permits and window decals for liquefied gas special fuel, is amended to read as follows:

(a) The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration shall promulgate special serially numbered window decals to be issued for motor vehicles for which liquefied gas special fuels user's permits are issued, except motor vehicles of licensed liquefied gas special fuels suppliers, which distinctive window decals shall evidence not only the registration of the motor vehicle but shall evidence the fact that the special permit fee charged under § 26-56-304 has been paid.

SECTION 4083. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 26-56-308(a), concerning reports and payments of tax by suppliers of liquefied gas special fuels, is amended to read as follows:

(a) On or before the twenty-fifth day of each calendar month next following the calendar month for which the report is made, each liquefied gas special fuels supplier shall report to the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration:

SECTION 4084. Arkansas Code § 26-56-308(a)(6), concerning reports and payments of tax by suppliers of liquefied gas special fuels, is amended to read as follows:

(6) Such other information as the ~~director~~ secretary may require by regulation.

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SECTION 4085. Arkansas Code § 26-56-308(c), concerning reports and payments of tax by suppliers of liquefied gas special fuels, is amended to read as follows:

(c) Each liquefied gas special fuels supplier at the time of filing the monthly report required by this section shall remit to the ~~director~~ secretary any and all taxes due on liquefied gas special fuels covered by the report.

SECTION 4086. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 26-56-309, concerning reports by dealers of liquefied gas special fuels, is amended to read as follows:

Every liquefied gas special fuels dealer on or before the twenty-fifth day of the month shall monthly file a report with the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration for the preceding calendar month showing:

SECTION 4087. Arkansas Code § 26-56-310(a), concerning the discontinuance of a business and the surrender of a license or permit, is amended to read as follows:

(a) Whenever any person to whom a liquefied gas special fuels supplier's license, dealer's license, or liquefied gas special fuels user's permit has been issued, discontinues to supply, sell, or use liquefied gas special fuels within the state, the person shall notify the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration in writing of that fact within thirty (30) days thereafter and surrender his or her license or permit to the ~~director~~ secretary.

SECTION 4088. Arkansas Code § 26-56-311 is amended to read as follows:  
26-56-311. Revocation of supplier's or dealer's license.

(a) If a licensed liquefied gas special fuels supplier or dealer fails to file any report required by this subchapter, or falsely or fraudulently files a report, or fails to pay the full amount of the tax levied by this subchapter, or if at any time the surety on the licensee's bond becomes unsatisfactory or inaccessible to the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration or the bond is discharged or cancelled, and a new

1 bond is not furnished by the licensee within five (5) days after the demand  
2 of the ~~director~~ secretary, the ~~director~~ secretary may give notice to the  
3 licensee of an intention to revoke his or her license.

4 (b) The licensee shall be entitled to a period of ten (10) days after  
5 the mailing of the notice within which to apply for a hearing on the question  
6 of having his or her license revoked, and the ~~director~~ secretary shall  
7 designate a time and place for the hearing, giving the licensee five (5)  
8 days' notice thereof.

9 (c) After the hearing at which the licensee shall be entitled to  
10 present evidence and be represented by counsel, the ~~director~~ secretary shall  
11 determine whether the licensee's license shall be revoked.

12 (d)(1) Upon the issuance of an order revoking the license, the  
13 licensee shall be entitled to appeal to the circuit court in any county in  
14 which the licensee may do business, where the question shall be tried de  
15 novo, but the ~~director's~~ secretary's order shall be affirmed if supported by  
16 substantial evidence.

17 (2) An appeal may be had from the judgment of the circuit court  
18 as in other cases as provided by law.

19 (e)(1) If the licensee fails to apply for a hearing within the  
20 prescribed time, the ~~director~~ secretary may immediately revoke the license of  
21 the licensee and notify the licensee by registered mail, addressed to the  
22 last known address of the licensee appearing in the files of the ~~director~~  
23 secretary.

24 (2) The ~~director~~ secretary shall also notify the surety company  
25 on the licensee's bond in like manner.

26  
27 SECTION 4089. Arkansas Code § 26-56-312(b), concerning the importation  
28 or use of liquefied gas special fuels by an unlicensed person, is amended to  
29 read as follows:

30 (b) For the purposes of determining the number of gallons of liquefied  
31 gas special fuels consumed in operating on the highways of this state, the  
32 liquefied gas special fuels user shall be required to pay to the ~~Director~~  
33 Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration the tax levied by  
34 this subchapter on each gallon of liquefied gas special fuels contained in  
35 the supply tank of the motor vehicle at the time of entry into the state and  
36 upon all liquefied gas special fuels used in this state upon which the tax

1 levied in this subchapter has not been paid.

2

3 SECTION 4090. Arkansas Code § 26-56-313(b)(2), concerning purchase of  
4 liquefied gas special fuels by an unlicensed person and the payment of taxes,  
5 is amended to read as follows:

6 (2) The supplier or dealer shall deliver the original copy to  
7 the purchaser and shall retain the duplicate copy for a period of two (2)  
8 years for inspection by the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance  
9 and Administration or his or her designated agents.

10

11 SECTION 4091. Arkansas Code § 26-56-314 is amended to read as follows:  
12 26-56-314. Nonresident users.

13 If the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and  
14 Administration deems it necessary for the proper enforcement and collection  
15 of the tax on liquefied gas special fuels used in this state against  
16 nonresident users, other than occasional nonresident users, the ~~director~~  
17 secretary may require the nonresident users to obtain a permit, post bond,  
18 and report and remit the tax in the same manner as is required in this  
19 subchapter for liquefied gas special fuels suppliers.

20

21 SECTION 4092. Arkansas Code § 26-56-315 is amended to read as follows:  
22 26-56-315. Conversion of vehicles for use of liquefied gas special  
23 fuels.

24 (a)(1) Any liquefied gas special fuels dealer, garage, mechanic,  
25 owner, or operator of a motor vehicle who converts or causes a vehicle to be  
26 converted to enable the vehicle to be operated on liquefied gas special fuels  
27 shall report the conversion to the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of  
28 Finance and Administration on forms prescribed by the ~~director~~ secretary  
29 within ten (10) days after the conversion.

30

31 (2) If any owner or operator fails to report a conversion to the  
32 ~~director~~ secretary within the time prescribed above, the person shall be  
33 assessed a penalty of fifty dollars (\$50.00) which shall be in addition to  
34 any criminal penalty provided in this chapter.

35

36 (b) No person shall convert or equip any motor vehicle for the use of  
liquefied gas special fuels unless the person is licensed to do so by the  
Liquefied Petroleum Gas Board and has also made application for and obtained

1 a license as a liquefied gas special fuels converter from the ~~director~~  
2 secretary and posted a bond in an amount determined by the ~~director~~ secretary  
3 conditioned that the person will report to the ~~director~~ secretary all  
4 vehicles so converted by the person as required by this section.

5 (c) It shall be unlawful for any person to operate any vehicle which  
6 has been converted or equipped to use liquefied gas special fuels unless the  
7 vehicle has been reported to the ~~director~~ secretary and a liquefied gas  
8 special fuels user's permit has been obtained therefor as required.

9  
10 SECTION 4093. Arkansas Code § 26-56-405(b) and (c), concerning the  
11 payment of tax by the Arkansas Department of Transportation, are amended to  
12 read as follows:

13 (b) For purposes of computing this tax, the ~~department~~ Arkansas  
14 Department of Transportation shall use its fuel consumption reports and shall  
15 file with the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and  
16 Administration an appropriate monthly report stating the gallons used in the  
17 department's motor vehicles and the tax due and payable.

18 (c) The department shall remit the tax due each month to the ~~director~~  
19 secretary.

20  
21 SECTION 4094. Arkansas Code § 26-56-504(a)(1), concerning the  
22 disposition of revenues, is amended to read as follows:

23 (a)(1) All taxes, interest, penalties, and costs received by the  
24 ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration from the  
25 additional taxes and fees levied by this subchapter shall be classified as  
26 special revenues and shall be deposited into the State Treasury.

27  
28 SECTION 4095. Arkansas Code § 26-56-701(1), concerning the definition  
29 of "director" under the laws regarding refunds and motor fuel used by fire  
30 departments, is repealed.

31 ~~(1) "Director" means the Director of the Department of Finance~~  
32 ~~and Administration or any of his or her deputies, employees, or agents;~~

33  
34 SECTION 4096. Arkansas Code § 26-56-703(a), concerning a refund  
35 permit, is amended to read as follows:

36 (a) No fire department shall secure a refund of tax under this

1 subchapter unless the fire department is the holder of an unrevoked permit  
2 which was issued by the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and  
3 Administration before the purchase of the motor fuel or the distillate  
4 special fuel.

5

6 SECTION 4097. Arkansas Code § 26-56-703(c), concerning a refund  
7 permit, is amended to read as follows:

8 (c) An application for the permit shall be filed with the ~~director~~  
9 secretary on forms prescribed by the ~~director~~ secretary and shall contain  
10 such information as the ~~director~~ secretary may require.

11

12 SECTION 4098. Arkansas Code § 26-56-703(e), concerning a refund  
13 permit, is amended to read as follows:

14 (e) The refund permit of any person who violates any provision of this  
15 subchapter shall be revoked by the ~~director~~ secretary and shall not be  
16 reissued until two (2) years have elapsed after the date of the revocation.

17

18 SECTION 4099. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 26-56-  
19 704(a), concerning applications for a refund, is amended to read as follows:

20 (a) The refund permit holder shall file with the ~~Director~~ Secretary of  
21 the Department of Finance and Administration an application for refund on  
22 forms furnished by the ~~director~~ secretary which shall include, but not be  
23 limited to, the following information:

24

25 SECTION 4100. Arkansas Code § 26-56-704(a)(6), concerning applications  
26 for a refund, is amended to read as follows:

27 (6) Other information as the ~~director~~ secretary shall require.

28

29 SECTION 4101. Arkansas Code § 26-56-704(b)(2), concerning applications  
30 for a refund, is amended to read as follows:

31 (2) The application shall be notarized and made to the ~~director~~  
32 secretary.

33

34 SECTION 4102. Arkansas Code § 26-56-704(d)(1), concerning applications  
35 for a refund, is amended to read as follows:

36 (d)(1) The ~~director~~ secretary shall promulgate a rule establishing the

1 annual date for claiming a refund pursuant to this subchapter.

2  
3 SECTION 4103. Arkansas Code § 26-56-705(b)(1), concerning a refund  
4 paid from the Gasoline Tax Refund Fund, is amended to read as follows:

5 (b)(1)(A) The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and  
6 Administration shall annually estimate the amount necessary to pay refunds to  
7 the users of distillate special fuel who are entitled to refunds with respect  
8 to distillate special fuel taxes paid in this state as authorized in this  
9 subchapter.

10 (B) Upon certification by the ~~director~~ secretary, the  
11 Treasurer of State shall transfer from the gross amount of distillate special  
12 fuel taxes collected each month the amount so certified and shall credit the  
13 amount to the fund.

14  
15 SECTION 4104. Arkansas Code § 26-56-705(e), concerning a refund paid  
16 from the Gasoline Tax Refund Fund, is amended to read as follows:

17 (e) Neither the ~~director~~ secretary nor any member or employee of the  
18 Department of Finance and Administration shall be held personally liable for  
19 making any refund by reason of a fraudulent claim filed as a basis for the  
20 refund.

21  
22 SECTION 4105. Arkansas Code § 26-56-706(a), concerning the inspection  
23 and records of fire department refunds, is amended to read as follows:

24 (a) The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and  
25 Administration shall keep a permanent record by fire department of the amount  
26 of refund claimed and paid to each claimant.

27  
28 SECTION 4106. Arkansas Code § 26-56-708 is amended to read as follows:

29 26-56-708. ~~Director's powers~~ Authority of secretary.

30 The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration  
31 may make, amend, and enforce regulations, subpoena witnesses and documents,  
32 administer oaths, and do and perform all other acts necessary to carry out  
33 the purpose and intent of this subchapter.

34  
35 SECTION 4107. Arkansas Code § 26-57-206 is amended to read as follows:

36 26-57-206. Rules.

1           The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration,  
2 the Director of Arkansas Tobacco Control, and the Arkansas Tobacco Control  
3 Board may promulgate rules for the proper enforcement of their powers and  
4 duties as specifically prescribed by this subchapter.

5  
6           SECTION 4108. Arkansas Code § 26-57-211(b), concerning the wholesalers  
7 payment of taxes, reports, and remittance of taxes in regards to the Arkansas  
8 Tobacco Products Tax Act, is amended to read as follows:

9           (b)(1) On or before the fifteenth day of each month, every wholesaler  
10 shall file a report for the previous month's tax collections with the  
11 ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration.

12           (2) The report shall provide the information prescribed by the  
13 ~~director~~ secretary.

14  
15           SECTION 4109. Arkansas Code § 26-57-211(c)(1)(A)(i), concerning the  
16 wholesalers payment of taxes, reports, and remittance of taxes in regards to  
17 the Arkansas Tobacco Products Tax Act, is amended to read as follows:

18           (c)(1)(A)(i) When the report under subsection (b) of this section is  
19 filed, the wholesaler shall remit to the ~~director~~ secretary with the report  
20 ninety-eight percent (98%) of the tax due for the previous month.

21  
22           SECTION 4110. Arkansas Code § 26-57-211(c)(1)(B), concerning the  
23 wholesalers payment of taxes, reports, and remittance of taxes in regards to  
24 the Arkansas Tobacco Products Tax Act, is amended to read as follows:

25           (B) If the stamps deputy fails to remit the tax on or  
26 before the twentieth day of each applicable month, the wholesaler forfeits  
27 his or her claim to the discount described in subdivision (c)(1)(A) of this  
28 section, and the wholesaler shall remit to the ~~director~~ secretary one hundred  
29 percent (100%) of the amount of tax due, plus any penalty or interest due.

30  
31           SECTION 4111. Arkansas Code § 26-57-211(d), concerning the wholesalers  
32 payment of taxes, reports, and remittance of taxes in regards to the Arkansas  
33 Tobacco Products Tax Act of 1977, is amended to read as follows:

34           (d)(1) The ~~director~~ secretary may add a penalty of ten percent (10%)  
35 of the tax due to the tax due for the failure to file a report or for the  
36 failure to remit the taxes at the time required, or for both.

1           (2) If the ~~director~~ secretary determines there has been an  
2 attempt to evade the tax, a penalty of not more than fifty percent (50%) of  
3 the tax due shall be added to the tax due.  
4

5           SECTION 4112. Arkansas Code § 26-57-212(a)(1), concerning wholesalers,  
6 warehousemen, reports, payment of taxes, and records in regards to the  
7 Arkansas Tobacco Products Tax Act of 1977, is amended to read as follows:

8           (a)(1) Every licensed wholesaler and warehouse that handles, receives,  
9 stores, sells, and disposes of tobacco products in any manner in this state  
10 shall file a report with the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance  
11 and Administration on or before the fifteenth day of each month.  
12

13           SECTION 4113. Arkansas Code § 26-57-212(b)(3), concerning wholesalers,  
14 warehousemen, reports, payment of taxes, and records in regards to the  
15 Arkansas Tobacco Products Tax Act of 1977, is amended to read as follows:

16           (3) Any other information about the purchases and sales as may  
17 be prescribed by the ~~director~~ secretary.  
18

19           SECTION 4114. Arkansas Code § 26-57-212(c), concerning wholesalers,  
20 warehousemen, reports, payment of taxes, and records in regards to the  
21 Arkansas Tobacco Products Tax Act of 1977, is amended to read as follows:

22           (c) All taxes due for the preceding month shall be remitted to the  
23 ~~director~~ secretary at the time the report is filed.  
24

25           SECTION 4115. Arkansas Code § 26-57-213(b), concerning invoices in  
26 regards to the Arkansas Cigarette or Tobacco Products Excise Tax, is amended  
27 to read as follows:

28           (b) Copies of all invoices for the purchase or sale of any tobacco  
29 products, vapor products, alternative nicotine products, or e-liquid products  
30 shall be retained by each manufacturer, wholesaler, vendor, and retailer for  
31 a period of three (3) years subject to examination by the ~~Director~~ Secretary  
32 of the Department of Finance and Administration and the Director of Arkansas  
33 Tobacco Control or their authorized agents upon demand at any time during  
34 regular business hours.  
35

36           SECTION 4116. Arkansas Code § 26-57-215(b)(1), concerning the types of

1 permits and licenses in regards to the Arkansas Tobacco Products Tax Act of  
2 1977, is amended to read as follows:

3 (b)(1) In addition to securing a permit or license under subsection  
4 (a) of this section, a manufacturer whose products are sold in this state  
5 shall register with the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and  
6 Administration. A manufacturer whose products are sold in this state is not  
7 required to obtain a dealer's license for an employee operating as the  
8 manufacturer's sales representative if the manufacturer holds a license or  
9 permit under subsection (a) of this section.

10  
11 SECTION 4117. Arkansas Code § 26-57-219(c), concerning permits,  
12 licenses, and annual privilege tax in regards to the Arkansas Tobacco  
13 Products Tax Act of 1977, is amended to read as follows:

14 (c) A permit or license issued under this subchapter shall not be  
15 renewed for a permit or license holder who is delinquent more than ninety  
16 (90) days on a privilege fee, tax relating to the sale or dispensing of  
17 cigarettes or tobacco products, or any other state and local tax due the  
18 ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration.

19  
20 SECTION 4118. Arkansas Code § 26-57-224(b), concerning a vendor's bond  
21 in regards to the Arkansas Tobacco Products Tax Act of 1977, is amended to  
22 read as follows:

23 (b) The bond shall be conditioned upon the faithful performance of the  
24 duties and obligations imposed by this subchapter and the regulations  
25 promulgated by the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and  
26 Administration.

27  
28 SECTION 4119. Arkansas Code § 26-57-224(d), concerning a vendor's bond  
29 in regards to the Arkansas Tobacco Products Tax Act of 1977, is amended to  
30 read as follows:

31 (d) This bond shall be executed by a solvent surety company authorized  
32 to do business in this state or other responsible surety approved by the  
33 ~~director~~ secretary.

34  
35 SECTION 4120. Arkansas Code § 26-57-229(c), concerning a licensee as a  
36 wholesaler and retailer, is amended to read as follows:

1 (c) Records shall be kept on forms prescribed by the ~~Director~~  
2 Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration.

3  
4 SECTION 4121. Arkansas Code § 26-57-230(a), concerning common carriers  
5 in regards to the Arkansas Tobacco Products Tax Act of 1977, is amended to  
6 read as follows:

7 (a) Common carriers transporting tobacco products, vapor products,  
8 alternative nicotine products, or e-liquid products may be required by the  
9 ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration or the  
10 Director of Arkansas Tobacco Control to give a statement of all consignments  
11 of tobacco products, vapor products, alternative nicotine products, or e-  
12 liquid products showing date, point of origin, point of delivery, and to whom  
13 delivered.

14  
15 SECTION 4122. Arkansas Code § 26-57-230(b) and (c), concerning common  
16 carriers in regards to the Arkansas Tobacco Products Tax Act of 1977, are  
17 amended to read as follows:

18 (b) All common carriers shall permit their records relating to  
19 shipment or receipt of tobacco products, vapor products, alternative nicotine  
20 products, or e-liquid products to be examined by the ~~Director~~ Secretary of  
21 the Department of Finance and Administration, the Director of Arkansas  
22 Tobacco Control, or their agents.

23 (c) A person who fails or refuses to give the statement, reports, or  
24 invoices required by this section or who refuses to permit the ~~Director~~  
25 Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration or the Director of  
26 Arkansas Tobacco Control to examine the person's records is guilty of a Class  
27 C misdemeanor.

28  
29 SECTION 4123. Arkansas Code § 26-57-232(a)(3), concerning wholesalers,  
30 restrictions, and criminal violations in regards to the Arkansas Tobacco  
31 Products Tax Act of 1977, is amended to read as follows:

32 (3) The wholesaler before selling, delivering, or otherwise  
33 disposing of cigarettes to retailers in this state shall affix stamps of the  
34 proper denominations to show that the tax has been paid. The stamp shall be  
35 affixed in the manner prescribed by the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department  
36 of Finance and Administration; and

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SECTION 4124. Arkansas Code § 26-57-232(b), concerning wholesalers, restrictions, and criminal violations in regards to the Arkansas Tobacco Products Tax Act of 1977, is amended to read as follows:

(b) Any wholesaler who fails or refuses to affix or cancel the stamps or who fails or refuses to keep the records or who fails or refuses to furnish the statements and information or make the reports as required by this subchapter or as prescribed by the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration and the Director of Arkansas Tobacco Control, or who violates any of the requirements of §§ 26-57-212, 26-57-229, and 26-57-242 is guilty of a violation for the first offense and a Class C misdemeanor for each additional offense.

SECTION 4125. Arkansas Code § 26-57-234(a)(4)(A), concerning retailers, vendors, restrictions, and violations, is amended to read as follows:

(4)(A) The retailer shall keep records showing the description and date of the receipt of each lot of tobacco products, vapor products, alternative nicotine products, or e-liquid products, from whom purchased, and when received on the premises, or any other requirements prescribed by the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration.

SECTION 4126. Arkansas Code § 26-57-234(a)(5), concerning retailers, vendors, restrictions, and violations, is amended to read as follows:

(5) The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration may require retailer reports covering receipts and sales of tobacco products monthly or for any other period; and

SECTION 4127. Arkansas Code § 26-57-234(c), concerning retailers, vendors, restrictions, and violations, is amended to read as follows:

(c) A retailer or vendor who fails or refuses to retain in his or her files invoices of tobacco products, vapor products, alternative nicotine products, or e-liquid products, and stamps, or who fails or refuses to furnish the statements and information or make the reports concerning receipts and sales of tobacco products, vapor products, alternative nicotine products, or e-liquid products, as required by this subchapter or prescribed

1 by the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration, or  
2 who violates any of the requirements of this section, is guilty of a  
3 violation.

4  
5 SECTION 4128. Arkansas Code § 26-57-235(b), concerning cigarette  
6 stamps, is amended to read as follows:

7 (b) The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and  
8 Administration shall prescribe the kind of stamps to be used in the  
9 administration of this subchapter.

10  
11 SECTION 4129. Arkansas Code § 26-57-235(c)(1) and (2), concerning  
12 cigarette stamps, are amended to read as follows:

13 (c)(1) The ~~director~~ secretary shall prepare and maintain an adequate  
14 supply of cigarette stamps.

15 (2) The ~~director~~ secretary shall require a printer's certificate  
16 with each set of stamps delivered.

17  
18 SECTION 4130. Arkansas Code § 26-57-235(c)(4)(A), concerning cigarette  
19 stamps, is amended to read as follows:

20 (4)(A) All stamps prescribed by the ~~director~~ secretary for  
21 affixation to cigarette packages shall be designed and furnished in such a  
22 fashion as to permit identification of the person that affixed the stamp to  
23 the particular package of cigarettes by means of a number or other mark on  
24 the stamp.

25  
26 SECTION 4131. Arkansas Code § 26-57-236(a), concerning the  
27 appointment, revocation, and reporting of stamp deputies, is amended to read  
28 as follows:

29 (a) The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and  
30 Administration shall furnish tax stamps to licensed wholesalers through stamp  
31 deputies.

32  
33 SECTION 4132. Arkansas Code § 26-57-236(b)(1), concerning the  
34 appointment, revocation, and reporting of stamp deputies, is amended to read  
35 as follows:

36 (b)(1) The ~~director~~ secretary may appoint and commission stamp

1 deputies to handle the stamps and collect the tax on cigarettes before sales  
2 of cigarettes are made to the retailers.

3  
4 SECTION 4133. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 26-57-  
5 236(b)(2), concerning the appointment, revocation, and reporting of stamp  
6 deputies, is amended to read as follows:

7 (2) The ~~director~~ secretary shall not appoint and commission a  
8 person as a stamp deputy unless the person:

9  
10 SECTION 4134. Arkansas Code § 26-57-236(b)(2)(B), concerning the  
11 appointment, revocation, and reporting of stamp deputies, is amended to read  
12 as follows:

13 (B) Certifies each calendar quarter on a form prescribed  
14 by the ~~director~~ secretary that the person has and will comply with the  
15 requirements of this subchapter;

16  
17 SECTION 4135. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 26-57-  
18 236(b)(2)(E), concerning the appointment, revocation, and reporting of stamp  
19 deputies, is amended to read as follows:

20 (E) Waives the confidentiality laws necessary to permit  
21 the ~~director~~ secretary to:

22  
23 SECTION 4136. Arkansas Code § 26-57-236(b)(2)(E)(ii), concerning the  
24 appointment, revocation, and reporting of stamp deputies, is amended to read  
25 as follows:

26 (ii) Share information reported under this  
27 subchapter and other laws with the taxing authorities or law enforcement  
28 authorities of other states or with any other entity permitted by the  
29 ~~director~~ secretary to aggregate the data;

30  
31 SECTION 4137. Arkansas Code § 26-57-236(b)(2)(F), concerning the  
32 appointment, revocation, and reporting of stamp deputies, is amended to read  
33 as follows:

34 (F) Has furnished a bond in an amount and in the form  
35 prescribed by the ~~director~~ secretary; and

36

1 SECTION 4138. Arkansas Code § 26-57-236(b)(3) and (4), concerning the  
2 appointment, revocation, and reporting of stamp deputies, are amended to read  
3 as follows:

4 (3) An appointment and commission as a stamp deputy by the  
5 ~~director~~ secretary is effective for one (1) year.

6 (4) A stamp deputy acting within the scope of the stamp deputy's  
7 authority is an agent of the ~~director~~ secretary and is accountable as such  
8 for any wrongful acts.

9  
10 SECTION 4139. Arkansas Code § 26-57-236(b)(6)(A), concerning the  
11 appointment, revocation, and reporting of stamp deputies, is amended to read  
12 as follows:

13 (6)(A) The ~~director~~ secretary shall list on the website of the  
14 Department of Finance and Administration the names of all persons appointed  
15 and commissioned as stamp deputies under this section.

16  
17 SECTION 4140. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 26-57-  
18 236(c)(4)(A), concerning the appointment, revocation, and reporting of stamp  
19 deputies, is amended to read as follows:

20 (4)(A) The ~~director~~ secretary shall:

21  
22 SECTION 4141. Arkansas Code § 26-57-236(e)(1)(A), concerning the  
23 appointment, revocation, and reporting of stamp deputies, is amended to read  
24 as follows:

25 (e)(1)(A) By the fifteenth day of each month, a stamp deputy shall  
26 file a report in the form prescribed by the ~~director~~ secretary, and the stamp  
27 deputy shall certify to the state that the report is complete and accurate.

28  
29 SECTION 4142. Arkansas Code § 26-57-236(e)(1)(B)(v), concerning the  
30 appointment, revocation, and reporting of stamp deputies, is amended to read  
31 as follows:

32 (v) Any additional information required by the  
33 ~~director~~ secretary to assist in the enforcement of this chapter, §§ 26-57-260  
34 and 26-57-261, and §§ 26-57-1301 – 26-57-1308.

35  
36 SECTION 4143. Arkansas Code § 26-57-236(e)(2) and (3), concerning the

1 appointment, revocation, and reporting of stamp deputies, are amended to read  
2 as follows:

3 (2) In addition to the reports submitted under this section, the  
4 stamp deputy shall submit any information required by the ~~director~~ secretary,  
5 including without limitation the manufacturer, brand family, and number of  
6 the cigarettes on which the reports are submitted.

7 (3) The ~~director~~ secretary may share the information reported  
8 under this section with the taxing authorities or law enforcement authorities  
9 of Arkansas or another state or with any other entity permitted by the  
10 ~~director~~ secretary to aggregate the data.

11

12 SECTION 4144. Arkansas Code § 26-57-236(f)(1), concerning the  
13 appointment, revocation, and reporting of stamp deputies, is amended to read  
14 as follows:

15 (f)(1) The ~~director~~ secretary shall pay a commission to each stamp  
16 deputy for the sale of cigarette tax stamps, the affixing of a cigarette tax  
17 stamp to each package of cigarettes, and the collection of cigarette taxes.

18

19 SECTION 4145. Arkansas Code § 26-57-237(a), concerning cigarette  
20 stamps, sale, and delivery, is amended to read as follows:

21 (a) The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and  
22 Administration or the ~~director's~~ secretary's stamp deputy may sell or deliver  
23 cigarette stamps only to licensed wholesalers.

24

25 SECTION 4146. Arkansas Code § 26-57-237(c)(1), concerning cigarette  
26 stamps, sale, and delivery, is amended to read as follows:

27 (c)(1) Any cigarette or tobacco products wholesaler or any other  
28 person required by law to affix cigarette tax stamps to cigarettes sold or  
29 offered for sale in this state shall have the option to receive the stamps  
30 directly from the ~~director~~ secretary or to request that the stamps be shipped  
31 to the person in a manner to be selected by the ~~director~~ secretary.

32

33 SECTION 4147. Arkansas Code § 26-57-237(c)(4), concerning cigarette  
34 stamps, sale, and delivery, is amended to read as follows:

35 (4) A wholesaler or other person who chooses a method of  
36 shipment other than the method selected by the ~~director~~ secretary shall pay

1 the ~~director~~ secretary for the stamps prior to shipment.

2  
3 SECTION 4148. Arkansas Code § 26-57-238 is amended to read as follows:  
4 26-57-238. Cigarette stamps – Refund on unsold, returned cigarettes.

5 When cigarettes to which stamps have been affixed are unsold and are  
6 returned by the retailer or the wholesaler who paid tax on them to the  
7 wholesaler or manufacturer from whom they were originally purchased, refund  
8 of the tax paid on the cigarettes may be made in the manner prescribed by the  
9 ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration.

10  
11 SECTION 4149. Arkansas Code § 26-57-244(a), concerning the possession  
12 of untaxed, unstamped products, notice, and prima facie evidence, is amended  
13 to read as follows:

14 (a) It is unlawful for a person to receive or have in the person's  
15 possession for sale, consumption, or any other purpose, any untaxed tobacco  
16 products or unstamped cigarettes unless the tax prescribed by this subchapter  
17 has been paid directly to the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance  
18 and Administration by the person in possession of the untaxed tobacco  
19 products or unstamped cigarettes.

20  
21 SECTION 4150. Arkansas Code § 26-57-244(c), concerning the possession  
22 of untaxed, unstamped products, notice, and prima facie evidence, is amended  
23 to read as follows:

24 (c) If tax has been paid to the ~~director~~ secretary on any untaxed  
25 tobacco products or unstamped cigarettes, a consumer may establish proof of  
26 the payment by providing a receipt or any other documentation that clearly  
27 indicates that the tax was paid.

28  
29 SECTION 4151. Arkansas Code § 26-57-244(f)(2)-(4), concerning the  
30 possession of untaxed, unstamped products, notice, and prima facie evidence,  
31 are amended to read as follows:

32 (2) The tax due shall be reported on forms provided by the  
33 ~~director~~ secretary on or before the fifteenth day of the month following the  
34 month in which the untaxed purchase was made.

35 (3) The report shall provide the information prescribed by the  
36 ~~director~~ secretary.

1 (4) When a report is filed, the consumer shall remit the full  
2 amount of tax due on the untaxed purchase to the ~~director~~ secretary.

3  
4 SECTION 4152. Arkansas Code § 26-57-244(g), concerning the possession  
5 of untaxed, unstamped products, notice, and prima facie evidence, are amended  
6 to read as follows:

7 (g) The ~~director~~ secretary is authorized to directly assess the excise  
8 tax due on any untaxed tobacco products or unstamped cigarettes against a  
9 consumer who purchases the items and fails to report and remit the excise tax  
10 due in a timely manner.

11  
12 SECTION 4153. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 26-57-  
13 244(i)(1)(B), concerning the possession of untaxed, unstamped products,  
14 notice, and prima facie evidence, are amended to read as follows:

15 (B) Provides on at least a monthly basis and on the form  
16 prescribed by the ~~director~~ secretary a report indicating the following for  
17 each brand family:

18  
19 SECTION 4154. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 26-57-  
20 244(i)(2)(C), concerning the possession of untaxed, unstamped products,  
21 notice, and prima facie evidence, are amended to read as follows:

22 (C) Provides on at least a monthly basis and on the form  
23 prescribed by the ~~director~~ secretary a report indicating the following for  
24 each brand family:

25  
26 SECTION 4155. Arkansas Code § 26-57-244(i)(3)(A)(iii), concerning the  
27 possession of untaxed, unstamped products, notice, and prima facie evidence,  
28 are amended to read as follows:

29 (iii) If the wholesaler's facility to which the  
30 cigarettes are transferred is located outside of Arkansas, the wholesaler  
31 shall report the quantity and brand of the cigarettes to the ~~director~~  
32 secretary, the Attorney General, and the taxing authority of the other state  
33 within fifteen (15) days following the end of the month in which the transfer  
34 was made.

35  
36 SECTION 4156. Arkansas Code § 26-57-247(b)(1), concerning the seizure,

1 forfeiture, and disposition of tobacco products and other property, is  
2 amended to read as follows:

3 (1) Prima facie evidence exists that the full amount of excise  
4 tax due on the tobacco products has not been paid to the ~~Director~~ Secretary  
5 of the Department of Finance and Administration;

6  
7 SECTION 4157. Arkansas Code § 26-57-250(a), concerning party  
8 defendants in a civil action to recover tax and penalties, is amended to read  
9 as follows:

10 (a) When the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and  
11 Administration finds from investigation that the state has lost tax revenue  
12 because of the evasion of any provision of this subchapter, the ~~director~~  
13 secretary may bring suit in the proper court to recover the tax and  
14 penalties.

15  
16 SECTION 4158. Arkansas Code § 26-57-251(a), concerning criminal  
17 actions and civil actions brought in the name of the Director of the  
18 Department of Finance and Administration, is amended to read as follows:

19 (a) All civil actions arising under this subchapter shall be brought  
20 by and in the name of the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and  
21 Administration or the Director of Arkansas Tobacco Control, whichever is  
22 appropriate under the provisions of this subchapter.

23  
24 SECTION 4159. Arkansas Code § 26-57-256(a)(4)(C)(i), concerning the  
25 powers of the Arkansas Tobacco Control Board, is amended to read as follows:

26 (C)(i) Each year the board shall provide a list of all  
27 applicants for the issuance or renewal of all tobacco, vapor product,  
28 alternative nicotine product, or e-liquid product permits and licenses to the  
29 ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration.

30  
31 SECTION 4160. Arkansas Code § 26-57-257(c), concerning the Director of  
32 Arkansas Tobacco Control, is amended to read as follows:

33 (c) The Director of Arkansas Tobacco Control, in consultation with the  
34 Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration, may employ other  
35 personnel as he or she deems necessary and as authorized by the General  
36 Assembly.

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SECTION 4161. Arkansas Code § 26-57-257(p), concerning the Director of Arkansas Tobacco Control, is amended to clarify the duties of the director to read as follows:

(p) The Director of Arkansas Tobacco Control shall have other powers, functions, and duties pertaining to the issuance, suspension, and revocation of the permits and licenses enumerated in § 26-57-219 ~~that previously were granted to the Director of the Department of Finance and Administration,~~ except those that are specifically delegated to the Department of Finance and Administration by this subchapter.

SECTION 4162. Arkansas Code § 26-57-257(q)(1), concerning the Director of Arkansas Tobacco Control, is amended to read as follows:

(q)(1)(A) The power and duty to collect taxes imposed on tobacco and tobacco products is specifically exempted from the powers and duties granted or assigned to the board or the ~~director~~ Director of Tobacco Control.

(B) However, a permit or license holder's failure to pay taxes or fees imposed on tobacco products or any permit or license fees imposed by this subchapter in a timely manner is grounds for the nonissuance, suspension, revocation, or nonrenewal of any permits or licenses issued by the board.

(C) Failure to timely and fully pay any other state and local taxes as reported by the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration shall also constitute grounds for the nonissuance, suspension, revocation, or nonrenewal of any permits or licenses issued by the board.

SECTION 4163. Arkansas Code § 26-57-257(q)(2)(A), concerning the Director of Arkansas Tobacco Control, is amended to read as follows:

(2)(A) Each year the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration shall report to the Director of Arkansas Tobacco Control all permit and license holders who are more than ninety (90) days delinquent on any state and local taxes.

SECTION 4164. Arkansas Code § 26-57-257(q)(3)(B), concerning the Director of Arkansas Tobacco Control, is amended to read as follows:

1 (B) This notice shall inform the permit or license holder  
2 that he or she is delinquent on payment of state and local taxes due the  
3 ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration and that  
4 the permit or license holder will be unable to obtain or renew the permit or  
5 license that he or she holds until such time as the person becomes current in  
6 the payment of the tax due the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of  
7 Finance and Administration, or until such time as the person enters into a  
8 valid repayment agreement with the department for the payment of the  
9 delinquent tax.

10  
11 SECTION 4165. Arkansas Code § 26-57-262(c)(6), concerning the sale of  
12 export cigarettes, is amended to read as follows:

13 (6) On or before the fifteenth business day of each month, each  
14 person licensed to affix the state tax stamp to cigarettes shall file with  
15 the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration for  
16 all cigarettes imported into the United States to which the person has  
17 affixed the tax stamp in the preceding month copies of the customs  
18 certificates with respect to the cigarettes required to be submitted by 19  
19 U.S.C. § 1681a(c).

20  
21 SECTION 4166. Arkansas Code § 26-57-263(b)(2)(B)(i), concerning  
22 cigarette inputs and cigarette rolling machines, is amended to read as  
23 follows:

24 (B)(i) A civil penalty of up to fifty thousand dollars  
25 (\$50,000) in any action brought by the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department  
26 of Finance and Administration, the Director of Arkansas Tobacco Control, or  
27 the Attorney General.

28  
29 SECTION 4167. Arkansas Code § 26-57-264(a), concerning information to  
30 be provided to the Attorney General, is amended to read as follows:

31 (a) Upon request of the Attorney General, any information provided to  
32 the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration or the  
33 Director of Arkansas Tobacco Control shall be provided to the Attorney  
34 General.

35  
36 SECTION 4168. Arkansas Code § 26-57-404(b), concerning privilege taxes

1 on amusement devices, is amended to read as follows:

2 (b) The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and  
3 Administration shall collect for each amusement device the full annual  
4 license fee when paid during the first six (6) months of the fiscal year, but  
5 any license fee paid during the last six (6) months of the fiscal year shall  
6 be upon the basis of one-half ( $\frac{1}{2}$ ) of the annual tax.

7

8 SECTION 4169. Arkansas Code § 26-57-405(a), concerning the license tag  
9 for machines, is amended to read as follows:

10 (a) Upon payment of the tax provided for in § 26-57-404, the ~~Director~~  
11 Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration will issue a  
12 license tag.

13

14 SECTION 4170. Arkansas Code § 26-57-406 is amended to read as follows:

15 26-57-406. Unlicensed games a public nuisance – Seizure and sale –  
16 Redemption.

17 Every amusement device as defined in § 26-57-402 upon which the  
18 individual privilege tax of five dollars (\$5.00) has not been paid is  
19 declared to be a public nuisance and may be seized by any authorized agent of  
20 the Department of Finance and Administration and sold by the ~~Director~~  
21 Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration on an order of the  
22 Pulaski County Circuit Court. However, the owner of the amusement device  
23 shall have the privilege of redeeming the amusement device within ten (10)  
24 days by paying the tax due and costs.

25

26 SECTION 4171. Arkansas Code § 26-57-411(a), concerning the requirement  
27 for a surety bond for a license, is amended to read as follows:

28 (a) Prior to the issuance or renewal of any license under this  
29 subchapter, the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and  
30 Administration shall require the applicant to procure a suitable surety bond  
31 in the principal sum of six thousand dollars (\$6,000) to insure the faithful  
32 and prompt payment of all sales taxes, use taxes, or privilege taxes which  
33 may become due in connection with the operation of the licensed business and  
34 to secure the faithful performance of all duties and obligations imposed by  
35 this subchapter.

36

1 SECTION 4172. Arkansas Code § 26-57-412(a) and (b), concerning the  
2 issuance of a license for a coin-operated amusement device, are amended to  
3 read as follows:

4 (a) Licenses for the privilege of owning, operating, or leasing coin-  
5 operated amusement devices shall be issued by the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the  
6 Department of Finance and Administration.

7 (b) Applications for the licenses shall be on a form prescribed by the  
8 ~~director~~ secretary.

9  
10 SECTION 4173. Arkansas Code § 26-57-413(a), concerning licenses,  
11 revocation, or suspension in regards to coin-operated amusement devices, is  
12 amended to read as follows:

13 (a) The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and  
14 Administration may revoke or suspend the license authorized under this  
15 subchapter for cause.

16  
17 SECTION 4174. Arkansas Code § 26-57-413(c), concerning licenses,  
18 revocation, or suspension in regards to coin-operated amusement devices, is  
19 amended to read as follows:

20 (c) The licensee shall have fifteen (15) days in which to notify the  
21 ~~director~~ secretary that a hearing is desired, after which time a hearing  
22 shall be had not less than fifteen (15) days subsequent to the expiration of  
23 the fifteen-day period of notice.

24  
25 SECTION 4175. Arkansas Code § 26-57-413(d)(1), concerning licenses,  
26 revocation, or suspension in regards to coin-operated amusement devices, is  
27 amended to read as follows:

28 (d)(1) Any licensee whose license has been revoked or suspended may  
29 appeal to the Pulaski County Circuit Court within twenty (20) days after  
30 revocation or suspension by filing a copy of the notice of the revocation or  
31 suspension with the clerk of the circuit court and causing a summons to be  
32 served on the ~~director~~ secretary.

33  
34 SECTION 4176. Arkansas Code § 26-57-414(b)(1), concerning a coin-  
35 operated amusement device, is amended to read as follows:

36 (b)(1) A coin-operated amusement device owned, operated, or leased

1 without first obtaining the license prescribed in § 26-57-412 shall be seized  
2 by an authorized agent of the Revenue Division of the Department of Finance  
3 and Administration and sold by the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of  
4 Finance and Administration at public auction on an order of the Pulaski  
5 County Circuit Court.

6  
7 SECTION 4177. Arkansas Code § 26-57-415(a), concerning the  
8 notification of purchase or lease of an amusement device, is amended to read  
9 as follows:

10 (a) All licensees under this subchapter within ten (10) days of the  
11 date of purchase or lease of any amusement device upon which an annual  
12 privilege tax is levied by the state shall furnish the ~~Director~~ Secretary of  
13 the Department of Finance and Administration with a copy of the invoice or  
14 lease agreement, showing the description and serial number of the amusement  
15 device and evidence that the Arkansas sales tax has been paid.

16  
17 SECTION 4178. Arkansas Code § 26-57-416(c), concerning a lessor's  
18 records and sales taxes, is amended to read as follows:

19 (c) All records required to be kept by the licensee under the  
20 provision of this subchapter shall be made available to the ~~Director~~  
21 Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration within a reasonable  
22 time after request or the license of the offending licensee may be revoked as  
23 provided in this subchapter.

24  
25 SECTION 4179. Arkansas Code § 26-57-419(a) and (b), concerning a  
26 licenses to sell coin-operated amusement devices, are amended to read as  
27 follows:

28 (a) Licenses to sell coin-operated amusement devices shall be issued  
29 by the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration.

30 (b) Applications for the licenses shall be on a form prescribed by the  
31 ~~director~~ secretary.

32  
33 SECTION 4180. Arkansas Code § 26-57-419(f)(1), concerning a licenses  
34 to sell coin-operated amusement devices, is amended to read as follows:

35 (f)(1) The ~~director~~ secretary may revoke or suspend the licenses for  
36 cause.

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SECTION 4181. Arkansas Code § 26-57-419(f)(3), concerning a licenses to sell coin-operated amusement devices, is amended to read as follows:

(3) The licensee shall have fifteen (15) days in which to notify the ~~director~~ secretary that a hearing is desired, after which time a hearing shall be held not less than fifteen (15) days subsequent to the expiration of the fifteen-day period of notice.

SECTION 4182. Arkansas Code § 26-57-419(f)(4)(A), concerning a licenses to sell coin-operated amusement devices, is amended to read as follows:

(4)(A) Any licensee whose license has been revoked or suspended may appeal to the Pulaski County Circuit Court by filing a copy of the notice of revocation or suspension with the clerk of the court within twenty (20) days of receipt thereof and causing the issuance of a summons to be served on the ~~director~~ secretary. The hearing shall be de novo in the Pulaski County Circuit Court.

SECTION 4183. Arkansas Code § 26-57-502 is amended to read as follows:  
26-57-502. Regulation and licensing.

The regulation and licensing of the business conducted in this state by what is known as travel bureaus or travel services operating for the purpose of securing transportation in private automobiles from one (1) destination to another on the share-expense basis both within and without the State of Arkansas is placed in the Revenue Division of the Department of Finance and Administration, and the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration is authorized to license and collect the fees therefor and enforce this subchapter in its entirety by due process of law.

SECTION 4184. Arkansas Code § 26-57-503 is amended to read as follows:  
26-57-503. Notice of engaging in business.

(a) Any person, firm, partnership, limited liability company, or corporation in this state who shall enter into or conduct such a business as is described in § 26-57-502 immediately upon engaging in or commencing the business shall notify the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration by letter of that fact, setting forth the date of commencement

1 and stating his or her intention to abide by all the provisions of this  
2 subchapter.

3 (b) The notice shall be filed by the ~~director~~ secretary in such manner  
4 as will enable the ~~director~~ secretary to properly inspect and record the  
5 latter compliance of the person with the provisions of this subchapter.  
6

7 SECTION 4185. Arkansas Code § 26-57-506 is amended to read as follows:  
8 26-57-506. Disposition of tax.

9 The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration  
10 shall remit the funds so collected to the State Treasury, and the Treasurer  
11 of State is directed to credit all the moneys to the Old Age Pension Fund.  
12

13 SECTION 4186. Arkansas Code § 26-57-801(c) and (d), concerning excise  
14 taxes, are amended to read as follows:

15 (c) The tax shall be remitted to the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the  
16 Department of Finance and Administration at the same time and in the same  
17 manner as prescribed by the Arkansas Tobacco Products Tax Act of 1977, § 26-  
18 57-201 et seq.

19 (d) The ~~director~~ secretary shall promulgate such regulations as the  
20 ~~director~~ secretary deems necessary for the implementation of this section.  
21

22 SECTION 4187. Arkansas Code § 26-57-802(e), concerning additional  
23 taxes, applicability, reporting, and remitting, is amended to read as  
24 follows:

25 (e) As provided in § 26-57-244, the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the  
26 Department of Finance and Administration may make a direct assessment of  
27 excise tax against any person in possession of an untaxed tobacco product or  
28 unstamped cigarettes.  
29

30 SECTION 4188. Arkansas Code § 26-57-804(e), concerning an additional  
31 tax of twelve dollars and fifty cents on cigarettes, is amended to read as  
32 follows:

33 (e) The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and  
34 Administration shall pay the commission authorized by § 26-57-236 with  
35 respect to the tax levied by this section.  
36

1 SECTION 4189. Arkansas Code § 26-57-804(g), concerning an additional  
2 tax of twelve dollars and fifty cents on cigarettes, is amended to read as  
3 follows:

4 (g) As provided in § 26-57-244, the ~~director~~ secretary may make a  
5 direct assessment of excise tax against any person in possession of unstamped  
6 cigarettes.

7  
8 SECTION 4190. Arkansas Code § 26-57-805(e), concerning an additional  
9 tax of seven percent on tobacco products other than cigarettes, is amended to  
10 read as follows:

11 (e) As provided in § 26-57-244, the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the  
12 Department of Finance and Administration may make a direct assessment of  
13 excise tax against any person in possession of an untaxed tobacco product.  
14

15 SECTION 4191. Arkansas Code § 26-57-806(f), concerning an additional  
16 tax of twenty-eight dollars on cigarettes, is amended to read as follows:

17 (f) As provided in § 26-57-244, the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the  
18 Department of Finance and Administration may make a direct assessment of  
19 excise tax against any person in possession of unstamped cigarettes.  
20

21 SECTION 4192. Arkansas Code § 26-57-807(f), concerning an additional  
22 tax of thirty-six percent on tobacco products other than cigarettes, is  
23 amended to read as follows:

24 (f) As provided in § 26-57-244, the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the  
25 Department of Finance and Administration may make a direct assessment of  
26 excise tax against any person in possession of an untaxed tobacco product.  
27

28 SECTION 4193. Arkansas Code § 26-57-902(3), concerning the definition  
29 of "director" under the Arkansas Soft Drink Tax Act, is repealed.

30 ~~(3) "Director" means the Director of the Department of Finance~~  
31 ~~and Administration or his or her authorized agent;~~  
32

33 SECTION 4194. Arkansas Code § 26-57-905(6), concerning exemptions from  
34 certain taxes, is amended to read as follows:

35 (6) Syrups, simple syrups, powders or base products, or soft  
36 drinks sold by one distributor, wholesaler, or manufacturer to another

1 distributor, wholesaler, or manufacturer who holds a license issued by the  
2 ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration under the  
3 provisions of § 26-57-909 as a distributor, wholesaler, or manufacturer,  
4 provided that the license number of the distributor, wholesaler, or  
5 manufacturer to whom the soft drink is sold is clearly shown on the invoice  
6 for the sale which is claimed to be exempt. This exemption shall not apply to  
7 any sale to a retailer;

8  
9 SECTION 4195. Arkansas Code § 26-57-906(b) and (c), concerning the  
10 reporting of taxes, are amended to read as follows:

11 (b) The distributor, wholesaler, or manufacturer and any retailer  
12 subject to this tax shall file a monthly return and remit the tax for the  
13 month to the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and  
14 Administration on or before the fifteenth day of the month next following the  
15 month in which the sale or purchase was made.

16 (c)(1) The returns shall be made upon forms prescribed and furnished  
17 by the ~~director~~ secretary and signed by the person required to collect and  
18 remit the tax or the person's agent.

19 (2) The return shall contain such information as the ~~director~~  
20 secretary shall require for the proper administration of this subchapter.

21  
22 SECTION 4196. Arkansas Code § 26-57-909(a) and (b), concerning  
23 licenses for soft drinks, are amended to read as follows:

24 (a) All distributors, wholesalers, or manufacturers of soft drinks,  
25 whether located within or without the State of Arkansas, who sell or offer  
26 syrups, simple syrups, powders, or base products, or soft drinks for sale to  
27 retail dealers within the State of Arkansas shall obtain a license for the  
28 privilege of conducting such business within Arkansas from the ~~Director~~  
29 Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration.

30 (b) Any retailer who purchases syrups, simple syrups, powders, or base  
31 products, or soft drinks from an unlicensed manufacturer, wholesaler, or  
32 distributor shall obtain a license for the privilege of conducting such  
33 business from the ~~director~~ secretary.

34  
35 SECTION 4197. Arkansas Code § 26-57-1001(1), concerning sales taxes  
36 for vending devices, is amended to read as follows:

1 (1) "~~Director~~ Secretary" means the ~~Director~~ Secretary of  
2 the Department of Finance and Administration or his or her authorized agents;

3  
4 SECTION 4198. Arkansas Code § 26-57-1002(a) and (b), concerning  
5 registration, records, and amount of taxes, are amended to read as follows:

6 (a) Any person who sells tangible personal property through vending  
7 devices may elect to register with the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department  
8 of Finance and Administration as a vending device operator and pay the state  
9 and local sales and use taxes as provided in this section.

10 (b) Any person who elects to register as a vending device operator  
11 shall obtain a gross receipts tax permit from the ~~director~~ secretary as  
12 provided in § 26-52-201 et seq.

13  
14 SECTION 4199. Arkansas Code § 26-57-1003(a)(1), concerning an election  
15 not to register, is amended to read as follows:

16 (1) Surrender any gross receipts tax permits issued by the  
17 ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration, unless  
18 the permit is needed to report taxable sales other than sales through a  
19 vending device; and

20  
21 SECTION 4200. Arkansas Code § 26-57-1003(a)(2)(B)(i), concerning an  
22 election not to register, is amended to read as follows:

23 (B)(i) The sale for resale exemption provided in § 26-52-  
24 401(12) shall not apply to purchases of tangible personal property for resale  
25 through vending devices unless the purchaser is registered with the ~~director~~  
26 secretary as a vending device operator.

27  
28 SECTION 4201. Arkansas Code § 26-57-1004(b)(1)(B), concerning the  
29 identification of a taxpayer and presumption of nonpayment, is amended to  
30 read as follows:

31 (B) The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance  
32 and Administration shall seal any vending device subject to this presumption  
33 in such a manner as to prevent any further sales through the vending device  
34 and shall assess and collect a penalty of fifty dollars (\$50.00) per vending  
35 device against the person selling tangible personal property through the  
36 vending device.

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SECTION 4202. Arkansas Code § 26-57-1101(b), concerning an additional tax on cigarettes, is amended to read as follows:

(b) As provided in § 26-57-244, the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration may make a direct assessment of excise tax against any person in possession of unstamped cigarettes.

SECTION 4203. Arkansas Code § 26-57-1102(c), concerning an additional tax on tobacco products other than cigarettes, is amended to read as follows:

(c) As provided in § 26-57-244, the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration may make a direct assessment of excise tax against any person in possession of untaxed tobacco products.

SECTION 4204. Arkansas Code § 26-57-1202 is amended to read as follows:

26-57-1202. Administration of law.

The provisions of this subchapter will be subject to the provisions of the Arkansas Tax Procedure Act, § 26-18-101 et seq., as those provisions shall apply to the administration of this subchapter by the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration.

SECTION 4205. Arkansas Code § 26-57-1204(b) and (c), concerning the application, issuance, and display of a vending device decal, are amended to read as follows:

(b) The operator of a vending device who makes the election to pay the decal fees provided by this subchapter shall be responsible for applying to the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration for the issuance of an annual or special vending device decal for the vending device and at the same time shall pay to the ~~director~~ secretary the annual or special vending device decal fee provided for by this subchapter, before the vending device is made available for use and operation by the general public.

(c) The ~~director~~ secretary, upon receipt of full payment of the applicable decal fee, and upon approval of the application, shall issue to the person making the application an annual or special vending device decal for the type of vending device or devices covered by the application and payment.

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SECTION 4206. Arkansas Code § 26-57-1204(d)(1), concerning the application, issuance, and display of a vending device decal, is amended to read as follows:

(d)(1) The annual or special vending device decals and the application provided for herein shall be in such form as prescribed by the ~~director~~ secretary. These decals and applications shall contain on their faces such information and descriptions as shall be required by regulations adopted by the ~~director~~ secretary to properly and reasonably implement the provisions of this subchapter.

SECTION 4207. Arkansas Code § 26-57-1205(2), concerning the requirements to obtain a vending device decal, is amended to read as follows:

(2) Must have obtained from the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration an Arkansas gross receipts tax permit.

SECTION 4208. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 26-57-1206(a)(1), concerning the annual decal fee, special decals, and in lieu of sales tax, is amended to read as follows:

(a)(1) Every person who is the operator of a vending device, who elects to have the operation of the vending device covered by the provisions of this subchapter, and who makes available to the general public for use and operation vending devices described in this subchapter shall pay to the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration for the benefit of the state and its municipalities and counties the following annual vending device decal fee for each vending device before the vending device may be placed in service within the state for use by members of the public:

SECTION 4209. Arkansas Code § 26-57-1206(a)(3), concerning the annual decal fee, special decals, and in lieu of sales tax, is amended to read as follows:

(3) The annual vending device decal shall not be transferred from one (1) vending device to another, unless the person who is the operator of the vending device shall establish to the satisfaction of the ~~director~~ secretary that the vending device to which the annual vending device decal is

1 to be transferred is a vending device that is replacing the vending device to  
2 which the annual vending device decal was originally affixed.

3  
4 SECTION 4210. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 26-57-  
5 1206(b), concerning the annual decal fee, special decals, and in lieu of  
6 sales tax, is amended to read as follows:

7 (b) In those instances in which it is shown to the satisfaction of the  
8 ~~director~~ secretary that a vending device upon which an annual vending device  
9 decal fee is otherwise due will be placed in service for use by members of  
10 the general public for a definite period of time that is less than one (1)  
11 year, such as when the vending device shall be placed for public use in  
12 connection with fairs, carnivals, and places of amusement that operate only  
13 during certain seasons of the year, the ~~director~~ secretary shall issue for  
14 those vending devices a special vending device decal and collect a special  
15 vending device decal fee computed as follows:

16  
17 SECTION 4211. Arkansas Code § 26-57-1206(e), concerning the annual  
18 decal fee, special decals, and in lieu of sales tax, is amended to read as  
19 follows:

20 (e)(1) For all vending devices that the operator does not elect to  
21 have covered by the decal fee provided by this section, the operator of that  
22 vending device shall acquire from the ~~director~~ secretary an identifying decal  
23 that the operator shall affix to the vending device in a prominent place so  
24 as to establish to the consuming public that the vending device is not  
25 covered by the provisions of this subchapter.

26 (2) By reasonable regulations the ~~director~~ secretary shall  
27 establish the amount to be charged for an identifying decal, and the amount  
28 shall not exceed the cost of producing the identifying decals.

29  
30 SECTION 4212. Arkansas Code § 26-57-1207(a)(2), concerning the taxable  
31 year, a decal for a remainder of years, and first year payment options, is  
32 amended to read as follows:

33 (2) The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and  
34 Administration shall in each instance issue annual vending device decals for  
35 the remainder of the decal year upon payment of the annual vending device  
36 decal fee on the basis of the full amount of the annual decal applied for

1 between July 1 and December 31 of the decal fee year, and in return for the  
2 payment of an amount of one-half ( $\frac{1}{2}$ ) of the annual vending device decal fee,  
3 for any annual decal applied for between January 1 and June 30 of the decal  
4 fee year.

5

6 SECTION 4213. Arkansas Code § 26-57-1207(b), concerning the taxable  
7 year, a decal for a remainder of years, and first year payment options, is  
8 amended to read as follows:

9 (b) For the first taxable year that the annual or special vending  
10 device decal fee is applicable, the person who is the operator of the vending  
11 devices that are subject to registration and payment of the decal fees shall  
12 register all vending devices with the ~~director~~ secretary, but for the first  
13 one-half year, after March 31, 1997, the operator shall pay one-half ( $\frac{1}{2}$ ) of  
14 the decal fee for each vending device on or before January 1, 1998.  
15 Thereafter, the entire annual or special vending device decal fee shall be  
16 due from the person who is the owner, lessor, renter, or operator of the  
17 vending devices on or before July 1 of the applicable taxable year.

18

19 SECTION 4214. Arkansas Code § 26-57-1208(a)(2), concerning the  
20 distribution of revenue, is amended to read as follows:

21 (2) For that purpose and to that end, it is expressly provided  
22 that the revenue derived by the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of  
23 Finance and Administration from the sale of annual or special vending device  
24 decal fees, including penalties, shall be deposited by the ~~director~~ secretary  
25 into the State Treasury and credited as provided in subsection (b) of this  
26 section.

27

28 SECTION 4215. Arkansas Code § 26-57-1209(a)(1), concerning penalties  
29 in regards to vending devices, is amended to read as follows:

30 (a)(1) Any person who is the operator of a vending device who places a  
31 vending device in use and operation, or in a place available to members of  
32 the general public for use and operation, without a valid and current annual  
33 or special vending device decal having been affixed thereto as required by §§  
34 26-57-1204 and 26-57-1206, shall be liable for the decal fee on the vending  
35 device in the full amount of the applicable annual vending device decal fee,  
36 as levied by this subchapter, and the annual vending device decal fee shall

1 be collected by the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and  
2 Administration in accordance with the provisions of § 26-57-1204.

3  
4 SECTION 4216. Arkansas Code § 26-57-1209(a)(2)(A), concerning  
5 penalties in regards to vending devices, is amended to read as follows:

6 (2)(A) In addition to the annual vending device decal fee that  
7 is due on the vending device, the operator of the vending device which was  
8 responsible for failing to apply for and pay for the applicable annual  
9 vending device decal fee shall also be liable to pay the ~~director~~ secretary a  
10 penalty which the person shall pay to the ~~director~~ secretary and which the  
11 ~~director~~ secretary shall assess against the person.

12  
13 SECTION 4217. Arkansas Code § 26-57-1210(b), concerning prohibited  
14 devices not legalized and fees not refunded, is amended to read as follows:

15 (b) The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and  
16 Administration may assume that any vending device described in any  
17 application made under this subchapter and for which an annual or special  
18 vending device decal fee is paid is lawful, and no claim for refund of any  
19 annual or special vending device decal fee shall be allowed based upon the  
20 inability of the operator of the coin-operated device to operate the vending  
21 device because of any other applicable law of this state.

22  
23 SECTION 4218. Arkansas Code § 26-57-1211(b) and (c), concerning  
24 vending devices without a decal affixed, seizure and forfeiture, are amended  
25 to read as follows:

26 (b) The vending device may be seized and sealed on site at its  
27 location by the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and  
28 Administration or his or her authorized agent, and the vending device shall  
29 not be removed from the location by any person until the vending device is  
30 released from seizure by the ~~director~~ secretary or his or her authorized  
31 agent.

32 (c) The vending device may be seized by any authorized agent of the  
33 ~~director~~ secretary, or by any sheriff or other law enforcement officer of  
34 this state acting upon the request and at the direction of the ~~director~~  
35 secretary.

36

1 SECTION 4219. Arkansas Code § 26-57-1212(a) and (b), concerning the  
2 procedure upon forfeiture of a vending device, are amended to read as  
3 follows:

4 (a) Upon the seizure of the vending device, the vending device shall  
5 forthwith be delivered, together with the cash, if any, contained in the  
6 receptacle of the vending device, to the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department  
7 of Finance and Administration.

8 (b) The ~~director~~ secretary or his or her authorized agent shall then  
9 proceed to make an administrative determination of whether or not the vending  
10 device and cash, if any, that have been seized should in fact be forfeited to  
11 the State of Arkansas.

12  
13 SECTION 4220. Arkansas Code § 26-57-1213(a), concerning the sale of  
14 devices upon forfeiture, is amended to read as follows:

15 (a) In the event the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance  
16 and Administration or his or her authorized agent finds that the vending  
17 device, including the cash contents, if any, should be forfeited to the State  
18 of Arkansas, the ~~director~~ secretary or his or her authorized agent shall make  
19 a written determination of forfeiture of the vending device to the State of  
20 Arkansas, and the ~~director~~ secretary shall direct the sale of the vending  
21 device.

22  
23 SECTION 4221. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 26-57-  
24 1213(b), concerning the sale of devices upon forfeiture, is amended to read  
25 as follows:

26 (b) The vending device shall be sold by the ~~director~~ secretary, his or  
27 her authorized agent, the sheriff in the county where it was seized, or the  
28 sheriff of Pulaski County after thirty-days' written notice of sale, which  
29 notice of sale shall be given:

30  
31 SECTION 4222. Arkansas Code § 26-57-1213(c), concerning the sale of  
32 devices upon forfeiture, is amended to read as follows:

33 (c) At the discretion of the ~~director~~ secretary, notice of sale of the  
34 vending device may be given, alternatively to posting, by publishing the  
35 notice of sale in a newspaper of general circulation in the county at least  
36 thirty (30) days prior to the sale.

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SECTION 4223. Arkansas Code § 26-57-1216 is amended to read as follows:

26-57-1216. Forfeiture determination – Appeal.

(a) The written determination of the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration or his or her authorized agent declaring a forfeiture of the vending device, including the cash contents thereof, if any, and directing the sale of the vending device shall be a final determination of the ~~director~~ secretary and shall be treated for purposes of the owner's or operator's appeal of the ~~director's~~ secretary's determination as a final assessment, subject to the provisions of the Arkansas Tax Procedure Act, § 26-18-101 et seq.

(b) Judicial review of the final determination by the ~~director~~ secretary shall be available pursuant to the provisions of § 26-18-406.

SECTION 4224. Arkansas Code § 26-57-1303(b)(4)(A), concerning certifications, directory, and tax stamps, is amended to read as follows:

(A) The tobacco product manufacturer knowingly sold cigarettes to a stamp deputy whose appointment and commission has been revoked by the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration under § 26-57-236;

SECTION 4225. Arkansas Code § 26-57-1502 is amended to read as follows:

26-57-1502. Administration of law.

The provisions of this subchapter are subject to the provisions of the Arkansas Tax Procedure Act, § 26-18-101 et seq., as those provisions apply to the administration of this subchapter by the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration, including without limitation the provisions regarding interest and penalty on delinquent taxes.

SECTION 4226. Arkansas Code § 26-57-1504 is amended to read as follows:

26-57-1504. Levy of tax.

A cultivation facility, dispensary, or other marijuana business shall collect and remit a special privilege tax of four percent (4%) from the gross

1 receipts or gross proceeds derived from each sale of usable marijuana on  
2 forms and in a manner specified by the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department  
3 of Finance and Administration.

4  
5 SECTION 4227. Arkansas Code § 26-57-1505(b), concerning the remittance  
6 of tax, is amended to read as follows:

7 (b) The cultivation facility, dispensary, or other marijuana business  
8 subject to this tax shall file a monthly return and remit the tax for the  
9 month to the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and  
10 Administration on or before the twentieth day of the month next following the  
11 month in which the sale or purchase was made.

12  
13 SECTION 4228. Arkansas Code § 26-57-1505(c)(2), concerning the  
14 remittance of tax, is amended to read as follows:

15 (2) The return shall contain such information as the ~~director~~  
16 secretary requires for the proper administration of this subchapter.

17  
18 SECTION 4229. Arkansas Code § 26-58-101(5), concerning the definition  
19 of "director" under severance tax law, is amended to read as follows:

20 ~~(5) "Director" means the Director of the Department of Finance~~  
21 ~~and Administration or any of his or her duly appointed deputies or agents;~~

22  
23 SECTION 4230. Arkansas Code § 26-58-105 is amended to read as follows:  
24 26-58-105. Regulations and forms regarding severance taxes on timber.

25 The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration  
26 with the advice and approval of the Arkansas Forestry Commission shall  
27 develop and adopt appropriate regulations and forms to carry out the intent  
28 and purposes of this subchapter with respect to severance taxes on timber.

29  
30 SECTION 4231. Arkansas Code § 26-58-106(a), concerning permits to  
31 engage in business, is amended to read as follows:

32 (a)(1) Any individual or firm desiring to engage in the business of  
33 severing natural resources or timber before entering the business shall make  
34 application to the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and  
35 Administration for a license or permit.

36 (2) In a form of application to be prescribed by the ~~director~~

1 secretary, the applicant shall state under oath his or her name and address,  
2 the business in which he or she desires to engage, and the counties in which  
3 he or she will carry on the proposed severing.

4  
5 SECTION 4232. Arkansas Code § 26-58-106(b)(3), concerning permits to  
6 engage in business, is amended to read as follows:

7 (3) That the severance tax imposed by this subchapter shall  
8 constitute and remain a lien on each unit of production until the severance  
9 tax is paid to the ~~director~~ secretary.

10  
11 SECTION 4233. Arkansas Code § 26-58-106(c), concerning permits to  
12 engage in business, is amended to read as follows:

13 (c) Upon the filing of the application, the ~~director~~ secretary shall  
14 issue a permit for which no charge shall be made.

15  
16 SECTION 4234. Arkansas Code § 26-58-107(b), concerning the levying of  
17 taxes, is amended to read as follows:

18 (b) The severance tax is to be paid to the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the  
19 Department of Finance and Administration.

20  
21 SECTION 4235. Arkansas Code § 26-58-111(6)(C), concerning the rate of  
22 tax, is amended to read as follows:

23 (C) The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance  
24 and Administration shall have the power to promulgate such reasonable rules  
25 and regulations as shall be necessary to effectively enforce the foregoing  
26 provisions;

27  
28 SECTION 4236. Arkansas Code § 26-58-111(7)(C)(ii), concerning the rate  
29 of tax, is amended to read as follows:

30 (ii) If the above conversion factors are not  
31 appropriate for conversion of any particular measurement of timber to weight,  
32 the ~~director~~ secretary, with the advice and approval of the Arkansas Forestry  
33 Commission, shall develop an appropriate conversion procedure to produce  
34 equivalent rates;

35  
36 SECTION 4237. Arkansas Code § 26-58-113(b), concerning an additional

1 tax on stone and crushed stone, as well as deposit and allocation of funds,  
2 is amended to read as follows:

3 (b) The additional severance tax is to be paid to the ~~Director~~  
4 Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration.

5

6 SECTION 4238. Arkansas Code § 26-58-113(e)(1), concerning an  
7 additional tax on stone and crushed stone, as well as deposit and allocation  
8 of funds, is amended to read as follows:

9 (e)(1) All taxes, penalties, and costs collected by the ~~director~~  
10 secretary under the provisions of this section shall be deposited into the  
11 State Treasury to the credit of the State Apportionment Fund.

12

13 SECTION 4239. Arkansas Code § 26-58-113(e)(2)(B)(i)(b), concerning an  
14 additional tax on stone and crushed stone, as well as deposit and allocation  
15 of funds, is amended to read as follows:

16 (b) On or before the tenth of the month  
17 following the end of each calendar quarter, the Treasurer of State shall  
18 remit by state warrants to the various county treasurers all such funds  
19 received by the Treasurer of State during such quarterly period and  
20 transferred to the County Aid Fund in the proportions thereof as between the  
21 respective counties that, as certified by the ~~director~~ secretary to the  
22 Treasurer of State, the total severance tax produced from each such county  
23 bears to the total of such taxes produced from all counties.

24

25 SECTION 4240. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 26-58-  
26 114(a)(1), concerning reports, payment of taxes by producers, primary  
27 processors, cancellation of permit upon cessation of business, and the  
28 penalty for noncompliance, is amended to read as follows:

29 (a)(1) Each producer of natural resources, excluding natural gas, and  
30 each primary processor of timber, whether or not he or she shall have  
31 actually severed natural resources, excluding natural gas, or processed  
32 timber during the preceding month, shall file a report within twenty-five  
33 (25) days after the end of each month with the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the  
34 Department of Finance and Administration in a form prescribed by the ~~director~~  
35 secretary that states:

36

1 SECTION 4241. Arkansas Code § 26-58-114(a)(1)(E), concerning reports,  
2 payment of taxes by producers, primary processors, cancellation of permit  
3 upon cessation of business, and the penalty for noncompliance, is amended to  
4 read as follows:

5 (E) Any other information as the ~~director~~ secretary may  
6 reasonably require for the enforcement of this subchapter.

7  
8 SECTION 4242. Arkansas Code § 26-58-114(a)(2)(A), concerning reports,  
9 payment of taxes by producers, primary processors, cancellation of permit  
10 upon cessation of business, and the penalty for noncompliance, is amended to  
11 read as follows:

12 (2)(A) When the average amount of severance tax for which the  
13 taxpayer is liable for the previous fiscal year beginning on July 1 and  
14 ending on June 30 does not exceed one hundred dollars (\$100) per month, the  
15 ~~director~~ secretary may notify the taxpayer that a quarterly report and  
16 remittance in lieu of a monthly report may be made.

17  
18 SECTION 4243. Arkansas Code § 26-58-114(a)(3), concerning reports,  
19 payment of taxes by producers, primary processors, cancellation of permit  
20 upon cessation of business, and the penalty for noncompliance, is amended to  
21 read as follows:

22 (3) When the average amount of severance tax for which the  
23 taxpayer is liable for the previous fiscal year beginning on July 1 and  
24 ending on June 30 does not exceed twenty-five dollars (\$25.00) per month, the  
25 ~~director~~ secretary may notify the taxpayer that an annual report and  
26 remittance in lieu of a monthly report may be made on or before January 25 of  
27 each year for the preceding calendar year.

28  
29 SECTION 4244. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 26-58-  
30 114(b)(1)(A), concerning reports, payment of taxes by producers, primary  
31 processors, cancellation of permit upon cessation of business, and the  
32 penalty for noncompliance, is amended to read as follows:

33 (b)(1)(A) A producer of natural gas shall file with the ~~director~~  
34 secretary a report, in a form or forms prescribed by the ~~director~~ secretary,  
35 that states:

36

1 SECTION 4245. Arkansas Code § 26-58-114(b)(1)(A)(v), concerning  
2 reports, payment of taxes by producers, primary processors, cancellation of  
3 permit upon cessation of business, and the penalty for noncompliance, is  
4 amended to read as follows:

5 (v) Any other information as the ~~director~~ secretary  
6 may reasonably require for the enforcement of this subchapter.

7  
8 SECTION 4246. Arkansas Code § 26-58-114(b)(1)(C), concerning reports,  
9 payment of taxes by producers, primary processors, cancellation of permit  
10 upon cessation of business, and the penalty for noncompliance, is amended to  
11 read as follows:

12 (C) The producer is required to file a report with the  
13 ~~director~~ secretary for each month whether or not the producer has actually  
14 severed natural gas during the month.

15  
16 SECTION 4247. Arkansas Code § 26-58-114(b)(2)(A), concerning reports,  
17 payment of taxes by producers, primary processors, cancellation of permit  
18 upon cessation of business, and the penalty for noncompliance, is amended to  
19 read as follows:

20 (2)(A) When the average amount of severance tax for which the  
21 taxpayer is liable for the previous fiscal year beginning on July 1 and  
22 ending on June 30 does not exceed one hundred dollars (\$100) per month, the  
23 ~~director~~ secretary may notify the taxpayer that a quarterly report and  
24 remittance in lieu of a monthly report may be made.

25  
26 SECTION 4248. Arkansas Code § 26-58-114(b)(3), concerning reports,  
27 payment of taxes by producers, primary processors, cancellation of permit  
28 upon cessation of business, and the penalty for noncompliance, is amended to  
29 read as follows:

30 (3) When the average amount of severance tax for which the  
31 taxpayer is liable for the previous fiscal year beginning on July 1 and  
32 ending on June 30 does not exceed twenty-five dollars (\$25.00) per month, the  
33 ~~director~~ secretary may notify the taxpayer that an annual report and  
34 remittance in lieu of a monthly report may be made on or before February 25  
35 of each year for the preceding calendar year.

36

1 SECTION 4249. Arkansas Code § 26-58-114(e), concerning reports,  
2 payment of taxes by producers, primary processors, cancellation of permit  
3 upon cessation of business, and the penalty for noncompliance, is amended to  
4 read as follows:

5 (e)(1) Within ten (10) days after any producer or primary processor  
6 ceases operation with the intention of no longer engaging in the business of  
7 severing or processing natural resources or timber, the permit issued shall  
8 be returned by him or her to the ~~director~~ secretary for cancellation.

9 (2) A producer or processor whose permit is cancelled under  
10 subdivision (e)(1) of this section may reengage in the business of severing  
11 or processing natural resources or timber after filing a new application with  
12 the ~~director~~ secretary and receiving a new permit by the ~~director~~ secretary.  
13

14 SECTION 4250. Arkansas Code § 26-58-116(a)-(d), concerning reporting  
15 and payment of tax, are amended to read as follows:

16 (a) Unless a purchaser of natural resources, excluding natural gas, is  
17 excused in writing by the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and  
18 Administration in advance of the report filing deadline from filing a report,  
19 a purchaser of natural resources, excluding natural gas, shall file with the  
20 ~~director~~ secretary a verified report within twenty (20) days after the end of  
21 each reporting period in a form or forms prescribed by the ~~director~~ secretary  
22 that states:

23 (1) The names and addresses of all producers from whom the  
24 purchaser has acquired natural resources during the respective reporting  
25 period;

26 (2) The types and total quantity of each type of the natural  
27 resources acquired and the purchase price; and

28 (3) Any other information as the ~~director~~ secretary reasonably  
29 may require for the proper enforcement of this subchapter.

30 (b)(1) Unless a purchaser of natural gas is excused in writing by the  
31 ~~director~~ secretary in advance of the report filing deadline from filing a  
32 report, a purchaser of natural gas shall file with the ~~director~~ secretary a  
33 report in a form or forms prescribed by the ~~director~~ secretary that states:

34 (A) The names, addresses, and severance tax permit numbers  
35 of all producers from whom the purchaser has purchased natural gas during  
36 each reporting period;

1 (B) The total quantity of natural gas acquired and the  
2 purchase price; and

3 (C) Any other information as the ~~director~~ secretary may  
4 reasonably require for the proper enforcement of this subchapter.

5 (2) The purchaser of natural gas shall file each report required  
6 under this subsection on or before the twenty-fifth day of the second month  
7 following the reporting period that is covered by the report.

8 (c)(1) It is the duty of each purchaser of natural resources,  
9 excluding natural gas, to ascertain in advance of permitting the natural  
10 resources so purchased to be processed or otherwise changed from the natural  
11 state thereof at the time of severance or to be transported for the purpose  
12 of such processing or other change that the severance tax upon the natural  
13 resources has been paid.

14 (2) Each purchaser of natural gas shall determine in advance of  
15 filing the report under subsection (b) of this section that each producer  
16 from whom the purchaser has purchased natural gas has been issued a severance  
17 tax permit number and furnish the ~~director~~ secretary the severance tax permit  
18 number of each producer under subsection (b) of this section.

19 (3)(A) The purchaser of natural resources, excluding natural  
20 gas, is primarily liable for any unpaid severance tax in the event of failure  
21 to make such advance ascertainment.

22 (B) Each purchaser of natural gas is primarily liable for  
23 any unpaid severance tax that is attributable to a producer from whom the  
24 purchaser purchased natural gas if the purchaser fails to furnish the  
25 ~~director~~ secretary with all of the information required in subsection (b) of  
26 this section.

27 (4) However, the purchaser as a condition to permitting the  
28 processing or other change of such natural resources, excluding natural gas,  
29 as to which the severance tax shall not have been paid by the producer may  
30 himself or herself pay such tax either in advance or, with the advance  
31 written approval of the ~~director~~ secretary for cause shown to the ~~director~~  
32 secretary, within twenty (20) days after commencing the processing or other  
33 change of the natural resources or the transportation thereof for such  
34 purpose.

35 (d)(1) Unless the ~~director~~ secretary has given advance written  
36 approval for the removal under subsection (a) of this section, the removal by

1 the purchaser of natural resources, excluding natural gas, to any point of  
2 concentration or assembly, either inside or outside the state, without the  
3 severance tax having been previously paid by the producer or the purchaser is  
4 a fraudulent concealment of the location of the natural resources with the  
5 intent to avoid the payment of the severance tax.

6 (2) Unless the ~~director~~ secretary has given advance written  
7 approval for the removal, the removal by the producer, purchaser, or primary  
8 processor of any timber to any point outside the state without the severance  
9 tax having been paid on the timber is unlawful.

10  
11 SECTION 4251. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 26-58-  
12 118(a), concerning reports and transporters, is amended to read as follows:

13 (a) All transporters of natural resources, save and except only  
14 pipeline transporters, whenever and as often as requested by the ~~Director~~  
15 Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration shall furnish a  
16 report under oath and upon forms prescribed by ~~director~~ secretary setting  
17 forth:

18  
19 SECTION 4252. Arkansas Code § 26-58-118(a)(5), concerning reports and  
20 transporters, is amended to read as follows:

21 (5) All such further information relating to the transportation  
22 of the natural resources as the ~~director~~ secretary may reasonably require for  
23 the proper enforcement of the provisions of this subchapter.

24  
25 SECTION 4253. Arkansas Code § 26-58-119 is amended to read as follows:

26 26-58-119. Procedure upon failure to file reports or pay tax, filing  
27 inaccurate reports – Penalties – Subpoenas.

28 (a)(1) In the event any producer or purchaser of natural resources or  
29 any primary processor of timber fails within the time provided for in this  
30 subchapter to file the verified reports required of them respectively, or in  
31 the event that the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and  
32 Administration is not satisfied of the correctness of the reports as filed  
33 with the ~~director~~ secretary, or in the event any such producer or purchaser  
34 of natural resources or any primary processor of timber fails to pay all  
35 taxes due as provided in §§ 26-58-114 and 26-58-116, it shall be the duty of  
36 the ~~director~~ secretary to ascertain the true amount and value of the natural

1 resources or timber severed and to assess the severance tax based thereon.

2 (2) For the purposes thereof the ~~director~~ secretary is  
3 authorized to require either the producer or purchaser or both of them, or  
4 the primary processor, to furnish the ~~director~~ secretary with such  
5 information, or further information, as the ~~director~~ secretary may deem  
6 necessary and to require the production, at such place as the ~~director~~  
7 secretary may designate, of the books, records, and files of the producer and  
8 the purchaser or primary processor and to examine them and to take testimony  
9 of witnesses.

10 (3)(A) The ~~director~~ secretary shall assess a penalty equal to  
11 fifty percent (50%) of the amount of the severance tax, including the cost  
12 and expense of assessing the penalty, and shall make demand for payment of  
13 the penalty upon both the producer of natural resources and the purchaser of  
14 natural resources to the extent liability for the tax may be imposed on the  
15 purchaser under § 26-58-116 or the primary processor of timber, as the case  
16 may be.

17 (B) The penalty assessment under subdivision (a)(3)(A) of  
18 this section shall not apply to any estimated severance tax payment that is  
19 made in good faith by a producer of natural gas or a purchaser of natural  
20 gas.

21 (b)(1) If the producer, purchaser, or primary processor or any other  
22 such witness willfully fails to appear or to produce such books, records, and  
23 files before the ~~director~~ secretary, in obedience to the ~~director's~~  
24 secretary's request, the ~~director~~ secretary shall certify the name of the  
25 reluctant producer, purchaser, primary processor, or other witness, with a  
26 statement of the circumstances to the circuit court of the county having  
27 jurisdiction over the person.

28 (2) The court shall thereupon issue a subpoena commanding the  
29 producer, purchaser, primary processor, or other witness to appear before the  
30 ~~director~~ secretary, at a place designated, on a day fixed, to be continued as  
31 occasion may require, and to give such evidence, and to produce for  
32 inspection such books and papers as may be required by the ~~director~~ secretary  
33 for a proper determination of the amount of taxes due.

34 (3) The court may hear and punish any contempt of such subpoena  
35 brought to the court's attention by the ~~director~~ secretary.

36

1 SECTION 4254. Arkansas Code § 26-58-120(a)(1) and (2), concerning the  
2 Arkansas Forestry Commission and their access to information and  
3 investigations, are amended to read as follows:

4 (a)(1) The Arkansas Forestry Commission and the authorized  
5 representatives of the commission shall have access to all tax returns and  
6 other information and records of the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of  
7 Finance and Administration related to the reporting and payment of taxes  
8 levied upon timber by this subchapter.

9 (2) The commission shall furnish the ~~director~~ secretary in  
10 writing the names of the forestry personnel who are authorized to have access  
11 to the timber tax records.

12  
13 SECTION 4255. Arkansas Code § 26-58-120(d), concerning the Arkansas  
14 Forestry Commission and their access to information and investigations, are  
15 amended to read as follows:

16 (d) If after completion of the inspection or investigation of a timber  
17 processor the commission finds that a timber processor is not collecting or  
18 remitting all taxes due under the provisions of this subchapter, the  
19 commission shall so advise the ~~director~~ secretary and shall furnish the  
20 ~~director~~ secretary the information upon which such finding is based.

21  
22 SECTION 4256. Arkansas Code § 26-58-121 is amended to read as follows:

23 26-58-121. Information provided to Arkansas Forestry Commission.

24 The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration  
25 is directed to release any and all information requested by the Arkansas  
26 Forestry Commission which is related to the collection of timber severance  
27 taxes. This information shall include, but not be limited to, names,  
28 addresses, and amounts paid.

29  
30 SECTION 4257. Arkansas Code § 26-58-122 is amended to read as follows:

31 26-58-122. Procedures followed upon failure to pay severance taxes due  
32 the Arkansas Forestry Commission.

33 (a)(1) In the event that the Arkansas Forestry Commission determines  
34 that any individual or corporation has failed to pay all severance taxes due  
35 to the commission, the commission shall certify the commission's findings to  
36 the Revenue Division of the Department of Finance and Administration.

1 (2) Upon receipt thereof, the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the  
2 Department of Finance and Administration shall immediately conduct an  
3 investigation of such matter.

4 (3) Within thirty (30) days of receipt of the certification, the  
5 ~~director~~ secretary shall report all findings to the commission.

6 (b) If the ~~director~~ secretary determines that all severance taxes due  
7 the commission are not being or have not been paid, the ~~director~~ secretary  
8 shall immediately proceed to institute any legal action necessary to collect  
9 such tax.

10 (c)(1) In the event the ~~director~~ secretary fails to report to the  
11 commission within the time specified or the commission disagrees with the  
12 findings of the ~~director~~ secretary, the State Forester shall file with the  
13 Governor, the Legislative Council, and the House ~~Interim~~ Committee on Revenue  
14 and Taxation and the Senate ~~Interim~~ Committee on Revenue and Taxation a  
15 report of the matter.

16 (2) The Governor shall then conduct an investigation into such  
17 failure to report by the ~~director~~ secretary or disagreement as to tax  
18 liability with the commission, take whatever measures the Governor deems  
19 necessary to rectify the situation, and shall notify the Legislative Council  
20 and the House ~~Interim~~ Committee on Revenue and Taxation and the Senate  
21 ~~Interim~~ Committee on Revenue and Taxation of the Governor's decision.

22  
23 SECTION 4258. Arkansas Code § 26-58-124(a), concerning the  
24 distribution of severance taxes, is amended to read as follows:

25 (a) All taxes, penalties, and costs collected by the ~~Director~~  
26 Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration under the  
27 provisions of this subchapter, except for the taxes, penalties, and costs  
28 collected on natural gas, shall be deposited into the State Treasury to the  
29 credit of the State Apportionment Fund.

30  
31 SECTION 4259. Arkansas Code § 26-58-124(b)(2)(D)(ii), concerning the  
32 distribution of severance taxes, is amended to read as follows:

33 (ii) On or before the tenth of the month following  
34 the end of each calendar quarter, the Treasurer of State shall remit by state  
35 warrants to the various county treasurers all funds under subdivision  
36 (b)(2)(D)(i) of this section then received by him or her during the quarterly

1 period and transferred to the County Aid Fund in the proportions of the funds  
2 as between the respective counties that, as certified by the ~~director~~  
3 secretary to the Treasurer of State, the total severance tax produced from  
4 each respective county bears to the total of the taxes produced from all  
5 counties.

6  
7 SECTION 4260. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 26-58-  
8 124(c), concerning the distribution of severance taxes, is amended to read as  
9 follows:

10 (c) All taxes, penalties, and costs collected by the ~~director~~  
11 secretary on natural gas shall be deposited into the State Treasury as  
12 follows:

13  
14 SECTION 4261. Arkansas Code § 26-58-201(2), concerning tax credits for  
15 certain oil and gas producers, is amended to read as follows:

16 (2) "~~Director~~ Secretary" means the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the  
17 Department of Finance and Administration or any of his or her duly appointed  
18 deputies or agents;

19  
20 SECTION 4262. Arkansas Code § 26-58-206(a), concerning a permit for  
21 tax credit, is amended to read as follows:

22 (a) A producer in this state wishing to obtain the benefits of the  
23 provisions for this subchapter shall make application to the ~~Director~~  
24 Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration for a permit to  
25 obtain credit on severance taxes due on all oil or natural gas produced in  
26 salt-water-producing wells of the producer as provided in this subchapter.

27  
28 SECTION 4263. Arkansas Code § 26-58-206(c), concerning a permit for  
29 tax credit, is amended to read as follows:

30 (c) If the ~~director~~ secretary determines that the producer has  
31 complied with the provisions of this subchapter and the rules established by  
32 the ~~director~~ secretary, the ~~director~~ secretary shall issue a permit to the  
33 producer.

34  
35 SECTION 4264. Arkansas Code § 26-58-208(b)(2), concerning tax credits  
36 and the maximum annual credits allowed, is amended to read as follows:

1 (2) If for any calendar year the total severance tax credits of  
2 all oil producers operating, utilizing, or maintaining approved underground  
3 saltwater disposal systems exceed the total maximum allowable severance tax  
4 credits provided in subdivision (b)(1) of this section, the ~~Director~~  
5 Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration shall prorate the  
6 allowable severance tax credits among the respective oil producers in the  
7 proportion that the severance tax credits due each oil producer bear to the  
8 total of all severance tax credits due all qualifying oil producers.

9  
10 SECTION 4265. Arkansas Code § 26-58-208(c)(2), concerning tax credits  
11 and the maximum annual credits allowed, is amended to read as follows:

12 (2) If for any calendar year the total severance tax credits of  
13 all natural gas producers operating, utilizing, or maintaining approved  
14 underground saltwater disposal systems exceed the total maximum allowable  
15 severance tax credits provided in subdivision (c)(1) of this section, the  
16 ~~director~~ secretary shall prorate the allowable severance tax credits among  
17 the respective natural gas producers in the proportion that the severance tax  
18 credits due each natural gas producer bear to the total of all severance tax  
19 credits due all qualifying natural gas producers.

20  
21 SECTION 4266. Arkansas Code § 26-58-208(d)(1), concerning tax credits  
22 and the maximum annual credits allowed, is amended to read as follows:

23 (d)(1) A claim for a severance tax credit shall be filed with the  
24 ~~director~~ secretary on forms prescribed by the ~~director~~ secretary on or before  
25 April 1 of the calendar year following the calendar year in which the costs  
26 of maintaining the underground saltwater disposal system were incurred.

27  
28 SECTION 4267. Arkansas Code § 26-58-208(g), concerning tax credits and  
29 the maximum annual credits allowed, is amended to read as follows:

30 (g) The ~~director~~ secretary may promulgate rules to administer this  
31 section.

32  
33 SECTION 4268. Arkansas Code § 26-58-209(1), concerning the cost of  
34 maintaining a saltwater disposal system, is amended to read as follows:

35 (1) An allowance, to be spread equally over each severance tax  
36 reporting period, for depreciation of the actual cash investment of the

1 producer in the constructing, equipping, and improving of an approved  
2 underground saltwater disposal system, which depreciation period shall not be  
3 less than five (5) years nor more than ten (10) years as may be approved by  
4 the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration;

5  
6 SECTION 4269. Arkansas Code § 26-58-210 is amended to read as follows:  
7 26-58-210. Records.

8 A producer obtaining the benefits of the provisions of this subchapter  
9 shall maintain for a period of not less than three (3) years such records as  
10 may be required by the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and  
11 Administration that may be necessary to justify the cost credits allowed by  
12 this subchapter.

13  
14 SECTION 4270. Arkansas Code § 26-58-301(b)(2) and (3), concerning a  
15 levy for the benefit of the Arkansas Museum of Natural Resources Fund, are  
16 amended to read as follows:

17 (2) The taxes levied in this subsection shall be reported and  
18 remitted monthly to the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and  
19 Administration on such forms and in such manner as the ~~director~~ secretary  
20 shall prescribe by regulations.

21 (3) All revenues collected by the ~~director~~ secretary under the  
22 tax levied in this subsection shall be deposited into the State Treasury as  
23 special revenues, and the Treasurer of State after deducting from these  
24 special revenues the three percent (3%) provided by law for credit to the  
25 Constitutional Officers Fund and the State Central Services Fund shall credit  
26 the net amount to the Arkansas Museum of Natural Resources Fund to be used  
27 for the construction, maintenance, operation, and improvement of the Arkansas  
28 Museum of Natural Resources.

29  
30 SECTION 4271. Arkansas Code § 26-58-302(a)(2), concerning an  
31 additional levy for the benefit of the Arkansas Museum of Natural Resources  
32 Fund, is amended to read as follows:

33 (2) The taxes shall be reported and paid monthly to the ~~Director~~  
34 Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration by each producer of  
35 oil in such manner and upon such forms as the ~~director~~ secretary shall  
36 prescribe.

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SECTION 4272. Arkansas Code § 26-58-302(b)(2), concerning an additional levy for the benefit of the Arkansas Museum of Natural Resources Fund, is amended to read as follows:

(2) The tax shall be reported and paid monthly to the ~~director~~ secretary by each producer of brine and oil in such manner and upon such forms as the ~~director~~ secretary may prescribe.

SECTION 4273. Arkansas Code § 26-58-302(c)(1), concerning an additional levy for the benefit of the Arkansas Museum of Natural Resources Fund, is amended to read as follows:

(c)(1) Funds collected by the ~~director~~ secretary under this section are classified as cash fund receipts, and the full amount of the funds shall be deposited into one (1) or more accounts in one (1) or more banks in this state, which account or accounts shall be designated "Arkansas Museum of Natural Resources Fund".

SECTION 4274. Arkansas Code § 26-58-303(a)(2), concerning the levy for benefit of the Arkansas Museum of Natural Resources Bond Redemption Fund, is amended to read as follows:

(2) The fee shall be reported and paid monthly to the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration by each producer of oil in such manner and upon such forms as the ~~director~~ secretary shall prescribe.

SECTION 4275. Arkansas Code § 26-58-303(b)(2), concerning the levy for benefit of the Arkansas Museum of Natural Resources Bond Redemption Fund, is amended to read as follows:

(2) The fee shall be reported and paid monthly to the ~~director~~ secretary by each producer of brine and oil in such manner and upon such forms as the ~~director~~ secretary shall prescribe.

SECTION 4276. Arkansas Code § 26-59-102(2), concerning the definition of "director", is repealed.

~~(2) "Director" means the Director of the Department of Finance and Administration;~~

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SECTION 4277. Arkansas Code § 26-59-105 is amended to read as follows:  
26-59-105. Administration and enforcement of chapter.

Except as otherwise provided in this chapter, the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration shall have jurisdiction and be charged with the administration and enforcement of the provisions of this chapter.

SECTION 4278. Arkansas Code § 26-59-109(b), concerning estate tax returns, is amended to read as follows:

(b) Returns by Beneficiaries. If the executor is unable to make a complete return as to any part of the gross estate of the decedent, he or she shall include in his or her return a description of such part and the name of every person holding a legal or beneficial interest therein. Upon notice from the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration, such person shall in like manner make a return as to such part of the gross estate.

SECTION 4279. Arkansas Code § 26-59-109(d), concerning estate tax returns, is amended to read as follows:

(d) Place of Filing. Estate tax returns shall be filed with the ~~director~~ secretary at his or her office in Little Rock, Arkansas.

SECTION 4280. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 26-59-110, concerning the contents of estate tax returns, is amended to read as follows:

The executor at such times and in such manner as may be required by regulations made pursuant to law shall also file with the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration a return under oath, setting forth:

SECTION 4281. Arkansas Code § 26-59-111(b) and (c), concerning an estate tax return and an extension of filing time, are amended to read as follows:

(b) This request for extension of time in which to file shall be granted by the timely filing of a copy of the federal application form with the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration and

1 then attaching to the Arkansas estate tax return, when actually filed with  
2 the ~~director~~ secretary, a copy of the document granting such federal  
3 extension.

4 (c) The ~~director~~ secretary shall assess interest at the rate of ten  
5 percent (10%) per annum on the amount of estate tax finally determined to be  
6 due from the date the estate tax return was originally due to be filed.

7  
8 SECTION 4282. Arkansas Code § 26-59-112 is amended to read as follows:

9 26-59-112. ~~Director~~ Secretary to make return when no return filed.

10 If any executor, administrator, fiduciary, trustee, person,  
11 corporation, company, or association fails to make and file a return or list  
12 at the time prescribed by law or by regulation made under authority of law,  
13 or makes, willfully or otherwise, a false or fraudulent return or list, the  
14 ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration shall make  
15 the return or list from the ~~director's~~ secretary's own knowledge and from  
16 such information as the ~~director~~ secretary can obtain through testimony or  
17 otherwise. Any return or list so made by the ~~director~~ secretary shall be  
18 prima facie good and sufficient for all legal purposes.

19  
20 SECTION 4283. Arkansas Code § 26-59-113(a), concerning payment, time  
21 limitations, and federal elections, is amended to read as follows:

22 (a) The tax imposed by this chapter shall be due and payable nine (9)  
23 months after a decedent's death and shall be paid by the executor to the  
24 ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration.

25  
26 SECTION 4284. Arkansas Code § 26-59-113(b)(1)(A), concerning payment,  
27 time limitations, and federal elections, is amended to read as follows:

28 (b)(1)(A) When the ~~director~~ secretary finds that the payment on the  
29 due date of the tax or any part of the tax would impose undue hardship upon  
30 the estate, the ~~director~~ secretary may extend the time for any payment of any  
31 such part.

32  
33 SECTION 4285. Arkansas Code § 26-59-114(a) and (b), concerning the  
34 payment of tax and discharge of executors, are amended to read as follows:

35 (a) The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and  
36 Administration shall issue to the executor upon payment of the tax imposed by

1 this chapter receipts in triplicate any of which shall be sufficient evidence  
2 of the payment, and shall entitle the executor to be credited and allowed the  
3 amount thereof by any court having jurisdiction to audit or settle the  
4 executor's accounts.

5 (b) If the executor files a complete return and makes written  
6 application to the ~~director~~ secretary for determination of the amount of the  
7 tax and discharge from personal liability, the ~~director~~ secretary as soon as  
8 possible, and in any event within one (1) year after receipt of such  
9 application, shall notify the executor of the amount of the tax and, upon  
10 payment thereof, the executor shall be discharged from personal liability for  
11 any additional tax thereafter found to be due and shall be entitled to  
12 receive from the ~~director~~ secretary a receipt in writing showing such  
13 discharge.

14

15 SECTION 4286. Arkansas Code § 26-59-116(b), concerning the payment of  
16 taxes and reimbursement to a person paying taxes, is amended to read as  
17 follows:

18 (b) It is the purpose and intent of this section that insofar as is  
19 practical and unless otherwise directed by the will of the decedent, the tax  
20 shall be paid out of the estate before its distribution. However, the  
21 ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration shall not  
22 be charged with enforcing contribution from any person.

23

24 SECTION 4287. Arkansas Code § 26-59-119 is amended to read as follows:  
25 26-59-119. Executor – Notice of appointment.

26 The executor within two (2) months after the decedent's death or within  
27 a like period after qualifying as executor, shall give written notice of his  
28 or her qualification as executor to the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department  
29 of Finance and Administration.

30

31 SECTION 4288. Arkansas Code § 26-59-122(a), concerning the disposition  
32 and allocation of funds, is amended to read as follows:

33 (a) All taxes, fees, penalties, and costs received by the ~~Director~~  
34 Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration under the  
35 provisions of this chapter shall be general revenues and shall be deposited  
36 into the State Treasury to the credit of the State Apportionment Fund, except

1 that the amount of estate taxes collected in a calendar year that exceeds ten  
2 percent (10%) of the average annual estate taxes collected for a five-year  
3 period immediately preceding the calendar year or fifteen million dollars  
4 (\$15,000,000), whichever is greater, shall be deposited into the State  
5 Treasury as special revenues and credited to the General Improvement Fund.

6  
7 SECTION 4289. Arkansas Code § 26-60-103 is amended to read as follows:

8 26-60-103. Enforcement and regulations by ~~Director~~ Secretary of the  
9 Department of Finance and Administration.

10 The enforcement of the provisions of this chapter shall be the  
11 responsibility of the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and  
12 Administration under regulations to be promulgated by the ~~director~~ secretary.

13  
14 SECTION 4290. Arkansas Code § 26-60-107(a)(1), concerning a Real  
15 Property Transfer Tax Affidavit of Compliance Form, is amended to read as  
16 follows:

17 (a)(1) The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and  
18 Administration shall design a "Real Property Transfer Tax Affidavit of  
19 Compliance" form.

20  
21 SECTION 4291. Arkansas Code § 26-60-107(b)(2), concerning a Real  
22 Property Transfer Tax Affidavit of Compliance Form, is amended to read as  
23 follows:

24 (2) The ~~director~~ secretary shall furnish the "Real Property  
25 Transfer Tax Affidavit of Compliance" forms to each revenue office in each  
26 county of this state and may make these forms available to the county  
27 recorder or any other interested persons in each county upon request to the  
28 ~~director~~ secretary.

29  
30 SECTION 4292. Arkansas Code § 26-60-107(d)(1), concerning a Real  
31 Property Transfer Tax Affidavit of Compliance Form, is amended to read as  
32 follows:

33 (d)(1) The affidavits in the files of the ~~director~~ secretary are  
34 public records governed by the same rules as are applied to the disclosure of  
35 motor vehicle titling and registration information.

36

1 SECTION 4293. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 26-60-  
2 107(f), concerning a Real Property Transfer Tax Affidavit of Compliance Form,  
3 is amended to read as follows:

4 (f) The ~~director~~ secretary may:

5  
6 SECTION 4294. Arkansas Code § 26-60-107(f)(1)(B) and (C), concerning a  
7 Real Property Transfer Tax Affidavit of Compliance Form, are amended to read  
8 as follows:

9 (B) The ~~director~~ secretary shall collaborate with  
10 attorneys at law, representatives of title companies, county recorders, and  
11 other interested parties to recommend an alternative method of providing  
12 proof of compliance with the real property transfer tax.

13 (C) If an investigation is undertaken, the ~~director~~  
14 secretary shall complete the investigation by July 1, 2012; and

15  
16 SECTION 4295. Arkansas Code § 26-60-107(f)(2)(B), concerning a Real  
17 Property Transfer Tax Affidavit of Compliance Form, is amended to read as  
18 follows:

19 (B) Before promulgating any rules, the ~~director~~ secretary  
20 shall report the finding of the investigation authorized under subdivision  
21 (f)(1) of this section to the Speaker of the House of Representatives and the  
22 President Pro Tempore of the Senate if the General Assembly is in session or  
23 to the Legislative Council during an interim.

24  
25 SECTION 4296. Arkansas Code § 26-60-108 is amended to read as follows:  
26 26-60-108. Real Property Transfer Tax Affidavit of Compliance and  
27 Receipt – Completion, storage, audit, etc.

28 (a) The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and  
29 Administration or his or her agent before accepting payment of the real  
30 property transfer tax shall require that the affidavit portion of the Real  
31 Property Transfer Tax Affidavit of Compliance form and receipt be completed,  
32 including the statement of the full amount of the consideration for the  
33 transaction and the amount of tax to be reflected on the receipt portion  
34 thereof in evidence that such information was furnished by the person signing  
35 the affidavit before the ~~director~~ secretary shall receive payment of the tax,  
36 and sign the receipt. The ~~director~~ secretary shall attach the stamps to the

1 face of the instrument.

2 (b)(1) The original copy of the affidavit and receipt shall be  
3 retained by the ~~director~~ secretary or his or her agent and shall be treated  
4 as a confidential tax record in the same manner as required by law for  
5 confidentiality of state income tax returns.

6 (2) The information shall be released to duly elected county  
7 assessors and become a public document.

8 (c) If authorized by the ~~director~~ secretary, an electronic copy of an  
9 affidavit described in this section may be used and retained in the same  
10 manner as other electronic documents.

11

12 SECTION 4297. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 26-60-  
13 109(a), concerning documentary stamps or symbols, is amended to read as  
14 follows:

15 (a) The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and  
16 Administration shall:

17

18 SECTION 4298. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 26-60-  
19 109(b), concerning documentary stamps or symbols, is amended to read as  
20 follows:

21 (b) The ~~director~~ secretary may:

22

23 SECTION 4299. Arkansas Code § 26-60-109(b)(1)(B) and (C), concerning  
24 documentary stamps or symbols, are amended to read as follows:

25 (B) The ~~director~~ secretary shall collaborate with  
26 attorneys at law, representatives of title companies, county recorders, and  
27 other interested parties to recommend possible alternative methods of  
28 providing proof of payment of the real property transfer tax.

29 (C) If an investigation is undertaken, the ~~director~~  
30 secretary shall complete the investigation by July 1, 2012; and

31

32 SECTION 4300. Arkansas Code § 26-60-109(b)(2)(B), concerning  
33 documentary stamps or symbols, is amended to read as follows:

34 (B) Before promulgating any rules, the ~~director~~ secretary  
35 shall report the finding of the investigation authorized under § 26-60-  
36 107(f)(1) to the Speaker of the House of Representatives and the President

1 Pro Tempore of the Senate if the General Assembly is in session or to the  
2 Legislative Council during the interim.

3

4 SECTION 4301. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 26-60-  
5 112(b), concerning the disposition of funds collected from taxes, is amended  
6 to read as follows:

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

14

15 SECTION 4302. Arkansas Code § 26-62-102(4) and (5), concerning the  
16 definitions under the alternative fuels tax laws, are amended to read as  
17 follows:

18 ~~(4) "Director" means the Director of the Department of Finance~~  
19 ~~and Administration or his or her duly authorized agents;~~

20 (5) "Gallon equivalent" or "equivalent gallon" means a quantity  
21 of alternative fuels which is the equivalent of one United States gallon (1  
22 U.S. gal.) of gasoline as determined by the ~~director~~ secretary based on  
23 United States standards or industry standards, provided that one United  
24 States gallon (1 U.S. gal.) of gasoline shall be the equivalent of one  
25 hundred cubic feet (100 c.f.) of natural gas fuels;

26

27 SECTION 4303. Arkansas Code § 26-62-104 is amended to read as follows:  
28 26-62-104. Rules and regulations.

29 The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration  
30 is authorized and empowered in consultation with the Director of State  
31 Highways and Transportation of the Arkansas Department of Transportation to  
32 make and promulgate such rules and regulations not inconsistent with this  
33 chapter as they shall deem necessary and desirable to facilitate the  
34 collection of the taxes levied in this chapter and to otherwise effectuate  
35 the purposes of this chapter, and these rules and regulations shall have the  
36 same effect as if specifically set forth in this chapter.

1  
2 SECTION 4304. Arkansas Code § 26-62-105(a), concerning the failure or  
3 refusal to report or pay taxes, is amended to read as follows:

4 (a) Once an alternative fuels supplier, user, interstate user, or IFTA  
5 carrier user of alternative fuels has become liable to file a report with the  
6 ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration, he or she  
7 must continue to file a report, even though no tax is due, until such time as  
8 he or she notifies the ~~director~~ secretary in writing that he or she is no  
9 longer liable for those reports.

10  
11 SECTION 4305. Arkansas Code § 26-62-111 is amended to read as follows:  
12 26-62-111. Audits.

13 In all audits conducted by the Arkansas Department of Transportation  
14 under this chapter, the Arkansas Department of Transportation may call upon  
15 the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration for  
16 assistance.

17  
18 SECTION 4306. Arkansas Code § 26-62-201(a)(2), concerning the  
19 imposition of taxes and exemptions, is amended to read as follows:

20 (2) The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and  
21 Administration shall determine the various types of alternative fuels being  
22 utilized in this state and the applicable rates to be imposed for each type  
23 fuel in accordance with the following provisions of this section, provided  
24 that the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration  
25 in his or her initial determination at a minimum shall find at least one (1)  
26 type of alternative fuels, specifically, natural gas fuels.

27  
28 SECTION 4307. Arkansas Code § 26-62-201(c)(1), concerning the  
29 imposition of taxes and exemptions, is amended to read as follows:

30 (c)(1)(A)~~(i) The tax rate set forth in subsection (b) of this section~~  
31 ~~for each type of alternative fuels from July 1, 1993, through March 31, 1994,~~  
32 ~~shall be determined and published by the Director of the Department of~~  
33 ~~Finance and Administration prior to June 1, 1993, and such rates shall be~~  
34 ~~effective for each type of alternative fuels through March 31, 1994.~~

35 (ii) The tax rate set forth in subsection (b) of  
36 this section for each type of alternative fuels shall be adjusted if

1 necessary by the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and  
2 Administration ~~to be effective on April 1, 1994, and~~ on April 1 of each year  
3 ~~thereafter~~ based upon the number of vehicles utilizing alternative fuels, by  
4 each type of alternative fuels, licensed in this state, as determined by the  
5 ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration, as of  
6 December 31 of the preceding calendar year.

7 (B) If a change in the tax rate in accordance with  
8 subsection (b) of this section for any type of alternative fuels is required,  
9 the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration shall  
10 include this in the report required by this section, and the ~~Director~~  
11 Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration shall also notify  
12 each alternative fuels supplier of the new tax rate not later than thirty  
13 (30) days prior to the effective date of such change.

14  
15 SECTION 4308. Arkansas Code § 26-62-201(e) and (f), concerning the  
16 imposition of taxes and exemptions, are amended to read as follows:

17 (e)(1) The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and  
18 Administration may develop a procedure in which the type of alternative fuels  
19 or other type of fuel is noted on the certificate of title or certificate of  
20 registration of an alternative fuels vehicle.

21 (2) It is the intention of this subsection to develop a system  
22 for the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration  
23 and other officials of the State of Arkansas to know the precise number of  
24 vehicles using alternative fuels and other fuels licensed in this state, both  
25 in the aggregate and by the type of fuel propelling the vehicles.

26 (f) Not later than February 15 each year, the ~~Director~~ Secretary of  
27 the Department of Finance and Administration shall file a written report with  
28 the Director of State Highways and Transportation setting forth the number of  
29 vehicles using alternative fuels and other types of fuels licensed in this  
30 state as of the end of the preceding calendar year, both in the aggregate and  
31 by each type of fuel, and the amount of tax revenue received by the State of  
32 Arkansas on the tax levied by this chapter. The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the  
33 Department of Finance and Administration shall also state the tax rate for  
34 the next twelve (12) months, beginning as of the first day of April of each  
35 year for each type of alternative fuel.

36

1 SECTION 4309. Arkansas Code § 26-62-202(a)(3), concerning the  
2 collection and payment of tax, is amended to read as follows:

3 (3) Used in any motor vehicle owned or operated by that  
4 alternative fuels supplier. The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of  
5 Finance and Administration shall make and promulgate rules and regulations  
6 for a system for recordkeeping requirements to be kept by such suppliers in  
7 fulfilling this subdivision (a)(3).

8  
9 SECTION 4310. Arkansas Code § 26-62-203(c)(1), concerning separate  
10 meters for taxable natural gas fuels and residential or other tax-free  
11 natural gas, is amended to read as follows:

12 (c)(1) Such users shall be licensed and bonded only if required by §  
13 26-62-204 but shall remit all taxes to the alternative fuels supplier upon  
14 billing by that supplier, which supplier shall further remit such taxes to  
15 the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration as  
16 provided in § 26-62-206.

17  
18 SECTION 4311. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 26-62-  
19 203(c)(2), concerning separate meters for taxable natural gas fuels and  
20 residential or other tax-free natural gas, is amended to read as follows:

21 (2) Such user, however, at the time of the installation of the  
22 separate meter shall report to the ~~director~~ secretary the:

23  
24 SECTION 4312. Arkansas Code § 26-62-203(c)(2)(E), concerning separate  
25 meters for taxable natural gas fuels and residential or other tax-free  
26 natural gas, is amended to read as follows:

27 (E) Any other information required by the ~~director~~  
28 secretary pursuant to rules and regulations of the ~~director~~ secretary.

29  
30 SECTION 4313. Arkansas Code § 26-62-204(a), concerning licenses and  
31 bonds for alternative fuels suppliers, interstate users, and IFTA carrier  
32 users, is amended to read as follows:

33 (a) No person shall commence operations as an alternative fuels  
34 supplier, interstate user, or IFTA carrier user of alternative fuels without  
35 first procuring a license for that purpose from the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the  
36 Department of Finance and Administration. This license shall be issued and

1 remain in effect until revoked as provided in this section.

2

3 SECTION 4314. Arkansas Code § 26-62-204(c), concerning licenses and  
4 bonds for alternative fuels suppliers, interstate users, and IFTA carrier  
5 users, is amended to read as follows:

6 (c)(1)(A) Every alternative fuels supplier shall file with the  
7 ~~director~~ secretary a surety bond of not less than one and one-half (1½) times  
8 or one hundred fifty percent (150%) of the prior six-months' average  
9 alternative fuels tax due which is based upon the gallon equivalent of  
10 alternative fuels to be sold or distributed:

11 (i) As shown by the application for a license if the  
12 applicant has not previously been engaged in the business of an alternative  
13 fuels supplier; or

14 (ii) As shown by sales for the previous year if the  
15 applicant previously has been engaged in such business in this state.

16 (B) However, no bond shall be filed for less than one  
17 thousand dollars (\$1,000).

18 (2) If the ~~director~~ secretary deems it necessary to protect the  
19 state in the collection of alternative fuels taxes, the ~~director~~ secretary  
20 may require any alternative fuels supplier to post a bond in an amount up to  
21 three (3) times or three hundred percent (300%) of the prior six (6) months'  
22 average alternative fuels tax due.

23 (3)(A) However, the ~~director~~ secretary is authorized to waive  
24 the posting of bond by any licensed alternative fuels supplier organized and  
25 operating under the laws of Arkansas and wholly owned by residents of this  
26 state who has been licensed for a period of at least three (3) years and who  
27 has not been delinquent in remitting alternative fuels taxes during the  
28 three-year period immediately preceding application by the alternative fuels  
29 supplier for waiver of bond.

30 (B) If any alternative fuels supplier whose bond has been  
31 waived by the ~~director~~ secretary as authorized in subdivision (c)(3)(A) of  
32 this section subsequently becomes delinquent in remitting alternative fuels  
33 taxes to the ~~director~~ secretary, the ~~director~~ secretary may require that the  
34 alternative fuels supplier post a bond in the amount required in this  
35 section, and the alternative fuels supplier shall not be eligible to petition  
36 for a waiver of bond for a period of three (3) years thereafter.

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SECTION 4315. Arkansas Code § 26-62-204(d)(1), concerning licenses and bonds for alternative fuels suppliers, interstate users, and IFTA carrier users, is amended to read as follows:

(d)(1) Each application of an interstate user or IFTA carrier user for a license shall be accompanied by a surety bond of a surety company authorized to do business in this state, in favor of the ~~director~~ secretary, satisfactory to the ~~director~~ secretary, and in an amount to be fixed by the ~~director~~ secretary of not less than one thousand dollars (\$1,000) nor more than fifty thousand dollars (\$50,000), guaranteeing the payment of any and all taxes, penalties, interest, attorney's fees, and costs levied by, accrued, or accruing under this chapter.

SECTION 4316. Arkansas Code § 26-62-204(e)(2), concerning licenses and bonds for alternative fuels suppliers, interstate users, and IFTA carrier users, is amended to read as follows:

(2) The bond shall be conditioned upon the prompt filing of true reports and the payment by the alternative fuels supplier, interstate user, or IFTA carrier user to the ~~director~~ secretary of any and all alternative fuels taxes which are levied or imposed by the State of Arkansas, together with any and all penalties and interest thereon, and generally, upon faithful compliance with the provisions of this chapter.

SECTION 4317. Arkansas Code § 26-62-204(f)-(i), concerning licenses and bonds for alternative fuels suppliers, interstate users, and IFTA carrier users, are amended to read as follows:

(f)(1) In the event that liability upon the bond filed pursuant to this section by the alternative fuels supplier, interstate user, or IFTA carrier user with the ~~director~~ secretary shall be discharged or reduced, whether by judgment rendered, payment made, or otherwise, or if, in the opinion of the ~~director~~ secretary, any surety on the bond shall have become unsatisfactory or unacceptable, then the ~~director~~ secretary may require the filing of a new bond with a satisfactory surety in the same form and amount; failing which, the ~~director~~ secretary shall immediately cancel the license of the alternative fuels supplier, interstate user, or IFTA carrier user.

(2) If a new bond shall be furnished, the ~~director~~ secretary

1 shall cancel the bonds for which the new bond shall be substituted.

2 (g) In the event that upon hearing of which the alternative fuels  
3 supplier, interstate user, or IFTA carrier user shall be given five (5) days'  
4 notice in writing, the ~~director~~ secretary shall decide that the amount of the  
5 existing bond is insufficient to ensure payment to the State of Arkansas of  
6 the amount of the tax and any penalties and interest for which said  
7 alternative fuels supplier, interstate user, or IFTA carrier user is or may  
8 at any time become liable, then the alternative fuels supplier, interstate  
9 user, or IFTA carrier user upon written demand of the ~~director~~ secretary  
10 shall immediately file an additional bond in the same manner and form and  
11 with a surety company thereon approved by the ~~director~~ secretary in any  
12 amount determined by the ~~director~~ secretary to be necessary to secure at all  
13 times the payment to the State of Arkansas of all taxes, penalties, and  
14 interest due under the provisions of this chapter; failing which, the  
15 ~~director~~ secretary shall immediately cancel the license of the alternative  
16 fuels supplier, interstate user, or IFTA carrier user.

17 (h)(1)(A) Any surety on any bond furnished as provided in this section  
18 shall be released and discharged from any and all liability to the State of  
19 Arkansas accruing on the bond after the expiration of sixty (60) days from  
20 the date upon which a surety shall have lodged with the ~~director~~ secretary a  
21 written request to be released and discharged.

22 (B) However, the request shall not operate to relieve,  
23 release, or discharge the surety from any liability already accrued, or which  
24 shall accrue, before the expiration of the sixty-day period.

25 (2) Upon receipt of notice of such request, the ~~director~~  
26 secretary shall promptly notify the alternative fuels supplier, interstate  
27 user, or IFTA carrier user who furnished the bond, and unless the alternative  
28 fuels supplier, interstate user, or IFTA carrier user, on or before the  
29 expiration of the sixty-day period, files with the ~~director~~ secretary a new  
30 bond with a surety company satisfactory to the ~~director~~ secretary in the  
31 amount and form as provided in this section, the ~~director~~ secretary shall  
32 immediately cancel the license of that alternative fuels supplier, interstate  
33 user, or IFTA carrier user.

34 (3) If a new bond shall be furnished as provided in this  
35 section, the ~~director~~ secretary shall cancel the bond for which the new bond  
36 shall be substituted.

1 (i) In lieu of furnishing a bond or bonds executed by a surety company  
2 as provided in this section, any alternative fuels supplier, interstate user,  
3 or IFTA carrier user may furnish a bond or other instrument, in form  
4 prescribed by the ~~director~~ secretary, equal to the amount of the bond or  
5 bonds required by this section which will provide security or payment of all  
6 amounts as described in this section and in compliance with all provisions of  
7 this chapter.

8  
9 SECTION 4318. Arkansas Code § 26-62-204(j)(2), concerning licenses and  
10 bonds for alternative fuels suppliers, interstate users, and IFTA carrier  
11 users, are amended to read as follows:

12 (2)(A) Should his or her license be revoked, any alternative  
13 fuels supplier, interstate user, or IFTA carrier user may bring an action  
14 against the ~~director~~ secretary in the Pulaski County Circuit Court within  
15 fifteen (15) days of the date of revocation to determine whether or not the  
16 alternative fuels supplier, interstate user, or IFTA carrier user has in fact  
17 violated any of the provisions of this chapter.

18 (B) If the court determines that the provisions of the law  
19 have been violated by the alternative fuels supplier, interstate user, or  
20 IFTA carrier user, it shall affirm the ~~director's~~ secretary's action in  
21 revoking the license.

22  
23 SECTION 4319. Arkansas Code § 26-62-205(a)(2)(F), concerning sales  
24 tickets in regards to alternative fuels, is amended to read as follows:

25 (F) Such other information as the ~~Director~~ Secretary of  
26 the Department of Finance and Administration may require.

27  
28 SECTION 4320. Arkansas Code § 26-62-205(b)(2), concerning sales  
29 tickets in regards to alternative fuels, is amended to read as follows:

30 (2) The remaining copy shall be retained by the alternative  
31 fuels supplier as a record for a period of at least three (3) years, during  
32 which period it shall be subject to inspection by the ~~Director~~ Secretary of  
33 the Department of Finance and Administration or his or her representative at  
34 all reasonable times.

35  
36 SECTION 4321. Arkansas Code § 26-62-205(c), concerning sales tickets

1 in regards to alternative fuels, is amended to read as follows:

2 (c) The sales tickets as described in subsections (a) and (b) of this  
3 section shall be the only evidence accepted for tax credit by the ~~Director~~  
4 Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration under the  
5 provisions of § 26-62-209.

6  
7 SECTION 4322. Arkansas Code § 26-62-205(e)(1), concerning sales  
8 tickets in regards to alternative fuels, is amended to read as follows:

9 (e)(1) The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and  
10 Administration, in consultation with the Director of State Highways and  
11 Transportation shall promulgate rules and regulations regarding an  
12 alternative to the required usage of sales tickets for all sales of natural  
13 gas fuels made by alternative fuels suppliers by separate meter as provided  
14 in § 26-62-203.

15  
16 SECTION 4323. Arkansas Code § 26-62-206(a)(1), concerning alternative  
17 fuels suppliers' and users' reports and computation and remittance of tax, is  
18 amended to read as follows:

19 (a)(1) Every alternative fuels supplier on or before the twenty-fifth  
20 day of each calendar month shall file with the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the  
21 Department of Finance and Administration on forms prescribed by the ~~director~~  
22 secretary a report accounting for the alternative fuels taxable under this  
23 chapter during the preceding month and shall remit all taxes as reflected by  
24 the report to the ~~director~~ secretary at the time of filing such report.

25  
26 SECTION 4324. Arkansas Code § 26-62-206(a)(2)(D), concerning  
27 alternative fuels suppliers' and users' reports and computation and  
28 remittance of tax, is amended to read as follows:

29 (D) Such other documents as the ~~director~~ secretary  
30 requires.

31  
32 SECTION 4325. Arkansas Code § 26-62-206(b), concerning alternative  
33 fuels suppliers' and users' reports and computation and remittance of tax, is  
34 amended to read as follows:

35 (b) Every interstate user and IFTA carrier user, on or before the  
36 twenty-fifth day of the month following the end of each calendar quarter,

1 shall file with the ~~director~~ secretary on forms prescribed by the ~~director~~  
2 secretary an itemized report showing the quantities of alternative fuels  
3 purchased and used in this state during the preceding calendar quarter,  
4 together with payments of the tax due thereon.

5  
6 SECTION 4326. Arkansas Code § 26-62-207(b)(3)(B), concerning the  
7 requirement of records, invoices, and the falsification of records in regards  
8 to the Arkansas Tax Procedure Act, is amended to read as follows:

9 (B) Another counterpart shall be delivered to the operator  
10 of the motor vehicle and carried in the cab compartment of the motor vehicle  
11 for inspection by the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and  
12 Administration or his or her representatives until the fuel it covers has  
13 been consumed.

14  
15 SECTION 4327. Arkansas Code § 26-62-207(c)(1), concerning the  
16 requirement of records, invoices, and the falsification of records in regards  
17 to the Arkansas Tax Procedure Act, is amended to read as follows:

18 (c)(1) Every person who operates a motor vehicle that is equipped to  
19 use motor fuels taxable under the Motor Fuel Tax Law, § 26-55-201 et seq., or  
20 equipped to use distillate special fuels taxable under the Special Motor  
21 Fuels Tax Law, § 26-56-101 et seq., and alternative fuels interchangeably in  
22 the propulsion of the motor vehicle shall carry in the cab compartment of the  
23 motor vehicle for inspection by the ~~director~~ secretary or his or her  
24 representative not only the counterpart of the serially-numbered invoice  
25 required under subsection (b) of this section for the delivery of alternative  
26 fuels into the fuel supply tanks of the motor vehicle but also an invoice or  
27 receipt from the seller for each delivery into the fuel supply tanks of the  
28 motor vehicle of motor fuels taxable under the Motor Fuel Tax Law, § 26-55-  
29 201 et seq., or of distillate special fuels taxable under the Special Motor  
30 Fuels Tax Law, § 26-56-101 et seq., which latter invoices or receipts shall  
31 show the same information as to date of delivery, quantity, odometer or hub  
32 meter mileage, and motor vehicle registration number as is required for the  
33 invoice covering alternative fuels.

34  
35 SECTION 4328. Arkansas Code § 26-62-207(e), concerning the requirement  
36 of records, invoices, and the falsification of records in regards to the

1 Arkansas Tax Procedure Act, is amended to read as follows:

2 (e) All sales to users made pursuant to § 26-62-203 shall not require  
3 the carriage of an invoice by the user, provided that the ~~director~~ secretary  
4 shall provide by regulation another means of providing an indication that the  
5 tax on the fuel being utilized to propel the motor vehicle will ultimately be  
6 paid by the user to the alternative fuels supplier, who is required to remit  
7 such tax to the ~~director~~ secretary.

8

9 SECTION 4329. Arkansas Code § 26-62-208(a), concerning prima facie  
10 presumptions, failure to keep records, issuing of invoices or file reports,  
11 taxes, penalties, and interest in regards to alternate fuel suppliers, is  
12 amended to read as follows:

13 (a) Any alternative fuels supplier, user, interstate user, or IFTA  
14 carrier user who fails to keep the records, issue the invoices, or file the  
15 reports required by this chapter shall be prima facie presumed to have sold,  
16 delivered, or used for taxable purposes all alternative fuels shown by a  
17 verified audit by the Arkansas Department of Transportation, the ~~Director~~  
18 Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration, or any authorized  
19 representative.

20

21 SECTION 4330. Arkansas Code § 26-62-208(b)(1), concerning prima facie  
22 presumptions, failure to keep records, issuing of invoices or file reports,  
23 taxes, penalties, and interest in regards to alternate fuel suppliers, is  
24 amended to read as follows:

25 (b)(1) The ~~director~~ secretary is authorized to fix or establish the  
26 amount of taxes, penalties, and interest due the State of Arkansas from any  
27 record or information available to the ~~director~~ secretary, or to the Arkansas  
28 Department of Transportation, and if the tax claim as developed from that  
29 procedure is not paid, the claim and any audit made by the Arkansas  
30 Department of Transportation, the ~~director~~ secretary, or an authorized  
31 representative, or any report filed by such alternative fuels supplier, user,  
32 interstate user, or IFTA carrier user shall be admissible in evidence in any  
33 suit or judicial proceedings filed by the ~~director~~ secretary and shall be  
34 prima facie evidence of the correctness of said claim or audit.

35

36 SECTION 4331. Arkansas Code § 26-62-209(a) and (b), concerning

1 interstate users and IFTA carrier users, reports, and computation of tax and  
2 refunds, are amended to read as follows:

3 (a) For the purpose of determining whether an interstate user or IFTA  
4 carrier user owes alternative fuels tax or is entitled to a credit or refund,  
5 the licensed interstate user or licensed IFTA carrier user shall file a  
6 quarterly report on or before the twenty-fifth day of the month following the  
7 end of each calendar quarter, which shall be made on forms prescribed by the  
8 ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration, which  
9 forms shall include such information as the ~~director~~ secretary may require.

10 (b) If it shall be determined by the quarterly report that the  
11 licensed interstate user or licensed IFTA carrier user has used alternative  
12 fuels in this state in excess of the number of equivalent gallons of the fuel  
13 upon which the Arkansas tax had been paid, the interstate user or IFTA  
14 carrier user shall remit to the ~~director~~ secretary at the time of filing the  
15 report an excise tax at the rate as previously determined in accordance with  
16 § 26-62-201 per equivalent gallon for the taxable quarter multiplied by the  
17 number of equivalent gallons used on which the tax has not been paid.

18

19 SECTION 4332. Arkansas Code § 26-62-209(h)(2), concerning interstate  
20 users and IFTA carrier users, reports, and computation of tax and refunds,  
21 are amended to read as follows:

22 (2) A licensed interstate user or licensed IFTA carrier user who  
23 has a total tax liability for alternative fuels tax during the previous  
24 calendar year of less than one hundred dollars (\$100) upon application to the  
25 ~~director~~ secretary may obtain permission to report his or her alternative  
26 fuels tax liability on an annual basis. The annual report shall be due on or  
27 before the twenty-fifth day of the month following the end of each fiscal  
28 year.

29

30 SECTION 4333. Arkansas Code § 26-62-209(i), concerning interstate  
31 users and IFTA carrier users, reports, and computation of tax and refunds,  
32 are amended to read as follows:

33 (i) The ~~director~~ secretary shall prescribe the appropriate forms  
34 necessary for the administration of this chapter. The ~~director~~ secretary may  
35 make appropriate rules and regulations necessary to ensure the accurate  
36 reporting of the alternative fuels tax.

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SECTION 4334. Arkansas Code § 26-62-210(a)(1), concerning interstate users and IFTA carrier users as well as tax refund procedure, is amended to read as follows:

(a)(1) The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration shall quarterly estimate the amount necessary to pay refunds to licensed interstate users and licensed IFTA carrier users of alternative fuels who are entitled to refunds with respect to alternative fuels taxes paid in this state as authorized in § 26-62-209, and upon certification by the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration, the Treasurer of State shall transfer from the gross amount of alternative fuels taxes collected each month the amount to the Interstate Alternative Fuels Refund Fund, which is established on the books of the State Treasury, from which the Department of Finance and Administration shall make refunds as provided by law.

SECTION 4335. Arkansas Code § 26-62-210(c), concerning interstate users and IFTA carrier users as well as tax refund procedure, is amended to read as follows:

(c) Neither the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration nor any member or employee of the Department of Finance and Administration shall be held personally liable for making any refund by reason of a fraudulent claim's being filed as a basis for such refund.

SECTION 4336. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 26-62-210(d), concerning interstate users and IFTA carrier users as well as tax refund procedure, is amended to read as follows:

(d) The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration in consultation with the Director of State Highways and Transportation is authorized to promulgate rules and regulations and to prescribe the necessary forms required for the administration of claims for tax refunds from licensed interstate users or licensed IFTA carrier users of alternative fuels in this state as authorized by law, which rules and regulations shall be in conformance with the following requirements:

SECTION 4337. Arkansas Code § 26-62-210(d)(1) and (2), concerning

1 interstate users and IFTA carrier users as well as tax refund procedure, are  
2 amended to read as follows:

3 (1) The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and  
4 Administration shall first determine with respect to each refund claim filed  
5 that the bond of the interstate user or IFTA carrier user is adequate to  
6 compensate the State of Arkansas for any losses with respect to the recovery  
7 of any refunds illegally claimed by such user, and the ~~Director~~ Secretary of  
8 the Department of Finance and Administration may require the increase of the  
9 bond if the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and  
10 Administration determines it to be inadequate before approving any such claim  
11 for refund;

12 (2) Each licensed interstate user or licensed IFTA carrier user  
13 of alternative fuels claiming refunds shall maintain adequate records to  
14 substantiate each claim for refund, and the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the  
15 Department of Finance and Administration may reject any claim for refund if  
16 the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration  
17 determines the applicant has not maintained adequate records or has not  
18 conformed to the rules and regulations of the Department of Finance and  
19 Administration in filing the claim therefor;

20

21 SECTION 4338. Arkansas Code § 26-62-210(d)(5), concerning interstate  
22 users and IFTA carrier users as well as tax refund procedure, is amended to  
23 read as follows:

24 (5) The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and  
25 Administration is authorized to promulgate any such rules or regulations the  
26 ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration deems  
27 desirable in consultation with the Director of State Highways and  
28 Transportation regarding refunds to licensed interstate users and IFTA  
29 carrier users.

30

31 SECTION 4339. Arkansas Code § 26-62-211(a) and (b), concerning entry  
32 slips, tax on out-of-state motor vehicle use, and penalties, are amended to  
33 read as follows:

34 (a) Any unlicensed alternative fuels user, unless exempt from the tax  
35 levied herein, operating an out-of-state motor vehicle, upon entering the  
36 State of Arkansas, at the point of entry shall secure a copy of an entry slip

1 from the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration  
2 or his or her authorized agent or employee.

3 (b) The entry slip shall be signed by the ~~director~~ secretary or his or  
4 her authorized agent or employee, and the entry slip shall also be signed by  
5 the driver of the vehicle.

6

7 SECTION 4340. Arkansas Code § 26-62-211(d), concerning entry slips,  
8 tax on out-of-state motor vehicle use, and penalties, is amended to read as  
9 follows:

10 (d) The entry slip shall remain in the vehicle for the remainder of  
11 the trip over the highways of this state and shall be produced for the  
12 inspection of the ~~director~~ secretary or his or her authorized employee or  
13 representative, at any point within the state and shall also be produced at  
14 the port of exit to the ~~director~~ secretary or his or her authorized agent or  
15 employee, for determination of any alternative fuels taxes due the state.

16

17 SECTION 4341. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 26-62-  
18 211(g)(1)(B), concerning entry slips, tax on out-of-state motor vehicle use,  
19 and penalties, is amended to read as follows:

20 (B) At the time of the purchase of the fuels, the owner or  
21 operator of such vehicle shall obtain from the alternative fuels supplier  
22 from whom purchased an invoice or sales ticket, on forms approved by the  
23 ~~director~~ secretary, which shall contain the:

24

25 SECTION 4342. Arkansas Code § 26-62-211(g)(1)(C), concerning the  
26 content of invoices, is amended to read as follows:

27 (C) The invoice or sales ticket shall remain in the  
28 vehicle for the remainder of the trip over the highways of this state. The  
29 invoice or sales ticket shall be preserved and retained by the owner or  
30 operator for a period of not less than three (3) years and shall be produced  
31 for the inspection and examination of the ~~director~~ secretary or his or her  
32 authorized agent or employee, at any reasonable time and place, either within  
33 or without this state, upon proper demand therefor;

34

35 SECTION 4343. Arkansas Code § 26-62-211(g)(2)(A), concerning entry  
36 slips, tax on out-of-state motor vehicle use, and penalties, is amended to

1 read as follows:

2 (2)(A) By the payment to the ~~director~~ secretary or to his or her  
3 agent, representative, or employee of the amount of tax which would be due  
4 upon a sufficient quantity, as determined above, of alternative fuels to  
5 propel the vehicle over the highways of this state.

6

7 SECTION 4344. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 26-62-  
8 211(g)(2)(B), concerning entry slips, tax on out-of-state motor vehicle use,  
9 and penalties, is amended to read as follows:

10 (B) At the time of payment of the tax, the ~~director~~  
11 secretary or his or her employee or representative shall issue to the person  
12 paying the tax a receipt showing:

13

14 SECTION 4345. Arkansas Code § 26-62-211(g)(2)(B)(vi), concerning entry  
15 slips, tax on out-of-state motor vehicle use, and penalties, are amended to  
16 read as follows:

17 (vi) Any other information which the ~~director~~  
18 secretary may require,  
19 which receipt shall be signed by the ~~director~~ secretary or his or her agent  
20 or representative.

21

22 SECTION 4346. Arkansas Code § 26-62-211(g)(2)(C), concerning entry  
23 slips, tax on out-of-state motor vehicle use, and penalties, is amended to  
24 read as follows:

25 (C) The receipt shall remain in the vehicle for the  
26 remainder of the trip over the highways of this state and thereafter shall be  
27 preserved and retained by the owner or operator for a period of not less than  
28 three (3) years and shall be produced for the inspection of the ~~director~~  
29 secretary or his or her authorized agent or representative, at any reasonable  
30 time and place, either within or without this state, upon proper demand.

31

32 SECTION 4347. Arkansas Code § 26-62-212 is amended to read as follows:

33 26-62-212. Power to stop, investigate, and impound vehicles -  
34 Assessment of tax.

35 (a) In order to enforce the provisions of this chapter, the ~~Director~~  
36 Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration or his or her

1 authorized representative is empowered to stop any motor vehicle which  
2 appears to be operating with alternative fuels for the purpose of examining  
3 the invoices or other documents required by this chapter, or by regulation,  
4 and for such other investigative purposes reasonably necessary to determine  
5 whether the taxes imposed by this chapter have been paid or whether the  
6 vehicle is being operated in compliance with the provisions of this chapter.

7 (b) If after examination or investigation it is determined by the  
8 ~~director~~ secretary or his or her authorized representative that the tax  
9 imposed by this chapter has not been paid with respect to the alternative  
10 fuels being used in the vehicle, the ~~director~~ secretary or his or her  
11 representative shall immediately assess the tax due, together with the  
12 penalty hereinafter provided, to the owner of the vehicle and give the owner  
13 written notice of the assessment by handing it to the driver of the vehicle.

14 (c) The ~~director~~ secretary or his or her representative is empowered  
15 to impound any vehicle found to be operating in violation of this chapter by  
16 a person other than a person who has furnished the bond required of users by  
17 § 26-62-204 until such time as any tax assessed as provided herein has been  
18 paid.

19  
20 SECTION 4348. Arkansas Code § 26-62-213(c)(2), concerning the unlawful  
21 activities regarding the operation of motor vehicles, is amended to read as  
22 follows:

23 (2) This penalty shall be assessed by the ~~Director~~ Secretary of  
24 the Department of Finance and Administration or his or her representative and  
25 shall be collected in the same manner as is provided for the collection of  
26 tax in § 26-62-212.

27  
28 SECTION 4349. Arkansas Code § 26-62-214 is amended to read as follows:

29 26-62-214. Conversion of vehicles for use of alternative fuels.

30 (a) Any alternative fuels supplier, garage, mechanic, owner, or  
31 operator of a motor vehicle who converts or causes a vehicle to be converted  
32 to enable the vehicle to be operated on any type of alternative fuels shall  
33 report the conversion to the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance  
34 and Administration on forms prescribed by the ~~director~~ secretary, which shall  
35 include, but not be limited to, the model, make, license number, and vehicle  
36 identification number of the converted vehicle within ten (10) days after the

1 conversion.

2 (b) The converting or equipping of a vehicle for natural gas  
3 propulsion shall be in compliance with rules and regulations to be made and  
4 promulgated by the ~~director~~ secretary.

5 (c)(1) It shall be unlawful for any person to operate any motor  
6 vehicle which has been converted or equipped to use alternative fuels unless  
7 the vehicle has been reported to the ~~director~~ secretary and any permit, if  
8 required by this chapter of that person, has been obtained.

9 (2) If any owner or operator fails to report a conversion of a  
10 vehicle to the ~~director~~ secretary within the time prescribed above, such  
11 person shall be assessed a penalty of two hundred fifty dollars (\$250) which  
12 shall be in addition to any criminal penalty in this chapter.

13

14 SECTION 4350. Arkansas Code § 26-63-102(2), concerning Arkansas  
15 special excise taxes, is amended to read as follows:

16 (2) "~~Director~~ Secretary" means the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the  
17 Department of Finance and Administration or any of his or her authorized  
18 agents;

19

20 SECTION 4351. Arkansas Code § 26-63-104(a) and (b), concerning  
21 administration, rules, and regulations to be promulgated by the Director of  
22 the Department of Finance and Administration, are amended to read as follows:

23 (a) The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and  
24 Administration shall administer this chapter.

25 (b) The ~~director~~ secretary shall prescribe forms and promulgate rules  
26 for the proper enforcement of this chapter, including without limitation the  
27 manner and time the taxes levied by this chapter shall be collected,  
28 reported, and paid and how a sale will be sourced.

29

30 SECTION 4352. Arkansas Code § 26-63-105(b), concerning the cost of  
31 administration and the distribution of surplus annually, is amended to read  
32 as follows:

33 (b) If any funds appropriated for the administration of this chapter  
34 remain in the possession of the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of  
35 Finance and Administration at the end of each fiscal year that have not been  
36 actually used in the administration of this chapter, then the funds shall be

1 remitted by the ~~director~~ secretary to the Treasurer of State for distribution  
2 in the same manner and for the same purposes provided for in § 26-63-106.

3  
4 SECTION 4353. Arkansas Code § 26-63-106(a), concerning the disposition  
5 of taxes, interest, and penalties, is amended to read as follows:

6 (a) Except as otherwise provided in this chapter, all taxes, interest,  
7 penalties, and costs received by the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of  
8 Finance and Administration under this chapter are general revenues and shall  
9 be deposited into the State Treasury to the credit of the State Apportionment  
10 Fund.

11  
12 SECTION 4354. Arkansas Code § 26-63-107 is amended to read as follows:  
13 26-63-107. Changes in law – Notice.

14 The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration  
15 shall give each special excise tax registrant under § 26-63-201 written  
16 notice of any change in the state law pertaining to the taxes levied by this  
17 chapter within thirty (30) days after the adjournment of the General  
18 Assembly.

19  
20 SECTION 4355. Arkansas Code § 26-63-201 is amended to read as follows:  
21 26-63-201. Registration required.

22 (a) It is unlawful for any taxpayer to transact business within this  
23 state prior to registering with the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of  
24 Finance and Administration.

25 (b) The ~~director~~ secretary may promulgate rules to implement this  
26 section.

27  
28 SECTION 4356. Arkansas Code § 26-63-204 is amended to read as follows:  
29 26-63-204. Discontinuance of business – Unpaid taxes.

30 (a)(1) Upon discontinuance of a business by sale or otherwise, any  
31 taxpayer registered to operate under this chapter shall notify the ~~Director~~  
32 Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration in writing and  
33 remit any unpaid or accrued taxes due under this chapter.

34 (2) Failure to pay any unpaid or accrued taxes due under this  
35 chapter is sufficient cause for the ~~director~~ secretary to refuse to allow the  
36 taxpayer to engage in or transact any other business in this state.

1           (3) In the case of a sale of any business, the tax levied by  
2 this chapter is due at the time of the sale of the fixtures and equipment  
3 incident to the business, and any tax due under this chapter constitutes a  
4 lien against the stock and the fixtures and equipment in the possession of  
5 the purchaser of the fixtures and equipment or any other third party until  
6 the tax due under this chapter is paid.

7           (b) The ~~director~~ secretary shall not register a taxpayer to continue  
8 to conduct a business until all tax due under this chapter has been settled  
9 and paid.

10  
11           SECTION 4357. Arkansas Code § 26-63-302(b)(3)(A), concerning rental  
12 vehicle tax, is amended to read as follows:

13           (3)(A) The rental vehicle tax shall be remitted to the ~~Director~~  
14 Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration and, except for the  
15 amount equal to any municipal or county taxes, shall be deposited into the  
16 State Treasury as general revenues.

17  
18           SECTION 4358. Arkansas Code § 26-63-302(c)(2)(A)(i), concerning rental  
19 vehicle tax, is amended to read as follows:

20           (2)(A)(i) The additional rental vehicle tax shall be remitted to  
21 the ~~director~~ secretary, who shall deposit seventy-five percent (75%) of the  
22 net revenues derived from the additional rental vehicle tax into the Arkansas  
23 Public Transit Trust Fund.

24  
25           SECTION 4359. Arkansas Code § 26-63-304(c), concerning long-term  
26 rental vehicle tax, is amended to read as follows:

27           (c) The long-term rental vehicle tax shall be remitted to the ~~Director~~  
28 Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration and shall be  
29 deposited into the State Treasury as general revenues.

30  
31           SECTION 4360. Arkansas Code § 26-73-102(3), concerning the definition  
32 of "director" under the laws governing local taxes, is amended to read as  
33 follows:

34           (3) "~~Director~~ Secretary" means the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the  
35 Department of Finance and Administration in the exercise of those powers,  
36 functions, and duties formerly vested in the Commissioner of Revenues of the

1 State of Arkansas which were merged into the Department of Finance and  
2 Administration under the provisions of § 25-8-101 et seq., or any of his or  
3 her authorized agents;

4  
5 SECTION 4361. Arkansas Code § 26-73-105 is amended to read as follows:  
6 26-73-105. Collection of taxes.

7 (a) The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and  
8 Administration shall collect the tax levied under this subchapter and shall  
9 perform all functions incident to the administration, collection,  
10 enforcement, and operation of the taxes in the manner and following the  
11 procedures that are prescribed for the corresponding state taxes.

12 (b) The ~~director~~ secretary shall deduct from all revenues collected  
13 pursuant to this subchapter up to three percent (3%) as a cost of collection.

14  
15 SECTION 4362. Arkansas Code § 26-73-106 is amended to read as follows:  
16 26-73-106. Revenue Local Tax Revolving Fund – Revenue Local Tax  
17 Operating Fund.

18 (a) There are created on the books of the Treasurer of State, the  
19 Auditor of State, and the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and  
20 Administration a Revenue Local Tax Revolving Fund and a Revenue Local Tax  
21 Operating Fund.

22 (b) All taxes collected by the ~~director~~ secretary under this  
23 subchapter shall be deposited into the State Treasury and credited to the  
24 Revenue Local Tax Revolving Fund and transmitted at least quarterly in each  
25 state fiscal year to the local government levying the tax.

26  
27 SECTION 4363. Arkansas Code § 26-73-107 is amended to read as follows:  
28 26-73-107. Rules and regulations.

29 The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration  
30 shall promulgate reasonable rules and regulations not inconsistent with the  
31 provisions of this subchapter to implement the enforcement, administration,  
32 and collection of the taxes authorized in this subchapter.

33  
34 SECTION 4364. Arkansas Code § 26-73-109(a)(1)(A)(ii), concerning tax  
35 information exchange agreements, is amended to read as follows:

36 (ii) ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance

1 and Administration; or

2

3 SECTION 4365. Arkansas Code § 26-73-109(a)(2), concerning tax  
4 information exchange agreements, is amended to read as follows:

5 (2) In all other matters concerning the release of tax  
6 information, including its release to law enforcement agencies, the local  
7 government shall be governed by state law in the same manner as is the  
8 ~~director~~ secretary.

9

10 SECTION 4366. Arkansas Code § 26-74-203(5), concerning the definition  
11 of "director" under the laws governing sales and use taxes for capital  
12 improvements, is repealed.

13 ~~(5) "Director" means the Director of the Department of Finance  
14 and Administration, or any successor of the director, or any authorized agent  
15 of the director;~~

16

17 SECTION 4367. Arkansas Code § 26-74-204(c), concerning the issuance of  
18 bonds, is amended to read as follows:

19 (c) There may be successive bond issues for the purpose of financing  
20 the same project, and there may be successive bond issues for financing the  
21 cost of reconstructing, replacing, constructing additions to, extending,  
22 improving, and equipping projects already in existence, whether or not  
23 originally financed by bonds issued under this subchapter, and with each  
24 successive issue to be authorized as provided by this subchapter. Priority  
25 between and among issues and successive issues as to security of the pledge  
26 of revenues and lien on the project facilities involved may be controlled by  
27 the ordinance authorizing the issuance of bonds under this subchapter.  
28 Subject to the provisions of this subchapter pertaining to registration, the  
29 bonds shall have all the qualities of negotiable instruments under the laws  
30 of the State of Arkansas. A copy of the ordinance authorizing bonds under  
31 this subchapter, certified by the county clerk of the county, shall be filed  
32 with the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration  
33 and with the Treasurer of State.

34

35 SECTION 4368. Arkansas Code § 26-74-208(b)(3)(D)(i), concerning the  
36 form of a ballot for a sales and use tax, is amended to read as follows:

1 (D)(i) To extend the sales and use tax levied under this  
2 subchapter to a new expiration date, the county shall notify the ~~Director~~  
3 Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration of the new  
4 expiration date that was approved by the voters after publication of the  
5 proclamation has occurred and at least ninety (90) days before the current  
6 expiration date of the sales and use tax.

7  
8 SECTION 4369. Arkansas Code § 26-74-209(d)(1), concerning the conduct  
9 of elections, results, and challenges, is amended to read as follows:

10 (d)(1) The county court shall notify the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the  
11 Department of Finance and Administration of the countywide tax after  
12 publication of the proclamation has occurred and ninety (90) days before the  
13 effective date of the tax.

14  
15 SECTION 4370. Arkansas Code § 26-74-209(d)(2)(A)(i), concerning the  
16 conduct of elections, results, and challenges, is amended to read as follows:

17 (2)(A)(i) Except as provided in subdivision (d)(2)(A)(ii) of  
18 this section, if an election challenge is not timely filed, the countywide  
19 tax shall be levied, effective on the first day of the first month of the  
20 calendar quarter after a minimum of sixty (60) days' notice by the ~~director~~  
21 secretary to sellers and after the expiration of the thirty-day challenge  
22 period, on the gross receipts from the sale at retail within the county of  
23 all items and services that are subject to the Arkansas Gross Receipts Act of  
24 1941, § 26-52-101 et seq.

25  
26 SECTION 4371. Arkansas Code § 26-74-211 is amended to read as follows:

27 26-74-211. Notification of results.

28 (a) Within ten (10) days after the certification of the votes of any  
29 election resulting in the adoption or abolition of a tax levied pursuant to  
30 this subchapter and ninety (90) days before its effective date, the county  
31 court shall notify the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and  
32 Administration of the results.

33 (b) A rate change will be effective only on the first day of a  
34 calendar quarter after a minimum of sixty (60) days' notice by the ~~director~~  
35 secretary to sellers.

36 (c) A rate change on a purchase from a printed catalog in which the

1 purchaser computed the tax based upon local tax rates published in the  
2 catalog will be applicable on the first day of a calendar quarter after a  
3 minimum of one hundred twenty (120) days' notice by the ~~director~~ secretary to  
4 the sellers.

5 (d) For sales and use tax purposes only, a local boundary change will  
6 become effective on the first day of a calendar quarter after a minimum of  
7 sixty (60) days' notice by the ~~director~~ secretary to sellers.

8

9 SECTION 4372. Arkansas Code § 26-74-213(b)(1), concerning county tax  
10 rebates, is amended to read as follows:

11 (b)(1) If a rebate would be due pursuant to the provisions of this  
12 subchapter as a result of the purchase of a new or used motor vehicle and if  
13 the tax on the new or used motor vehicle is collected directly from the  
14 purchaser pursuant to the provisions of § 26-52-510, then the ~~Director~~  
15 Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration shall collect only  
16 the amount of tax due less the amount to which the purchaser would be  
17 entitled under the rebate provisions of this subchapter.

18

19 SECTION 4373. Arkansas Code § 26-74-214(a)(1), concerning the  
20 disposition of county sales and use taxes, is amended to read as follows:

21 (a)(1) The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and  
22 Administration shall maintain a record of the total amount of tax collected  
23 pursuant to this subchapter and other subchapters authorizing county sales  
24 and use taxes in each county and shall deposit all such revenues with the  
25 Treasurer of State.

26

27 SECTION 4374. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 26-74-  
28 214(e)(1), concerning the disposition of county sales and use taxes, is  
29 amended to read as follows:

30 (e)(1) When any tax adopted by a county pursuant to this subchapter is  
31 abolished, the ~~director~~ secretary shall retain in the account of that county  
32 in the Local Sales and Use Tax Trust Fund for a period of one (1) year an  
33 amount equal to five percent (5%) of the final remittance to the county and  
34 municipalities in the county at the time of termination of the collection of  
35 the tax to:

36

1 SECTION 4375. Arkansas Code § 26-74-214(e)(2), concerning the  
2 disposition of county sales and use taxes, is amended to read as follows:

3 (2) After one (1) year has elapsed after the effective date of  
4 the abolition of the tax in any county, the ~~director~~ secretary shall transfer  
5 the balance in that county's account to the county and municipalities in the  
6 county and shall close the account.

7  
8 SECTION 4376. Arkansas Code § 26-74-214(f), concerning the disposition  
9 of county sales and use taxes, is amended to read as follows:

10 (f)(1) As indicated by a certified copy of an ordinance of the quorum  
11 court of the county previously filed with the ~~director~~ secretary and the  
12 Treasurer of State, any moneys collected that are pledged to secure lease  
13 rentals or the payment of bonds authorized by this subchapter shall not be  
14 deposited into the State Treasury but shall be deposited by the Treasurer of  
15 State into a bank or banks designated by the county, as cash funds, and  
16 transmitted to the county subject to the charges payable and retainage  
17 authorized in this section.

18 (2) Charges deducted shall be transmitted to the Treasurer of  
19 State, and amounts retained shall be retained by the ~~director~~ secretary as  
20 cash funds.

21  
22 SECTION 4377. Arkansas Code § 26-74-215 is amended to read as follows:  
23 26-74-215. Rules and regulations.

24 The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration  
25 may promulgate reasonable rules and regulations not inconsistent with the  
26 provisions of this subchapter to implement the administration, collection,  
27 enforcement, and operation of the taxes authorized in this subchapter.

28  
29 SECTION 4378. Arkansas Code § 26-74-216 is amended to read as follows:  
30 26-74-216. Procedures and penalties for enforcement.

31 (a) The procedures and penalties used by the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the  
32 Department of Finance and Administration in enforcing any local tax imposed  
33 pursuant to this subchapter shall be the same as for the state gross receipts  
34 tax and compensating tax, as set out in the Arkansas Tax Procedure Act, § 26-  
35 18-101 et seq., except as specifically set out in this subchapter.

36 (b)(1) When property is seized by the ~~director~~ secretary under the

1 provisions of any law authorizing seizure of property of a taxpayer who is  
2 delinquent in payment of the taxes imposed by the Arkansas Gross Receipts Act  
3 of 1941, § 26-52-101 et seq., or the Arkansas Compensating Tax Act of 1949, §  
4 26-53-101 et seq., and when the taxpayer is also delinquent in payment of any  
5 tax imposed by this subchapter, the ~~director~~ secretary shall sell sufficient  
6 property to pay the delinquent taxes and penalty due to any city or county  
7 under this subchapter in addition to that required to pay any amount due to  
8 the state under the Arkansas Gross Receipts Act of 1941, § 26-52-101 et seq.,  
9 or the Arkansas Compensating Tax Act of 1949, § 26-53-101 et seq.

10 (2) The proceeds from such sale shall first be applied to all  
11 sums due to the state, and the remainder, if any, shall be applied to all  
12 sums due to the city or county.

13  
14 SECTION 4379. Arkansas Code § 26-74-220(c), concerning the maximum tax  
15 limitation for county general sales or use taxes. is amended to read as  
16 follows:

17 (c) This section applies only to a tax collected by the ~~Director~~  
18 Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration.

19  
20 SECTION 4380. Arkansas Code § 26-74-303(5), concerning the definition  
21 of "director" under the laws governing sales taxes for capital improvements,  
22 is repealed.

23 ~~(5) "Director" means the Director of the Department of Finance~~  
24 ~~and Administration, any successor of the director, or any authorized agent of~~  
25 ~~the director;~~

26  
27 SECTION 4381. Arkansas Code § 26-74-304(c), concerning the issuance of  
28 bonds by counties, is amended to read as follows:

29 (c) There may be successive bond issues for the purpose of financing  
30 the same project, and there may be successive bond issues for financing the  
31 cost of reconstructing, replacing, constructing additions to, extending,  
32 improving, and equipping projects already in existence, whether or not  
33 originally financed by bonds issued under this subchapter, and with each  
34 successive issue to be authorized as provided by this subchapter. Priority  
35 between and among issues and successive issues as to security of the pledge  
36 of revenues and lien on the project facilities involved may be controlled by

1 the ordinance authorizing the issuance of bonds under this subchapter.  
2 Subject to the provisions of this subchapter pertaining to registration, the  
3 bonds shall have all the qualities of negotiable instruments under the laws  
4 of the State of Arkansas. A copy of the ordinance authorizing bonds under  
5 this subchapter, certified by the county clerk of the county, shall be filed  
6 with the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration  
7 and with the Treasurer of State.

8  
9 SECTION 4382. Arkansas Code § 26-74-308(b)(3)(D)(i), concerning the  
10 form of a ballot for a county sales and use tax, is amended to read as  
11 follows:

12 (D)(i) To extend the sales and use tax levied under this  
13 subchapter to a new expiration date, the county shall notify the ~~Director~~  
14 Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration of the new  
15 expiration date that was approved by the voters after publication of the  
16 proclamation has occurred and at least ninety (90) days before the current  
17 expiration date of the sales and use tax.

18  
19 SECTION 4383. Arkansas Code § 26-74-309(d), concerning challenges,  
20 results, and conduct of elections, is amended to read as follows:

21 (d)(1) The county court shall notify the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the  
22 Department of Finance and Administration of the countywide tax after  
23 publication of the proclamation has occurred and ninety (90) days before the  
24 effective date of the tax.

25 (2)(A) Except as provided in subdivision (d)(2)(B) of this  
26 section, if an election challenge is not timely filed, the countywide tax  
27 shall be levied, effective on the first day of the first month of the  
28 calendar quarter after a minimum of sixty (60) days' notice by the ~~director~~  
29 secretary to sellers and after the expiration of the thirty-day challenge  
30 period, on the gross receipts from the sale at retail within the county of  
31 all items and services that are subject to the Arkansas Gross Receipts Act of  
32 1941, § 26-52-101 et seq., and the Arkansas Compensating Tax Act of 1949, §  
33 26-53-101 et seq.

34 (B) The effective date of the levy of the countywide tax  
35 may be delayed under § 26-74-308(d).

36

1 SECTION 4384. Arkansas Code § 26-74-311 is amended to read as follows:  
2 26-74-311. Notification of results.

3 (a) Within ten (10) days after the certification of the votes of any  
4 election resulting in the adoption or abolition of a tax levied pursuant to  
5 this subchapter and ninety (90) days before the effective date, the county  
6 court shall notify the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and  
7 Administration of the results.

8 (b) A rate change will become effective only on the first day of a  
9 calendar quarter after a minimum of sixty (60) days' notice by the ~~director~~  
10 secretary to sellers.

11 (c) A rate change on a purchase from a printed catalog in which the  
12 purchaser computed the tax based upon local tax rates published in the  
13 catalog will be applicable beginning on the first day of a calendar quarter  
14 after a minimum of one hundred twenty (120) days' notice by the ~~director~~  
15 secretary to the sellers.

16 (d) For sales and use tax purposes only, a local boundary change will  
17 become effective only on the first day of a calendar quarter after a minimum  
18 of sixty (60) days' notice by the ~~director~~ secretary to sellers.

19  
20 SECTION 4385. Arkansas Code § 26-74-312 is amended to read as follows:  
21 26-74-312. Administration, collection, etc., of tax.

22 (a) On and after the effective date of any tax imposed under the  
23 provisions of this subchapter, the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of  
24 Finance and Administration shall perform all functions incidental to the  
25 administration, collection, enforcement, and operation of the tax.

26 (b) In addition to the state gross receipts tax, the ~~director~~  
27 secretary shall collect an additional tax under the authority of this  
28 subchapter on the gross receipts from the sale of all items and services that  
29 are subject to the Arkansas Gross Receipts Act of 1941, § 26-52-101 et seq.,  
30 and the Arkansas Compensating Tax Act of 1949, § 26-53-101 et seq.

31 (c)(1) The tax imposed under this subchapter and the tax imposed under  
32 the Arkansas Gross Receipts Act of 1941, § 26-52-101 et seq., shall be  
33 collected together and reported upon such forms and under such administrative  
34 rules and regulations as may be prescribed by the ~~director~~ secretary not  
35 inconsistent with the provisions of this subchapter.

36 (2)(A) Each vendor who is liable for one (1) or more city sales

1 or use taxes shall report a combined city sales tax and a combined city use  
2 tax on his or her sales and use tax report.

3 (B) The combined city sales tax is equal to the sum of all  
4 sales taxes levied by a city under this subchapter or any other provision of  
5 the Arkansas Code.

6 (C) The combined city use tax is equal to the sum of all  
7 use taxes levied by a city under this subchapter or any other provision of  
8 the Arkansas Code.

9 (3) This subsection only applies to a tax collected by the  
10 ~~director~~ secretary.

11 (d) On and after the effective date of any proposition to abolish a  
12 tax levied pursuant to this subchapter, the ~~director~~ secretary shall comply  
13 with the proposition as provided in this subchapter.

14

15 SECTION 4386. Arkansas Code § 26-74-313(a)-(c), concerning the  
16 disposition of funds, are amended to read as follows:

17 (a) The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and  
18 Administration shall maintain a record of the total amount of tax collected  
19 pursuant to this subchapter and other subchapters authorizing county sales  
20 and use taxes in each county. The ~~director~~ secretary shall determine the  
21 population of the unincorporated area of each of the counties and shall  
22 furnish the information to the Treasurer of State.

23 (b) Except as set forth in subsections (c), (e), and (f) of this  
24 section, any tax collected by the ~~director~~ secretary under this subchapter on  
25 behalf of any county shall be deposited with the Treasurer of State in trust  
26 and shall be kept in a separate suspense account.

27 (c) Any moneys collected by the ~~director~~ secretary, as indicated by a  
28 certified copy of an ordinance of the quorum court of the county, previously  
29 filed with the ~~director~~ secretary and the Treasurer of State, which are  
30 pledged to secure the payment of lease rentals or bonds authorized by this  
31 subchapter shall not be deposited into the State Treasury but shall be  
32 deposited by the Treasurer of State into banks designated by the county, as  
33 cash funds, and transmitted to the county subject to the charges payable to  
34 the State of Arkansas set forth in subsection (d) of this section. Charges  
35 deducted shall be transmitted to the Treasurer of State.

36

1 SECTION 4387. Arkansas Code § 26-74-313(d)(1), concerning the  
2 disposition of funds, is amended to read as follows:

3 (d)(1) The Treasurer of State shall transmit to the treasurer or  
4 financial officer of each city and county its per capita share, after  
5 deducting the amount required for claims, overpayments, and bad checks, as  
6 certified by the ~~director~~ secretary.

7  
8 SECTION 4388. Arkansas Code § 26-74-313(d)(4)-(6), concerning the  
9 disposition of funds, are amended to read as follows:

10 (4) The ~~director~~ secretary is authorized to retain in the  
11 suspense account a balance not to exceed five percent (5%) of the amount  
12 remitted to the local governments. The ~~director~~ secretary is authorized to  
13 make refunds from the suspense account of any overpayments made and to redeem  
14 dishonored checks and drafts deposited to the credit of the suspense account.

15 (5) When any tax adopted pursuant to this subchapter is  
16 thereafter abolished, the ~~director~~ secretary shall retain in the suspense  
17 account for a period of one (1) year five percent (5%) of the final  
18 remittance to the local governments at the time of termination of collection  
19 of the tax to:

20 (A) Cover possible refunds for overpayment of the tax; and

21 (B) Redeem dishonored checks and drafts deposited to the  
22 credit of the suspense account.

23 (6) After one (1) year has elapsed after the effective date of  
24 the abolishment of the tax, the ~~director~~ secretary shall remit the balance of  
25 the account to the governing bodies of the cities and counties and close the  
26 account.

27  
28 SECTION 4389. Arkansas Code § 26-74-314 is amended to read as follows:

29 26-74-314. Rules and regulations.

30 The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration  
31 may promulgate reasonable rules and regulations not inconsistent with the  
32 provisions of this subchapter to implement the enforcement, administration,  
33 and collection of the taxes authorized in this subchapter.

34  
35 SECTION 4390. Arkansas Code § 26-74-320(c), concerning maximum tax  
36 limitation for county general sales or use taxes, is amended to read as

1 follows:

2 (c) This section applies only to taxes collected by the ~~Director~~  
3 Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration.

4  
5 SECTION 4391. Arkansas Code § 26-74-321(a), concerning the procedures  
6 and penalties for enforcement of a local tax, is amended to read as follows:

7 (a) The procedures and penalties used by the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the  
8 Department of Finance and Administration in enforcing any local tax imposed  
9 pursuant to this subchapter shall be the same as for the Arkansas Gross  
10 Receipts Act of 1941, § 26-52-101 et seq., and the Arkansas Compensating Tax  
11 Act of 1949, § 26-53-101 et seq., as set out in the Arkansas Tax Procedure  
12 Act, § 26-18-101 et seq., except as specifically set out in this subchapter.

13  
14 SECTION 4392. Arkansas Code § 26-74-321(b)(1), concerning the  
15 procedures and penalties for enforcement of a local tax, is amended to read  
16 as follows:

17 (b)(1) When property is seized by the ~~director~~ secretary under the  
18 provisions of any law authorizing seizure of property of a taxpayer who is  
19 delinquent in payment of the taxes imposed by the Arkansas Gross Receipts Act  
20 of 1941, § 26-52-101 et seq., or the Arkansas Compensating Tax Act of 1949, §  
21 26-53-101 et seq., and when the taxpayer is also delinquent in payment of any  
22 tax imposed by this subchapter, the ~~director~~ secretary shall sell sufficient  
23 property to pay the delinquent taxes and penalty due to any city or county  
24 under this subchapter in addition to that required to pay any amount due to  
25 the state under the Arkansas Gross Receipts Act of 1941, § 26-52-101 et seq.,  
26 or the Arkansas Compensating Tax Act of 1949, § 26-53-101 et seq.

27  
28 SECTION 4393. Arkansas Code § 26-74-401(2), concerning the definition  
29 of "director" under the laws governing sales and use tax for counties without  
30 existing tax, is repealed.

31 ~~(2) "Director" means the Director of the Department of Finance~~  
32 ~~and Administration, or any successor thereof, or any authorized agent~~  
33 ~~thereof.~~

34  
35 SECTION 4394. Arkansas Code § 26-74-404(d)(1), concerning election  
36 challenges and results, is amended to read as follows:

1 (d)(1) The county court shall notify the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the  
2 Department of Finance and Administration of the tax after publication of the  
3 proclamation has occurred and ninety (90) days before the effective date of  
4 the tax.

5  
6 SECTION 4395. Arkansas Code § 26-74-404(d)(2)(A), concerning election  
7 challenges and results, is amended to read as follows:

8 (2)(A) If no election challenge is timely filed, there shall be  
9 levied, effective on the first day of the first month of the calendar quarter  
10 after a minimum of sixty (60) days' notice by the ~~director~~ secretary to  
11 sellers and after the expiration of the thirty-day challenge period, a one-  
12 half percent (0.5%) tax on the gross receipts from the sale of all items that  
13 are subject to the Arkansas Gross Receipts Act of 1941, § 26-52-101 et seq.,  
14 and the Arkansas Compensating Tax Act of 1949, § 26-53-101 et seq.

15  
16 SECTION 4396. Arkansas Code § 26-74-406 is amended to read as follows:  
17 26-74-406. Notification of results.

18 (a) Within ten (10) days after the certification of the votes of any  
19 election resulting in the adoption of a tax levied pursuant to this  
20 subchapter and ninety (90) days before the effective date of the rate change,  
21 the county court shall notify the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of  
22 Finance and Administration of the results.

23 (b) A rate change will become effective only on the first day of a  
24 calendar quarter after a minimum of sixty (60) days' notice by the ~~director~~  
25 secretary to sellers.

26 (c) A rate change on a purchase from a printed catalog in which the  
27 purchaser computed the tax based upon local tax rates published in the  
28 catalog will be applicable beginning on the first day of a calendar quarter  
29 after a minimum of one hundred twenty (120) days' notice by the ~~director~~  
30 secretary to the sellers.

31 (d) For sales and use tax purposes only, a local boundary change will  
32 become effective only on the first day of a calendar quarter after a minimum  
33 of sixty (60) days' notice by the ~~director~~ secretary to sellers.

34  
35 SECTION 4397. Arkansas Code § 26-74-408(b)(1), concerning county tax  
36 rebates, is amended to read as follows:

1 (b)(1) When a rebate would be due pursuant to the provisions of this  
2 subchapter as a result of the purchase of a new or used motor vehicle and  
3 when the tax on the new or used motor vehicle is collected directly from the  
4 purchaser pursuant to the provisions of § 26-52-510, then the ~~Director~~  
5 Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration shall collect only  
6 the amount of tax due less the amount to which the purchaser would be  
7 entitled under the rebate provisions of this subchapter.

8  
9 SECTION 4398. Arkansas Code § 26-74-409(a)(1), concerning the  
10 disposition of funds, is amended to read as follows:

11 (a)(1) The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and  
12 Administration shall maintain a record of the total amount of tax collected  
13 pursuant to this subchapter and all other subchapters authorizing a county  
14 sales and use tax in each county and shall deposit all such revenues with the  
15 Treasurer of State.

16  
17 SECTION 4399. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 26-74-  
18 409(e), concerning the disposition of funds, is amended to read as follows:

19 (e) When any tax adopted by a county pursuant to this subchapter  
20 ceases, the ~~director~~ secretary shall retain in the account of that county in  
21 the Local Sales and Use Tax Trust Fund for a period of one (1) year an amount  
22 equal to five percent (5%) of the final remittance to the county and  
23 municipalities therein at the time of termination of the collection of the  
24 tax to:

25  
26 SECTION 4400. Arkansas Code § 26-74-409(f), concerning the disposition  
27 of funds, is amended to read as follows:

28 (f) After one (1) year has elapsed after the tax ceases in any county,  
29 the ~~director~~ secretary shall transfer the balance in that county's account to  
30 the county and shall close the account.

31  
32 SECTION 4401. Arkansas Code § 26-74-410 is amended to read as follows:

33 26-74-410. Rules and regulations.

34 The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration  
35 may promulgate reasonable rules and regulations not inconsistent with the  
36 provisions of this subchapter to implement the administration, collection,

1 enforcement, and operation of the taxes authorized in this subchapter.

2  
3 SECTION 4402. Arkansas Code § 26-74-411(a), concerning the procedures  
4 and penalties for enforcement of local taxes, is amended to read as follows:

5 (a) The procedures and penalties used by the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the  
6 Department of Finance and Administration in enforcing any local tax imposed  
7 pursuant to this subchapter shall be the same as for the state gross receipts  
8 tax and compensating tax, as set out in the Arkansas Tax Procedure Act, § 26-  
9 18-101 et seq., except as specifically set out in this subchapter.

10  
11 SECTION 4403. Arkansas Code § 26-74-411(b)(1), concerning the  
12 procedures and penalties for enforcement of local taxes, is amended to read  
13 as follows:

14 (b)(1) When property is seized by the ~~director~~ secretary under the  
15 provisions of any law authorizing seizure of property of a taxpayer who is  
16 delinquent in payment of the taxes imposed by the Arkansas Gross Receipts Act  
17 of 1941, § 26-52-101 et seq., or Arkansas Compensating Tax Act of 1949, § 26-  
18 53-101 et seq., and when the taxpayer is also delinquent in payment of any  
19 tax imposed by this subchapter, the ~~director~~ secretary shall sell sufficient  
20 property to pay the delinquent taxes and penalty due to any county under this  
21 subchapter in addition to that required to pay any amount due to the state  
22 under the Arkansas Gross Receipts Act of 1941, § 26-52-101 et seq., or the  
23 Arkansas Compensating Tax Act of 1949, § 26-53-101 et seq.

24  
25 SECTION 4404. Arkansas Code § 26-74-412(a)(2), concerning the maximum  
26 tax limitation, is amended to read as follows:

27 (2) A vendor collecting, reporting, and remitting the county  
28 sales or use taxes shall show county sales taxes as a separate entry on the  
29 tax report form filed with the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of  
30 Finance and Administration.

31  
32 SECTION 4405. Arkansas Code § 26-74-601(2), concerning the definition  
33 of "director" under the laws governing sales and use taxes for the capital  
34 improvements of a community college, is repealed.

35 ~~(2) "Director" means the Director of the Department of Finance~~  
36 ~~and Administration, any successor of the director, or any authorized agent of~~

1 ~~the director,~~

2

3 SECTION 4406. Arkansas Code § 26-74-605(e)(1)(A), concerning the  
4 conduct of election and results, and challenges, is amended to read as  
5 follows:

6 (e)(1)(A) If a challenge to an election called under § 26-74-603(b) is  
7 not timely filed, there shall be levied effective on the first day of the  
8 first month of the calendar quarter after a minimum of sixty (60) days'  
9 notice by the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and  
10 Administration to sellers and subsequent to the expiration of the thirty-day  
11 challenge period a countywide tax on the gross receipts from the sale at  
12 retail within the eligible county of all items that are subject to the  
13 Arkansas Gross Receipts Act of 1941, § 26-52-101 et seq.

14

15 SECTION 4407. Arkansas Code § 26-74-605(h)(1), concerning the conduct  
16 of election and results, and challenges, is amended to read as follows:

17 (h)(1) To extend the period for the levy of a tax under § 26-74-  
18 603(c), after the publication of the proclamation has occurred and at least  
19 ninety (90) days before the current period for the levy of the tax is set to  
20 expire, the county shall notify the ~~director~~ secretary of the new period for  
21 the levy of the tax that was approved by the voters.

22

23 SECTION 4408. Arkansas Code § 26-74-607 is amended to read as follows:  
24 26-74-607. Notification of results.

25 Within ten (10) days after the certification of the votes of any  
26 election resulting in the adoption or abolition of a tax levied pursuant to  
27 this subchapter and ninety (90) days before the effective date of the tax,  
28 the county judge shall notify the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of  
29 Finance and Administration of the results.

30

31 SECTION 4409. Arkansas Code § 26-74-609(a)(1), concerning the  
32 disposition of funds, is amended to read as follows:

33 (a)(1) The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and  
34 Administration shall maintain a record of the total amount of tax collected  
35 pursuant to this subchapter and all other subchapters authorizing a county  
36 sales and use tax in each eligible county and shall deposit all such revenues

1 with the Treasurer of State.

2  
3 SECTION 4410. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 26-74-  
4 609(e), concerning the disposition of funds, is amended to read as follows:

5 (e) When any tax adopted by an eligible county pursuant to this  
6 subchapter ceases, the ~~director~~ secretary shall retain in the account of that  
7 eligible county in the Local Sales and Use Tax Trust Fund for a period of one  
8 (1) year an amount equal to five percent (5%) of the final remittance to the  
9 eligible county at the time of termination of the collection of the tax to:

10  
11 SECTION 4411. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 26-74-  
12 609(f), concerning the disposition of funds, is amended to read as follows:

13 (f) After one (1) year has elapsed after the tax ceases in any  
14 eligible county, the ~~director~~ secretary shall transfer the balance in that  
15 eligible county's account to the eligible county and shall close the account.

16  
17 SECTION 4412. Arkansas Code § 26-74-610 is amended to read as follows:  
18 26-74-610. Rules and regulations.

19 The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration  
20 may promulgate reasonable rules and regulations not inconsistent with the  
21 provisions of this subchapter to implement the administration, collection,  
22 enforcement, and operation of the taxes authorized in this subchapter.

23  
24 SECTION 4413. Arkansas Code § 26-74-611 is amended to read as follows:  
25 26-74-611. Procedures and penalties for enforcement.

26 (a) The procedures and penalties used by the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the  
27 Department of Finance and Administration in enforcing any tax imposed  
28 pursuant to this subchapter shall be the same as for the state gross receipts  
29 tax and the state compensating tax, as set out in the Arkansas Tax Procedure  
30 Act, § 26-18-101 et seq., except as specifically set out in this subchapter.

31 (b)(1) When property is seized by the ~~director~~ secretary under the  
32 provisions of any law authorizing seizure of property of a taxpayer who is  
33 delinquent in payment of the taxes imposed by the Arkansas Gross Receipts Act  
34 of 1941, § 26-52-101 et seq., or the Arkansas Compensating Tax Act of 1949, §  
35 26-53-101 et seq., and when the taxpayer is also delinquent in payment of any  
36 tax imposed by this subchapter, the ~~director~~ secretary shall sell sufficient

1 property to pay the delinquent taxes and penalty due to any eligible county  
2 under this subchapter in addition to that required to pay any amount due to  
3 the state under the Arkansas Gross Receipts Act of 1941, § 26-52-101 et seq.,  
4 or the Arkansas Compensating Tax Act of 1949, § 26-53-101 et seq.

5 (2) The proceeds from the sale shall first be applied to all  
6 sums due to the state, and the remainder, if any, shall be applied to all  
7 sums due to the eligible county.

8  
9 SECTION 4414. Arkansas Code § 26-74-612(b), concerning maximum tax  
10 limitations, is amended to read as follows:

11 (b) A vendor collecting, reporting, and remitting the tax shall show  
12 the tax as a separate entry on the tax report form filed with the ~~Director~~  
13 Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration.

14  
15 SECTION 4415. Arkansas Code § 26-75-203(6), concerning the definition  
16 of "director" under the sales and use tax for capital improvements, is  
17 repealed.

18 ~~(6) "Director" means the Director of the Department of Finance~~  
19 ~~and Administration, any successor of the director, or any authorized agent of~~  
20 ~~the director;~~

21  
22 SECTION 4416. Arkansas Code § 26-75-204(c), concerning the issuance of  
23 bonds, is amended to read as follows:

24 (c) There may be successive bond issues for the purpose of financing  
25 the same project, and there may be successive bond issues for financing the  
26 cost of reconstructing, replacing, constructing additions to, extending,  
27 improving, and equipping projects already in existence, whether or not  
28 originally financed by bonds issued under this subchapter, and with each  
29 successive issue to be authorized as provided by this subchapter. Priority  
30 between and among issues and successive issues as to security of the pledge  
31 of revenues and lien on the project facilities involved may be controlled by  
32 the ordinance authorizing the issuance of bonds under this subchapter.  
33 Subject to the provisions of this subchapter pertaining to registration, the  
34 bonds shall have all the qualities of negotiable instruments under the laws  
35 of the State of Arkansas. A copy of the ordinance authorizing bonds under  
36 this subchapter, certified by the clerk or recorder of the city, shall be

1 filed with the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and  
2 Administration and with the Treasurer of State.

3  
4 SECTION 4417. Arkansas Code § 26-75-208(b)(3)(D)(i), concerning the  
5 requirement for a special election, is amended to read as follows:

6 (D)(i) To extend the sales and use tax levied under this  
7 subchapter to a new expiration date, the city shall notify the ~~Director~~  
8 Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration of the new  
9 expiration date that was approved by the voters after publication of the  
10 proclamation has occurred and at least ninety (90) days before the current  
11 expiration date of the sales and use tax.

12  
13 SECTION 4418. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 26-75-209,  
14 concerning the effective date of an ordinance, is amended to read as follows:

15 In order to provide time for the preparations for election set forth in  
16 this subchapter and to provide for the accomplishment of the administrative  
17 duties of the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and  
18 Administration, the following effective dates are applicable with reference  
19 to any such ordinance levying such tax:

20  
21 SECTION 4419. Arkansas Code § 26-75-209(1)(D)(i) and (ii), concerning  
22 the effective date of an ordinance, are amended to read as follows:

23 (D)(i) The mayor of the city shall notify the ~~director~~  
24 secretary of the rate change after publication of the proclamation has  
25 occurred and ninety (90) days before the effective date of the tax.

26 (ii) If an election challenge is not filed within  
27 the thirty-day challenge period, the ordinance or petition described in § 26-  
28 75-207 shall become effective on the first day of the first month of the  
29 calendar quarter after a minimum of sixty (60) days' notice by the ~~director~~  
30 secretary to sellers and after the expiration of the full thirty-day period  
31 of challenge.

32  
33 SECTION 4420. Arkansas Code § 26-75-209(1)(E), concerning the  
34 effective date of an ordinance, is amended to read as follows:

35 (E) The rate change shall become applicable on the first  
36 day of a quarter after one hundred twenty (120) days' notice by the ~~director~~

1 secretary to sellers on a purchase from a printed catalog in which the  
2 purchaser computed the tax based upon local tax rates published in the  
3 catalog; and

4  
5 SECTION 4421. Arkansas Code § 26-75-210(d)(1), concerning the  
6 abolishment of tax, is amended to read as follows:

7 (d)(1) The effective date of any affirmative vote by the governing  
8 body of the city to abolish the tax under subsection (a) of this section  
9 shall be on the first day of the calendar quarter after the expiration of  
10 ninety (90) days from the date a written statement signed by the chief  
11 executive officer of the city abolishing the tax is filed with the ~~Director~~  
12 Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration certifying that the  
13 governing body of the city has adopted an ordinance abolishing the tax.

14  
15 SECTION 4422. Arkansas Code § 26-75-211 is amended to read as follows:  
16 26-75-211. Notification required.

17 (a) As soon as is feasible, and no later than ten (10) days following  
18 each of the events set forth in the ordinance with reference to the procedure  
19 for the adoption or abolition of a tax and the effective dates of such an  
20 action, the city clerk of the city shall notify the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the  
21 Department of Finance and Administration of such event.

22 (b)(1) If any city in which a local sales and use tax has been imposed  
23 in the manner provided for in this subchapter shall thereafter change or  
24 alter its boundaries, the city clerk of the city shall forward to the  
25 ~~director~~ secretary at least ninety (90) days before the effective date a  
26 certified copy of the ordinance adding or detaching territory from the city,  
27 which shall be accompanied by a map clearly showing the territory added or  
28 detached.

29 (2) After receipt of the ordinance and map, the tax imposed  
30 under this subchapter shall be effective in the added territory or abolished  
31 in the detached territory on the first day of the first month of the calendar  
32 quarter following the expiration of sixty (60) days' notice by the ~~director~~  
33 secretary to sellers.

34  
35 SECTION 4423. Arkansas Code § 26-75-212(b), concerning the collection  
36 of local sales and use taxes, is amended to read as follows:

1 (b) The tax levied in this subchapter on new and used motor vehicles  
2 shall be collected by the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and  
3 Administration directly from the purchaser in the manner prescribed in § 26-  
4 52-510.

5  
6 SECTION 4424. Arkansas Code § 26-75-212(c)(4), concerning the  
7 collection of local sales and use taxes, is amended to read as follows:

8 (4) This subsection only applies to a tax collected by the  
9 ~~director~~ secretary.

10  
11 SECTION 4425. Arkansas Code § 26-75-214(a) and (b), concerning the  
12 administration and collection of taxes, are amended to read as follows:

13 (a) On and after the effective date of any tax imposed under the  
14 provisions of this subchapter, the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of  
15 Finance and Administration shall perform all functions incidental to the  
16 administration, collection, enforcement, and operation of the tax.

17 (b) In addition to the state gross receipts tax and compensating tax,  
18 the ~~director~~ secretary shall collect an additional tax under the authority of  
19 this subchapter on the receipts from the sale at retail or on the sale price  
20 or lease or rental price on the storage, use, distribution, or other  
21 consumption of all taxable items and services subject to the Arkansas Gross  
22 Receipts Act of 1941, § 26-52-101 et seq., and the Arkansas Compensating Tax  
23 Act of 1949, § 26-53-101 et seq.

24  
25 SECTION 4426. Arkansas Code § 26-75-214(c)(1), concerning the  
26 administration and collection of taxes, is amended to read as follows:

27 (c)(1) The tax imposed under this subchapter and the tax imposed under  
28 the gross receipts tax and compensating tax shall be collected together and  
29 reported upon such forms and under such administrative rules and regulations  
30 as may be prescribed by the ~~director~~ secretary not inconsistent with the  
31 provisions of this subchapter.

32  
33 SECTION 4427. Arkansas Code § 26-75-214(c)(5), concerning the  
34 administration and collection of taxes, is amended to read as follows:

35 (5) This subsection only applies to a tax collected by the  
36 ~~director~~ secretary.

1  
2 SECTION 4428. Arkansas Code § 26-75-214(d), concerning the  
3 administration and collection of taxes, is amended to read as follows:

4 (d) On and after the effective date of any proposition to abolish such  
5 local sales and use tax in any city, the ~~director~~ secretary shall comply with  
6 the proposition as provided in this subchapter.

7  
8 SECTION 4429. Arkansas Code § 26-75-217(b)(2), concerning the  
9 disposition of funds, is amended to read as follows:

10 (2) The Treasurer of State is authorized to make refunds from  
11 the suspense account of any city for overpayments made to such accounts,  
12 after such refunds have been approved by the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the  
13 Department of Finance and Administration, and to redeem dishonored checks and  
14 drafts deposited to the credit of the suspense account of such cities.

15  
16 SECTION 4430. Arkansas Code § 26-75-217(d), concerning the disposition  
17 of funds, is amended to read as follows:

18 (d) Any moneys collected which as indicated by a certified copy of an  
19 ordinance of the city previously filed with the ~~director~~ secretary and the  
20 Treasurer of State are pledged to secure lease rentals or the payment of  
21 bonds authorized by this subchapter shall not be deposited into the State  
22 Treasury but shall be deposited by the Treasurer of State into banks  
23 designated by the city as cash funds and transmitted to the city subject to  
24 the charges payable and retainage authorized in this section. Charges  
25 deducted shall be transmitted to the Treasurer of State, and amounts retained  
26 shall be retained by the Treasurer of State as cash funds.

27  
28 SECTION 4431. Arkansas Code § 26-75-218 is amended to read as follows:  
29 26-75-218. Rules and regulations.

30 The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration  
31 may promulgate reasonable rules and regulations not inconsistent with the  
32 provisions of this subchapter to implement the enforcement, administration,  
33 and collection of the taxes authorized in this subchapter.

34  
35 SECTION 4432. Arkansas Code § 26-75-219(a), concerning the procedures  
36 and penalties for enforcement of a local tax, is amended to read as follows:

1 (a) The procedures and penalties used by the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the  
2 Department of Finance and Administration in enforcing any local tax imposed  
3 pursuant to this subchapter shall be the same as for the state gross receipts  
4 tax and compensating tax, except as specifically set out in this subchapter.  
5

6 SECTION 4433. Arkansas Code § 26-75-219(b)(1), concerning the  
7 procedures and penalties for enforcement of a local tax, is amended to read  
8 as follows:

9 (b)(1) When property is seized by the ~~director~~ secretary under the  
10 provisions of any law authorizing seizure of property of a taxpayer who is  
11 delinquent in payment of the taxes imposed by the Arkansas Gross Receipts Act  
12 of 1941, § 26-52-101 et seq., or the Arkansas Compensating Tax Act of 1949, §  
13 26-53-101 et seq., and when such taxpayer is also delinquent in payment of  
14 any tax imposed by this subchapter, the ~~director~~ secretary shall sell  
15 sufficient property to pay the delinquent taxes and penalty due to any city  
16 under this subchapter in addition to that required to pay any amount due to  
17 the state under the Arkansas Gross Receipts Act of 1941, § 26-52-101 et seq.,  
18 or the Arkansas Compensating Tax Act of 1949, § 26-53-101 et seq.  
19

20 SECTION 4434. Arkansas Code § 26-75-222(c), concerning the maximum tax  
21 limitation, is amended to read as follows:

22 (c) This section only applies to a tax collected by the ~~Director~~  
23 Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration.  
24

25 SECTION 4435. Arkansas Code § 26-75-303(6), concerning the definition  
26 of "director" under the laws regarding sales taxes for capital improvements,  
27 is repealed.

28 ~~(6) "Director" means the Director of the Department of Finance~~  
29 ~~and Administration, or any successor of the director, or any authorized agent~~  
30 ~~of the director;~~  
31

32 SECTION 4436. Arkansas Code § 26-75-304(c), concerning the issuance of  
33 bonds for capital improvements of a public nature, is amended to read as  
34 follows:

35 (c) There may be successive bond issues for the purpose of financing  
36 the same project, and there may be successive bond issues for financing the

1 cost of reconstructing, replacing, constructing additions to, extending,  
2 improving, and equipping projects already in existence, whether or not  
3 originally financed by bonds issued under this subchapter, and with each  
4 successive issue to be authorized as provided by this subchapter. Priority  
5 between and among issues and successive issues as to security of the pledge  
6 of revenues and lien on the project facilities involved may be controlled by  
7 the ordinance authorizing the issuance of bonds under this subchapter.  
8 Subject to the provisions of this subchapter pertaining to registration, the  
9 bonds shall have all the qualities of negotiable instruments under the laws  
10 of the State of Arkansas. A copy of the ordinance authorizing bonds under  
11 this subchapter, certified by the clerk or recorder of the city, shall be  
12 filed with the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and  
13 Administration and with the Treasurer of State.

14  
15 SECTION 4437. Arkansas Code § 26-75-308(c)(3)(D)(i), concerning a  
16 special election to approve the levying of a local sales and use tax, is  
17 amended to read as follows:

18 (D)(i) To extend the sales and use tax levied under this  
19 subchapter to a new expiration date, the city shall notify the ~~Director~~  
20 Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration of the new  
21 expiration date that was approved by the voters after publication of the  
22 proclamation has occurred and at least ninety (90) days before the current  
23 expiration date of the sales and use tax.

24  
25 SECTION 4438. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 26-75-309,  
26 concerning the effective date of an ordinance, is amended to read as follows:

27 In order to provide time for the preparations for election set forth in  
28 this subchapter and to provide for the accomplishment of the administrative  
29 duties of the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and  
30 Administration, the following effective dates are applicable with reference  
31 to any such ordinance levying such tax:

32  
33 SECTION 4439. Arkansas Code § 26-75-309(1)(D)(i) and (ii), concerning  
34 the effective date of an ordinance, are amended to read as follows:

35 (D)(i) The mayor of the city shall notify the ~~director~~  
36 secretary after publication of the proclamation has occurred and ninety (90)

1 days before the effective date of the tax.

2 (ii) If an election challenge is not filed within  
3 the thirty-day challenge period, the ordinance or petition described in § 26-  
4 75-307 shall become effective on the first day of the first month of the  
5 calendar quarter after a minimum of sixty (60) days' notice by the ~~director~~  
6 secretary to sellers and after the expiration of the full thirty-day period  
7 of challenge.

8  
9 SECTION 4440. Arkansas Code § 26-75-309(1)(E), concerning the  
10 effective date of an ordinance, is amended to read as follows:

11 (E) The rate change shall become applicable on the first  
12 day of a quarter after one hundred twenty (120) days' notice by the ~~director~~  
13 secretary to sellers on a purchase from a printed catalog in which the  
14 purchaser computed the tax based upon local tax rates published in the  
15 catalog; and

16  
17 SECTION 4441. Arkansas Code § 26-75-310(g)(1), concerning the  
18 abolishment of a local sales and use tax, is amended to read as follows:

19 (g)(1) The effective date of any affirmative vote by the governing  
20 body of the city to abolish the tax under subsection (b) of this section  
21 shall be on the first day of the calendar quarter after the expiration of  
22 ninety (90) days from the date a written statement signed by the chief  
23 executive officer of the city abolishing the tax is filed with the ~~Director~~  
24 Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration certifying that the  
25 governing body of the city has adopted an ordinance abolishing the tax.

26  
27 SECTION 4442. Arkansas Code § 26-75-311 is amended to read as follows:  
28 26-75-311. Notification required.

29 (a)(1) As soon as is practicable, and no later than ten (10) days  
30 following each of the events set forth in the ordinance with reference to the  
31 procedure for the adoption or abolition of such tax and the effective dates  
32 of such action, the city clerk of the city shall notify the ~~Director~~  
33 Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration of such event.

34 (2) Accompanying the first of any such notices, the city clerk  
35 shall send to the ~~director~~ secretary a map of the city clearly showing the  
36 boundaries of the city.

1 (b)(1) If any such city in which a local sales and use tax has been  
2 imposed in the manner provided for in this subchapter shall thereafter change  
3 or alter its boundaries, the city clerk of the city shall forward to the  
4 ~~director~~ secretary at least ninety (90) days before the effective date a  
5 certified copy of the ordinance adding or detaching territory from the city,  
6 which shall be accompanied by a map clearly showing the territory added or  
7 detached.

8 (2) After receipt of the ordinance and the map, the tax imposed  
9 under this subchapter shall be effective in the added territory or abolished  
10 in the detached territory on the first day of the first month of the calendar  
11 quarter following the expiration of thirty (30) days from the date that the  
12 annexation or detachment becomes effective or after a minimum of sixty (60)  
13 days' notice by the ~~director~~ secretary to sellers, whichever expires last.  
14

15 SECTION 4443. Arkansas Code § 26-75-312(d)(3), concerning the  
16 collection of a local sales and use tax, is amended to read as follows:

17 (3) This subsection applies only to taxes collected by the  
18 ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration.  
19

20 SECTION 4444. Arkansas Code § 26-75-313 is amended to read as follows:

21 26-75-313. Disposition of funds.

22 (a) The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and  
23 Administration shall maintain a record of the total amount of tax collected  
24 pursuant to this subchapter and other subchapters authorizing city sales  
25 taxes in each city and shall deposit all such revenues with the Treasurer of  
26 State.

27 (b) Any moneys collected by the ~~director~~ secretary which as indicated  
28 by a certified copy of an ordinance of the city previously filed with the  
29 ~~director~~ secretary and the Treasurer of State, are pledged to secure the  
30 payment of lease rentals or bonds authorized by this subchapter shall not be  
31 deposited into the State Treasury but shall be deposited by the Treasurer of  
32 State into banks designated by the city as cash funds and transmitted to the  
33 city subject to the charges payable to the State of Arkansas set forth in §  
34 26-75-217.  
35

36 SECTION 4445. Arkansas Code § 26-75-314 is amended to read as follows:

1 26-75-314. Rules and regulations.

2 The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration  
3 may promulgate reasonable rules and regulations not inconsistent with the  
4 provisions of this subchapter to implement the enforcement, administration,  
5 and collection of the taxes authorized in this subchapter.

6  
7 SECTION 4446. Arkansas Code § 26-75-316(c) and (d), concerning an  
8 excise tax on storage, use, or other consumption, are amended to read as  
9 follows:

10 (c) The tax imposed under this subchapter and the tax imposed under  
11 the Arkansas Gross Receipts Act of 1941, § 26-52-101 et seq. and Arkansas  
12 Compensating Tax Act of 1949 § 26-53-101 et seq., shall be collected together  
13 and reported upon such forms and under such administrative rules and  
14 regulations as may be prescribed by the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department  
15 of Finance and Administration not inconsistent with the provisions of this  
16 subchapter.

17 (d) On and after the effective date of any proposition to abolish such  
18 local sales and use tax in any city, the ~~director~~ secretary shall comply with  
19 the proposition as provided in this subchapter.

20  
21 SECTION 4447. Arkansas Code § 26-75-319(c), concerning maximum tax  
22 limitations, is amended to read as follows:

23 (c) This section only applies to a tax collected by the ~~Director~~  
24 Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration.

25  
26 SECTION 4448. Arkansas Code § 26-75-320 is amended to read as follows:

27 26-75-320. Procedures and penalties for enforcement.

28 (a) The procedures and penalties used by the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the  
29 Department of Finance and Administration in enforcing any local tax imposed  
30 pursuant to this subchapter shall be the same as for the gross receipts tax  
31 and compensating tax, as set out in the Arkansas Tax Procedure Act, § 26-18-  
32 101 et seq., except as specifically set out in this subchapter.

33 (b)(1) When property is seized by the ~~director~~ secretary under the  
34 provisions of any law authorizing seizure of property of a taxpayer who is  
35 delinquent in payment of the taxes imposed by the Arkansas Gross Receipts Act  
36 of 1941, § 26-52-101 et seq., or Arkansas Compensating Tax Act of 1949, § 26-

1 53-101 et seq., and when the taxpayer is also delinquent in payment of any  
2 tax imposed by this subchapter, the ~~director~~ secretary shall sell sufficient  
3 property to pay the delinquent taxes and penalty due to any city under this  
4 subchapter in addition to that required to pay any amount due to the state  
5 under the Arkansas Gross Receipts Act of 1941, § 26-52-101 et seq., or the  
6 Arkansas Compensating Tax Act of 1949, § 26-53-101 et seq.

7 (2) The proceeds from the sale shall first be applied to all  
8 sums due to the state, and the remainder, if any, shall be applied to all  
9 sums due to the city.

10  
11 SECTION 4449. Arkansas Code § 26-75-404(d)(3)(B)(i), concerning  
12 election requirements and procedures, is amended to read as follows:

13 (B)(i)(a) The mayor of the city or town shall notify the  
14 ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration of the  
15 rate change after publication of the proclamation has occurred and ninety  
16 (90) days before the effective date of the tax.

17 (b) If no election challenge is filed within  
18 the thirty-day challenge period, the ordinance shall become effective on the  
19 first day of the first month of the calendar quarter after a minimum of sixty  
20 (60) days' notice by the ~~director~~ secretary to sellers and after the  
21 expiration of the thirty-day period for challenge of the results of the  
22 election.

23 (c) In the case of a purchase made from a  
24 printed catalog in which the purchaser computed the tax based upon local tax  
25 rates published in the catalog, the applicable date will be the first day of  
26 the quarter after a minimum of one hundred twenty (120) days' notice by the  
27 ~~director~~ secretary to sellers.

28  
29 SECTION 4450. Arkansas Code § 26-75-404(e), concerning election  
30 requirements and procedures, is amended to read as follows:

31 (e)(1) If a majority of electors voting on the issue vote "FOR" the  
32 levy of the tax, a copy of the mayor's proclamation of the results of the  
33 election shall be transmitted to the ~~director~~ secretary within ten (10) days  
34 after the election.

35 (2)(A) At the time of transmitting the proclamation, the clerk  
36 shall also send to the ~~director~~ secretary a map of the city or town clearly

1 showing the boundaries of the city or town.

2 (B)(i) If any such city or town shall thereafter change or  
3 alter its boundaries, the city or town clerk shall forward to the ~~director~~  
4 secretary ninety (90) days before the effective date of the boundary changes  
5 a certified copy of the ordinance adding or detaching territory from the city  
6 or town, and the ordinance shall be accompanied by a map clearly showing the  
7 territory added or detached.

8 (ii) After receipt of the ordinance and map, the tax  
9 imposed under this subchapter shall be effective in the added territory or  
10 abolished in the detached territory on the first day of the first month of  
11 the calendar quarter following the expiration of thirty (30) days from the  
12 date that the annexation or detachment becomes effective or after a minimum  
13 of sixty (60) days' notice by the ~~director~~ secretary to sellers, whichever  
14 expires last.

15

16 SECTION 4451. Arkansas Code § 26-75-406(b)(2), concerning the manner  
17 of collection of a local sales and use tax, is amended to read as follows:

18 (2) The tax levied in this section on motor vehicles shall be  
19 collected by the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and  
20 Administration directly from the purchaser in the same manner as the state  
21 gross receipts tax.

22

23 SECTION 4452. Arkansas Code § 26-75-406(c)(4), concerning the manner  
24 of collection of a local sales and use tax, is amended to read as follows:

25 (4) This provision applies only to taxes collected by the  
26 ~~director~~ secretary.

27

28 SECTION 4453. Arkansas Code § 26-75-407(a), concerning the disposition  
29 of taxes, is amended to read as follows:

30 (a) The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and  
31 Administration shall deposit all local sales and use taxes collected under  
32 this subchapter with the Treasurer of State.

33

34 SECTION 4454. Arkansas Code § 26-75-409 is amended to read as follows:  
35 26-75-409. Administration, etc.

36 (a)(1) On and after the effective date of any tax imposed pursuant to

1 the provisions of this subchapter, the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department  
2 of Finance and Administration shall perform all functions incidental to the  
3 administration, collection, enforcement, and operation of the tax.

4 (2) The ~~director~~ secretary shall collect taxes levied pursuant  
5 to this subchapter at the same time and in the same manner as the ~~director~~  
6 secretary collects the state gross receipts tax and the state compensating  
7 tax.

8 (b) When notified that any tax levied under this subchapter has  
9 expired or has been abolished, the ~~director~~ secretary shall cease to collect  
10 the tax as provided in this subchapter.

11  
12 SECTION 4455. Arkansas Code § 26-75-410 is amended to read as follows:  
13 26-75-410. Rules and regulations.

14 The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration  
15 shall adopt appropriate rules and regulations not inconsistent with the  
16 provisions of this subchapter to implement the enforcement, administration,  
17 and collection of the taxes authorized in this subchapter.

18  
19 SECTION 4456. Arkansas Code § 26-75-502(b), concerning the authority  
20 to levy a tax, is amended to read as follows:

21 (b) Rules and regulations promulgated by the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the  
22 Department of Finance and Administration for the State of Arkansas in  
23 connection with the collection and administration of the state gross receipts  
24 tax shall be equally applicable with respect to any tax levied under this  
25 subchapter.

26  
27 SECTION 4457. Arkansas Code § 26-75-503(d)(2) and (3), concerning  
28 election requirements of a city of the first class or second class, are  
29 amended to read as follows:

30 (2) However, no such tax shall be collected under any such  
31 ordinance until the first day of a calendar quarter after a minimum of sixty  
32 (60) days' notice by the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and  
33 Administration to sellers.

34 (3) For a purchase made from a printed catalog in which the  
35 purchaser computed the tax based upon local tax rates published in the  
36 catalog, the tax shall be collected on the first day of the quarter after a

1 minimum of one hundred twenty (120) days' notice by the ~~director~~ secretary to  
2 sellers.

3

4 SECTION 4458. Arkansas Code § 26-75-504 is amended to read as follows:  
5 26-75-504. Certification of tax.

6 When the levy of the tax authorized in this subchapter has been  
7 approved in a city of the first class or city of the second class as provided  
8 in this subchapter, the governing body of the city shall certify to the  
9 ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration that such  
10 tax has become operative and shall furnish to the ~~director~~ secretary the rate  
11 of the tax, including any limitations thereon, and the date on which it shall  
12 become operative.

13

14 SECTION 4459. Arkansas Code § 26-75-505 is amended to read as follows:  
15 26-75-505. Collection of tax.

16 (a) The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and  
17 Administration shall collect the tax levied under this subchapter  
18 concurrently with and in the same manner as taxes collected under the  
19 Arkansas Gross Receipts Act of 1941, § 26-52-101 et seq., and the Arkansas  
20 Compensating Tax Act of 1949, § 26-53-101 et seq.

21 (b) This additional tax shall be collected by the ~~director~~ secretary  
22 for the benefit of the city and shall be deposited into the Local Sales and  
23 Use Tax Trust Fund for distribution back to the city.

24

25 SECTION 4460. Arkansas Code § 26-75-506(a), concerning the disposition  
26 of revenues, is amended to read as follows:

27 (a) All revenues collected by the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department  
28 of Finance and Administration pursuant to the provisions of this subchapter,  
29 less three percent (3%) thereof which shall be deducted as a cost of  
30 collection and deposited into the State Treasury to the credit of the  
31 Constitutional Officers Fund and the State Central Services Fund, shall be  
32 remitted by the ~~director~~ secretary to the levying city at the same time the  
33 ~~director~~ secretary remits sales tax revenues to the State Treasury.

34

35 SECTION 4461. Arkansas Code § 26-81-106(a)(2), concerning election  
36 results, election challenge, and effective date of a tax, is amended to read

1 as follows:

2 (2) The county judge shall notify the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the  
3 Department of Finance and Administration of the results after publication of  
4 the proclamation has occurred and ninety (90) days before the effective date  
5 of the tax.

6

7 SECTION 4462. Arkansas Code § 26-81-106(a)(3)(A), concerning election  
8 results, election challenge, and effective date of a tax, is amended to read  
9 as follows:

10 (3)(A) If no election challenge is timely filed, there shall be  
11 levied, effective on the first day of the first month of the calendar quarter  
12 after the expiration of the thirty-day challenge period and after a minimum  
13 of sixty (60) days' notice by the ~~director~~ secretary to sellers, a one  
14 percent (1%) tax on the gross receipts from the sale at retail within the  
15 county on all items that are subject to the Arkansas Gross Receipts Act of  
16 1941, § 26-52-101 et seq., and an excise tax on the storage, use, or  
17 consumption within the county of tangible personal property and services  
18 purchased, leased, or rented from any retailer outside the state for storage,  
19 use, or other consumption in the county, at a rate of one percent (1%) of the  
20 sale price of the property or services or, in the case of leases or rentals,  
21 of the lease or rental price, the rate of the use tax to correspond to the  
22 rate of the sales tax portion of the tax.

23

24 SECTION 4463. Arkansas Code § 26-81-107(a), concerning the deposit  
25 with the Treasurer of State and the record of collections, is amended to read  
26 as follows:

27 (a) The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and  
28 Administration shall maintain a record of the total amount of tax collected  
29 pursuant to this chapter and other subchapters authorizing county sales and  
30 use tax in each county and shall deposit all such revenues with the Treasurer  
31 of State.

32

33 SECTION 4464. Arkansas Code § 26-81-108(c), concerning the  
34 distribution of a tax levied, is amended to read as follows:

35 (c)(1) When any tax adopted by a county pursuant to this chapter is  
36 terminated, the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and

1 Administration shall retain in the account of that county in the Local Sales  
2 and Use Tax Trust Fund for a period of one (1) year an amount equal to five  
3 percent (5%) of the final remittance to the county and municipalities therein  
4 at the time of termination of the collection of the tax to:

5 (A) Cover possible rebates by the county;

6 (B) Cover refunds for overpayment of taxes; and

7 (C) Redeem dishonored checks and drafts deposited to the  
8 credit of the Local Sales and Use Tax Trust Fund.

9 (2) After one (1) year has elapsed after the effective date of  
10 the abolition of the tax in any county, the ~~director~~ secretary shall transfer  
11 the balance in that county's account to the county and municipalities in the  
12 county and shall close the account.

13  
14 SECTION 4465. Arkansas Code § 26-81-109 is amended to read as follows:

15 26-81-109. Rules and regulations.

16 The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration  
17 may promulgate reasonable rules and regulations not inconsistent with the  
18 provisions of this chapter to implement the administration, collection,  
19 enforcement, and operation of the taxes authorized in this chapter.

20  
21 SECTION 4466. Arkansas Code § 26-81-110(a)(3), concerning combined tax  
22 reports, is amended to read as follows:

23 (3) This subsection only applies to a tax collected by the  
24 ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration.

25  
26 SECTION 4467. Arkansas Code § 26-82-103(b), concerning the authority  
27 to levy a local sales and use tax, is amended to read as follows:

28 (b) A certified copy of the ordinance authorizing the levy of a local  
29 sales and use tax shall be provided to the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the  
30 Department of Finance and Administration as soon as practicable after the  
31 adoption of the ordinance.

32  
33 SECTION 4468. Arkansas Code § 26-82-103(d)(2)(A), concerning the  
34 authority to levy a local sales and use tax, is amended to read as follows:

35 (2)(A) Except as otherwise provided in § 26-82-106, to provide  
36 for the accomplishment of the administrative duties of the ~~director~~

1 secretary, the local sales and use tax shall terminate on the first day of  
2 the calendar quarter after the expiration of ninety (90) days from the date  
3 there is filed with the ~~director~~ secretary a written statement signed by the  
4 chief executive officer of the city or county levying the local sales and use  
5 tax and identifying the local sales and use tax to be terminated.

6  
7 SECTION 4469. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 26-82-  
8 104(b)(3)(D)(i), concerning the election to adopt an ordinance levying a  
9 local sales and use tax, is amended to read as follows:

10 (D)(i) To extend the local sales and use tax levied under  
11 this chapter to a new expiration date, the levying entity shall notify the  
12 ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration of the new  
13 expiration date approved by the voters:

14  
15 SECTION 4470. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 26-82-105,  
16 concerning requirements and effective dates, is amended to read as follows:

17 To provide time to prepare for an election required under this chapter  
18 and to provide time for the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance  
19 and Administration to accomplish his or her duties, the following  
20 requirements apply to an ordinance levying a local sales and use tax under  
21 this chapter:

22  
23 SECTION 4471. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 26-82-  
24 105(3)(A), concerning requirements and effective dates, is amended to read as  
25 follows:

26 (3)(A) As directed by the governing body of the levying entity  
27 and after the written plan has been approved by the governing body of the  
28 levying entity under subdivision (2) of this section, the mayor or county  
29 judge of the levying entity shall notify the ~~director~~ secretary of the rate  
30 change:

31  
32 SECTION 4472. Arkansas Code § 26-82-105(3)(C), concerning requirements  
33 and effective dates, is amended to read as follows:

34 (C) The rate change on a purchase from a printed catalog  
35 in which the purchaser computed the tax based upon local tax rates published  
36 in the catalog is effective on the first day of a calendar quarter after a

1 minimum of one hundred twenty (120) days' notice by the ~~director~~ secretary to  
2 the sellers; and

3

4 SECTION 4473. Arkansas Code § 26-82-106(d)(1), concerning the  
5 abolition of a tax, is amended to read as follows:

6 (d)(1) The effective date of an affirmative vote by the governing body  
7 of the levying entity to abolish the local sales and use tax under subsection  
8 (a) of this section shall be on the first day of the calendar quarter after  
9 the expiration of ninety (90) days from the date a written statement signed  
10 by the mayor or county judge of the levying entity abolishing the tax is  
11 filed with the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and  
12 Administration certifying that the governing body of the levying entity has  
13 adopted an ordinance abolishing the local sales and use tax.

14

15 SECTION 4474. Arkansas Code § 26-82-107 is amended to read as follows:  
16 26-82-107. Notice of adoption or abolition of tax.

17 No later than ten (10) days following each of the events stated in the  
18 ordinance with reference to the procedure for the adoption or abolition of  
19 the local sales and use tax and the effective dates of the action under this  
20 chapter, the clerk of the levying entity shall notify the ~~Director~~ Secretary  
21 of the Department of Finance and Administration of the event.

22

23 SECTION 4475. Arkansas Code § 26-82-108(b), concerning the collection  
24 of a local sales and use tax, is amended to read as follows:

25 (b) The local sales and use tax levied under this chapter on new and  
26 used motor vehicles shall be collected by the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the  
27 Department of Finance and Administration directly from the purchaser under §  
28 26-52-510.

29

30 SECTION 4476. Arkansas Code § 26-82-109(a) and (b), concerning the  
31 administration of a local sales and use tax, are amended to read as follows:

32 (a) On and after the effective date of a local sales and use tax  
33 imposed under this chapter, the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of  
34 Finance and Administration shall perform all functions incidental to the  
35 administration, collection, enforcement, and operation of the local sales and  
36 use tax.

1 (b) In addition to the state gross receipts tax and compensating tax,  
2 the ~~director~~ secretary shall collect the additional tax under this chapter on  
3 the receipts from the sale at retail or on the sale price or lease or rental  
4 price on the storage, use, distribution, or other consumption of all taxable  
5 items and services subject to the Arkansas Gross Receipts Act of 1941, § 26-  
6 52-101 et seq., and the Arkansas Compensating Tax Act of 1949, § 26-53-101 et  
7 seq.

8  
9 SECTION 4477. Arkansas Code § 26-82-109(c)(1), concerning the  
10 administration of a local sales and use tax, is amended to read as follows:

11 (c)(1) The local sales and use tax imposed under this chapter and the  
12 tax imposed under the gross receipts tax and compensating tax shall be  
13 collected together and reported upon the forms and under the administrative  
14 rules that are prescribed by the ~~director~~ secretary and that are not  
15 inconsistent with this chapter.

16  
17 SECTION 4478. Arkansas Code § 26-82-109(c)(5), concerning the  
18 administration of a local sales and use tax, is amended to read as follows:

19 (5) This subsection applies only to a tax collected by the  
20 ~~director~~ secretary.

21  
22 SECTION 4479. Arkansas Code § 26-82-109(d), concerning the  
23 administration of a local sales and use tax, is amended to read as follows:

24 (d) On and after the effective date of an ordinance to abolish a local  
25 sales and use tax in any levying entity, the ~~director~~ secretary shall comply  
26 with the ordinance under this chapter.

27  
28 SECTION 4480. Arkansas Code § 26-82-111(b)(2)(A), concerning the  
29 disposition of funds, is amended to read as follows:

30 (A) For overpayments made to the account after the refunds  
31 have been approved by the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and  
32 Administration; and

33  
34 SECTION 4481. Arkansas Code § 26-82-112(a), concerning the penalties  
35 and enforcement used by the Director of the Department of Finance and  
36 Administration in enforcing a local sales and use tax, is amended to read as

1 follows:

2 (a) The procedures and penalties used by the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the  
3 Department of Finance and Administration in enforcing a local sales and use  
4 tax imposed under this chapter shall be the same as for the state gross  
5 receipts tax and compensating tax unless otherwise provided in this chapter.  
6

7 SECTION 4482. Arkansas Code § 26-82-112(b)(1), concerning the  
8 penalties and enforcement used by the Director of the Department of Finance  
9 and Administration in enforcing a local sales and use tax, is amended to read  
10 as follows:

11 (b)(1) When property is seized by the ~~director~~ secretary under any  
12 statute authorizing seizure of property of a taxpayer who is delinquent in  
13 payment of the taxes imposed by the Arkansas Gross Receipts Act of 1941, §  
14 26-52-101 et seq., or the Arkansas Compensating Tax Act of 1949, § 26-53-101  
15 et seq., and when the taxpayer is also delinquent in payment of any local  
16 sales and use tax imposed under this chapter, the ~~director~~ secretary shall  
17 sell sufficient property to pay the delinquent local sales and use taxes and  
18 penalties due to any levying entity under this chapter in addition to the  
19 amount required to pay any taxes due to the state under the Arkansas Gross  
20 Receipts Act of 1941, § 26-52-101 et seq., or the Arkansas Compensating Tax  
21 Act of 1949, § 26-53-101 et seq.  
22

23 SECTION 4483. Arkansas Code § 26-82-119 is amended to read as follows:  
24 26-82-119. Rules.

25 The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration  
26 may promulgate reasonable rules to implement the enforcement, administration,  
27 and collection of a local sales and use tax authorized in this chapter.  
28

29 SECTION 4484. Arkansas Code § 27-13-103 is amended to read as follows:  
30 27-13-103. Regulations.

31 The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration  
32 shall have the authority to promulgate such regulations as are necessary to  
33 implement and administer the provisions of this act.  
34

35 SECTION 4485. Arkansas Code § 27-14-103(a)(2)(A), concerning the  
36 exemption from registration for the Arkansas Forestry Commission, is amended

1 to read as follows:

2 (2)(A) The State Forester and the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the  
3 Department of Finance and Administration shall adopt identification tags or  
4 other insignia that shall be attached to the vehicles by the officers,  
5 members, and employees of the commission.

6

7 SECTION 4486. Arkansas Code § 27-14-305(a), concerning the penalty for  
8 using or making unofficial license plates, is amended to read as follows:

9 (a) It shall be unlawful for the owner of any automobile, Class One  
10 truck, trailer or semitrailer, motorcycle, or motorcycle sidecar to display  
11 any license plate on the rear of the vehicle that is not furnished by the  
12 ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration.

13

14 SECTION 4487. Arkansas Code § 27-14-305(b)(3)(B), concerning the  
15 penalty for using or making unofficial license plates, is amended to read as  
16 follows:

17 (B) Affixing of a decal bearing the commercial motor  
18 carrier's logo to a commercial motor vehicle's license plate if the decal has  
19 been authorized and approved by the ~~director~~ secretary or the ~~director's~~  
20 secretary's designee as authorized under § 27-14-613.

21

22 SECTION 4488. Arkansas Code § 27-14-309(a), concerning failure to pay  
23 taxes on personal property or assess personal property as grounds for  
24 revocation, is amended to read as follows:

25 (a) Upon sufficient proof or information that any motor vehicle has  
26 been licensed and registered in this state without the tax due on all the  
27 personal property of the applicant having been paid or without having been  
28 listed for assessment or assessed, the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department  
29 of Finance and Administration is authorized to revoke the license and  
30 registration of the motor vehicle.

31

32 SECTION 4489. Arkansas Code § 27-14-311(a)(1), concerning an appeal of  
33 revocation of a license or permit by a dealer, is amended to read as follows:

34 (a)(1) Any dealer whose license or permit has been revoked by the  
35 ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration may appeal  
36 to the circuit court of the county in which the dealer's license or permit

1 was issued, within thirty (30) days, by filing a petition and bond as in  
2 other cases of appeal to the circuit court.

3  
4 SECTION 4490. Arkansas Code § 27-14-402 is amended to read as follows:  
5 27-14-402. Head of Office of Motor Vehicle.

6 The Office of Motor Vehicle shall be under the control of the ~~Director~~  
7 Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration.

8  
9 SECTION 4491. Arkansas Code § 27-14-403 is amended to read as follows:  
10 27-14-403. Powers and duties.

11 (a) The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and  
12 Administration is vested with the power and is charged with the duty of  
13 observing, administering, and enforcing the provisions of this chapter and of  
14 all laws regulating the operation of vehicles or the use of the highways, the  
15 enforcement or administration of which is vested in the Office of Motor  
16 Vehicle.

17 (b) The ~~director~~ secretary may adopt and enforce such rules as  
18 necessary to carry out the provisions of this chapter and any other laws, the  
19 enforcement and administration of which are vested in the office.

20 (c) The ~~director~~ secretary may adopt an official seal for the use of  
21 the office.

22  
23 SECTION 4492. Arkansas Code § 27-14-404 is amended to read as follows:  
24 27-14-404. Organization.

25 (a) The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and  
26 Administration shall organize the Office of Motor Vehicle in the manner as he  
27 or she may deem necessary and proper to segregate and conduct the work of the  
28 office.

29 (b) The ~~director~~ secretary shall appoint such deputies, subordinate  
30 officers, clerks, investigators, and other employees as may be necessary to  
31 carry out the provisions of this chapter.

32 (c) The ~~director~~ secretary shall maintain an office in Little Rock,  
33 Arkansas, and in such other places in the state as he or she may deem  
34 necessary and proper to carry out the powers and duties vested in the office.

35  
36 SECTION 4493. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 27-14-405,

1 concerning the authority of police and the officers and inspectors of the  
2 Office of Motor Vehicle, is amended to read as follows:

3 The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration  
4 and the officers and inspectors of the Office of Motor Vehicle designated by  
5 the ~~director~~ secretary shall have the power:

6  
7 SECTION 4494. Arkansas Code § 27-14-407(a)(1), concerning summons of  
8 witnesses by the Director of the Department of Finance and Administration, is  
9 amended to read as follows:

10 (a)(1) The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and  
11 Administration and officers of the Office of Motor Vehicle designated by the  
12 ~~director~~ secretary shall have authority to summon witnesses to give testimony  
13 under oath or to give written deposition upon any matter under the  
14 jurisdiction of the office.

15  
16 SECTION 4495. Arkansas Code § 27-14-407(c), concerning summons of  
17 witnesses by the Director of the Department of Finance and Administration, is  
18 amended to read as follows:

19 (c) Any court of competent jurisdiction shall have jurisdiction, upon  
20 application by the ~~director~~ secretary, to enforce all lawful orders of the  
21 ~~director~~ secretary under this section.

22  
23 SECTION 4496. Arkansas Code § 27-14-410 is amended to read as follows:  
24 27-14-410. Forms.

25 The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration  
26 shall prescribe and provide suitable forms of applications, certificates of  
27 title, registration certificates, and all other forms requisite or necessary  
28 to carry out the provisions of this chapter and any other laws, the  
29 enforcement and administration of which are vested in the Office of Motor  
30 Vehicle.

31  
32 SECTION 4497. Arkansas Code § 27-14-411(a), concerning the oaths and  
33 signatures of officers and employees of the Office of Motor Vehicle, is  
34 amended to read as follows:

35 (a) Officers and employees of the Office of Motor Vehicle designated  
36 by the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration

1 are, for the purpose of administering the motor vehicle laws, authorized to  
2 administer oaths and acknowledge signatures.

3  
4 SECTION 4498. Arkansas Code § 27-14-412(b)(1), concerning the records  
5 of the Office of Motor Vehicle, is amended to read as follows:

6 (b)(1) The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and  
7 Administration and such officers of the office as the ~~director~~ secretary may  
8 designate are authorized to prepare under the seal of the office and deliver  
9 upon request a certified copy of any record of the office or a noncertified  
10 electronic copy of any record of the office.

11  
12 SECTION 4499. Arkansas Code § 27-14-412(c), concerning the records of  
13 the Office of Motor Vehicle, is amended to read as follows:

14 (c) The ~~director~~ secretary may destroy any records of the office that  
15 have been maintained on file for five (5) years that the ~~director~~ secretary  
16 considers obsolete and of no further service in carrying out the powers and  
17 duties of the office.

18  
19 SECTION 4500. Arkansas Code § 27-14-501 is amended to read as follows:  
20 27-14-501. Creation.

21 An ex officio commission, composed of the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the  
22 Department of Finance and Administration, who shall serve as chair, the Chair  
23 of the State Highway Commission, and the Director of State Highways and  
24 Transportation, is established for the purpose of representing the State of  
25 Arkansas in the matter of making reciprocal agreements relating to the  
26 operation of motor vehicles.

27  
28 SECTION 4501. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 27-14-  
29 504(a), concerning a proportionate refund of registration fees authorized, is  
30 amended to read as follows:

31 (a) The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and  
32 Administration is authorized to refund a proportionate part of the  
33 registration fees paid to this state under the provisions of the  
34 International Registration Plan which became effective July 1, 1976, under  
35 the following conditions:

1 SECTION 4502. Arkansas Code § 27-14-504(b) and (c), concerning a  
2 proportionate refund of registration fees authorized, are amended to read as  
3 follows:

4 (b) The refund will be in an amount equal to that proportionate amount  
5 of the remaining registration year beginning with the month next following  
6 that month in which the ~~director~~ secretary is notified that the registrant  
7 wishes to cancel his or her registration by surrendering all registration  
8 documents and license plates.

9 (c) The ~~director~~ secretary is authorized to promulgate such rules and  
10 regulations as may be necessary to effectuate the terms of this section.

11  
12 SECTION 4503. Arkansas Code § 27-14-505(b)(1)(A) and (B), concerning  
13 mileage audits, records reexaminations, and appeals, are amended to read as  
14 follows:

15 (b)(1)(A) A registrant who desires a hearing to appeal the findings of  
16 a mileage audit or a record reexamination shall notify the ~~Director~~ Secretary  
17 of the Department of Finance and Administration in writing within thirty (30)  
18 calendar days from the date the registrant is notified of the findings of the  
19 mileage audit or the record reexamination.

20 (B) A hearing officer appointed by the ~~director~~ secretary  
21 shall schedule a hearing in any city in which the Department of Finance and  
22 Administration maintains a field audit district office or in any other city  
23 that the ~~director~~ secretary designates, unless the ~~director~~ secretary and the  
24 registrant agree to another location for the hearing or agree that the  
25 hearing shall be heard by telephone.

26  
27 SECTION 4504. Arkansas Code § 27-14-505(b)(2)(B), concerning mileage  
28 audits, records reexaminations, and appeals, is amended to read as follows:

29 (B) The registrant shall properly serve the ~~director~~  
30 secretary with a copy of any appeal to circuit court challenging the decision  
31 of the hearing officer under this section.

32  
33 SECTION 4505. Arkansas Code § 27-14-505(b)(4)(A), concerning mileage  
34 audits, records reexaminations, and appeals, is amended to read as follows:

35 (4)(A) At the conclusion of the appeals process, the ~~director~~  
36 secretary shall notify all affected member jurisdictions of the results of

1 the appeal.

2

3 SECTION 4506. Arkansas Code § 27-14-505(c), concerning mileage audits,  
4 records reexaminations, and appeals, is amended to read as follows:

5 (c) The ~~director~~ secretary may promulgate rules to implement this  
6 section.

7

8 SECTION 4507. Arkansas Code § 27-14-601(a)(3)(H)(iv), concerning fees  
9 for registration and licensing of motor vehicles, is amended to read as  
10 follows:

11 (iv) The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of  
12 Finance and Administration shall cause to be issued special and distinctive  
13 license plates for vehicles in this classification, with separate farm  
14 license plates to be established for those vehicles used in the noncommercial  
15 hauling of farm products produced in this state, and for the hauling of feed,  
16 seed, fertilizer, poultry litter, and other products commonly produced or  
17 used in agricultural operations or compacted seed cotton and separate natural  
18 resources license plates to be established for those vehicles hauling timber  
19 products, clay minerals, or ores.

20

21 SECTION 4508. Arkansas Code § 27-14-601(a)(3)(H)(vi)(b), concerning  
22 fees for registration and licensing of motor vehicles, is amended to read as  
23 follows:

24 (b) The ~~director~~ secretary shall issue special  
25 distinctive license plates or license plate validation decals for the  
26 vehicles, including the indication thereon of the expiration date, so as to  
27 identify them from annual plates.

28

29 SECTION 4509. Arkansas Code § 27-14-601(a)(3)(H)(viii), concerning  
30 fees for registration and licensing of motor vehicles, is amended to read as  
31 follows:

32 (viii) The ~~director~~ secretary shall promulgate such  
33 rules and regulations as may be necessary to carry out the intent of this  
34 classification and prevent abuse thereof. However, before any such rules or  
35 regulations shall be effective, they shall be approved by majority action of  
36 the members of the State Highway Commission acting for and in behalf of the

1 Arkansas Highway Police Division of the Arkansas Department of  
2 Transportation, which is the agency charged with the principal responsibility  
3 of enforcing the motor vehicle license laws of this state.

4  
5 SECTION 4510. Arkansas Code § 27-14-601(a)(3)(J)(i) and (ii),  
6 concerning fees for registration and licensing of motor vehicles, are amended  
7 to read as follows:

8 (J)(i) The ~~director~~ secretary shall cause to be issued  
9 special and distinctive license plates for vehicles licensed under Class Two  
10 – Class Seven in this section, which are utilized as wreckers or tow vehicles  
11 and that hold a permit issued by the Arkansas Towing and Recovery Board under  
12 § 27-50-1203 and the rules and regulations promulgated thereunder.

13 (ii) Before any license may be issued for a vehicle  
14 designated as a wrecker or tow vehicle, the applicant shall furnish to the  
15 ~~director~~ secretary a certification from the board that the wrecker or tow  
16 vehicle has been permitted as a wrecker or tow vehicle by the board.

17  
18 SECTION 4511. Arkansas Code § 27-14-601(a)(3)(J)(iv), concerning fees  
19 for registration and licensing of motor vehicles, is amended to read as  
20 follows:

21 (iv) In addition to the fee for the respective Class  
22 Two – Class Seven license, the ~~director~~ secretary may assess a handling and  
23 administrative fee in the amount of ten dollars (\$10.00) for each distinctive  
24 wrecker or tow vehicle license plate.

25  
26 SECTION 4512. Arkansas Code § 27-14-601(a)(6)(B)(i), concerning fees  
27 for registration and licensing of motor vehicles, is amended to read as  
28 follows:

29 (B)(i) As a condition precedent to obtaining dealer's  
30 license plates, the dealer shall furnish the ~~director~~ secretary a  
31 certification that the applicant is a vehicle dealer and has a bona fide,  
32 established place of business used for the sale of vehicles, an office used  
33 for that business, a telephone listed in the name of the business, and a sign  
34 identifying the establishment. Certification shall be required for all  
35 renewals of dealer license plates. This dealer certification shall not apply  
36 to dealers licensed by the ~~Department~~ Division of Arkansas State Police, the

1 Arkansas Motor Vehicle Commission, or the Arkansas Manufactured Home  
2 Commission and who are regulated by those authorities. The dealer  
3 certification shall consist of completion of a self-certification form  
4 prepared by the Office of Motor Vehicle.  
5

6 SECTION 4513. Arkansas Code § 27-14-601(a)(6)(B)(ii)(a), concerning  
7 fees for registration and licensing of motor vehicles, is amended to read as  
8 follows:

9 (ii)(a) Except as provided in subdivision  
10 (a)(6)(B)(iv) of this section for dealers who sell only all-terrain vehicles,  
11 upon furnishing the certification to the ~~director~~ secretary, or a copy of the  
12 dealer's license from either the ~~Department~~ Division of Arkansas State Police  
13 or the Arkansas Motor Vehicle Commission and the payment of a fee of one  
14 hundred dollars (\$100), the dealer shall be issued a master license plate and  
15 upon the payment of a fee of twenty-five dollars (\$25.00) shall be issued a  
16 dealer's extra license plate as provided in § 27-14-1704. However, the dealer  
17 must secure a master license plate for each separate place of business.  
18

19 SECTION 4514. Arkansas Code § 27-14-601(a)(6)(B)(iii)(a), concerning  
20 fees for registration and licensing of motor vehicles, is amended to read as  
21 follows:

22 (iii)(a) Upon furnishing certification to the  
23 ~~director~~ secretary or a copy of the dealer's license from the Arkansas  
24 Manufactured Home Commission and upon the payment of fifty dollars (\$50.00),  
25 the manufactured home dealer shall be issued certification from the ~~director~~  
26 secretary for the purpose of assigning manufactured home titles.  
27

28 SECTION 4515. Arkansas Code § 27-14-601(a)(6)(B)(iv)(a) and (b),  
29 concerning fees for registration and licensing of motor vehicles, are amended  
30 to read as follows:

31 (iv)(a) Upon furnishing certification to the  
32 ~~director~~ secretary or a copy of the dealer's license from the Arkansas Motor  
33 Vehicle Commission and upon the payment of one hundred dollars (\$100),  
34 dealers engaged exclusively in the business of buying and selling all-terrain  
35 vehicles, as defined in § 27-21-102, shall be issued certification from the  
36 ~~director~~ secretary for the purpose of assigning all-terrain vehicle titles.

1 (b) Each dealer location shall be treated as a  
2 separate entity, and certification by the ~~director~~ secretary shall be  
3 required for each location.  
4

5 SECTION 4516. Arkansas Code § 27-14-601(b)(2)(D)(i) and (ii),  
6 concerning fees for registration and licensing of motor vehicles, are amended  
7 to read as follows:

8 (D)(i) The ~~director~~ secretary shall, upon request, assign  
9 the same registration period to any owner of two (2) or more trucks, truck-  
10 tractors, trailers, and semitrailers, and combinations thereof, except Class  
11 One trucks as defined in § 27-14-1002.

12 (ii) The ~~director~~ secretary shall, upon request,  
13 assign a different month of registration other than the vehicle's current  
14 month of registration to any owner of a truck, truck-tractor, trailer, and  
15 semitrailer, and combinations thereof, except Class One trucks as defined in  
16 § 27-14-1002, and all fees shall be prorated accordingly on a monthly basis.  
17

18 SECTION 4517. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 27-14-  
19 602(c), concerning registration fees for motor vehicle registrations, is  
20 amended to read as follows:

21 (c) Beginning January 1, 2018, in addition to any other fees  
22 authorized under this chapter, the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of  
23 Finance and Administration shall charge a fee for commercial motor vehicles  
24 registered with the International Registration Plan in the amount of:  
25

26 SECTION 4518. Arkansas Code § 27-14-602(c)(1), concerning registration  
27 fees for motor vehicle registrations, is amended to read as follows:

28 (1) Two dollars (\$2.00) to access the ~~director's~~ secretary's  
29 portal to register one (1) or more commercial motor vehicles or to conduct  
30 one (1) or more online administrative transactions;  
31

32 SECTION 4519. Arkansas Code § 27-14-605 is amended to read as follows:  
33 27-14-605. Credit if vehicle destroyed.

34 Upon satisfactory proof to the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of  
35 Finance and Administration that any motor vehicle, duly licensed, has been  
36 completely destroyed by fire or collision, the owner of the vehicle may be

1 allowed, on the purchase of a new license for another vehicle, a credit  
2 equivalent to the unexpired portion of the cost of the original license,  
3 dating from the first day of the next month after the date of the  
4 destruction.

5

6 SECTION 4520. Arkansas Code § 27-14-607 is amended to read as follows:  
7 27-14-607. Alternate registration procedures.

8 (a) The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and  
9 Administration is authorized to allow vehicles to be registered for a renewal  
10 period of two (2) years, if the ~~director~~ secretary determines that the two-  
11 year renewal period would facilitate the vehicle registration process. If a  
12 vehicle registration is renewed for a two-year period, the renewal fee shall  
13 be two (2) times the annual renewal fee for that vehicle, plus the cost of  
14 the annual license plate validation decal for both years for that vehicle.

15 (b) The ~~director~~ secretary is authorized to provide for the  
16 registration of vehicles by mail, telephone, electronically, or any other  
17 method which the ~~director~~ secretary determines would facilitate the vehicle  
18 registration process.

19

20 SECTION 4521. Arkansas Code § 27-14-608 is amended to read as follows:  
21 27-14-608. Payment by credit card.

22 (a) The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and  
23 Administration is authorized to promulgate regulations providing for payment  
24 by credit card of any fees or taxes due upon the issuance or renewal of a  
25 vehicle registration, except a vehicle registration issued or renewed under  
26 the provisions of § 27-14-601(a)(3)(B)-(H) or the provisions of § 27-14-  
27 601(a)(3)(I)(i)(a)(2)-(4) . The ~~director~~ secretary may allow the payment of  
28 these fees or taxes by credit card if the ~~director~~ secretary determines that  
29 payment by credit card would facilitate the administration of the motor  
30 vehicle registration program.

31 (b) The ~~director~~ secretary is authorized to enter into contracts with  
32 credit card companies and to pay fees normally charged by those companies for  
33 allowing the use of their credit cards as authorized by this section.

34 (c)(1) From the net proceeds received, or receivable, from credit card  
35 companies for all fees or taxes paid by credit card, the ~~director~~ secretary  
36 shall pay the full sum specified in § 27-14-1015(d)(1) to the Arkansas

1 Development Finance Authority. The balance of the net proceeds received, or  
2 receivable, from credit card companies shall be prorated to the various funds  
3 for which they were collected and deposited into the State Treasury for  
4 transfer on the last business day of each month, in the same manner and to be  
5 used for the same purposes as all other fees and taxes collected upon the  
6 issuance or renewal of vehicle registrations.

7 (2) Any amounts deducted from the gross proceeds of vehicle  
8 registration fees or taxes paid by credit card, which are deducted for the  
9 purpose of paying credit card company fees, shall be cash funds not subject  
10 to appropriation and, if withheld by the ~~director~~ secretary, shall be  
11 remitted by the ~~director~~ secretary to credit card companies as required under  
12 contracts authorized by this section.

13  
14 SECTION 4522. Arkansas Code § 27-14-611(f)(2), concerning registration  
15 for nonprofit motor vehicle fleets, is amended to read as follows:

16 (2) If the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and  
17 Administration determines that online renewals are available under this  
18 section, the organization may be allowed to renew online.

19  
20 SECTION 4523. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 27-14-  
21 613(b)(1), concerning the Arkansas Motor Carrier System, is amended to read  
22 as follows:

23 (b)(1) The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and  
24 Administration shall promulgate rules, regulations, and procedures to enhance  
25 the Arkansas Motor Carrier System developed by the Department of Finance and  
26 Administration by allowing:

27  
28 SECTION 4524. Arkansas Code § 27-14-613(b)(1)(C), concerning the  
29 Arkansas Motor Carrier System, is amended to read as follows:

30 (C) A commercial motor carrier or its designee to obtain  
31 and affix to a commercial motor vehicle license plate a decal bearing the  
32 logo of the commercial motor carrier approved by the ~~director~~ secretary or  
33 the ~~director's~~ secretary's designee; and

34  
35 SECTION 4525. Arkansas Code § 27-14-613(b)(2)(B), concerning the  
36 Arkansas Motor Carrier System, is amended to read as follows:

1 (B) If the department has not received the source  
2 documents required under subdivision (b)(2)(A) of this section within thirty  
3 (30) days of the online registration of a commercial motor vehicle, the  
4 ~~director~~ secretary or the ~~director's~~ secretary's designee may suspend the  
5 registration.

6  
7 SECTION 4526. Arkansas Code § 27-14-613(c), concerning the Arkansas  
8 Motor Carrier System, is amended to read as follows:

9 (c) The ~~director~~ secretary shall study, develop, and implement  
10 improvements to the Arkansas Motor Carrier System in order to modernize and  
11 enhance the Arkansas Motor Carrier System and accommodate the latest  
12 available technology for commercial motor carriers seeking to register  
13 commercial motor vehicles in the State of Arkansas.

14  
15 SECTION 4527. Arkansas Code § 27-14-701(b), concerning requirements  
16 and exceptions for motor vehicle permits, is amended to read as follows:

17 (b) When an application accompanied by the proper fee has been made  
18 for registration and certificate of title for a vehicle, the vehicle may be  
19 operated temporarily pending complete registration upon displaying a  
20 duplicate application, duly verified, or other evidence of the application or  
21 otherwise under rules and regulations promulgated by the ~~Director~~ Secretary  
22 of the Department of Finance and Administration.

23  
24 SECTION 4528. Arkansas Code § 27-14-702(a), concerning the requirement  
25 of only a certificate from the Director of the Department of Finance and  
26 Administration to use and operate a motor vehicle, is amended to read as  
27 follows:

28 (a) No owner of a motor vehicle who shall have obtained a certificate  
29 from the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration  
30 as provided in this subchapter shall be required to obtain any other license  
31 or permits to use and operate the motor vehicle; nor shall the owner be  
32 required to display upon his or her motor vehicle any other number than the  
33 number of the registration issued by the ~~director~~ secretary, or excluded, or  
34 prohibited, or limited in the free use of the motor vehicle upon any public  
35 street, avenue, road, turnpike, driveway, parkway, or any other public place,  
36 at any time when it is open to the use of persons having or using other

1 vehicles; nor shall the owner be required to comply with other provisions or  
2 conditions as to the use of motor vehicles, except as provided in this  
3 chapter.

4  
5 SECTION 4529. Arkansas Code § 27-14-704(a)(3)(B), concerning motor  
6 vehicles registered in foreign states, is amended to read as follows:

7 (B) The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance  
8 and Administration may issue temporary permits without payment of license  
9 fees for motor vehicles operated for hire by a nonresident into and across  
10 the highways of this state when the vehicles are operated upon charters for  
11 casual, irregular, occasional, and nonscheduled sightseeing trips; and  
12

13 SECTION 4530. Arkansas Code § 27-14-704(a)(4), concerning motor  
14 vehicles registered in foreign states, is amended to read as follows:

15 (4) The ~~director~~ secretary is authorized and empowered to enter  
16 into any agreement or issue any permit for the operation of any motor  
17 vehicles upon the highways of this state without payment of license fees when  
18 the vehicles are operated under and by the supervision of the proper  
19 authorities of the United States Army, United States Air Force, United States  
20 Navy, or United States Marine Corps during any period of emergency.  
21

22 SECTION 4531. Arkansas Code § 27-14-705(b)(2)(C), concerning the  
23 application for registration and certificate of title, is amended to read as  
24 follows:

25 (C) The certificate of origin shall be on a form to be  
26 prescribed by the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and  
27 Administration.  
28

29 SECTION 4532. Arkansas Code § 27-14-709 is amended to read as follows:  
30 27-14-709. Half-year license.

31 Notwithstanding any provision of law to the contrary, any motor vehicle  
32 for which the annual registration and licensing fee is one hundred dollars  
33 (\$100) or more, for any twelve-month licensing period, may be licensed for  
34 the first six (6) months of the annual licensing period, upon payment of one-  
35 half ( $\frac{1}{2}$ ) of the annual registration and licensing fee, plus an additional fee  
36 of five dollars (\$5.00) to defray the administrative cost of issuing the

1 half-year license, under such regulations as the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the  
2 Department of Finance and Administration may promulgate.

3  
4 SECTION 4533. Arkansas Code § 27-14-906(a)-(d), concerning dealer and  
5 lienholder applications for registration and title certificates, are amended  
6 to read as follows:

7 (a) The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and  
8 Administration may permit lienholders and motor vehicle dealers to make  
9 applications for registration and certificates of title and to furnish them  
10 to the Office of Motor Vehicle on behalf of the purchaser of a new or used  
11 motor vehicle.

12 (b) The ~~director~~ secretary shall promulgate reasonable rules to be  
13 complied with by motor vehicle dealers and lienholders in making application  
14 for registration and certificates of title on behalf of purchasers of new or  
15 used motor vehicles and may, if the ~~director~~ secretary deems necessary,  
16 require the dealer or lienholder to post bond to ensure faithful compliance  
17 with the rules.

18 (c)(1) Any motor vehicle dealer or lienholder who has been authorized  
19 by the ~~director~~ secretary to prepare applications for registration and  
20 certificates of title with respect to new or used motor vehicles shall  
21 transmit the applications to the ~~director~~ secretary and shall attach thereto  
22 a copy of any conditional sales contract, conditional lease, chattel  
23 mortgage, or other lien or encumbrance or title retention instrument upon the  
24 motor vehicle.

25 (2) Upon receipt of the documents under subdivision (c)(1) of  
26 this section, the ~~director~~ secretary shall file a lien and encumbrance, as  
27 provided in § 27-14-801 et seq., which from the date of filing shall be  
28 notice of the lien or encumbrance.

29 (d) On issuing the registration and certificate of title, the ~~director~~  
30 secretary shall mail the registration to the owner and the title to the  
31 lienholder, or to the owner if no lien exists.

32  
33 SECTION 4534. Arkansas Code § 27-14-907(c), concerning transfer of  
34 title by operation of law, is amended to read as follows:

35 (c) The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and  
36 Administration shall have the power to adopt rules to establish what

1 documents or evidence are required to verify that a lien or encumbrance  
2 holder or his or her assignee has complied with this section.

3  
4 SECTION 4535. Arkansas Code § 27-14-914(a)(1), concerning the transfer  
5 of license plates and registration from one vehicle to another, is amended to  
6 read as follows:

7 (a)(1) When the owner of any motor vehicle, excepting Class One trucks  
8 and passenger automobiles other than buses, registered and licensed in this  
9 state, shall sell or transfer the motor vehicle or when the motor vehicle has  
10 been destroyed so as to be unfit for repair or further use, and the owner  
11 shall replace the vehicle with another motor vehicle requiring payment of the  
12 same registration or license fee, the owner may, at his or her election,  
13 transfer the license plate and registration of the vehicle being so disposed  
14 of to the vehicle acquired as a replacement thereof, upon payment to the  
15 ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration of a  
16 transfer fee of ten dollars (\$10.00) per vehicle.

17  
18 SECTION 4536. Arkansas Code § 27-14-914(b), concerning the transfer of  
19 license plates and registration from one vehicle to another, is amended to  
20 read as follows:

21 (b) The ~~director~~ secretary shall provide suitable forms to enable  
22 owners electing to do so to transfer license plate or plates and registration  
23 and make payment of the fee provided in this section and shall be empowered  
24 to make reasonable rules and regulations governing these transfers.

25  
26 SECTION 4537. Arkansas Code § 27-14-915(a) and (b), concerning the  
27 transfer of a license on vehicles for hire, are amended to read as follows:

28 (a) When the owner of a vehicle licensed to operate for hire takes the  
29 vehicle out of the for-hire service, the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department  
30 of Finance and Administration, upon the payment of a transfer charge of two  
31 dollars (\$2.00), will cause the license for the vehicle to be transferred to  
32 another vehicle for like use to be registered by the owner.

33 (b) If the fee for registration and licensing the vehicle under  
34 registration is greater than that represented by the license to be  
35 transferred, then the ~~director~~ secretary shall, in addition, collect an  
36 amount equal to the excess payable for the vehicle under registration.

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SECTION 4538. Arkansas Code § 27-14-915(d)(1), concerning the transfer of a license on vehicles for hire, is amended to read as follows:

(d)(1) Upon the transfer of a license, the ~~director~~ secretary will cause to be cancelled all registrations on the vehicle taken out of for-hire service.

SECTION 4539. Arkansas Code § 27-14-1002(a)(6), concerning the definition of "tab or decal" under the Permanent Automobile Licensing Act of 1967, is amended to read as follows:

(6) "Tab or decal" is an attachable material of such form and substance as the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration may prescribe by rule or regulation.

SECTION 4540. Arkansas Code § 27-14-1004(a), concerning penalties under the Permanent Automobile Licensing Act of 1967, is amended to read as follows:

(a) Any person failing to comply with the provisions of this subchapter by operating a passenger motor vehicle, as set forth and described in § 27-14-1002(a), or by operating a Class One truck, as set forth and described in § 27-14-1002(a), which is subject to registration under the laws of this state on any street, road, or highway in the State of Arkansas without having first registered the motor vehicle with the Office of Motor Vehicle, in the manner and within the period required by law or regulations of the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration, shall be required to pay a penalty of three dollars (\$3.00) for each ten (10) days, or fraction thereof, for which he or she fails properly to register the vehicle until the penalty reaches the same amount as the annual license fee of the vehicle to be registered.

SECTION 4541. Arkansas Code § 27-14-1005(a), concerning failure to affix or display license plates, is amended to read as follows:

(a) The failure of the motor vehicle owner to affix and display the permanent license plates, the tab or decal, or the registration card, in the places designated by the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration, shall be a misdemeanor subject to the penalties provided by §

1 27-14-301.

2

3 SECTION 4542. Arkansas Code § 27-14-1006(a), concerning the authority  
4 to issue a permanent license plate subject to replacement, is amended to read  
5 as follows:

6 (a) The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and  
7 Administration is authorized to issue to the owner of a vehicle subject to  
8 this subchapter a permanent license plate subject to replacement at the  
9 request of the owner because of theft, loss, wear, or mutilation, or at the  
10 discretion of either the Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of Arkansas  
11 State Police or the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and  
12 Administration.

13

14 SECTION 4543. Arkansas Code § 27-14-1007 is amended to read as  
15 follows:

16 27-14-1007. Issuance of license plate.

17 Upon registration, the owner of every vehicle of a type subject to the  
18 provisions of this subchapter shall receive a permanent license plate issued  
19 by the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration  
20 upon the payment of the fees required by law.

21

22 SECTION 4544. Arkansas Code § 27-14-1008(a)(1), concerning the  
23 issuance of permanent reflectorized license plates, is amended to read as  
24 follows:

25 (a)(1) The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and  
26 Administration is authorized to issue permanent reflectorized license plates  
27 in such form as he or she shall prescribe.

28

29 SECTION 4545. Arkansas Code § 27-14-1008(a)(3), concerning the  
30 issuance of permanent reflectorized license plates, is amended to read as  
31 follows:

32 (3) Each reflectorized license plate so issued by the ~~director~~  
33 secretary shall have imprinted thereon a multicolor reflectorized graphic  
34 design or logo in such a manner and of such design as he or she shall  
35 prescribe which will promote tourism and improve public relations inside and  
36 outside the State of Arkansas.

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SECTION 4546. Arkansas Code § 27-14-1008(c), concerning the issuance of permanent reflectorized license plates, is amended to read as follows:

(c) All license plates that have been issued prior to the enactment of this section shall be replaced by the ~~director~~ secretary with license plates that shall conform to this subchapter and be attached to motor vehicles during a replacement or recycle period beginning not earlier than January 1, 1980, nor later than January 31, 1981.

SECTION 4547. Arkansas Code § 27-14-1009(a)(1), concerning the issuance of specialized license plates, is amended to read as follows:

(a)(1) The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration shall provide for and issue a special personalized license plate for passenger motor vehicles.

SECTION 4548. Arkansas Code § 27-14-1009(a)(3)(B), concerning the issuance of specialized license plates, is amended to read as follows:

(B) The ~~director~~ secretary, in his or her discretion, may limit the number of characters or the context in which they appear on the license plate.

SECTION 4549. Arkansas Code § 27-14-1009(d), concerning the issuance of specialized license plates, is amended to read as follows:

(d) The ~~director~~ secretary may adopt regulations concerning the issuance of a special personalized license plate.

SECTION 4550. Arkansas Code § 27-14-1010(a), concerning a registration certificate for a motor vehicle, is amended to read as follows:

(a) The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration shall issue to each owner of a motor vehicle subject to this subchapter a registration certificate which must be kept in the motor vehicle in the place prescribed by the ~~director~~ secretary.

SECTION 4551. Arkansas Code § 27-14-1011 is amended to read as follows:

27-14-1011. Registration on monthly-series basis – Renewal periods.

1 (a)(1) The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and  
2 Administration shall establish a system of registration on a monthly-series  
3 basis to distribute the work of registering motor vehicles as uniformly as  
4 practicable throughout the twelve (12) months of the calendar year.

5 (2) The ~~director~~ secretary may set the number of renewal periods  
6 within the month from one (1) each month to one (1) each day of the month  
7 depending on which system is most economical and best accommodates the  
8 public.

9 (b) If the ~~director~~ secretary elects to use monthly renewal periods,  
10 when a person applies for the registration of a vehicle and the issuance of a  
11 permanent license plate, the decals issued by the ~~director~~ secretary for  
12 attachment to the permanent license plates to evidence the registration  
13 period shall be decals for the current month in which application is made for  
14 registration, regardless of the day of the month on which application is  
15 made.

16 (c) The ~~director~~ secretary shall, upon request, assign to any owner of  
17 two (2) or more vehicles the same registration period.

18 (d) Registration shall be valid for one (1) year from the date thereof  
19 and shall continue from year to year thereafter as long as renewed each year  
20 within the time required by law.

21 (e) The ~~director~~ secretary shall establish a system to allow owners to  
22 renew their motor vehicle registrations by facsimile machine and to charge  
23 their fees to credit cards. The ~~director~~ secretary shall obtain a number of  
24 facsimile machines and publish the telephone numbers of these machines and  
25 make agreements with credit card companies so as to best accommodate the  
26 public.

27  
28 SECTION 4552. Arkansas Code § 27-14-1012(a)(1), concerning  
29 applications for registrations or renewals, is amended to read as follows:

30 (a)(1) An applicant may apply, in person or by mail, for the issuance  
31 of permanent license plates to the revenue office in the county where he or  
32 she resides or to the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and  
33 Administration.

34  
35 SECTION 4553. Arkansas Code § 27-14-1012(a)(2)(A), concerning  
36 applications for registrations or renewals, is amended to read as follows:

1 (A) Transmitting the required documents and the  
2 registration fee by mail to the applicant's local revenue office or to the  
3 ~~director~~ secretary;

4  
5 SECTION 4554. Arkansas Code § 27-14-1012(b)(1), concerning  
6 applications for registrations or renewals, is amended to read as follows:

7 (b)(1) Not less than thirty (30) days before the expiration of the  
8 license, the ~~director~~ secretary shall notify the owner of a registered motor  
9 vehicle subject to this subchapter.

10  
11 SECTION 4555. Arkansas Code § 27-14-1012(b)(2)(B), concerning  
12 applications for registrations or renewals, is amended to read as follows:

13 (B) Email to the email address provided to the ~~director~~  
14 secretary by the motor vehicle owner in connection with a consent to receive  
15 the annual motor vehicle registration renewal notice by email.

16  
17 SECTION 4556. Arkansas Code § 27-14-1012(d), concerning applications  
18 for registrations or renewals, is amended to read as follows:

19 (d) The ~~director~~ secretary is authorized to impose a first class  
20 postage fee for handling the issuance of all new licenses or renewals by mail  
21 and to impose an additional fee to recover any credit card fees charged by  
22 credit card companies.

23  
24 SECTION 4557. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 27-14-1013,  
25 concerning the renewals of registration, is amended to read as follows:

26 The owner of any permanent license plate issued by the ~~Director~~  
27 Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration may renew his or  
28 her registration:

29  
30 SECTION 4558. Arkansas Code § 27-14-1013(1), concerning the renewals  
31 of registration, is amended to read as follows:

32 (1) In person or by mail at a county revenue office or with the  
33 ~~director~~ secretary;

34  
35 SECTION 4559. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 27-14-  
36 1014(a)(1), concerning application forms for renewals of registration, is

1 amended to read as follows:

2 (a)(1) The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and  
3 Administration shall send application forms for all renewals of registration  
4 under this subchapter by:

5  
6 SECTION 4560. Arkansas Code § 27-14-1014(a)(1)(B), concerning  
7 application forms for renewals of registration, is amended to read as  
8 follows:

9 (B) Email sent to the address provided to the ~~director~~  
10 secretary by the motor vehicle owner in connection with a consent to receive  
11 the annual motor vehicle registration renewal notice and application forms by  
12 email.

13  
14 SECTION 4561. Arkansas Code § 27-14-1014(a)(2), concerning application  
15 forms for renewals of registration, is amended to read as follows:

16 (2) The ~~director~~ secretary shall not be required to go beyond  
17 the face of the last registration.

18  
19 SECTION 4562. Arkansas Code § 27-14-1015(b)(1), concerning the payment  
20 of personal property taxes and the listing for assessment required, is  
21 amended to read as follows:

22 (b)(1) The county tax assessor and county tax collector shall provide  
23 to the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration  
24 updates to the state vehicle registration system to indicate whether or not  
25 the owner of each vehicle registered in the county has assessed the vehicle  
26 and owes no delinquent personal property taxes. ~~The updates shall be~~  
27 ~~required not later than January 1, 1999.~~

28  
29 SECTION 4563. Arkansas Code § 27-14-1015(b)(3), concerning the payment  
30 of personal property taxes and the listing for assessment required, is  
31 amended to read as follows:

32 (3) The ~~director~~ secretary shall provide free of charge to each  
33 county assessor and to each county collector in this state, such additional  
34 computer hardware, software, and telecommunications links as he or she deems  
35 are essential to allow the county assessors and collectors to electronically  
36 forward to the Department of Finance and Administration updates to the

1 vehicle registration system for the purposes of adding, changing, or removing  
2 information identifying vehicles which have been assessed within the time  
3 frame required by law, and vehicles for which the owners have paid personal  
4 property taxes within the time frame required by law.

5

6 SECTION 4564. Arkansas Code § 27-14-1015(c), concerning the payment of  
7 personal property taxes and the listing for assessment required, is amended  
8 to read as follows:

9 (c) There is hereby levied a new fee of two dollars and fifty cents  
10 (\$2.50) for the sale of each annual license plate validation decal for a  
11 motor vehicle. This new fee shall be collected by the ~~director~~ secretary at  
12 the same time the vehicle registration fees imposed by § 27-14-601 are  
13 collected. However, this new decal fee shall be accounted for separately from  
14 the registration fee. The amount shall be mandatory and is collected for the  
15 purpose of extending to vehicle owners the additional services and  
16 conveniences of the options to renew vehicle registrations by telephone,  
17 electronically, by mail, or in person without requiring applicants to submit  
18 to the ~~director~~ secretary proof of assessment and payment of personal  
19 property taxes.

20

21 SECTION 4565. Arkansas Code § 27-14-1015(d), concerning the payment of  
22 personal property taxes and the listing for assessment required, is amended  
23 to read as follows:

24 (d)(1) One dollar and fifty cents (\$1.50) of the amount collected by  
25 the ~~director~~ secretary pursuant to subsection (c) of this section for each  
26 annual license plate validation decal shall not be deposited in the State  
27 Treasury but shall be remitted to the Arkansas Development Finance Authority.

28 (2) One dollar (\$1.00) of the amount collected by the ~~director~~  
29 secretary pursuant to subsection (c) of this section for each annual license  
30 plate validation decal shall be deposited into the State Treasury as direct  
31 revenues to the State Central Services Fund, there to be used by the Revenue  
32 Division of the Department of Finance and Administration in supporting those  
33 activities and programs which will facilitate extending to vehicle owners the  
34 additional services and conveniences of the options to renew vehicle  
35 registrations by telephone, electronically, by mail, or in person without  
36 requiring applicants to submit to the ~~director~~ secretary proof of assessment

1 and payment of personal property taxes or proof of automobile liability  
2 insurance coverage.

3 (3) All amounts derived from the new fee imposed by subsection  
4 (c) of this section for the sale of annual license plate validation decals,  
5 whether held by the ~~director~~ secretary or the authority, which are to be  
6 remitted to the authority shall be cash funds not subject to appropriation  
7 and shall be used and applied by the authority only as provided in § 22-3-  
8 1225. The fees charged for the annual license plate validation decal and paid  
9 to the authority pursuant to subdivision (d)(1) of this section shall not be  
10 reduced or otherwise impaired during the time that the fees are pledged by  
11 the authority to the repayment of any of the authority's bonds issued in  
12 accordance with § 22-3-1225.

13

14 SECTION 4566. Arkansas Code § 27-14-1016 is amended to read as  
15 follows:

16 27-14-1016. Other information required.

17 The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration  
18 may require such other information of applicants as he or she deems necessary  
19 for the proper licensing of motor vehicles and the proper maintenance of a  
20 motor vehicle register.

21

22 SECTION 4567. Arkansas Code § 27-14-1018 is amended to read as  
23 follows:

24 27-14-1018. Issuance of annual tab or decal.

25 (a) In conjunction with the permanent license plate for a motor  
26 vehicle other than a commercial motor vehicle registered with the  
27 International Registration Plan, the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of  
28 Finance and Administration shall issue a tab or decal annually or, when  
29 appropriate, to each qualified applicant as evidence of the annual payment of  
30 license fees.

31 (b) A motor vehicle owner shall affix and display the tab or decal in  
32 such place as the ~~director~~ secretary shall designate.

33

34 SECTION 4568. Arkansas Code § 27-14-1019 is amended to read as  
35 follows:

36 27-14-1019. Changes of address.

1 (a) Every owner of a motor vehicle subject to this subchapter shall  
2 report to the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and  
3 Administration any change of address from that listed when the vehicle was  
4 registered.

5 (b) The willful failure or neglect of an owner to report the change of  
6 address shall be a misdemeanor and shall subject the owner to the penalties  
7 provided by § 27-14-301 and shall relieve the ~~director~~ secretary of any  
8 obligation of notifying the owner of expiration of his or her motor vehicle  
9 license and registration.

10  
11 SECTION 4569. Arkansas Code § 27-14-1020 is amended to read as  
12 follows:

13 27-14-1020. Rules and regulations.

14 The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration  
15 shall promulgate such reasonable rules and regulations and prescribe such  
16 forms as are necessary for the proper enforcement of this subchapter.

17  
18 SECTION 4570. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 27-14-  
19 1021(a), concerning the annual notification of requirements, is amended to  
20 read as follows:

21 (a) The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and  
22 Administration shall send to each vehicle owner in this state the following  
23 information:

24  
25 SECTION 4571. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 27-14-  
26 1021(b), concerning the annual notification of requirements, is amended to  
27 read as follows:

28 (b) The ~~director~~ secretary may comply with the requirements set forth  
29 in subsection (a) of this section by including the information in the annual  
30 vehicle registration renewal notice sent to each vehicle owner by:

31  
32 SECTION 4572. Arkansas Code § 27-14-1021(c), concerning the annual  
33 notification of requirements, is amended to read as follows:

34 (c) The ~~director~~ secretary shall also cause to be displayed, in  
35 conspicuous fashion, at each revenue office in this state, the information  
36 set forth in subsection (a) of this section.

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SECTION 4573. Arkansas Code § 27-14-1101(a), concerning the authority to issue special personalized prestige license plates for passenger automobiles and motorcycles, is amended to read as follows:

(a) The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration shall provide for and issue special personalized prestige license plates for passenger automobiles and motorcycles.

SECTION 4574. Arkansas Code § 27-14-1104 is amended to read as follows:

27-14-1104. Rules and regulations.

(a) The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration is authorized to promulgate rules and regulations regarding the maximum and minimum number of letters, numbers, or symbols on special personalized prestige license plates issued under this subchapter.

(b) The ~~director~~ secretary may also promulgate such other rules and regulations as shall be deemed necessary or desirable for effectively carrying out the intent and purposes of this subchapter and the laws of this state relative to the regulation and licensing of motor vehicles.

SECTION 4575. Arkansas Code § 27-14-1202(a)(1), concerning the definition of "decal" under the Permanent Trailer Licensing Act of 1979, is amended to read as follows:

(1) "Decal" means an attachable material of such form and substance as the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration may prescribe by rule or regulation;

SECTION 4576. Arkansas Code § 27-14-1204(b), concerning penalties under the Permanent Trailer Licensing Act of 1979, is amended to read as follows:

(b) The failure of the trailer owner to affix and display the permanent license plates, the tab or decal, or the registration card, in the places designated by the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration, shall be a misdemeanor subject to the penalties provided by § 27-14-301.

1 SECTION 4577. Arkansas Code § 27-14-1206 is amended to read as  
2 follows:

3 27-14-1206. Time and place for registration or renewal.

4 (a) An applicant may apply, in person or by mail, for the issuance of  
5 permanent license plates to the revenue collector in the county where he or  
6 she resides or to the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and  
7 Administration.

8 (b) Thirty (30) days before the expiration of a license ~~issued prior~~  
9 ~~to January 1, 2002~~, the ~~director~~ secretary shall notify the owner of a  
10 registered trailer subject to this subchapter at the last address of the  
11 owner of the trailer as the owner's name and address appear on the records of  
12 the Office of Motor Vehicle, but the ~~director~~ secretary is not required to go  
13 beyond the face of the last registration statement.

14 (c)(1) A proper application for registration or renewal of a  
15 registration ~~issued prior to January 1, 2002~~, by mail must be postmarked not  
16 later than fifteen (15) days before the date for renewal in order to allow  
17 time for processing.

18 (2) The ~~director~~ secretary is authorized to impose a first class  
19 postage fee for handling the issuance of all new licenses or renewals by  
20 mail.

21

22 SECTION 4578. Arkansas Code § 27-14-1207 is amended to read as  
23 follows:

24 27-14-1207. Information required of applicant.

25 The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration  
26 may require such other information of applicants as he or she deems necessary  
27 for the proper licensing of trailers and the proper maintenance of a trailer  
28 register.

29

30 SECTION 4579. Arkansas Code § 27-14-1209(a), concerning the issuance  
31 of a registration certificate, is amended to read as follows:

32 (a) The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and  
33 Administration shall issue to each owner of a trailer subject to this  
34 subchapter a registration certificate, which must be kept in the place  
35 prescribed by the ~~director~~ secretary.

36

1 SECTION 4580. Arkansas Code § 27-14-1210(a), concerning the fee under  
2 the Permanent Trailer Licensing Act of 1979, is amended to read as follows:

3 (a) Upon registration, the owner of every trailer of a type subject to  
4 the provisions of this subchapter shall receive a permanent license plate  
5 issued by the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and  
6 Administration upon the payment of the fee set forth in § 27-14-601.

7  
8 SECTION 4581. Arkansas Code § 27-14-1211(a), concerning the issuance  
9 of a permanent plate under the Permanent Trailer Licensing Act of 1979, is  
10 amended to read as follows:

11 (a) The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and  
12 Administration is authorized to issue to the owner of a trailer subject to  
13 this subchapter a permanent license plate, subject to replacement, upon  
14 payment of the fee set forth in § 27-14-601.

15  
16 SECTION 4582. Arkansas Code § 27-14-1212(a), concerning the issuance  
17 of reflectorized plates under the Permanent Trailer Licensing Act of 1979, is  
18 amended to read as follows:

19 (a) The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and  
20 Administration is authorized to issue permanent reflectorized license plates  
21 in such form as he or she shall prescribe.

22  
23 SECTION 4583. Arkansas Code § 27-14-1213 is amended to read as  
24 follows:

25 27-14-1213. Distribution of renewal applications.

26 (a) The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and  
27 Administration shall mail application forms for all renewals of registration  
28 under this subchapter issued prior to January 1, 2002, to the last address of  
29 the owner of the trailer as the owner's name and address appear on the  
30 records of the Office of Motor Vehicle.

31 (b) The ~~director~~ secretary shall not be required to go beyond the face  
32 of the last registration, and the failure of an owner to receive notice of  
33 expiration of his or her trailer license shall not be construed as an  
34 extenuating circumstance for the failure of a trailer owner to renew his or  
35 her license on time.

36

1 SECTION 4584. Arkansas Code § 27-14-1214(a), concerning renewal of  
2 registration under Permanent Trailer Licensing Act of 1979, is amended to  
3 read as follows:

4 (a) The owner of any permanent license plate issued by the ~~Director~~  
5 Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration prior to January 1,  
6 2002, may renew his or her registration, in person or by mail, at a county  
7 revenue office or with the ~~director~~ secretary during any day from thirty (30)  
8 days prior to the date on which his or her registration shall expire.

9  
10 SECTION 4585. Arkansas Code § 27-14-1217(a), concerning the report of  
11 a change of address, is amended to read as follows:

12 (a) Every owner of a trailer subject to this subchapter shall report  
13 to the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration any  
14 change of address from that listed when the trailer was registered.

15  
16 SECTION 4586. Arkansas Code § 27-14-1217(b)(3), concerning the report  
17 of a change of address, is amended to read as follows:

18 (3) Relieve the ~~director~~ secretary of any obligation of  
19 notifying the owner of expiration of his or her trailer license and  
20 registration.

21  
22 SECTION 4587. Arkansas Code § 27-14-1218 is amended to read as  
23 follows:

24 27-14-1218. Rules and regulations.

25 The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration  
26 shall promulgate such reasonable rules and regulations and prescribe such  
27 forms as are necessary for the proper enforcement of this subchapter.

28  
29 SECTION 4588. Arkansas Code § 27-14-1303 is amended to read as  
30 follows:

31 27-14-1303. Administration.

32 The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration  
33 is authorized and directed to supply license plates to properly designate or  
34 identify the various classes of vehicles covered in this subchapter and to  
35 enforce this subchapter.

36

1 SECTION 4589. Arkansas Code § 27-14-1304(a)(1), concerning the rules  
2 and regulations of the Department of Finance and Administration, is amended  
3 to read as follows:

4 (a)(1) The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and  
5 Administration shall promulgate rules and regulations and prescribe forms for  
6 the proper enforcement of this subchapter.

7  
8 SECTION 4590. Arkansas Code § 27-14-1304(b)(1), concerning the rules  
9 and regulations of the Department of Finance and Administration, is amended  
10 to read as follows:

11 (b)(1) A complete file of all rules, regulations, and forms shall be  
12 kept in the office of the ~~director~~ secretary.

13  
14 SECTION 4591. Arkansas Code § 27-14-1305(a), concerning the annual  
15 report regarding the licensing of trucks and trailers, is amended to read as  
16 follows:

17 (a) Annually, on or before December 31 of each year, the ~~Director~~  
18 Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration shall make a report  
19 of his or her administration of this subchapter to the Governor.

20  
21 SECTION 4592. Arkansas Code § 27-24-1425(a), concerning the special  
22 license plate for the Arkansas State Chapter of the National Wild Turkey  
23 Federation, Inc., is amended to read as follows:

24 (a) The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and  
25 Administration shall create and issue an Arkansas State Chapter of the  
26 National Wild Turkey Federation, Inc. special license plate in the manner and  
27 subject to the conditions provided for under this subchapter.

28  
29 SECTION 4593. Arkansas Code § 27-14-1501(a), concerning the liability  
30 insurance prerequisite to licensing, is amended to read as follows:

31 (a) No license shall be issued for any taxicab, automobile, or similar  
32 vehicle used for hire, nor shall these vehicles be operated or used in and  
33 upon the streets, roads, and highways of the State of Arkansas, within or  
34 without the corporate limits of any city or village, for the purpose of  
35 carrying passengers for hire unless there shall have been filed with the  
36 ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration a

1 liability contract of insurance, or certificates of insurance, issued to the  
2 owner of the vehicle, which shall be substantially in the form of the  
3 standard automobile liability insurance policy in customary use, to be  
4 approved by the ~~director~~ secretary, and issued by an insurance company  
5 licensed to do business in the State of Arkansas.

6  
7 SECTION 4594. Arkansas Code § 27-14-1501(c)(2)(A), concerning the  
8 liability insurance prerequisite to licensing, is amended to read as follows:

9 (2)(A) The bond or collateral shall be in the form approved by  
10 the ~~director~~ secretary and shall be conditioned for the payment of property  
11 damage and personal injuries and shall be in an amount no less than fifty  
12 thousand dollars (\$50,000) for all claims for the operator's fleet, and  
13 uninsured motorist coverage shall not be required of the operators.

14  
15 SECTION 4595. Arkansas Code § 27-14-1501(e)(1), concerning the  
16 liability insurance prerequisite to licensing, is amended to read as follows:

17 (e)(1) No policy of insurance may be cancelled by the licensee or by  
18 the insurance carrier unless written notice of the cancellation shall have  
19 been mailed to the ~~director~~ secretary.

20  
21 SECTION 4596. Arkansas Code § 27-14-1603(d), concerning the  
22 cancellation of title for a manufactured home or a mobile home, is amended to  
23 read as follows:

24 (d) The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and  
25 Administration may promulgate rules to administer this section.

26  
27 SECTION 4597. Arkansas Code § 27-14-1604(e), concerning the issuance  
28 of a new title in the event of severance, is amended to read as follows:

29 (e) The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and  
30 Administration may promulgate rules to implement and administer this section.

31  
32 SECTION 4598. Arkansas Code § 27-14-1701(d)(1), concerning the  
33 operation of vehicles under special plates, is amended to read as follows:

34 (d)(1) The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and  
35 Administration shall provide the specifications, form, and color of the  
36 special temporary preprinted paper tag and any correlating stickers that are

1 to be placed on the preprinted paper tag required under this section.

2  
3 SECTION 4599. Arkansas Code § 27-14-1703(a)(1), concerning the  
4 expiration of special plates, is amended to read as follows:

5 (a)(1) Every special plate, excluding temporary preprinted paper tags,  
6 issued under this subchapter shall expire at 12:00 midnight on December 31 of  
7 each year unless the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and  
8 Administration provides by rule a staggered method of annual expiration.

9  
10 SECTION 4600. Arkansas Code § 27-14-1703(b), concerning the expiration  
11 of special plates, is amended to read as follows:

12 (b) In lieu of providing a new special plate upon the expiration of  
13 the special plate issued under this subchapter, the ~~director~~ secretary may by  
14 rule provide for the issuance of permanent special plates that are renewed  
15 using an alternate method.

16  
17 SECTION 4601. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 27-14-  
18 1704(a), concerning dealer's extra license plates, is amended to read as  
19 follows:

20 (a) Each dealer as defined in § 27-14-601(a)(6) shall furnish the  
21 ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration with a  
22 list of each manager, sales manager, and salesperson authorized to operate a  
23 motor vehicle to which a dealer's extra license plate issued to the dealer  
24 has been or will be attached:

25  
26 SECTION 4602. Arkansas Code § 27-14-1704(e)(1)(A), concerning dealer's  
27 extra license plates, is amended to read as follows:

28 (e)(1)(A) In addition to any other penalty prescribed by this chapter,  
29 the ~~director~~ secretary may suspend some or all dealer's extra license plates  
30 issued to a dealer if the ~~director~~ secretary determines that the dealer or  
31 any manager, sales manager, or salesperson of the dealer either misused a  
32 dealer's extra license plate or allowed the use of a dealer's extra license  
33 plate by a person who is not authorized by this section to use a dealer's  
34 extra license plate.

35  
36 SECTION 4603. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 27-14-

1 1704(e)(1)(C), concerning dealer's extra license plates, is amended to read  
2 as follows:

3 (C) The ~~director~~ secretary shall:

4  
5 SECTION 4604. Arkansas Code § 27-14-1704(e)(2)(A) and (B), concerning  
6 dealer's extra license plates, are amended to read as follows:

7 (2)(A) Any dealer who desires a hearing on the suspension shall  
8 notify the ~~director~~ secretary in writing within twenty (20) days after  
9 receipt of the notice of suspension.

10 (B) A hearing officer appointed by the ~~director~~ secretary  
11 shall schedule a hearing in an office of the Revenue Division of the  
12 Department of Finance and Administration in the county of the dealer's  
13 principal place of business, unless the ~~director~~ secretary and the dealer  
14 agree to another location for the hearing or agree that the hearing shall be  
15 held by telephone.

16

17 SECTION 4605. Arkansas Code § 27-14-1704(e)(3)(A)(ii), concerning  
18 dealer's extra license plates, is amended to read as follows:

19 (ii) The dealer shall serve a copy of the petition  
20 on the ~~director~~ secretary.

21

22 SECTION 4606. Arkansas Code § 27-14-1705(e), concerning temporary  
23 preprinted paper buyer's tags, is amended to read as follows:

24 (e) The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and  
25 Administration shall provide the specifications, form, and color of the  
26 temporary preprinted paper buyer's tag.

27

28 SECTION 4607. Arkansas Code § 27-14-1705(f)(1)(A), concerning  
29 temporary preprinted paper buyer's tags, is amended to read as follows:

30 (f)(1)(A) The buyer shall be responsible for paying to the ~~director~~  
31 secretary a fee to be set by the ~~director~~ secretary, which shall not exceed  
32 five dollars and fifty cents (\$5.50), for each temporary preprinted paper  
33 buyer's tag and any correlating sticker the buyer receives.

34

35 SECTION 4608. Arkansas Code § 27-14-1705(f)(3)(A), concerning  
36 temporary preprinted paper buyer's tags, is amended to read as follows:

1 (3)(A) Except as provided in subdivision (f)(3)(B) of this  
2 section, all fees collected by the ~~director~~ secretary under this section  
3 shall be deposited into the State Treasury, and the Treasurer of State shall  
4 credit them as general revenues to the General Revenue Fund Account of the  
5 State Apportionment Fund.

6  
7 SECTION 4609. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 27-14-  
8 1705(h)(1)(A), concerning temporary preprinted paper buyer's tags, is amended  
9 to read as follows:

10 (h)(1)(A) In addition to any other penalty prescribed by this section,  
11 the ~~director~~ secretary may suspend or terminate a dealer's authority to issue  
12 temporary preprinted paper buyer's tags if the ~~director~~ secretary determines  
13 that the dealer, manager, salesperson, or employee of the dealer:

14  
15 SECTION 4610. Arkansas Code § 27-14-1705(h)(1)(B), concerning  
16 temporary preprinted paper buyer's tags, is amended to read as follows:

17 (B) In addition to any other penalty prescribed by this  
18 section, if the ~~director~~ secretary determines that the dealer, or a manager,  
19 salesperson, or employee of the dealer, has violated this subsection, the  
20 ~~director~~ secretary may impose a penalty equal to ten dollars (\$10.00) for  
21 each inappropriately issued temporary preprinted paper buyer's tag.

22  
23 SECTION 4611. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 27-14-  
24 1705(h)(2), concerning temporary preprinted paper buyer's tags, is amended to  
25 read as follows:

26 (2) The ~~director~~ secretary shall:

27  
28 SECTION 4612. Arkansas Code § 27-14-1705(h)(5)(A) and (B), concerning  
29 temporary preprinted paper buyer's tags, are amended to read as follows:

30 (5)(A) A dealer who desires a hearing on the imposition of a  
31 penalty, or of the suspension or termination of the dealer's authority to  
32 issue temporary tags under this section, shall notify the ~~director~~ secretary  
33 in writing within twenty (20) days after receipt of the notice of imposition  
34 of a penalty, or of the suspension or termination.

35 (B) A hearing officer appointed by the ~~director~~ secretary  
36 shall schedule a hearing in an office of the Revenue Division of the

1 Department of Finance and Administration in the county of the dealer's  
2 principal place of business, unless the ~~director~~ secretary and the dealer  
3 agree to another location for the hearing or agree that the hearing shall be  
4 held by telephone.

5

6 SECTION 4613. Arkansas Code § 27-14-1705(h)(6)(B), concerning  
7 temporary preprinted paper buyer's tags, is amended to read as follows:

8 (B) The dealer shall serve a copy of the petition on the  
9 ~~director~~ secretary.

10

11 SECTION 4614. Arkansas Code § 27-14-1706(c)(2), concerning vehicles  
12 provided for purposes of demonstration or for repair customers, is amended to  
13 read as follows:

14 (2)(A) The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and  
15 Administration shall provide the specifications, form, and color of the  
16 information sheet to be used by dealers under this subsection.

17 (B) Information sheets retained by the dealer under this  
18 subsection are subject to examination by the ~~director~~ secretary at any  
19 reasonable time.

20

21 SECTION 4615. Arkansas Code § 27-14-1706(d)(3), concerning vehicles  
22 provided for purposes of demonstration or for repair customers, is amended to  
23 read as follows:

24 (3) The ~~director~~ secretary shall design the test drive or loaner  
25 information sheet to be used by dealers under this subsection and shall make  
26 this information sheet available at all state revenue offices and on the  
27 website of the Department of Finance and Administration.

28

29 SECTION 4616. Arkansas Code § 27-14-1707 is amended to read as  
30 follows:

31 27-14-1707. Authority to promulgate rules.

32 In addition to the authority provided in § 27-14-403, the ~~Director~~  
33 Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration may promulgate,  
34 adopt, and enforce such rules as may be necessary to carry out this  
35 subchapter.

36

1 SECTION 4617. Arkansas Code § 27-14-1804 is amended to read as  
2 follows:

3 27-14-1804. Nonapplicable if regular plates used.

4 This subchapter shall not apply to any person, firm, or corporation  
5 engaged in towing or driving motor vehicles on the public highways of this  
6 state where the motor vehicles display bona fide license or dealer's license  
7 plates issued by the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and  
8 Administration.

9

10 SECTION 4618. Arkansas Code § 27-14-1805(a), concerning the use of "IN  
11 TRANSIT" placards, is amended to read as follows:

12 (a)(1) Motor vehicles and trailers in the course of delivery from a  
13 manufacturer to a dealer, or from one dealer to another, may be operated on  
14 the highways without license number plates being attached, if they display,  
15 on the rear, a placard issued by the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of  
16 Finance and Administration, bearing the words "IN TRANSIT", the registration  
17 number, the time and date the placard was issued, and the genuine signature  
18 of the ~~director~~ secretary or his or her agent.

19 (2) The letters and figures shall be of such size and type to  
20 meet the requirements of the ~~director~~ secretary.

21

22 SECTION 4619. Arkansas Code § 27-14-1805(b)(2), concerning the use of  
23 "IN TRANSIT" placards, is amended to read as follows:

24 (2) The fee shall be collected by the ~~director~~ secretary before  
25 issuance of the placard.

26

27 SECTION 4620. Arkansas Code § 27-14-1806(a)(1), concerning metal  
28 transporter plates, is amended to read as follows:

29 (a)(1) Any person, firm, or corporation that is regularly engaged in  
30 the business of driving or towing motor vehicles or trailers as defined in §  
31 27-14-1805, upon the payment of a fee of thirty dollars (\$30.00), may be  
32 issued an annual metal transporter plate by the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the  
33 Department of Finance and Administration.

34

35 SECTION 4621. Arkansas Code § 27-14-1808 is amended to read as  
36 follows:

1 27-14-1808. Rules and regulations.

2 The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration  
3 is authorized to promulgate such rules and regulations as he or she deems  
4 necessary for the proper enforcement of this subchapter.

5  
6 SECTION 4622. Arkansas Code § 27-14-1904 is amended to read as  
7 follows:

8 27-14-1904. Design of plates.

9 Manufacturers' master license plates shall be of such form and design  
10 as prescribed by the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and  
11 Administration.

12  
13 SECTION 4623. Arkansas Code § 27-14-1905 is amended to read as  
14 follows:

15 27-14-1905. Rules and regulations.

16 The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration  
17 is authorized to promulgate rules and regulations consistent with the  
18 provisions of this subchapter.

19  
20 SECTION 4624. Arkansas Code § 27-14-2102 is amended to read as  
21 follows:

22 27-14-2102. Issuance authorized.

23 The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration  
24 is authorized to design and issue a drive-out tag for use in cases where  
25 automobile dealers in this state sell a motor vehicle to a nonresident who  
26 desires to immediately remove the vehicle to the state of his or her  
27 residence.

28  
29 SECTION 4625. Arkansas Code § 27-14-2105 is amended to read as  
30 follows:

31 27-14-2105. Rules and regulations.

32 The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration  
33 is authorized to promulgate such rules and regulations as he or she deems  
34 necessary for the proper enforcement of this subchapter.

35  
36 SECTION 4626. Arkansas Code § 27-14-2307 is amended to read as

1 follows:

2 27-14-2307. Rules and regulations.

3 The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration  
4 shall promulgate necessary rules and regulations for the proper enforcement  
5 and administration of this subchapter.

6

7 SECTION 4627. Arkansas Code § 27-15-2402 is amended to read as  
8 follows:

9 27-15-2402. Applications.

10 All applications for special license plates under this subchapter shall  
11 be made to the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and  
12 Administration.

13

14 SECTION 4628. Arkansas Code § 27-15-2404 is amended to read as  
15 follows:

16 27-15-2404. Rules and regulations.

17 The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration  
18 shall make such rules and regulations as are necessary to ascertain  
19 compliance with all state license laws relating to the use and operation of  
20 motor vehicles before issuing the special plates under this subchapter in  
21 lieu of the regular license plates.

22

23 SECTION 4629. Arkansas Code § 27-15-2405(a), concerning lists for  
24 public information, is amended to read as follows:

25 (a) On or before March 1 of each year, the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the  
26 Department of Finance and Administration shall furnish to the sheriff of each  
27 county in the state an alphabetically arranged list of the names, addresses,  
28 and amateur station call signs on the license plates of all persons to whom  
29 license plates are issued under the provisions of this subchapter.

30

31 SECTION 4630. Arkansas Code § 27-15-4001(a), concerning buses  
32 converted to or equipped as campers, is amended to read as follows:

33 (a) Any person in this state who owns a school bus or other bus which  
34 has been converted to or equipped as a camper and is used solely as a camper  
35 may register it and obtain special motor vehicle license plates for it upon  
36 application to the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and

1 Administration and upon the payment of an annual registration fee of thirteen  
2 dollars (\$13.00).

3

4 SECTION 4631. Arkansas Code § 27-15-4002(b), concerning exemptions for  
5 new vehicles loaned by dealers to school districts, is amended to read as  
6 follows:

7 (b) The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and  
8 Administration shall issue, without charge to the school district, the  
9 appropriate motor vehicle license plates for the vehicle.

10

11 SECTION 4632. Arkansas Code § 27-15-4901 is amended to read as  
12 follows:

13 27-15-4901. In God We Trust license plate authorized.

14 The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration  
15 shall issue a special In God We Trust motor vehicle license plate in the  
16 manner and subject to the conditions prescribed in this subchapter.

17

18 SECTION 4633. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 27-15-  
19 4902(b)(1), concerning the design of the special In God We Trust motor  
20 vehicle license plate, is amended to read as follows:

21 (b)(1) Before the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and  
22 Administration creates and issues a special license plate under this  
23 subchapter, one (1) of the following must occur:

24

25 SECTION 4634. Arkansas Code § 27-15-4908 is amended to read as  
26 follows:

27 27-15-4908. Rules and regulations.

28 The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration  
29 shall promulgate reasonable rules and regulations and prescribe forms as the  
30 ~~director~~ secretary determines to be necessary for effectively and efficiently  
31 carrying out the intent and purposes of this subchapter.

32

33 SECTION 4635. Arkansas Code § 27-15-5101 is amended to read as  
34 follows:

35 27-15-5101. Arkansas State Golf Association license plate authorized.

36 The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration

1 shall provide for and issue Arkansas State Golf Association special license  
2 plates in the manner and subject to the conditions under this subchapter.

3  
4 SECTION 4636. Arkansas Code § 27-15-5102(a)(2) and (3), concerning the  
5 design of numbered plates for the Arkansas State Golf Association, are  
6 amended to read as follows:

7 (2) The design shall be submitted to the ~~Director~~ Secretary of  
8 the Department of Finance and Administration for design approval under rules  
9 of the ~~director~~ secretary.

10 (3) The association may periodically submit a newly designed  
11 license plate for approval and issuance by the ~~director~~ secretary with not  
12 more than one (1) new license plate design issued per calendar year.

13  
14 SECTION 4637. Arkansas Code § 27-15-5102(b)(1), concerning the design  
15 of numbered plates for the Arkansas State Golf Association, is amended to  
16 read as follows:

17 (b)(1) Upon approval of the design by the ~~director~~ secretary, the  
18 association shall remit to the Department of Finance and Administration a fee  
19 in the amount of six thousand dollars (\$6,000) to cover the cost of the  
20 initial order of each newly designed license plate.

21  
22 SECTION 4638. Arkansas Code § 27-15-5102(c), concerning the design of  
23 numbered plates for the Arkansas State Golf Association, is amended to read  
24 as follows:

25 (c) The ~~director~~ secretary shall promulgate reasonable rules and  
26 regulations and prescribe any forms as the ~~director~~ secretary determines to  
27 be necessary to carry out the intent and purposes of this subchapter.

28  
29 SECTION 4639. Arkansas Code § 27-15-5201 is amended to read as  
30 follows:

31 27-15-5201. Arkansas Fallen Firefighters' Memorial special license  
32 plate authorized.

33 The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration  
34 shall provide for and issue Arkansas Fallen Firefighters' Memorial special  
35 license plates for motor vehicles in the manner provided in this subchapter.

36

1 SECTION 4640. Arkansas Code § 27-15-5202(a)(2) and (3), concerning the  
2 special motor vehicle license plates designed by the Arkansas Fallen  
3 Firefighters' Memorial Board, are amended to read as follows:

4 (2) The design shall be submitted for design approval by  
5 the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration under  
6 rules and regulations of the ~~director~~ secretary.

7 (3) The board may periodically submit a newly designed license  
8 plate for approval and issue by the ~~director~~ secretary with not more than one  
9 (1) new license plate design issued per calendar year.

10  
11 SECTION 4641. Arkansas Code § 27-15-5202(b)(1), concerning the special  
12 motor vehicle license plates designed by the Arkansas Fallen Firefighters'  
13 Memorial Board, is amended to read as follows:

14 (b)(1) Upon approval of the design by the ~~director~~ secretary, the  
15 board shall remit to the Department of Finance and Administration a fee of  
16 six thousand dollars (\$6,000) to cover the cost of the initial order of each  
17 newly designed license plate.

18  
19 SECTION 4642. Arkansas Code § 27-15-5202(c), concerning the special  
20 motor vehicle license plates designed by the Arkansas Fallen Firefighters'  
21 Memorial Board, is amended to read as follows:

22 (c) The ~~director~~ secretary shall promulgate reasonable rules and  
23 regulations and prescribe any forms as he or she determines to be necessary  
24 to carry out the intent and purposes of this subchapter.

25  
26 SECTION 4643. Arkansas Code § 27-16-401(1), concerning the definition  
27 of "commissioner" under the laws concerning the Office of Driver Services, is  
28 amended to read as follows:

29 (1) "Commissioner" means the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the  
30 Department of Finance and Administration acting in his or her capacity as  
31 Commissioner of Motor Vehicles of this state;

32  
33 SECTION 4644. Arkansas Code § 27-16-509(c), concerning reciprocal  
34 agreements, is amended to read as follows:

35 (c)(1) The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and  
36 Administration may negotiate and consummate a reciprocal agreement as

1 provided under this section.

2 (2) If the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and  
3 Administration enters into a reciprocal agreement under this section, then he  
4 or she shall exercise due regard for the advantage and convenience of  
5 resident drivers and citizens of the State of Arkansas.

6 (3) The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and  
7 Administration shall only enter into a reciprocal agreement that extends  
8 equal or greater privileges and exemptions to Arkansas motor vehicle drivers  
9 as compared to the privileges and exemptions provided to the other entity's  
10 motor vehicle drivers.

11

12 SECTION 4645. Arkansas Code § 27-16-509(d)(1), concerning reciprocal  
13 agreements, is amended to read as follows:

14 (d)(1) The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and  
15 Administration shall enter into a reciprocal agreement under this section by  
16 promulgating rules in compliance with the Arkansas Administrative Procedure  
17 Act, § 25-15-201 et seq.

18

19 SECTION 4646. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 27-16-  
20 509(e)(1)(A), concerning reciprocal agreements, is amended to read as  
21 follows:

22 (e)(1)(A) If the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and  
23 Administration enters into a reciprocal agreement under this section, then he  
24 or she shall submit a report to the following:

25

26 SECTION 4647. Arkansas Code § 27-16-604(a)(9), concerning persons not  
27 to be licensed, is amended to read as follows:

28 (9) Whose operation of a motor vehicle on the highways the  
29 ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration has good  
30 cause to believe would be inimical to public safety or welfare;

31

32 SECTION 4648. Arkansas Code § 27-16-702(a)(2), concerning the  
33 application of a minor for an instruction permit, learner's license, or  
34 intermediate driver's license, is amended to read as follows:

35 (2) For purposes of this section, duly authorized agents of the  
36 ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration may

1 administer oaths without charge.

2

3 SECTION 4649. Arkansas Code § 27-16-704(b)(6), concerning the  
4 examination of applicants, is amended to read as follows:

5 (6) The test of the applicant's eyesight shall be made on an  
6 optical testing instrument approved under standards established by the  
7 ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration and the  
8 ~~Department~~ Division of Arkansas State Police.

9

10 SECTION 4650. Arkansas Code § 27-16-705(a), concerning examiners for  
11 the Department of Finance and Administration, is amended to read as follows:

12 (a) An examination as provided for in this subchapter shall be  
13 conducted by the ~~Department~~ Division of Arkansas State Police or by the duly  
14 authorized agents of the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and  
15 Administration.

16

17 SECTION 4651. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 27-16-  
18 801(a)(1)(A), concerning licenses, validity periods, contents, fees, and  
19 disposition of moneys, is amended to read as follows:

20 (a)(1)(A) In a manner prescribed by the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the  
21 Department of Finance and Administration, the Office of Driver Services shall  
22 issue:

23

24 SECTION 4652. Arkansas Code § 27-16-801(a)(5), concerning licenses,  
25 validity periods, contents, fees, and disposition of moneys, is amended to  
26 read as follows:

27 (5) At the time of initial issuance or at the time of renewal of  
28 a license, the distinguishing number assigned to the licensee for his or her  
29 license shall be a nine-digit number assigned to the specific licensee by the  
30 ~~director~~ secretary.

31

32 SECTION 4653. Arkansas Code § 27-16-801(d)(1), concerning licenses,  
33 validity periods, contents, fees, and disposition of moneys, is amended to  
34 read as follows:

35 (d)(1) Except as provided in subdivision (d)(2) of this section, all  
36 license fees collected under subsection (a) of this section shall be cash

1 funds restricted in their use and shall be deposited into a bank selected by  
2 the ~~Department~~ Division of Arkansas State Police to the credit of the  
3 ~~Department~~ Division of Arkansas State Police Financing Fund.  
4

5 SECTION 4654. Arkansas Code § 27-16-801(g)(2), concerning the  
6 definition of "eligible inmate", is amended to read as follows:

7 (2) The fees collected under this subsection shall be remitted  
8 to the State Treasury, there to be deposited as special revenues to the  
9 credit of the ~~Department~~ Division of Arkansas State Police Fund, to be used  
10 for the payment of health insurance premiums for uniformed employees of the  
11 ~~Department~~ Division of Arkansas State Police.  
12

13 SECTION 4655. Arkansas Code § 27-16-801(h)(1)(A)(i) and (ii),  
14 concerning licenses, validity periods, contents, fees, and disposition of  
15 moneys, are amended to read as follows:

16 (i) Being an inmate of the ~~Department~~ Division of  
17 Correction and housed in a facility operated by the ~~Department~~ Division of  
18 Correction; or

19 (ii) Being an inmate of the ~~Department~~ Division of  
20 Community Correction and housed in a detention facility; and  
21

22 SECTION 4656. Arkansas Code § 27-16-801(h)(1)(B), concerning the  
23 definition of "eligible inmate", is amended to read as follows:

24 (B) "Eligible inmate" means a person who is within one  
25 hundred eighty (180) days of release from custody by the ~~Department~~ Division  
26 of Correction or the ~~Department~~ Division of Community Correction.  
27

28 SECTION 4657. Arkansas Code § 27-16-801(h)(3), concerning licenses,  
29 validity periods, contents, fees, and disposition of moneys, is amended to  
30 read as follows:

31 (3) The ~~Department~~ Division of Correction and the ~~Department~~  
32 Division of Community Correction shall identify eligible inmates to apply for  
33 a replacement or renewal driver's license or identification card.  
34

35 SECTION 4658. Arkansas Code § 27-16-811(d), concerning the address  
36 confidentiality program and the exception to a disclosing a residence

1 address, is amended to read as follows:

2 (d) The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and  
3 Administration shall promulgate rules and forms to administer the address  
4 confidentiality program under this section.

5

6 SECTION 4659. Arkansas Code § 27-16-901(a)(1)(A), concerning the  
7 expiration and renewal of licenses, is amended to read as follows:

8 (a)(1)(A) Except for the intermediate driver's license and the  
9 learner's license, every driver's license shall expire at the end of the  
10 month in which it was issued eight (8) years from its date of initial  
11 issuance unless the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and  
12 Administration provides by rule for some other staggered basis of expiration.

13

14 SECTION 4660. Arkansas Code § 27-16-901(a)(2)(A), concerning the  
15 expiration and renewal of licenses, is amended to read as follows:

16 (2)(A) The ~~director~~ secretary may by rule shorten or lengthen  
17 the term of any driver's license period, as necessary, to ensure that  
18 approximately twenty-five percent (25%) of the total valid licenses are  
19 renewable each fiscal year.

20

21 SECTION 4661. Arkansas Code § 27-16-901(a)(2)(B)(ii), concerning the  
22 expiration and renewal of licenses, is amended to read as follows:

23 (ii) The adjustment of the fee shall be carried out  
24 in the manner determined by the ~~director~~ secretary by rule.

25

26 SECTION 4662. Arkansas Code § 27-16-901(b), concerning the expiration  
27 and renewal of licenses, is amended to read as follows:

28 (b) Every driver's license shall be renewable on or before its  
29 expiration upon completion of an application, payment of the fees designated  
30 in § 27-16-801, and passage of the eyesight test required in § 27-16-704 and  
31 shall be renewed without other examination, unless the ~~director~~ secretary has  
32 reason to believe that the licensee is no longer qualified to receive a  
33 license.

34

35 SECTION 4663. Arkansas Code § 27-16-902(c), concerning the extension  
36 of expiration date of licenses for military members, is amended to read as

1 follows:

2 (c) The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and  
3 Administration may promulgate rules necessary for compliance with this  
4 section.

5  
6 SECTION 4664. Arkansas Code § 27-16-907(e)(3), concerning the  
7 suspension or revocation of licenses, is amended to read as follows:

8 (3)(A) A hearing officer appointed by the ~~Director~~ Secretary of  
9 the Department of Finance and Administration shall schedule a hearing in an  
10 office of the Revenue Division of the Department of Finance and  
11 Administration designated by the ~~director~~ secretary for the hearings.

12 (B) The hearing shall be in the office in the county of  
13 residence of the licensee unless the ~~director~~ secretary and licensee agree to  
14 another location for the hearing or agree that the hearing shall be held by  
15 telephone conference call.

16

17 SECTION 4665. Arkansas Code § 27-16-907(g), concerning the suspension  
18 or revocation of licenses, is amended to read as follows:

19 (g) The ~~director~~ secretary may promulgate rules and regulations for  
20 the administration of this section.

21

22 SECTION 4666. Arkansas Code § 27-16-909(a)(1), concerning the  
23 suspension or revocation of license for the inability to drive, is amended to  
24 read as follows:

25 (a)(1) The Office of Driver Services, having good cause to believe  
26 that a licensed driver is incompetent or otherwise not qualified to be  
27 licensed, may, upon written notice of at least five (5) days to the licensee,  
28 require the licensee to submit to an initial evaluation by a hearing officer  
29 appointed by the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and  
30 Administration in an office of the Revenue Division of the Department of  
31 Finance and Administration designated by the ~~director~~ secretary.

32

33 SECTION 4667. Arkansas Code § 27-16-909(c)(3), concerning the  
34 suspension or revocation of a license for the inability to drive, is amended  
35 to read as follows:

36 (3)(A) A hearing officer appointed by the ~~director~~ secretary

1 shall schedule a hearing in an office of the revenue division designated by  
2 the ~~director~~ secretary for hearings under this section.

3 (B) The hearing shall be in the office in the county of  
4 residence of the licensee unless the ~~director~~ secretary and licensee agree to  
5 another location for the hearing or agree that the hearing shall be held by  
6 telephone conference call.

7  
8 SECTION 4668. Arkansas Code § 27-16-909(e), concerning the suspension  
9 or revocation of a license for the inability to drive, is amended to read as  
10 follows:

11 (e) The ~~director~~ secretary may promulgate rules and regulations for  
12 the orderly and efficient administration of this section.

13  
14 SECTION 4669. Arkansas Code § 27-16-913(a)(3), concerning the right of  
15 appeal to the court of record, is amended to read as follows:

16 (3) A copy of the petition shall be served upon the ~~Director~~  
17 Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration in accordance with  
18 the Arkansas Rules of Civil Procedure.

19  
20 SECTION 4670. Arkansas Code § 27-16-915(b)(1)(C), concerning  
21 suspension for a conviction of a controlled substances offense, is amended to  
22 read as follows:

23 (C) Courts outside Arkansas having jurisdiction over a  
24 person holding driving privileges issued by the State of Arkansas shall  
25 prepare and transmit an order pursuant to an agreement or arrangement entered  
26 into between that state and the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of  
27 Finance and Administration.

28  
29 SECTION 4671. Arkansas Code § 27-16-1105(c)(2), concerning the minimum  
30 issuance standards for driver's licenses, is amended to read as follows:

31 (2) No later than January 31, 2006, the ~~Director~~ Secretary of  
32 the Department of Finance and Administration shall enter into a memorandum of  
33 understanding with the Secretary of Homeland Security to routinely utilize  
34 the automated system known as the Verification Information System database of  
35 the Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements Program, as provided by  
36 section 404 of the Illegal Immigration Reform and Immigrant Responsibility

1 Act of 1996, Pub. L. No. 104-208, to verify the legal presence status of a  
2 person other than a United States citizen applying for a driver's license or  
3 identification card.

4  
5 SECTION 4672. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 27-16-1106,  
6 concerning additional requirements regarding the issuance of driver's  
7 licenses and identification cards, is amended to read as follows:

8 To meet the requirements of this section regarding the issuance of  
9 driver's licenses and identification cards, the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the  
10 Department of Finance and Administration shall:

11  
12 SECTION 4673. Arkansas Code § 27-16-1107(a), concerning the linking of  
13 databases, is amended to read as follows:

14 (a) The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and  
15 Administration shall ensure that the State of Arkansas is eligible to receive  
16 any grant or other type of financial assistance made available under federal  
17 law regarding driver's license security and modernization.

18  
19 SECTION 4674. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 27-16-  
20 1107(b), concerning the linking of databases, is amended to read as follows:

21 (b) The ~~director~~ secretary shall implement and oversee a motor vehicle  
22 database that contains at a minimum the following information:

23  
24 SECTION 4675. Arkansas Code § 27-16-1108 is amended to read as  
25 follows:

26 27-16-1108. Rules.

27 The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration  
28 shall promulgate rules to implement and administer this subchapter.

29  
30 SECTION 4676. Arkansas Code § 27-16-1203(2), concerning the definition  
31 of "director" under the Arkansas Voluntary Enhanced Security Driver's License  
32 and Identification Card Act, is repealed.

33 ~~(2) "Director" means the Director of the Department of Finance~~  
34 ~~and Administration;~~

35  
36 SECTION 4677. Arkansas Code § 27-16-1204(a), concerning system

1 development under the Arkansas Voluntary Enhanced Security Driver's License  
2 and Identification Card Act, is amended to read as follows:

3 (a) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the ~~Director~~ Secretary  
4 of the Department of Finance and Administration may perform any system  
5 development necessary to implement the requirements of this subchapter.  
6

7 SECTION 4678. Arkansas Code § 27-16-1207(a)(11), concerning issuance  
8 standards and proof of physical address, is amended to read as follows:

9 (11) Any other documentation the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the  
10 Department of Finance and Administration determines to be adequate proof of  
11 physical address.  
12

13 SECTION 4679. Arkansas Code § 27-16-1207(d), concerning issuance  
14 standards and proof of physical address, is amended to read as follows:

15 (d) The ~~director~~ secretary may require additional proof of physical  
16 address if the ~~director~~ secretary questions the validity or authenticity of  
17 the proof of physical address submitted by the applicant.  
18

19 SECTION 4680. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 27-16-1208,  
20 concerning evidence of lawful status, is amended to read as follows:

21 The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration  
22 shall require before issuing a voluntary enhanced security driver's license,  
23 voluntary enhanced security commercial driver's license, or voluntary  
24 enhanced security identification card valid documentary evidence that the  
25 applicant:  
26

27 SECTION 4681. Arkansas Code § 27-16-1209(d), concerning the expiration  
28 and renewal of a voluntary enhanced security driver's license, is amended to  
29 read as follows:

30 (d) The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and  
31 Administration may by rule shorten or lengthen the term of any driver's  
32 license or identification card period under this section, as necessary, to  
33 ensure that approximately twenty-five percent (25%) of the total valid  
34 licenses are renewable each fiscal year.  
35

36 SECTION 4682. Arkansas Code § 27-16-1211 is amended to read as

1 follows:

2 27-16-1211. Authority to promulgate rules.

3 The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration  
4 may promulgate any necessary rules to carry out this subchapter, subject to  
5 the Arkansas Administrative Procedure Act, § 25-15-201 et seq.

6

7 SECTION 4683. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 27-16-1212,  
8 concerning the implementation date for voluntary enhanced identification and  
9 security features, is amended to read as follows:

10 This subchapter shall be effective and shall be implemented only if the  
11 ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration:

12

13 SECTION 4684. Arkansas Code § 27-19-202 is amended to read as follows:  
14 27-19-202. Commissioner.

15 “Commissioner” means the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of  
16 Finance and Administration acting in his or her capacity as Commissioner of  
17 Motor Vehicles of this state.

18

19 SECTION 4685. Arkansas Code § 27-19-401 is amended to read as follows:  
20 27-19-401. Responsibility.

21 The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration  
22 shall administer and enforce the provisions of this chapter.

23

24 SECTION 4686. Arkansas Code § 27-19-402 is amended to read as follows:  
25 27-19-402. Rules and regulations.

26 The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration  
27 may make rules and regulations necessary for the administration of this  
28 chapter.

29

30 SECTION 4687. Arkansas Code § 27-19-403 is amended to read as follows:  
31 27-19-403. Forms.

32 The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration  
33 shall prescribe and provide suitable forms requisite or deemed necessary for  
34 the purposes of this chapter.

35

36 SECTION 4688. Arkansas Code § 27-19-404(3), concerning the procedure

1 for suspension of a license, is amended to read as follows:

2 (3) A hearing officer appointed by the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the  
3 Department of Finance and Administration shall schedule a hearing in an  
4 office of the Revenue Division of the Department of Finance and  
5 Administration designated by the ~~director~~ secretary for the hearings. The  
6 hearing shall be in the office in the county of residence of the licensee  
7 unless the ~~director~~ secretary and licensee agree to another location for the  
8 hearing or agree that the hearing shall be held by telephone conference  
9 call.;

10

11 SECTION 4689. Arkansas Code § 27-19-405 is amended to read as follows:  
12 27-19-405. Requests of persons aggrieved.

13 The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration  
14 shall receive and consider any pertinent information upon request of persons  
15 aggrieved by his or her orders or acts under any of the provisions of this  
16 chapter.

17

18 SECTION 4690. Arkansas Code § 27-19-408(a) and (b), concerning the  
19 court review of actions of the Director of the Department of Finance and  
20 Administration, are amended to read as follows:

21 (a) Any order or act of the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of  
22 Finance and Administration under the provisions of this chapter shall be  
23 subject to a de novo petition of review in the circuit court of the district  
24 in which any party of interest resides.

25 (b) The filing of a petition of review shall not operate as an  
26 automatic stay of any order or act of the ~~director~~ secretary.

27

28 SECTION 4691. Arkansas Code § 27-19-408(d), concerning the court  
29 review of actions of the Director of the Department of Finance and  
30 Administration, is amended to read as follows:

31 (d) The circuit judge is vested with the jurisdiction to determine  
32 whether the petitioner is entitled to a license or whether the act or order  
33 of the ~~director~~ secretary should be affirmed, modified, or reversed.

34

35 SECTION 4692. Arkansas Code § 27-19-501 is amended to read as follows:  
36 27-19-501. Report required.

1           The driver of a vehicle of a type subject to registration under the  
2 motor vehicle laws of this state that is in any manner involved in an  
3 accident within this state which accident has resulted in damage to the  
4 property of any one (1) person in excess of one thousand dollars (\$1,000) or  
5 in bodily injury to or in the death of any person shall report the accident  
6 to the Office of Driver Services within thirty (30) days after the accident  
7 on an electronic or paper form approved by the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the  
8 Department of Finance and Administration subject to the exemptions provided  
9 in §§ 27-19-509 and 27-19-604.

10  
11           SECTION 4693. Arkansas Code § 27-19-605(b), concerning the  
12 requirements of a bond or policy, is amended to read as follows:

13           (b) No policy or bond shall be effective under § 27-19-604 with  
14 respect to any vehicle which was not registered in this state or was a  
15 vehicle which was registered elsewhere than in this state at the effective  
16 date of the policy or bond or the most recent renewal thereof, unless the  
17 insurance company or surety company issuing the policy or bond is authorized  
18 to do business in this state, or if the company is not authorized to do  
19 business in this state, unless it shall execute a power of attorney  
20 authorizing the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and  
21 Administration to accept service on its behalf of notice or process in any  
22 action upon the policy or bond arising out of an accident.

23  
24           SECTION 4694. Arkansas Code § 27-19-712(b)(2)(A), concerning a  
25 certificate of insurance as proof of financial responsibility, is amended to  
26 read as follows:

27           (A) The insurance carrier shall execute a power of  
28 attorney authorizing the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and  
29 Administration to accept on its behalf service of notice or process in any  
30 action arising out of a motor vehicle accident in this state; and

31  
32           SECTION 4695. Arkansas Code § 27-20-105(a)-(c), concerning the  
33 registration and renewal period, are amended to read as follows:

34           (a) The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and  
35 Administration shall establish a system for the registration of motorcycles  
36 and motor-driven cycles on a monthly series basis to distribute the work of

1 registering motorcycles and motor-driven cycles as uniformly as practicable  
2 throughout the twelve (12) months of the calendar year.

3 (b) When a person applies for the registration of a motorcycle or  
4 motor-driven cycle and the issuance of a permanent license plate, the decals  
5 issued by the ~~director~~ secretary for attachment to the permanent license  
6 plate to evidence the registration period shall be decals for the current  
7 month in which application is made for registration, regardless of the day of  
8 the month on which application is made.

9 (c) The ~~director~~ secretary shall, upon request, assign to any owner of  
10 two (2) or more vehicles the same registration period.

11  
12 SECTION 4696. Arkansas Code § 27-20-202(a), concerning the required  
13 registration for all-terrain vehicles, is amended to read as follows:

14 (a) All owners of three-wheeled, four-wheeled, or six-wheeled all-  
15 terrain vehicles that are not otherwise required to be registered by law  
16 shall register them with the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance  
17 and Administration within thirty (30) calendar days of acquiring them.

18  
19 SECTION 4697. Arkansas Code § 27-20-205(a), concerning the certificate  
20 of title for an all-terrain vehicle, is amended to read as follows:

21 (a) The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and  
22 Administration shall issue a certificate of title to the owner of a three-  
23 wheeled, four-wheeled, or six-wheeled all-terrain vehicle that has been  
24 registered with the Department of Finance and Administration.

25  
26 SECTION 4698. Arkansas Code § 27-20-206 is amended to read as follows:

27 27-20-206. Numbered license decal.

28 The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration  
29 shall furnish the owners of three-wheeled, four-wheeled, or six-wheeled all-  
30 terrain vehicles that have been registered with the Department of Finance and  
31 Administration a numbered license decal that shall be attached to the left  
32 front side of the vehicle.

33  
34 SECTION 4699. Arkansas Code § 27-20-208 is amended to read as follows:

35 27-20-208. Regulations.

36 The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration

1 may promulgate such rules and regulations as necessary to implement this  
2 subchapter.

3

4 SECTION 4700. Arkansas Code § 27-22-107(a)(2)(A), concerning motor  
5 vehicle insurance reporting, is amended to read as follows:

6 (2)(A) The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and  
7 Administration may choose a vendor to provide an online insurance  
8 verification system which will comply with the industry standards as  
9 recommended by the Insurance Industry Committee on Motor Vehicle  
10 Administration when there are two (2) or more vendors that demonstrate to the  
11 department the ability to meet the Insurance Industry Committee on Motor  
12 Vehicle Administration standard.

13

14 SECTION 4701. Arkansas Code § 27-22-107(a)(2)(B), concerning motor  
15 vehicle insurance reporting, is amended to read as follows:

16 (B) If the ~~director~~ secretary certifies that seventy  
17 percent (70%) or more of the motor vehicle insurance policies in effect on a  
18 specific date are being accessed according to the industry standards in the  
19 online insurance verification system, each insurance company shall provide  
20 access to the data through the online insurance verification system.

21

22 SECTION 4702. Arkansas Code § 27-22-107(c), concerning motor vehicle  
23 insurance reporting, is amended to read as follows:

24 (c) The department may, following procedures set forth in regulations  
25 promulgated by the department, assess a penalty against each insurance  
26 company of up to two hundred fifty dollars (\$250) for each day the insurance  
27 company fails to comply with this section. If an insurance company shows that  
28 the failure to comply with this section was inadvertent, accidental, outside  
29 of the control of the company, or the result of excusable neglect, the  
30 ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration may excuse  
31 the penalty. The moneys collected from these penalties shall be deposited as  
32 a special revenue into the State Central Services Fund, and the net amount  
33 shall be credited as a direct revenue to be used by the department to offset  
34 the costs of administering this section.

35

36 SECTION 4703. Arkansas Code § 27-23-124(a), concerning the Commercial

1 Driver License Fund, is amended to read as follows:

2 (a) There is hereby established on the books of the Treasurer of  
3 State, Auditor of State, and Chief Fiscal Officer of the State, a fund to be  
4 known as the "Commercial Driver License Fund" of the Revenue Division of the  
5 Department of Finance and Administration. The Commercial Driver License Fund  
6 shall consist of special revenues as set out in § 27-23-118, to be used to  
7 establish and maintain the Arkansas Commercial Driver License Program, and  
8 for other related purposes as required by the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the  
9 Department of Finance and Administration in carrying out the functions,  
10 powers, and duties of the division.

11

12 SECTION 4704. Arkansas Code § 27-24-102(1), concerning the purpose and  
13 implementation of a special license plate law, is amended to read as follows:

14 (1) Implement a special license plate law that transfers the  
15 authority for approving special license plates to the ~~Director~~ Secretary of  
16 the Department of Finance and Administration;

17

18 SECTION 4705. Arkansas Code § 27-24-104(a), concerning the reissuance  
19 and regulation of special license plates, is amended to read as follows:

20 (a) Every special license plate continued under this chapter shall be  
21 discontinued on April 7, 2007, unless an application that meets the criteria  
22 for issuance of the special license plate under the appropriate subchapter  
23 governing that type of plate is submitted and approved by the ~~Director~~  
24 Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration at least ninety  
25 (90) days prior to April 1, 2007.

26

27 SECTION 4706. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 27-24-  
28 104(b), concerning the reissuance and regulation of special license plates,  
29 is amended to read as follows:

30 (b) The ~~director~~ secretary shall promulgate rules in accordance with  
31 the Arkansas Administrative Procedure Act, § 25-15-201 et seq., to carry out  
32 the duties of the Department of Finance and Administration under this  
33 chapter, including, but not limited to:

34

35 SECTION 4707. Arkansas Code § 27-24-105(a), concerning the design of a  
36 special license plate, is amended to read as follows:

1 (a) Unless otherwise provided in this chapter, the ~~Director~~ Secretary  
2 of the Department of Finance and Administration shall have the exclusive  
3 power to design or approve the design used on a special license plate  
4 authorized under this chapter.

5  
6 SECTION 4708. Arkansas Code § 27-24-107 is amended to read as follows:  
7 27-24-107. Appeals.

8 An appeal from a decision of the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department  
9 of Finance and Administration under this chapter shall be governed by the  
10 Arkansas Administrative Procedure Act, § 25-15-201 et seq.

11  
12 SECTION 4709. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 27-24-  
13 204(a), concerning the military and veteran special license plates and  
14 decals, is amended to read as follows:

15 (a) The following special license plates or license plates with  
16 permanent decals for members and veterans of the United States Armed Forces  
17 and similar entities that were in existence or authorized by enactment on or  
18 before April 13, 2005, shall continue to be issued by the ~~Director~~ Secretary  
19 of the Department of Finance and Administration to an eligible applicant:

20  
21 SECTION 4710. Arkansas Code § 27-24-204(b), concerning the military  
22 and veteran special license plates and decals, is amended to read as follows:

23 (b) Beginning January 1, 2014, the ~~director~~ secretary shall create and  
24 issue a permanent decal for a Vietnam Era Veteran consistent with § 27-24-209  
25 to an eligible applicant.

26  
27 SECTION 4711. Arkansas Code § 27-24-204(c)(1), concerning the military  
28 and veteran special license plates and decals, is amended to read as follows:

29 (c)(1) The Purple Heart Recipient special license plate that  
30 existed before April 13, 2005, shall continue to be issued by the ~~director~~  
31 secretary to an eligible applicant.

32  
33 SECTION 4712. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 27-24-  
34 204(d), concerning the military and veteran special license plates and  
35 decals, is amended to read as follows:

36 (d) The ~~director~~ secretary shall promulgate rules and forms to ensure

1 that an owner of a motor vehicle who is issued a special license plate under  
2 this subchapter:

3

4 SECTION 4713. Arkansas Code § 27-24-206(a)(2), concerning the fees and  
5 limitation regarding special license plates, is amended to read as follows:

6 (2) To defray the cost of the issuance and renewal of the first  
7 special license plate under this subchapter, the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the  
8 Department of Finance and Administration may charge an annual fee for renewal  
9 not to exceed one dollar (\$1.00).

10

11 SECTION 4714. Arkansas Code § 27-24-213(e)(1)(B), concerning Veterans  
12 of Foreign Wars special license plates, is amended to read as follows:

13 (B) An annual fee not to exceed one dollar (\$1.00) that  
14 the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration may  
15 charge for the issuance and renewal of the first special license plate; and

16

17 SECTION 4715. Arkansas Code § 27-24-401 is amended to read as follows:  
18 27-24-401. Purpose.

19 The purpose of this subchapter is to continue the State Highway  
20 Commission's exemption from the requirement to display motor vehicle license  
21 plates issued by the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and  
22 Administration and to transfer the authority to the commission to determine  
23 by minute order whether additional metal plates should be issued.

24

25 SECTION 4716. Arkansas Code § 27-24-501(c), concerning a federal  
26 government vehicle exemption, is amended to read as follows:

27 (c) The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and  
28 Administration shall approve the design and form of a special license plate  
29 used under this section.

30

31 SECTION 4717. Arkansas Code § 27-24-603 is amended to read as follows:  
32 27-24-603. Existing special license plates.

33 The miscellaneous nominal fee special license plates with the specific  
34 eligibility criteria that were in existence before April 13, 2005, and that  
35 are contained in this subchapter shall continue to be issued by the ~~Director~~  
36 Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration.

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SECTION 4718. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 27-24-604, concerning additional special license plates, is amended to read as follows:

The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration may create and issue additional special license plates under this subchapter if:

SECTION 4719. Arkansas Code § 27-24-604(2), concerning additional special license plates, is amended to read as follows:

(2) The creation and issuance of the special license plate will have a minimal annual fiscal and budgetary impact as determined by the ~~director~~ secretary; and

SECTION 4720. Arkansas Code § 27-24-606(a)(1), concerning religious organizations, is amended to read as follows:

(a)(1) The pastor, minister, priest, rabbi, or other person in charge of a religious organization and the chair of the governing body of the religious organization may apply to the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration for the issuance of a church bus special license plate to be used exclusively on church buses owned and operated by the religious organization.

SECTION 4721. Arkansas Code § 27-24-607 is amended to read as follows:  
27-24-607. Youth groups.

(a) A civic club, person, or entity that furnishes to a youth group a motor vehicle that is used exclusively for youth group purposes may apply to the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration for the issuance of a youth group special license plate to be used exclusively on motor vehicles that are operated for the purposes of the youth group.

(b) A youth group that owns and operates a motor vehicle that is used exclusively for youth group purposes may apply to the ~~director~~ secretary for the issuance of a youth group special license plate to be used exclusively on motor vehicles that are owned by the youth group and operated for the purposes of the youth group.

SECTION 4722. Arkansas Code § 27-24-608 is amended to read as follows:

1 27-24-608. 4-H clubs.

2 (a) A civic club, person, or entity that furnishes to a 4-H club a  
3 motor vehicle that is used exclusively for 4-H club purposes may apply to the  
4 ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration for the  
5 issuance of a 4-H club special license plate to be used exclusively on motor  
6 vehicles that are operated for the purposes of the 4-H club.

7 (b) A 4-H club that owns and operates a motor vehicle that is used  
8 exclusively for 4-H club purposes may apply to the ~~director~~ secretary for the  
9 issuance of a 4-H club special license plate to be used exclusively on motor  
10 vehicles that are owned by the 4-H club and operated for the purposes of the  
11 4-H club.

12

13 SECTION 4723. Arkansas Code § 27-24-609(a), concerning motor vehicles  
14 used exclusively by volunteer rescue squads, is amended to read as follows:

15 (a) A person or entity that owns a motor vehicle that is used  
16 exclusively by volunteer rescue squads may apply to the ~~Director~~ Secretary of  
17 the Department of Finance and Administration for the issuance of a volunteer  
18 rescue squad special license plate to be used exclusively on motor vehicles  
19 that are operated for the purposes of the volunteer rescue squad.

20

21 SECTION 4724. Arkansas Code § 27-24-610 is amended to read as follows:

22 27-24-610. Boy Scouts of America.

23 A civic club, person, or entity that furnishes a bus or truck for  
24 exclusive use for Boy Scouts of America purposes may apply to the ~~Director~~  
25 Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration for the issuance of  
26 a motor vehicle special license plate to be used exclusively on motor  
27 vehicles that are operated for the purposes of the scouts.

28

29 SECTION 4725. Arkansas Code § 27-24-612 is amended to read as follows:

30 27-24-612. Orphanages.

31 (a) The head of an orphanage in the State of Arkansas may apply to the  
32 ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration for the  
33 issuance of a motor vehicle special license plate to be used exclusively on  
34 motor vehicles that are operated for the purposes of the orphanage.

35 (b) The application shall include an affidavit on a form prescribed by  
36 the ~~director~~ secretary that is signed by the applicant and which states that

1 the motor vehicle to which the special license plate shall be attached is  
2 owned or exclusively leased by the orphanage and used exclusively for  
3 functions related to the orphanage.

4  
5 SECTION 4726. Arkansas Code § 27-24-702 is amended to read as follows:  
6 27-24-702. Special license plates.

7 The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration  
8 shall furnish each member of the General Assembly a special license plate for  
9 his or her personal motor vehicle as provided in this subchapter.

10  
11 SECTION 4727. Arkansas Code § 27-24-703(a)(1), concerning license  
12 plates for members of the Senate, is amended to read as follows:

13 (a)(1) The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and  
14 Administration shall each year cause to be prepared thirty-nine (39) special  
15 license plates for members and selected staff of the Senate and deliver them  
16 to the Secretary of the Senate for distribution.

17  
18 SECTION 4728. Arkansas Code § 27-24-703(b), concerning license plates  
19 for members of the Senate, is amended to read as follows:

20 (b) Upon each of the special license plates there shall appear the  
21 word "Senator" in addition to other identification information as the  
22 ~~director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration with the  
23 approval of the Senate Efficiency Committee and subject to the approval of  
24 the Senate.

25  
26 SECTION 4729. Arkansas Code § 27-24-703(c)(2), concerning license  
27 plates for members of the Senate, is amended to read as follows:

28 (2) On or before January 15 of each odd-numbered year, the  
29 ~~secretary~~ Secretary of the Senate as directed by the Senate Efficiency  
30 Committee shall furnish the ~~director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance  
31 and Administration with a list of the names of members of the Senate and  
32 shall designate the special license plate number that shall be reserved for  
33 each member of the Senate.

34  
35 SECTION 4730. Arkansas Code § 27-24-703(d), concerning license plates  
36 for members of the Senate, is amended to read as follows:

1 (d) A member of the Senate who desires to obtain special license  
2 plates may obtain them by applying to the ~~director~~ Secretary of the  
3 Department of Finance and Administration upon forms to be provided by him or  
4 her and upon the payment of all taxes and fees that may be due.

5  
6 SECTION 4731. Arkansas Code § 27-24-704(a)(1), concerning license  
7 plates for members of the House of Representatives, is amended to read as  
8 follows:

9 (a)(1) The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and  
10 Administration shall each calendar year cause to be prepared two (2) sets as  
11 deemed necessary by the House Management Committee of one hundred seven (107)  
12 special license plates for members of the House of Representatives and  
13 selected staff.

14  
15 SECTION 4732. Arkansas Code § 27-24-704(a)(3), concerning license  
16 plates for members of the House of Representatives, is amended to read as  
17 follows:

18 (3) Upon receipt of the plates, the ~~director~~ secretary shall  
19 deliver them to the Speaker of the House of Representatives for issuance.

20  
21 SECTION 4733. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 27-24-  
22 704(c), concerning license plates for members of the House of  
23 Representatives, is amended to read as follows:

24 (c) On or before January 15 of each year, the Speaker of the House of  
25 Representatives shall furnish the ~~director~~ secretary with a list of names of  
26 members of the House of Representatives designating:

27  
28 SECTION 4734. Arkansas Code § 27-24-802 is amended to read as follows:  
29 27-24-802. Special license plates authorized.

30 The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration  
31 shall furnish each constitutional officer a Constitutional Officer special  
32 license plate for his or her personal motor vehicles under this subchapter.

33  
34 SECTION 4735. Arkansas Code § 27-24-803(a)(1), concerning the  
35 Constitutional Officer special license plate, is amended to read as follows:

36 (a)(1) The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and

1 Administration shall each year cause to be prepared seven (7) special license  
2 plates for the constitutional officers.

3

4 SECTION 4736. Arkansas Code § 27-24-803(b)(1), concerning the  
5 Constitutional Officer special license plate, is amended to read as follows:

6 (b)(1) Upon each of the special license plates there shall appear the  
7 words "Constitutional Officer" in addition to the other identifying  
8 information as the ~~director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and  
9 Administration shall determine.

10

11 SECTION 4737. Arkansas Code § 27-24-803(c)(2), concerning the  
12 Constitutional Officer special license plate, is amended to read as follows:

13 (2) On or before January 15 of each odd-numbered year, the  
14 Governor shall furnish the ~~director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance  
15 and Administration with a list of the names of the constitutional officers,  
16 and each other officer shall furnish the Governor with the name of any other  
17 person who may display the special license plate.

18

19 SECTION 4738. Arkansas Code § 27-24-803(d), concerning the  
20 Constitutional Officer special license plate, is amended to read as follows:

21 (d) A constitutional officer who desires to obtain special license  
22 plates may obtain them by applying to the ~~director~~ Secretary of the  
23 Department of Finance and Administration upon forms to be provided by the  
24 ~~director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration and by  
25 paying the taxes and fees that may be due.

26

27 SECTION 4739. Arkansas Code § 27-24-902(b), concerning the  
28 continuation of existing special license plates for Arkansas State Game and  
29 Fish Commission vehicles, is amended to read as follows:

30 (b) The special license plates to be issued to the commission and  
31 displayed on its vehicles shall be designed by the commission with the  
32 approval of the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and  
33 Administration.

34

35 SECTION 4740. Arkansas Code § 27-24-903(a), concerning existing  
36 special license plates, is amended to read as follows:

1 (a) Except as provided in subsection (b) of this section, the ~~Director~~  
2 Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration shall continue the  
3 Arkansas State Game and Fish Commission special license plates that existed  
4 before April 13, 2005.

5  
6 SECTION 4741. Arkansas Code § 27-24-903(b)(2), concerning existing  
7 special license plates, is amended to read as follows:

8 (2) To request a discontinuance of one (1) or more special  
9 license plates under this subchapter, the commission shall present a  
10 resolution to the ~~director~~ secretary stating which plates the department is  
11 to discontinue.

12  
13 SECTION 4742. Arkansas Code § 27-24-904(a), concerning additional  
14 special license plate requests from the Arkansas State Game and Fish  
15 Commission, is amended to read as follows:

16 (a)(1) The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and  
17 Administration shall accept requests from the Arkansas State Game and Fish  
18 Commission to create and issue additional special license plates under this  
19 subchapter.

20 (2) The commission shall submit with the request for an  
21 additional special license plate a proposed design for the approval of the  
22 ~~director~~ secretary.

23  
24 SECTION 4743. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 27-24-  
25 904(b), concerning additional special license plate requests from the  
26 Arkansas State Game and Fish Commission, is amended to read as follows:

27 (b) When considering a request from the commission for an additional  
28 special license plate, the ~~director~~ secretary shall consider the following  
29 factors:

30  
31 SECTION 4744. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 27-24-  
32 904(c)(1), concerning additional special license plate requests from the  
33 Arkansas State Game and Fish Commission, is amended to read as follows:

34 (c)(1) If the request is approved, the ~~director~~ secretary shall  
35 determine:

36

1 SECTION 4745. Arkansas Code § 27-24-906(2)(B), concerning license  
2 plate options, is amended to read as follows:

3 (B) However, the use of letters and numbers on a  
4 personalized prestige license plate shall be limited to the rules of the  
5 ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration.  
6

7 SECTION 4746. Arkansas Code § 27-24-1003(a), concerning existing  
8 special license plates, is amended to read as follows:

9 (a) Except as provided in subsection (b) of this section, the ~~Director~~  
10 Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration shall continue the  
11 collegiate special license plates that existed before April 13, 2005.  
12

13 SECTION 4747. Arkansas Code § 27-24-1003(b)(2), concerning existing  
14 special license plates, is amended to read as follows:

15 (2) To request a discontinuance of a special license plate  
16 issued under this subchapter, the board of trustees of the college or  
17 university shall present a resolution to the ~~director~~ secretary requesting  
18 the department to discontinue the college's or university's special license  
19 plate.  
20

21 SECTION 4748. Arkansas Code § 27-24-1004 is amended to read as  
22 follows:

23 27-24-1004. Additional special license plates.

24 (a)(1) The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and  
25 Administration shall accept requests from the board of trustees of a college  
26 or university to create and issue a special license plate under this  
27 subchapter for the college or university.

28 (2) The board of trustees shall submit with the request for a  
29 special license plate a proposed design for the approval of the ~~director~~  
30 secretary.

31 (b) The ~~director~~ secretary shall approve one (1) design for a special  
32 license plate for each college or university that requests a special license  
33 plate.

34 (c) The ~~director~~ secretary shall determine:

35 (1) The fee for the cost of initial orders of new designs for  
36 special license plates which shall be based on the cost of initial orders of

1 new designs for special license plates;

2 (2) The number of applications that must be received to cover  
3 the cost of the initial orders of new designs for special license plates; or

4 (3) The combination of subdivisions (c)(1) and (2) of this  
5 section that must be received to cover the cost of the initial orders of the  
6 new designs for special license plates.

7 (d) The ~~director~~ secretary shall issue additional special license  
8 plates as provided under this subchapter.

9

10 SECTION 4749. Arkansas Code § 27-24-1007(2)(B), concerning license  
11 plate options, is amended to read as follows:

12 (B) However, the use of letters and numbers on a  
13 personalized prestige license plate shall be limited to the rules of the  
14 ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration.

15

16 SECTION 4750. Arkansas Code § 27-24-1010(a), concerning the Arkansas  
17 School for the Deaf special license plate, is amended to read as follows:

18 (a) The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and  
19 Administration shall issue a special license plate for the Arkansas School  
20 for the Deaf in the manner and subject to the conditions provided under this  
21 subchapter.

22

23 SECTION 4751. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 27-24-  
24 1010(c), concerning the Arkansas School for the Deaf special license plate,  
25 is amended to read as follows:

26 (c) The ~~director~~ secretary shall determine the amount of the cost for  
27 the issuance of the special license plate under this section as follows:

28

29 SECTION 4752. Arkansas Code § 27-24-1103 is amended to read as  
30 follows:

31 27-24-1103. Existing special license plate.

32 The special license plate for the Division of Agriculture of the  
33 University of Arkansas that was in existence before April 13, 2005, shall  
34 continue to be issued by the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance  
35 and Administration.

36

1 SECTION 4753. Arkansas Code § 27-24-1104 is amended to read as  
2 follows:

3 27-24-1104. Additional special license plates.

4 The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration  
5 shall accept requests for a special license plate for the agriculture  
6 division, department, or program of a college or university under this  
7 subchapter.

8

9 SECTION 4754. Arkansas Code § 27-24-1105(a) and (b), concerning the  
10 design and approval procedure for a special license plate, are amended to  
11 read as follows:

12 (a) The board of trustees of a college or university shall submit with  
13 its request for a special license plate for its agriculture program a  
14 proposed design for the approval of the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department  
15 of Finance and Administration.

16 (b) The ~~director~~ secretary shall approve one (1) design for an  
17 agriculture-related special license plate for each college or university that  
18 requests or currently has a special license plate.

19

20 SECTION 4755. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 27-24-  
21 1105(c)(1), concerning the design and approval procedure for a special  
22 license plate, is amended to read as follows:

23 (c)(1) If the ~~director~~ secretary approves the request, the ~~director~~  
24 secretary shall determine:

25

26 SECTION 4756. Arkansas Code § 27-24-1105(d)(1), concerning the design  
27 and approval procedure for a special license plate, is amended to read as  
28 follows:

29 (d)(1) A college or university may submit a newly designed special  
30 license plate for approval and issuance by the ~~director~~ secretary not more  
31 than one (1) time in each period of five (5) years under this subchapter.

32

33 SECTION 4757. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 27-24-  
34 1105(d)(2), concerning the design and approval procedure for a special  
35 license plate, is amended to read as follows:

36 (2) If the ~~director~~ secretary approves a request, then the

1 ~~director~~ secretary shall determine:

2

3 SECTION 4758. Arkansas Code § 27-24-1204 is amended to read as  
4 follows:

5 27-24-1204. Additional special license plates.

6 The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration  
7 shall accept requests for a special license plate for an African-American  
8 fraternity or sorority that exists at a college or university in the State of  
9 Arkansas under this subchapter.

10

11 SECTION 4759. Arkansas Code § 27-24-1205(a) and (b), concerning the  
12 design and approval procedure for a special license plate that commemorates  
13 an African-American fraternity or sorority, are amended to read as follows:

14 (a) The design for a special license plate issued under this  
15 subchapter that commemorates an African-American fraternity or sorority shall  
16 be designed by the African-American fraternity or sorority and shall be  
17 submitted for the approval of the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of  
18 Finance and Administration.

19 (b) The ~~director~~ secretary shall approve one (1) design for each  
20 participating African-American fraternity or sorority.

21

22 SECTION 4760. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 27-24-  
23 1205(c)(1), concerning the design and approval procedure for a special  
24 license plate that commemorates an African-American fraternity or sorority,  
25 is amended to read as follows:

26 (c)(1) If the ~~director~~ secretary approves the design, the ~~director~~  
27 secretary shall determine:

28

29 SECTION 4761. Arkansas Code § 27-24-1205(d), concerning the design and  
30 approval procedure for a special license plate that commemorates an African-  
31 American fraternity or sorority, is amended to read as follows:

32 (d) The ~~director~~ secretary shall promulgate reasonable rules and  
33 regulations and prescribe the forms necessary for effectively carrying out  
34 the intent and purposes of this subchapter.

35

36 SECTION 4762. Arkansas Code § 27-24-1206(b)(2), concerning the

1 issuance, renewal, and replacement of a special license plate, is amended to  
2 read as follows:

3 (2) A fee not to exceed twenty-five dollars (\$25.00) to be  
4 determined by the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and  
5 Administration to cover the design-use contribution by the African-American  
6 fraternity or sorority or for fund-raising purposes; and

7  
8 SECTION 4763. Arkansas Code § 27-24-1307(a), concerning additional  
9 public service special license plates with decals, is amended to read as  
10 follows:

11 (a) The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and  
12 Administration shall accept requests from organizations that represent public  
13 service employees, retired public service employees, or retired military  
14 service members to create and issue a special license plate decal under this  
15 subchapter.

16  
17 SECTION 4764. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 27-24-  
18 1307(c), concerning additional public service special license plates with  
19 decals, is amended to read as follows:

20 (c) If the request is approved, the ~~director~~ secretary shall  
21 determine:

22  
23 SECTION 4765. Arkansas Code § 27-24-1307(d)(1), concerning additional  
24 public service special license plates with decals, is amended to read as  
25 follows:

26 (d)(1) If the ~~director~~ secretary approves a request for an additional  
27 special license plate decal under this section, then a person who establishes  
28 with adequate proof that he or she is a member or retiree of the public  
29 service profession or military branch may apply for and annually renew a  
30 special license plate decal.

31  
32 SECTION 4766. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 27-24-  
33 1402(a), concerning existing special license plates, is amended to read as  
34 follows:

35 (a) The following special license plates that represent various  
36 special interests and that were in existence or authorized by law on or

1 before April 13, 2005, shall continue to be issued by the ~~Director~~ Secretary  
2 of the Department of Finance and Administration to a motor vehicle owner who  
3 is otherwise eligible to license a motor vehicle in this state and who pays  
4 the additional fees for the special license plate unless other eligibility  
5 requirements are specifically stated in this subchapter:

6  
7 SECTION 4767. Arkansas Code § 27-24-1402(c)(1), concerning existing  
8 special license plates, is amended to read as follows:

9 (c)(1) Within thirty (30) days after April 13, 2005, the ~~director~~  
10 secretary shall notify the organizations listed in subsection (b) of this  
11 section that received the funds or were authorized to use the funds from a  
12 design-use contribution fee for a special license plate that is continued  
13 under this chapter and that was in effect before April 13, 2005, and the  
14 State Highway Commission of a change in the law regarding special license  
15 plates.

16  
17 SECTION 4768. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 27-24-  
18 1402(c)(2)(A), concerning existing special license plates, is amended to read  
19 as follows:

20 (2)(A) The organization shall submit to the ~~director~~ secretary  
21 an application that includes the following:

22  
23 SECTION 4769. Arkansas Code § 27-24-1402(c)(2)(B)(ii), concerning  
24 existing special license plates, is amended to read as follows:

25 (ii) If the organization fails to comply with this  
26 subdivision (c)(2)(B) within one hundred twenty (120) days after April 13,  
27 2005, then the ~~director~~ secretary shall notify the organization that proceeds  
28 from the special license plate design-use contribution fee will no longer be  
29 remitted to the organization or the organization will no longer be able to  
30 use the proceeds until the organization complies with this subdivision  
31 (c)(2)(B).

32  
33 SECTION 4770. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 27-24-  
34 1402(d), concerning existing special license plates, is amended to read as  
35 follows:

36 (d) Every special license plate continued under this subchapter shall

1 be discontinued on April 7, 2007, unless an application is submitted to and  
2 approved by the ~~director~~ secretary ninety (90) days prior to April 1, 2007,  
3 that establishes the organization's compliance with the following conditions:  
4

5 SECTION 4771. Arkansas Code § 27-24-1404(a), concerning the  
6 application process for additional special interest license plate decals, is  
7 amended to read as follows:

8 (a) A special interest organization may apply to the ~~Director~~  
9 Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration for the creation  
10 and issuance of a special license plate that bears a decal for the special  
11 interest group under this section beginning on July 1, 2006, and ending on  
12 November 1, 2006, and on the same dates each year thereafter.  
13

14 SECTION 4772. Arkansas Code § 27-24-1404(b)(2), concerning the  
15 application process for additional special interest license plate decals, is  
16 amended to read as follows:

17 (2) The ~~director~~ secretary shall either approve or deny each  
18 application submitted during the fiscal year by July 1 of the following  
19 fiscal year.  
20

21 SECTION 4773. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 27-24-  
22 1404(c)(1)(A), concerning the application process for additional special  
23 interest license plate decals, is amended to read as follows:

24 (c)(1)(A) If the request is approved, the ~~director~~ secretary shall  
25 determine:  
26

27 SECTION 4774. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 27-24-  
28 1404(c)(2), concerning the application process for additional special  
29 interest license plate decals, is amended to read as follows:

30 (2) If the ~~director~~ secretary denies the application, then:  
31

32 SECTION 4775. Arkansas Code § 27-24-1404(c)(2)(A), concerning the  
33 application process for additional special interest license plate decals, is  
34 amended to read as follows:

35 (A) The ~~director~~ secretary shall give the applicant  
36 written notice of the reasons for the denial; and

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SECTION 4776. Arkansas Code § 27-24-1406(b)(2), concerning license plate options, is amended to read as follows:

(2) The use of letters and numbers on a personalized prestige license plate under this section shall be limited by the rules of the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration.

SECTION 4777. Arkansas Code § 27-24-1407(a), concerning the annual report submitted to the Department of Finance and Administration, is amended to read as follows:

(a) A special interest organization that is the sponsor of a special license plate or a special license plate that bears a decal under this subchapter shall prepare and submit an annual accounting report to the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration by December 1 of each calendar year.

SECTION 4778. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 27-24-1407(c), concerning the annual report submitted to the Department of Finance and Administration, is amended to read as follows:

(c) If the special interest organization fails to comply with this section, then the ~~director~~ secretary may:

SECTION 4779. Arkansas Code § 27-24-1409(a)(1), concerning the Support Animal Rescue and Shelters special license plate decal, is amended to read as follows:

(a)(1) The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration shall issue a special license plate that bears a decal that states "Support Animal Rescue and Shelters" in the manner and subject to the conditions provided under this subchapter.

SECTION 4780. Arkansas Code § 27-24-1411(a), concerning the Little Rock Air Force Base, is amended to read as follows:

(a) The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration shall issue a special license plate for the Little Rock Air Force Base in the manner and subject to the conditions provided for under this subchapter.

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SECTION 4781. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 27-24-1411(c), concerning the Little Rock Air Force Base, is amended to read as follows:

(c) The ~~director~~ secretary shall determine the cost for the issuance of the special license plate under this section as follows:

SECTION 4782. Arkansas Code § 27-24-1412(a), concerning the special license plate for the support of the Court Appointed Special Advocates program, is amended to read as follows:

(a) The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration shall issue a special license plate for support of the Arkansas Court Appointed Special Advocates program in the manner and subject to the conditions provided for under this subchapter.

SECTION 4783. Arkansas Code § 27-24-1412(b)(1)(B), concerning the special license plate for the support of the Court Appointed Special Advocates program, is amended to read as follows:

(B) The design shall be submitted for design approval by the ~~director~~ secretary under rules promulgated by the ~~director~~ secretary; and

SECTION 4784. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 27-24-1412(c), concerning the special license plate for the support of the Court Appointed Special Advocates program, is amended to read as follows:

(c) The ~~director~~ secretary shall determine the amount of the costs for the issuance of the special license plate under this section as follows:

SECTION 4785. Arkansas Code § 27-24-1414(a), concerning a special license plate for the Arkansas Sheriffs' Association, is amended to read as follows:

(a) The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration shall issue a special license plate for the Arkansas Sheriffs' Association in the manner and subject to the conditions provided for under this subchapter.

SECTION 4786. Arkansas Code § 27-24-1414(b)(1)(B), concerning a

1 special license plate for the Arkansas Sheriffs' Association, is amended to  
2 read as follows:

3 (B) The design shall be submitted for design approval by  
4 the ~~director~~ secretary under rules promulgated by the ~~director~~ secretary; and  
5

6 SECTION 4787. Arkansas Code § 27-24-1415(a), concerning a children's  
7 cancer research motor vehicle special license plate, is amended to read as  
8 follows:

9 (a) The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and  
10 Administration shall create and issue a children's cancer research motor  
11 vehicle special license plate in the manner and subject to the conditions  
12 provided for under this subchapter.  
13

14 SECTION 4788. Arkansas Code § 27-24-1415(b)(1)(B), concerning a  
15 children's cancer research motor vehicle special license plate, is amended to  
16 read as follows:

17 (B) The design shall be submitted for design approval by  
18 the ~~director~~ secretary under rules promulgated by the ~~director~~ secretary; and  
19

20 SECTION 4789. Arkansas Code § 27-24-1416(a), concerning a special  
21 license plate for the Arkansas Future Farmers of America Association, is  
22 amended to read as follows:

23 (a) The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and  
24 Administration shall create and issue a special license plate for the  
25 Arkansas Future Farmers of America Association in the manner and subject to  
26 the conditions provided for under this subchapter.  
27

28 SECTION 4790. Arkansas Code § 27-24-1416(b)(1)(B), concerning a  
29 special license plate for the Arkansas Future Farmers of America Association,  
30 is amended to read as follows:

31 (B) The design shall be submitted for design approval by  
32 the ~~director~~ secretary under rules promulgated by the ~~director~~ secretary; and  
33

34 SECTION 4791. Arkansas Code § 27-24-1419(a), concerning the Arkansas  
35 Tennis Association license plate, is amended to read as follows:

36 (a) The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and

1 Administration shall issue a special license plate for the Arkansas Tennis  
2 Association in the manner and subject to the conditions provided for under  
3 this subchapter.

4  
5 SECTION 4792. Arkansas Code § 27-24-1419(b)(1)(B), concerning the  
6 Arkansas Tennis Association license plate, is amended to read as follows:

7 (B) The design shall be submitted for design approval by  
8 the ~~director~~ secretary under rules promulgated by the ~~director~~ secretary; and

9  
10 SECTION 4793. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 27-24-  
11 1419(c), concerning the Arkansas Tennis Association license plate, is amended  
12 to read as follows:

13 (c) The ~~director~~ secretary shall determine the costs for the issuance  
14 of the special license plate under this section as follows:

15  
16 SECTION 4794. Arkansas Code § 27-24-1420(a), concerning a special  
17 license plate for the Arkansas State Lodge Fraternal Order of Police, is  
18 amended to read as follows:

19 (a) The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and  
20 Administration shall issue a special license plate for the Arkansas State  
21 Lodge Fraternal Order of Police in the manner and subject to the conditions  
22 provided for under this subchapter.

23  
24 SECTION 4795. Arkansas Code § 27-24-1420(b)(1)(B), concerning a  
25 special license plate for the Arkansas State Lodge Fraternal Order of Police,  
26 is amended to read as follows:

27 (B) The design shall be submitted for design approval by  
28 the ~~director~~ secretary under rules promulgated by the ~~director~~ secretary; and

29  
30 SECTION 4796. Arkansas Code § 27-24-1422(a)(1), concerning a special  
31 license plate in honor of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., is amended to read as  
32 follows:

33 (a)(1) The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and  
34 Administration shall issue a special license plate in honor of Dr. Martin  
35 Luther King, Jr. in the manner and subject to the conditions provided for  
36 under this subchapter.

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SECTION 4797. Arkansas Code § 27-24-1422(b)(1)(B), concerning a special license plate in honor of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., is amended to read as follows:

(B) The design shall be submitted for design approval by the ~~director~~ secretary under rules promulgated by the ~~director~~ secretary; and

SECTION 4798. Arkansas Code § 27-24-1423(a), concerning an Autism Awareness motor vehicle special license plate, is amended to read as follows:

(a) The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration shall create and issue an Autism Awareness motor vehicle special license plate in the manner and subject to the conditions provided for under this subchapter.

SECTION 4799. Arkansas Code § 27-24-1424(a), concerning the hospice and palliative care motor vehicle special license plate, is amended to read as follows:

(a) The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration shall issue a special motor vehicle license plate for support of hospice and palliative care subject to the conditions provided for under this subchapter.

SECTION 4800. Arkansas Code § 27-24-1424(b)(1)(B), concerning the hospice and palliative care motor vehicle special license plate, is amended to read as follows:

(B) The design shall be submitted for design approval by the ~~director~~ secretary under rules promulgated by the ~~director~~ secretary; and

SECTION 4801. Arkansas Code § 27-24-1426(a), concerning the Quail Forever special license plate, is amended to read as follows:

(a) The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration shall create and issue a Quail Forever special license plate in the manner and subject to the conditions provided for under this subchapter.

SECTION 4802. Arkansas Code § 27-24-1427(a), concerning the Little

1 Rock Rangers Soccer Club special license plate, is amended to read as  
2 follows:

3 (a) The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and  
4 Administration shall create and issue a Little Rock Rangers Soccer Club  
5 special license plate in the manner and subject to the conditions provided  
6 for under this subchapter.

7  
8 SECTION 4803. Arkansas Code § 27-24-1602(a) and (b), concerning  
9 special license plates and requests from the Department of Parks and Tourism,  
10 are amended to read as follows:

11 (a)(1) The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and  
12 Administration shall accept requests from the Department of Parks, Heritage,  
13 and Tourism to create and issue special license plates under this subchapter.

14 (2) The Department of Parks, Heritage, and Tourism shall submit  
15 with a request for a special license plate a proposed design for the approval  
16 of the ~~director~~ secretary.

17 (b) When considering a request from the Department of Parks, Heritage,  
18 and Tourism for a special license plate, the ~~director~~ secretary shall  
19 consider the following factors:

20 (1) The administrative cost to the Department of Finance and  
21 Administration for issuance of a Department of Parks, Heritage, and Tourism  
22 special license plate; and

23 (2) The estimated demand for the special license plate requested  
24 by the Department of Parks, Heritage, and Tourism.

25  
26 SECTION 4804. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 27-24-  
27 1602(c)(1), concerning special license plates and requests from the  
28 Department of Parks and Tourism, is amended to read as follows:

29 (c)(1) If a request submitted under subsection (a) of this section is  
30 approved, the ~~director~~ secretary shall determine:

31  
32 SECTION 4805. Arkansas Code § 27-24-1701 is amended to read as  
33 follows:

34 27-24-1701. Authorization.

35 The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration  
36 shall issue a special license plate for conservation districts in the manner

1 and subject to the conditions provided under this subchapter.

2  
3 SECTION 4806. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 27-24-  
4 1702(b), concerning special motor vehicle license plates for conservation  
5 districts, is amended to read as follows:

6 (b) The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and  
7 Administration shall determine the amount of the costs for the issuance of  
8 the special license plate under this section as follows:

9  
10 SECTION 4807. Arkansas Code § 27-24-1704 is amended to read as  
11 follows:

12 27-24-1704. Rules.

13 The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration  
14 may promulgate rules for the administration of this subchapter.

15  
16 SECTION 4808. Arkansas Code § 27-50-201 is amended to read as follows:  
17 27-50-201. Provisions deemed cumulative.

18 This subchapter shall be cumulative to the laws in force relating to  
19 the functions and duties imposed upon the Department of Arkansas State Police  
20 and its successor entities under the provisions of Acts 1953, No. 122, and  
21 acts amendatory thereto. It shall also be cumulative to laws in effect that  
22 were in effect prior to the enactment of Acts 1953, No. 122, which imposed  
23 duties upon the Arkansas Department of Transportation and the Director of the  
24 Department of Finance and Administration, as well as their successor entities  
25 and officials, which were transferred to the Department of Arkansas State  
26 Police under the provisions of Acts 1953, No. 122, as amended.

27  
28 SECTION 4809. Arkansas Code § 27-50-204(c), concerning employees of  
29 the Arkansas Highway Police Division of the Arkansas Department of  
30 Transportation, is amended to read as follows:

31 (c) All moneys coming into the hands of the employees in the  
32 enforcement of revenue laws shall be subject to regulations and procedures as  
33 the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration shall  
34 direct.

35  
36 SECTION 4810. Arkansas Code § 27-50-303(2), concerning nonmoving

1 traffic law violations involving drivers' licenses, is amended to read as  
2 follows:

3 (2) Making a false statement to the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the  
4 Department of Finance and Administration to obtain a driver's license – Class  
5 A misdemeanor as defined under § 5-53-103 of the Arkansas Criminal Code.  
6

7 SECTION 4811. Arkansas Code § 27-50-307(b), concerning negligent  
8 homicide, is amended to read as follows:

9 (b) The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and  
10 Administration shall revoke the operator's or chauffeur's license of any  
11 person convicted of negligent homicide under the provisions of this section.  
12

13 SECTION 4812. Arkansas Code § 27-50-407 is amended to read as follows:  
14 27-50-407. Annual audit.

15 The records of all officials charged with the duty of collecting  
16 penalties as prescribed in this subchapter shall be audited annually by the  
17 ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration or his or  
18 her designated agents.  
19

20 SECTION 4813. Arkansas Code § 27-50-911 is amended to read as follows:  
21 27-50-911. Rules and regulations.

22 The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration  
23 may promulgate rules and regulations necessary to carry out the provisions of  
24 this subchapter.  
25

26 SECTION 4814. Arkansas Code § 27-51-102(b)(1), concerning penalties  
27 and the disposition of fines, is amended to read as follows:

28 (b)(1) Any offender who shall have been found guilty of any violation  
29 of any section of this act and fined and who shall within six (6) months  
30 thereafter be convicted of a second violation of such section may be fined in  
31 a sum not exceeding double the penalty provided for in this act for a first  
32 violation. In addition thereto, he or she may have his or her certificate or  
33 license issued by the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and  
34 Administration revoked for a period not exceeding sixty (60) days.  
35

36 SECTION 4815. Arkansas Code § 27-70-202(a)(2), concerning the Arkansas

1 Highway Revenue Distribution Law, is amended to read as follows:

2 (2) Taxes levied and collected under the Motor Fuel Tax Law, §  
3 26-55-201 et seq., and the Special Motor Fuels Tax Law, § 26-56-101 et seq.,  
4 commonly referred to, and denominated by the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the  
5 Department of Finance and Administration for tax distribution purposes, as  
6 the gasoline tax; and

7

8 SECTION 4816. Arkansas Code § 27-70-206(2), concerning the  
9 distribution to state funds of all highway revenues, is amended to read as  
10 follows:

11 (2) Next, to the Gasoline Tax Refund Fund, such amount as the  
12 ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration shall,  
13 from time to time, certify to the Treasurer of State as being necessary to  
14 pay approved gasoline tax refund claims under the provisions of §§ 26-55-301  
15 – 26-55-321 [Repealed] and 26-55-401 – 26-55-408, or other applicable law.  
16 However, the aggregate total amount of all transfers under this paragraph  
17 shall not exceed two million five hundred thousand dollars (\$2,500,000)  
18 during any fiscal year; and

19

20 SECTION 4817. Arkansas Code § 27-70-207(b)(3)(B), concerning the  
21 distribution to county and city funds, is amended to read as follows:

22 (B) Seventeen and one-half percent (17.5%) of the amount  
23 according to the amount of state motor vehicle license fees collected in the  
24 calendar year next preceding any distribution as certified to the Treasurer  
25 of State by the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and  
26 Administration, with each county to receive the proportion that the total of  
27 fees collected from the county bears to the total of fees collected in the  
28 state;

29

30 SECTION 4818. Arkansas Code § 27-101-110 is amended to read as  
31 follows:

32 27-101-110. Deposit of funds in State Treasury.

33 All fees collected by the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of  
34 Finance and Administration under the provisions of this chapter shall be  
35 deposited as special revenues in the State Treasury to the credit of the  
36 Special Revenue Fund Account of the State Apportionment Fund. All these funds

1 shall be credited to the Boating Safety Account Fund, which is established on  
2 the books of the Treasurer of State, the Auditor of State, and the Chief  
3 Fiscal Officer of the State.

4  
5 SECTION 4819. Arkansas Code § 27-101-111(a)(2)(C), concerning the  
6 distribution of funds, is amended to read as follows:

7 (C) Thirty-four percent (34%) to the County Aid Fund,  
8 which, on or before the tenth of the month following the end of each calendar  
9 quarter, shall be remitted by state warrants to the various county treasurers  
10 in the proportions thereof as between the respective counties that the total  
11 of the fees produced from each county bears to the total of the fees produced  
12 from all counties as certified by the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of  
13 Finance and Administration to the Treasurer of State; and

14  
15 SECTION 4820. Arkansas Code § 27-101-303(d), concerning the  
16 establishment of a system for identification numbering for all motorboats, is  
17 amended to read as follows:

18 (d) The identification numbers shall be assigned to each county in the  
19 state, and it shall be the duty of the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department  
20 of Finance and Administration to issue the identification numbers to the  
21 owners of motorboats in accordance with the provisions of subchapters 1-3 of  
22 this chapter.

23  
24 SECTION 4821. Arkansas Code § 27-101-304(a), concerning the filing of  
25 an application and issuance of a certificate of a hull identification number,  
26 is amended to read as follows:

27 (a) The owner of each motorboat for which numbering is required by  
28 this state shall file an application for a number within thirty (30) calendar  
29 days after the date of purchase with the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department  
30 of Finance and Administration on forms approved by the Arkansas State Game  
31 and Fish Commission.

32  
33 SECTION 4822. Arkansas Code § 27-101-304(e)(1), concerning the filing  
34 of an application and issuance of a certificate of a hull identification  
35 number, is amended to read as follows:

36 (e)(1) Upon receipt of the application in approved form, accompanied

1 by proof that the motorboat has been assessed or listed for assessment and,  
2 if it is equipped with more than fifty horsepower (50 hp), or is personal  
3 watercraft, is covered by a liability insurance policy issued by an insurance  
4 company authorized to do business in this state, the ~~director~~ secretary shall  
5 enter the application upon the records of his or her office and issue to the  
6 applicant a certificate of number stating the number awarded to the motorboat  
7 and the name and address of the owner.

8  
9 SECTION 4823. Arkansas Code § 27-101-304(f)(2), concerning the filing  
10 of an application and issuance of a certificate of a hull identification  
11 number, is amended to read as follows:

12 (2) The duplicate shall be retained as a record by the ~~director~~  
13 secretary.

14  
15 SECTION 4824. Arkansas Code § 27-101-305(a)(1), concerning the display  
16 of motorboat hull numbers, is amended to read as follows:

17 (a)(1) The owner shall procure and attach to each side of the bow of  
18 the motorboat numbers conforming to the certificate of number issued to the  
19 owner by the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and  
20 Administration.

21  
22 SECTION 4825. Arkansas Code § 27-101-306(b) and (c), concerning the  
23 numbering period, expiration, and renewal of boat certificates, are amended  
24 to read as follows:

25 (b) The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and  
26 Administration shall establish a system in a manner that the expiration dates  
27 of the various certificates of numbers will be evenly distributed throughout  
28 the year and each year thereafter to the end that boat certificates of  
29 numbers will be renewable as uniformly as practicable throughout each of the  
30 twelve (12) months of the license year in each year.

31 (c) Upon request, the ~~director~~ secretary shall assign to any owner of  
32 two (2) or more boats the same registration period.

33  
34 SECTION 4826. Arkansas Code § 27-101-309(a) and (b), concerning the  
35 change of *boat* ownership, are amended to read as follows:

36 (a) Should the ownership of a motorboat change, the new owner shall

1 file an application with the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance  
2 and Administration for the transfer of the certificate of operation of the  
3 motorboat to the new owner within thirty (30) calendar days after the date of  
4 the ownership change.

5 (b) Upon receipt of the application, the ~~director~~ secretary shall  
6 cancel the certificate of number issued to the former owner of the motorboat  
7 and shall assign the number to the new owner of the motorboat and shall issue  
8 a certificate of number to the new owner.

9  
10 SECTION 4827. Arkansas Code § 27-101-310 is amended to read as  
11 follows:

12 27-101-310. Destroyed or abandoned boats.

13 (a) Whenever any motorboat numbered under the provisions of this  
14 subchapter shall be destroyed or abandoned, its owner shall notify the  
15 ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration within  
16 fifteen (15) days after the destruction or abandonment, and the certificate  
17 of number of the motorboat shall be terminated.

18 (b) The ~~director~~ secretary shall notify the Arkansas State Game and  
19 Fish Commission of the termination of any certificate of number.

20  
21 SECTION 4828. Arkansas Code Title 25, Chapter 43, is amended to add an  
22 additional subchapter to read as follows:

23 Subchapter 8 – Department of Health

24  
25 25-43-801. Department of Health.

26 There is created the Department of Health as a cabinet-level  
27 department.

28  
29 25-43-802. State entities transferred to Department of Health.

30 (a) The administrative functions of the following state entities are  
31 transferred to the Department of Health by a cabinet-level department  
32 transfer:

33 (1) The Advisory Board for Interpreters Between Hearing  
34 Individuals and Individuals who are Deaf, Deafblind, Hard of Hearing, or Oral  
35 Deaf, created under § 20-14-804;

36 (2) The Advisory Committee on Healthcare Acquired Infections,

- 1 created under § 20-9-1204;  
2 (3) The Advisory Council to the Arkansas Youth Suicide  
3 Prevention Task Force, created under § 20-77-1607;  
4 (4) The Arkansas Board of Dispensing Opticians, created under §  
5 17-89-201;  
6 (5) The Arkansas Board of Examiners in Counseling, created under  
7 § 17-27-201;  
8 (6) The Arkansas Board of Hearing Instrument Dispensers, created  
9 under § 17-84-201;  
10 (7) The Arkansas Board of Podiatric Medicine, created under §  
11 17-96-201;  
12 (8) The Arkansas Commission for the Newborn Umbilical Cord Blood  
13 Initiative, created under § 20-8-505;  
14 (9) The Arkansas Dietetics Licensing Board, created under § 17-  
15 83-201;  
16 (10) The Arkansas Minority Health Commission, created under §  
17 20-2-102;  
18 (11) The Arkansas Orthotics, Prosthetics, and Pedorthics  
19 Advisory Board, created under § 17-107-201;  
20 (12) The Arkansas Psychology Board, created under § 17-97-201;  
21 (13) The Arkansas Social Work Licensing Board, created under §  
22 17-103-201;  
23 (14) The Arkansas Spinal Cord Commission, created under § 20-8-  
24 202;  
25 (15) The Arkansas State Board of Acupuncture and Related  
26 Techniques, created under § 17-102-201;  
27 (16) The Arkansas State Board of Athletic Training, created  
28 under § 17-93-404;  
29 (17) The Arkansas State Board of Chiropractic Examiners, created  
30 under § 17-81-201;  
31 (18) The Arkansas State Board of Dental Examiners, created under  
32 § 17-82-201;  
33 (19) The Arkansas State Board of Nursing, created under § 17-87-  
34 201;  
35 (20) The Arkansas State Board of Pharmacy, created under § 17-  
36 92-201;

- 1                   (21) The Arkansas State Board of Physical Therapy, created under  
2 § 17-93-201;
- 3                   (22) The Arkansas State Board of Sanitaricians, created under §  
4 17-43-201;
- 5                   (23) The Arkansas State Medical Board, created under § 17-95-  
6 301;
- 7                   (24) The Arkansas Suicide Prevention Council, created under §  
8 20-45-302;
- 9                   (25) The Arkansas Surgeon General, created under § 25-43-806;  
10 (26) The Arkansas Tobacco Settlement Commission, created under §  
11 19-12-117;
- 12                   (27) The Board of Examiners in Speech-Language Pathology and  
13 Audiology, created under § 17-100-201;
- 14                   (28) The Breast Cancer Control Advisory Board, created under §  
15 20-15-1304;
- 16                   (29) The Cervical Cancer Task Force, created under § 20-9-1102;  
17 (30) The Child Health Advisory Committee, created under § 20-7-  
18 133;
- 19                   (31) The Cosmetology Technical Advisory Committee, created under  
20 § 17-26-201;
- 21                   (32) The Committee on Plumbing Examiners, created under § 17-38-  
22 202;
- 23                   (33) The Drinking Water Advisory and Operator Licensing  
24 Committee, created under § 17-51-104;
- 25                   (34) The Emergency Medical Services Advisory Council, created  
26 under § 20-13-205;
- 27                   (35) The Health Services Permit Agency, created under § 20-8-  
28 102;
- 29                   (36) The Health Services Permit Commission, created under § 20-  
30 8-104;
- 31                   (37) The Marine Sanitation Advisory Committee, created under §  
32 27-101-405;
- 33                   (38) The Massage Therapy Technical Advisory Committee, created  
34 under § 17-86-201;
- 35                   (39) The Medical Ionizing Radiation Licensure Committee, created  
36 under § 17-106-104;

1           (40) The Prescription Drug Monitoring Program Advisory  
2 Committee, created under § 20-7-605;

3           (41) The Prescriptive Authority Advisory Committee, created  
4 under § 17-87-205;

5           (42) The State Board of Examiners of Alcoholism and Drug Abuse  
6 Counselors, created under § 17-27-404;

7           (43) The State Board of Optometry, created under § 17-90-201;

8           (44) The State Board of Health, created under § 20-7-102;

9           (45) The State Hospice Office, created under § 20-7-117;

10           (46) The State Kidney Disease Commission, created under § 20-15-  
11 602;

12           (47) The State Board of Disease Intervention Specialists,  
13 created under § 17-98-201;

14           (48) The Tobacco Prevention and Cessation Program, created under  
15 § 19-12-113; and

16           (49) The Universal Newborn Hearing Screening, Tracking and  
17 Intervention Program and Advisory Board, created under § 20-15-1503.

18           (b) Unless otherwise provided by law, a cabinet-level department  
19 transfer under subsection (a) of this section includes all state entities  
20 under a state entity transferred to the Department of Health under subsection  
21 (a) of this section, including without limitation a division, office,  
22 program, or other unit of a state entity transferred to the Department of  
23 Health under subsection (a) of this section.

24           (c) Unless otherwise provided by law, a state entity whose  
25 administrative functions have been transferred to the Department of Health  
26 under subsection (a) of this section shall otherwise continue to exercise the  
27 duties of the state entity under the administration of the cabinet-level  
28 Department of Health in the same manner as before the creation of the  
29 cabinet-level department.

30  
31           25-43-803. Secretary of the Department of Health.

32           (a) The executive head of the Department of Health shall be the  
33 Secretary of the Department of Health.

34           (b) The secretary shall be appointed by the Governor, subject to  
35 confirmation by the Senate, and shall serve at the pleasure of the Governor.

36           (c) Each division of the department shall be under the direction,

1 control, and supervision of the secretary.

2 (d) The secretary may delegate his or her functions, powers, and  
3 duties to various divisions or employees of the department as he or she shall  
4 deem desirable and necessary for the effective and efficient operation of the  
5 department.

6 (e) The secretary may, unless otherwise provided by law:

7 (1) Hire department personnel;

8 (2) Perform or assign duties assigned to the department; and

9 (3) Serve as the director, or the administrative or executive  
10 head of any state entity under the administrative control of the department  
11 if the secretary meets all statutory requirements for the position.

12  
13 25-43-804. Director.

14 (a) The Secretary of the Department of Health may employ a Director of  
15 the Department of Health.

16 (b) The secretary may delegate his or her functions, powers, and  
17 duties to the director or to other various units or personnel of the  
18 Department of Health as he or she shall deem desirable and necessary for the  
19 effective and efficient operation of the department.

20 (c)(1) All other personnel of the department shall be employed by and  
21 shall serve at the pleasure of the secretary.

22 (2) However, this section does not reduce any right that an  
23 employee of the department has under any civil service or merit system.

24 (d) Each unit of the department shall be under the direction, control,  
25 and supervision of the secretary.

26  
27 25-43-805. Office of Oral Health.

28 (a) The Department of Health shall maintain an Office of Oral Health.

29 (b) The Secretary of the Department of Health may appoint a Director  
30 of the Office of Oral Health.

31 (1) The Director of the Office of Oral Health shall be an  
32 experienced public health dentist licensed to practice under the Arkansas  
33 Dental Practice Act, § 17-82-101 et seq.

34 (2) The Director of the Office of Oral Health shall:

35 (A) Plan, direct, and coordinate all dental public health  
36 programs with other local, state, and national health programs;

1 (B) Serve as the department's chief advisor on matters  
2 involving oral health; and

3 (C) Plan, implement, and evaluate all oral health programs  
4 within the department.

5  
6 25-43-806. Arkansas Surgeon General.

7 (a) The Secretary of the Department of Health may employ the Arkansas  
8 Surgeon General.

9 (b) If employed by the Secretary of the Department of Health, the  
10 Arkansas Surgeon General shall:

11 (1) Be a graduate of a school of medicine recognized by the  
12 Arkansas State Medical Board;

13 (2) Be licensed and in good standing with the Arkansas State  
14 Medical Board; and

15 (3) Serve as an advisor to the secretary.

16 (c) The Arkansas Surgeon General shall perform the duties required of  
17 him or her by the secretary, including without limitation:

18 (1) Reviewing, assessing, and developing health policy options,  
19 including insurance coverage, health risk management, disease prevention, and  
20 health promotion strategies across state agencies;

21 (2) Providing health policy advice for the secretary and senior  
22 state agency officials;

23 (3) Raising awareness of healthcare and public health areas of  
24 priority for advancement of the health of the citizens of Arkansas;

25 (4) Reviewing legislative analyses and proposed legislation and  
26 creating position statements for the Governor and senior state agency  
27 officials;

28 (5) Advising the secretary, senior state agency officials, and  
29 governing boards and commissions on policy issues and program  
30 accomplishments; and

31 (6) Providing medical review oversight and guidance to health  
32 and human services clinical programs upon the request of the secretary.

33  
34 25-43-807. Patient care providers – Wages – Required withholding –  
35 Fringe benefits.

36 (a) The Department of Health may pay wages and required state

1 withholding, federal withholding, required matching, and other fringe  
2 benefits for patient care part-time intermittent contractual personnel who  
3 must be employed in order to provide services in the home.

4 (b) These payments will be made from the appropriation for  
5 professional fees and services.

6  
7 25-43-808. Additional compensation – County health unit administrators.

8 (a) Any employee serving in the capacity of county health unit  
9 administrator shall be eligible for up to ten percent (10%) of additional  
10 compensation within the grade during the period of time in which the employee  
11 occupies the position.

12 (b) Employees on the highest level of their grade shall be eligible  
13 for additional compensation in an amount not to exceed five and one-half  
14 percent (5.5%) of their current salary upon assuming responsibility, and this  
15 amount shall not be construed as exceeding the line item maximum for the  
16 grade for that position.

17 (c)(1) The Department of Health shall certify to the Chief Fiscal  
18 Officer of the State the assignment of duties of each employee in this  
19 position, the length of the assignment, and the location and reason for the  
20 assignment.

21 (2) The Chief Fiscal Officer of the State shall approve the  
22 request prior to the awarding of additional compensation.

23  
24 25-43-809. Office of Health Information Technology - Creation –  
25 Purpose – Policy.

26 (a) The Office of Health Information Technology is created within the  
27 Department of Health.

28 (b) The coordination of health information technology activities  
29 throughout Arkansas by the Office of Health Information Technology is  
30 necessary to obtain the maximum potential value from the investment of  
31 federal and state resources to increase the use of health information  
32 technology.

33 (c) The exchange of health information made possible by the State  
34 Health Alliance for Records Exchange can improve the quality of health of  
35 Arkansas citizens by reducing the potential for medical errors, reducing the  
36 incidence of redundant tests and procedures, improving patient safety, and

1 making the delivery of healthcare services more efficient and affordable.

2 (d) The Office of Health Information Technology and the State Health  
3 Alliance for Records Exchange shall respect and safeguard each person's  
4 privacy interests in his or her health and medical information.

5 (e) The Office of Health Information Technology is authorized to  
6 transfer the State Health Alliance for Records Exchange to a nonprofit  
7 corporation.

8  
9 25-43-810. Definitions.

10 As used in §§ 25-43-809 - 25-43-812:

11 (1) "Agency" means any agency, board, commission, public  
12 instrumentality, political subdivision, or any of the foregoing entities  
13 acting on behalf of the State of Arkansas that store, gather, or generate  
14 health information;

15 (2) "Deidentified" means the same as the meaning under the  
16 Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996, Public Law No.  
17 104-191;

18 (3) "Health information" means any information, whether oral or  
19 recorded in any form or medium, that:

20 (A) Is created or received by:

21 (i) A provider of health care;

22 (ii) A health plan;

23 (iii) A public health authority;

24 (iv) An employer;

25 (v) A health insurer;

26 (vi) A school or university; or

27 (vii) A healthcare clearinghouse; and

28 (B) Relates to the:

29 (i) Past, present, or future physical or mental  
30 health or condition of an individual;

31 (ii) Provision of health care to an individual; or

32 (iii) Past, present, or future payment for the  
33 provision of health care to an individual;

34 (4) "Health information exchange" means the electronic movement  
35 of health-related information among organizations according to nationally  
36 recognized standards;

1           (5) “Health information technology” means the application of  
2 information processing involving both computer hardware and software and  
3 other technology devices that deal with the storage, retrieval, sharing, and  
4 use of healthcare information, data, and knowledge for communication and  
5 decision-making;

6           (6) “Identified” means the same as the meaning under the Health  
7 Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996, Public Law No. 104-191;

8           (7) “Nonprofit corporation” means a corporation in which no part  
9 of the income is distributable to its members, directors, or officers as  
10 under the Arkansas Nonprofit Corporation Act of 1993, § 4-33-101 et seq.; and

11           (8) “State Health Alliance for Records Exchange” means the  
12 entity responsible for the processes and procedures that enable the  
13 electronic exchange of interoperable health information in Arkansas.

14  
15           25-43-811. Duties and responsibilities of the Office of Health  
16 Information Technology.

17           (a) The Office of Health Information Technology shall coordinate the  
18 health information technology initiatives of the state with relevant  
19 executive branch agencies, including without limitation state boards,  
20 commissions, nonprofit corporations, and institutions of higher education.

21           (b) The Office of Health Information Technology Coordinator shall be  
22 selected and serve in a manner prescribed by the Secretary of the Department  
23 of Health.

24           (c) The office shall:

25           (1) Assure the effective coordination and collaboration of  
26 health information technology planning, development, implementation, and  
27 financing;

28           (2) Review all health information technology-related grant  
29 applications before submission to funding entities;

30           (3) Accept, receive, retain, disburse, and administer any state  
31 special or general revenue funds or federal funds specifically appropriated  
32 for health information technology;

33           (4) Make contracts and execute all instruments necessary or  
34 convenient for carrying out its business;

35           (5) Recommend to the State Board of Health regarding rules  
36 necessary to carry out the policies and objectives of this chapter;

1           (6) Plan, establish, and operate the State Health Alliance for  
2 Records Exchange until the time when the operational responsibility and  
3 authority for the State Health Alliance for Records Exchange is transferred  
4 to a nonprofit corporation; and

5           (7)(A) Establish reasonable fees or charges for the use of the  
6 State Health Alliance for Records Exchange to fund the operational costs of  
7 the State Health Alliance for Records Exchange and the office.

8           (B) Fees or charges established under subdivision  
9 (c)(7)(A) of this section shall be set with the input and guidance of the  
10 users of the State Health Alliance for Records Exchange, stakeholders, and  
11 other interested parties.

12           (C) Fees or charges established under subdivision  
13 (c)(7)(A) of this section shall not exceed the total cost of operating the  
14 State Health Alliance for Records Exchange, not including staffing costs for  
15 the State Health Alliance for Records Exchange and the office.

16           (D) Users of data under this chapter shall be charged in a  
17 manner that is proportional to their use of the State Health Alliance for  
18 Records Exchange.

19           (E) Revenue generated by the fees or charges under  
20 subdivision (c)(7)(A) of this section shall be deposited into the Health  
21 Information Technology Fund, § 19-5-1244.

22  
23           25-43-812. State Health Alliance for Records Exchange – Duties.

24           (a) The State Health Alliance For Records Exchange shall:

25           (1) Serve as the official health information exchange for the  
26 State of Arkansas;

27           (2) Be organized for the purpose of improving the health of  
28 Arkansans by:

29           (A) Promoting efficient and effective communication among  
30 multiple healthcare providers, including without limitation hospitals,  
31 physicians, payers, employers, pharmacies, laboratories, and other healthcare  
32 entities;

33           (B) Creating efficiencies in healthcare costs by  
34 eliminating redundancy in data capture and storage and reducing  
35 administrative, billing, and data collection costs;

36           (C) Creating the ability to monitor community health

1 status; and

2 (D) Providing reliable information to healthcare consumers  
3 and purchasers regarding the quality and cost-effectiveness of health care,  
4 health plans, and healthcare providers;

5 (3)(A) Until a nonprofit corporation operates the State Health  
6 Alliance for Records Exchange, the State Health Alliance for Records Exchange  
7 shall be established and operated by the Office of Health Information  
8 Technology with the advice of the Health Information Exchange Council,  
9 consisting of the following members appointed by the Secretary of the  
10 Department of Health:

11 (i) The Office of Health Information Technology  
12 Coordinator;

13 (ii) A representative of the Department of Finance  
14 and Administration;

15 (iii) A representative of the Department of Human  
16 Services;

17 (iv) A representative of the Division of Information  
18 Systems;

19 (v) A representative of the health insurance  
20 industry;

21 (vi) A representative of the Arkansas Foundation for  
22 Medical Care, Inc.;

23 (vii) A representative of the Arkansas Hospital  
24 Association, Inc.;

25 (viii) A representative of the Arkansas Medical  
26 Society, Inc.;

27 (ix) A representative of the Arkansas Minority  
28 Health Commission;

29 (x) A representative of the Arkansas Nurses  
30 Association;

31 (xi) A representative of the Division of Science and  
32 Technology of the Arkansas Economic Development Commission;

33 (xii) A representative of the Arkansas Pharmacist's  
34 Association;

35 (xiii) A representative of the business community;

36 (xiv) A representative of the Community Health

1 Centers of Arkansas, Inc.;

2 (xv) A representative of the University of Arkansas  
3 for Medical Sciences;

4 (xvi) A representative of the Arkansas Health Care  
5 Association; and

6 (xvii) Two (2) healthcare consumers.

7 (b) The Chair of the Health Information Exchange Council shall be  
8 elected by the members of the council.

9 (c)(1) The members of the council shall serve three-year terms.

10 (2) A member may be re-appointed to serve on the council.

11 (3) In the event of a vacancy on the council, a person may be  
12 appointed to serve the remainder of the term.

13 (d)(1) The State Health Alliance for Records Exchange is not a  
14 healthcare provider and is not subject to claims under § 16-114-201 et seq.

15 (2) A person who participates in or subscribes to the services  
16 or information provided by the State Health Alliance for Records Exchange  
17 shall not be liable in any action for damages or cost of any nature that  
18 results solely from the person's use or failure to use the State Health  
19 Alliance for Records Exchange information or data that was imputed or  
20 retrieved under the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of  
21 1996, as it existed on January 1, 2011, and regulations adopted under the  
22 act, state confidentiality laws and the rules of the State Health Alliance  
23 for Records Exchange as approved by the Office of Health Information  
24 Technology or the governing body of the nonprofit corporation.

25 (3) A person shall not be subject to antitrust or unfair  
26 competition liability based on membership or participation in the State  
27 Health Alliance for Records Exchange, which provides an essential  
28 governmental function for the public health and safety and enjoys state  
29 sovereign immunity.

30 (e) A person who provides information and data to the State Health  
31 Alliance for Records Exchange retains a property right in the information or  
32 data but grants to the other participants or subscribers a nonexclusive  
33 license to retrieve and use that information or data under the Health  
34 Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996, as it existed on  
35 January 1, 2011, and any amendments and regulations adopted under the act,  
36 state confidentiality laws, and the rules of the State Health Alliance for

1 Records Exchange.

2 (f) All processes or software developed, designed, or purchased by the  
3 State Health Alliance for Records Exchange shall remain the property of the  
4 State Health Alliance for Records Exchange subject to use by participants or  
5 subscribers under the rules of the State Health Alliance for Records  
6 Exchange.

7 (g) Patient-specific protected health information shall be disclosed  
8 only in accordance with the patient's authorization or in compliance with  
9 state confidentiality laws and the Health Insurance Portability and  
10 Accountability Act of 1996, as it existed on January 1, 2011, and regulations  
11 under the act.

12 (h) Executive branch agencies, including state boards, commissions,  
13 nonprofit corporations, and institutions of higher education that implement,  
14 acquire, or upgrade health information technology systems shall use health  
15 information technology systems and products that meet minimum standards  
16 adopted by the State Health Alliance for Records Exchange.

17 (i) All identified or deidentified health information contained in,  
18 stored in, submitted to, transferred by, or released from the State Health  
19 Alliance for Records Exchange is not disclosable under applicable state or  
20 federal law except to:

21 (1) A healthcare provider; or

22 (2) Other authorized person or entity as described by policies  
23 and rules promulgated by the State Board of Health or the State Alliance for  
24 Records Exchange.

25 (j)(1) Upon the transfer to a nonprofit corporation, the State Health  
26 Alliance for Records Exchange shall be governed under the bylaws and  
27 incorporation documents of the nonprofit corporation.

28 (2) The bylaws and incorporation documents of the nonprofit  
29 corporation shall further only the objectives and policies set forth in §§  
30 25-43-809 - 25-43-812.

31  
32 SECTION 4829. Arkansas Code § 4-97-103(2), concerning the definition  
33 of "authorized person" under the Arkansas Retail Pet Store Consumer  
34 Protection Act of 1991, is amended to read as follows:

35 (2) "Authorized person" means the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the  
36 Department of Health or his or her delegate, or any law enforcement officer;

1  
2 SECTION 4830. Arkansas Code § 5-64-101(3)(B)(i), concerning the  
3 definition of "anabolic steroid" under the Uniform Controlled Substances Act,  
4 is amended to read as follows:

5 (B)(i) "Anabolic steroid" does not include an anabolic  
6 steroid that is expressly intended for administration through an implant to  
7 cattle or another nonhuman species and that has been approved by the ~~Director~~  
8 Secretary of the Department of Health for such administration.

9  
10 SECTION 4831. Arkansas Code § 5-64-201 is amended to read as follows:

11 5-64-201. ~~Director's~~ Secretary's duties.

12 (a)(1)(A)(i) The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Health shall  
13 administer this chapter and may add a substance to or delete or reschedule  
14 any substance enumerated in a schedule under the procedures of the Arkansas  
15 Administrative Procedure Act, § 25-15-201 et seq.

16 (ii) The ~~director~~ secretary may promulgate without  
17 action or approval of the State Board of Health an emergency rule under the  
18 procedures of the Arkansas Administrative Procedure Act, § 25-15-201 et seq.,  
19 that adds a substance to or deletes a substance from a schedule or  
20 reschedules a substance.

21 (iii) If the ~~director~~ secretary adds, deletes, or  
22 reschedules a substance through an emergency rule under the procedures of the  
23 Arkansas Administrative Procedure Act, § 25-15-201 et seq., the emergency  
24 rule may be effective for no longer than one hundred eighty (180) days.

25 (B) However, the ~~director~~ secretary shall not delete any  
26 substance from a schedule in effect on July 20, 1979, without prior approval  
27 by the Legislative Council.

28 (2) In making a determination regarding a substance, the  
29 ~~director~~ secretary shall consider the following:

- 30 (A) The actual or relative potential for abuse;  
31 (B) The scientific evidence of its pharmacological effect,  
32 if known;  
33 (C) The state of current scientific knowledge regarding  
34 the substance;  
35 (D) The history and current pattern of abuse;  
36 (E) The scope, duration, and significance of abuse;

- 1 (F) The risk to public health;
- 2 (G) The potential of the substance to produce psychic or  
3 physiological dependence liability; and
- 4 (H) Whether the substance is an immediate precursor of a  
5 substance already controlled under this subchapter.

6 (b) After considering the factors enumerated in subsection (a) of this  
7 section, the ~~director~~ secretary shall make findings with respect to the  
8 factors and issue a rule controlling the substance if he or she finds the  
9 substance has a potential for abuse.

10 (c) If the ~~director~~ secretary designates a substance as an immediate  
11 precursor, a substance that is a precursor of the controlled precursor is not  
12 subject to control solely because it is a precursor of the controlled  
13 precursor.

14 (d)(1) If any substance is designated as a controlled substance under  
15 federal law and notice of the designation is given to the ~~director~~ secretary,  
16 the ~~director~~ secretary shall similarly control the substance under this  
17 chapter after the expiration of thirty (30) days from publication in the  
18 Federal Register of a final order designating a substance as a controlled  
19 substance unless within that thirty-day period the ~~director~~ secretary objects  
20 to inclusion.

21 (2)(A) If the ~~director~~ secretary objects to inclusion, the  
22 ~~director~~ secretary shall publish the reasons for objection and afford any  
23 interested party an opportunity to be heard.

24 (B) At the conclusion of the hearing, the ~~director~~  
25 secretary shall publish his or her decision.

26 (C) Any person aggrieved by a decision of the ~~director~~  
27 secretary is entitled to judicial review in the Pulaski County Circuit Court.

28 (3) Upon publication of objection to inclusion under this  
29 chapter by the ~~director~~ secretary, control under this chapter is stayed until  
30 the ~~director~~ secretary publishes his or her decision or, if judicial review  
31 is sought, the inclusion is stayed until adjudication of the judicial review.

32 (4) If notice has been given to the ~~director~~ secretary that the  
33 United States Food and Drug Administration has designated, rescheduled, or  
34 descheduled a marijuana-derived substance under federal law and approved for  
35 marketing the marijuana-derived substance as a prescription medication, the  
36 ~~director~~ secretary shall consider the designation, rescheduling, or

1 descheduling of the marijuana-derived substance under this chapter.

2 (e) Authority to control under this section does not extend to  
3 distilled spirits, wine, malt beverages, or tobacco.

4 (f) The ~~director~~ secretary shall schedule gamma-hydroxybutyrate and  
5 its known precursors and analogs in a manner consistent with the procedures  
6 outlined in this section.

7

8 SECTION 4832. Arkansas Code § 5-64-203 is amended to read as follows:  
9 5-64-203. Criteria for Schedule I.

10 The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Health shall place a  
11 substance in Schedule I if he or she finds that the substance has:

- 12 (1) High potential for abuse; and  
13 (2) No accepted medical use in treatment in the United States or  
14 lacks accepted safety for use in treatment under medical supervision.

15

16 SECTION 4833. Arkansas Code § 5-64-204 is amended to read as follows:  
17 5-64-204. Substances in Schedule I.

18 (a) In addition to any substance placed in Schedule I by the ~~Director~~  
19 Secretary of the Department of Health under § 5-64-203, any material,  
20 compound, mixture, or preparation, whether produced directly or indirectly  
21 from a substance of vegetable origin or independently by means of chemical  
22 synthesis or by a combination of extraction and chemical synthesis, that  
23 contains any quantity of the following substances, or that contains any of  
24 the following substances' analogs, salts, isomers, and salts of isomers when  
25 the existence of the analogs, salts, isomers, and salts of isomers is  
26 possible within the specific chemical designation, with the following  
27 chemical structure is included in Schedule I:

- 28 (1) 4-Methylmethcathinone (Mephedrone);  
29 (2) Methylenedioxypropylone (MDPV);  
30 (3) 3,4-Methylenedioxy-N-methylcathinone (Methylone);  
31 (4) 4-Methoxymethcathinone;  
32 (5) 3-Fluoromethcathinone;  
33 (6) 4-Fluoromethcathinone; or  
34 (7) A compound, unless listed in another schedule or a legend  
35 drug, that is structurally derived from 2-Amino-1-phenyl-1-propanone by  
36 modification or by substitution:

1 (A) In the phenyl ring to any extent with alkyl, alkoxy,  
2 alkylendioxy, haloalkyl or halide substituents, whether or not further  
3 substituted in the phenyl ring by one (1) or more other univalent  
4 substituents;

5 (B) At the 3-position with an alkyl substituent; or

6 (C) At the nitrogen atom with alkyl or dialkyl groups, or  
7 by inclusion of the nitrogen atom in a cyclic structure.

8 (b) The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Health shall not  
9 delete a controlled substance listed in this section from Schedule I.

10  
11 SECTION 4834. Arkansas Code § 5-64-205 is amended to read as follows:  
12 5-64-205. Criteria for Schedule II.

13 The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Health shall place a  
14 substance in Schedule II if he or she finds that:

15 (1) The substance has high potential for abuse;

16 (2) The substance has currently accepted medical use in  
17 treatment in the United States or currently accepted medical use with severe  
18 restrictions; and

19 (3) The abuse of the substance may lead to severe psychic or  
20 physical dependence.

21  
22 SECTION 4835. Arkansas Code § 5-64-207 is amended to read as follows:  
23 5-64-207. Criteria for Schedule III.

24 The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Health shall place a  
25 substance in Schedule III if he or she finds that:

26 (1) The substance has a potential for abuse less than the  
27 substances listed in Schedules I and II;

28 (2) The substance has currently accepted medical use in  
29 treatment in the United States; and

30 (3) Abuse of the substance may lead to moderate or low physical  
31 dependence or high psychological dependence.

32  
33 SECTION 4836. Arkansas Code § 5-64-209 is amended to read as follows:  
34 5-64-209. Criteria for Schedule IV.

35 The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Health shall place a  
36 substance in Schedule IV if he or she finds that:

1 (1) The substance has a low potential for abuse relative to  
2 substances in Schedule III;

3 (2) The substance has currently accepted medical use in  
4 treatment in the United States; and

5 (3) Abuse of the substance may lead to limited physical  
6 dependence or psychological dependence relative to the substances in Schedule  
7 III.

8  
9 SECTION 4837. Arkansas Code § 5-64-211 is amended to read as follows:  
10 5-64-211. Criteria for Schedule V.

11 The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Health shall place a  
12 substance in Schedule V if he or she finds that:

13 (1) The substance has low potential for abuse relative to the  
14 controlled substances listed in Schedule IV;

15 (2) The substance has currently accepted medical use in  
16 treatment in the United States; and

17 (3) The substance has limited physical dependence or  
18 psychological dependence liability relative to the controlled substances  
19 listed in Schedule IV.

20  
21 SECTION 4838. Arkansas Code § 5-64-212(a), concerning substances in  
22 Schedule V under the Uniform Controlled Substances Act, is amended to read as  
23 follows:

24 (a) An ephedrine combination product, pseudoephedrine, and  
25 phenylpropanolamine, as defined in § 5-64-1105, are designated Schedule V  
26 controlled substances in addition to the drugs and other substances listed in  
27 Schedule V of the List of Controlled Substances for the State of Arkansas  
28 promulgated by the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Health.

29  
30 SECTION 4839. Arkansas Code § 5-64-212(c), concerning substances in  
31 Schedule V under the Uniform Controlled Substances Act, is amended to read as  
32 follows:

33 (c) The ~~director~~ secretary may reschedule a product described in  
34 subdivision (b)(1) or subdivision (b)(2) of this section if it is determined  
35 that the conversion of the active ingredient in the product into  
36 methamphetamine or its salts or precursors is feasible.

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SECTION 4840. Arkansas Code § 5-64-214 is amended to read as follows:  
5-64-214. Criteria for Schedule VI.

The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Health shall place a substance in Schedule VI if he or she finds that:

(1) The substance is not currently accepted for medical use in treatment in the United States;

(2) There is lack of accepted safety for use of the drug or other substance even under direct medical supervision;

(3) The substance has relatively high psychological or physiological dependence liability, or both; and

(4) Use of the substance presents a definite risk to public health.

SECTION 4841. Arkansas Code § 5-64-215(a), the introductory language concerning the substances in Schedule VI under the Uniform Controlled Substances Act, is amended to read as follows:

(a) In addition to any substance placed in Schedule VI by the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Health under § 5-64-214, any material, compound, mixture, or preparation, whether produced directly or indirectly from a substance of vegetable origin or independently by means of chemical synthesis, or by a combination of extraction and chemical synthesis, that contains any quantity of the following substances, or that contains any of their salts, isomers, and salts of isomers when the existence of the salts, isomers, and salts of isomers is possible within the specific chemical designation, is included in Schedule VI:

SECTION 4842. Arkansas Code § 5-64-215(b), concerning the substances in Schedule VI under the Uniform Controlled Substances Act, is amended to read as follows:

(b) However, the ~~director~~ secretary shall not delete a controlled substance listed in this section from Schedule VI.

SECTION 4843. Arkansas Code § 5-64-216 is amended to read as follows:  
5-64-216. Schedule revisions.

The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Health shall revise and

1 republish the schedules annually.

2

3 SECTION 4844. Arkansas Code § 5-64-414(c), concerning the controlled  
4 substance analog under the Uniform Controlled Substances Act, is amended to  
5 read as follows:

6 (c) Within ten (10) days after the initiation of prosecution with  
7 respect to a controlled substance analog by indictment or information, the  
8 prosecuting attorney shall notify the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of  
9 Health of information relevant to emergency scheduling as provided for in §  
10 5-64-201(d).

11

12 SECTION 4845. Arkansas Code § 5-64-415(i)(5), concerning drug  
13 precursors under the Uniform Controlled Substances Act, is amended to read as  
14 follows:

15 (5) The Department of Health may authorize a manufacturer,  
16 wholesaler, retailer, or other person to submit a comprehensive monthly  
17 report instead of the report required by subdivision (i)(2)(A) of this  
18 section if the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Health determines  
19 that:

20 (A) There is a pattern of regular supply and purchase of  
21 the drug precursor between the furnisher and the recipient; or

22 (B) The recipient has established a record of utilization  
23 of the drug precursor solely for a lawful purpose.

24

25 SECTION 4846. Arkansas Code § 5-64-501 is amended to read as follows:  
26 5-64-501. Powers of officials generally.

27 Any law enforcement officer, any person authorized to enforce this  
28 chapter, or any employee of the Department of Health designated by the  
29 ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Health to conduct an examination,  
30 investigation, or inspection under this chapter relating to a controlled  
31 substance or to a counterfeit drug may:

32 (1) Carry a firearm in the performance of his or her official  
33 duties;

34 (2) Execute and serve a search warrant, arrest warrant,  
35 administrative inspection warrant, subpoena, or summons issued under the  
36 authority of this state;

1 (3) Make an arrest without warrant for any offense under this  
2 chapter committed in his or her presence, or if he or she has probable cause  
3 to believe that the person to be arrested has committed a violation of this  
4 chapter that may constitute a felony;

5 (4) Make a seizure of property pursuant to this chapter; or

6 (5) Perform any other law enforcement duty as the ~~director~~  
7 secretary designates.

8  
9 SECTION 4847. Arkansas Code § 5-64-504(a)(1), concerning  
10 intergovernmental cooperation and the identities of patients and research  
11 subjects, is amended to read as follows:

12 (a)(1) The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Health shall  
13 cooperate with federal and any other state agency in discharging the agency's  
14 responsibilities concerning traffic in controlled substances and in  
15 suppressing the abuse of controlled substances.

16  
17 SECTION 4848. Arkansas Code § 5-64-507(a), concerning the  
18 conclusiveness of findings by the Department of Health, is amended to read as  
19 follows:

20 (a) Any final determination, finding, or conclusion of the ~~Director~~  
21 Secretary of the Department of Health under this chapter is a final and  
22 conclusive decision of the matter involved.

23  
24 SECTION 4849. Arkansas Code § 5-64-508(d)(1), concerning educational  
25 and research programs designed to prevent and deter misuse and abuse of  
26 controlled substances, is amended to read as follows:

27 (d)(1) The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Health may  
28 authorize a person engaged in research on the use and effects of a controlled  
29 substance to withhold the names and other identifying characteristics of  
30 individuals who are the subjects of the research.

31  
32 SECTION 4850. Arkansas Code § 5-64-508(e)(1), concerning educational  
33 and research programs designed to prevent and deter misuse and abuse of  
34 controlled substances, is amended to read as follows:

35 (e)(1) The ~~director~~ secretary may authorize the possession and  
36 distribution of a controlled substance by a person engaged in research.

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SECTION 4851. Arkansas Code § 5-64-703 is amended to read as follows:  
5-64-703. Authority to make inspections.

In carrying out the functions under this chapter, the ~~Director~~  
Secretary of the Department of Health or his or her duly authorized agent may enter a controlled premises and conduct an administrative inspection of the controlled premises.

SECTION 4852. Arkansas Code § 5-64-1003 is amended to read as follows:  
5-64-1003. Inspection of records.

A record maintained pursuant to this subchapter is subject to inspection by any law enforcement officer of this state or any employee of the Department of Health designated by the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Health to conduct an examination, investigation, or inspection under this chapter relating to a controlled substance, counterfeit drug, or precursor chemical.

SECTION 4853. Arkansas Code § 6-81-1202(a)(4), concerning the Graduate Nurse Educator Loan and Scholarship Board, is amended to read as follows:

(4) The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Health or the ~~director's secretary's~~ designee; and

SECTION 4854. Arkansas Code Title 11, Chapter 5, Subchapter 2, is repealed.

~~Subchapter 2—Industrial Health Service Act~~

~~11-5-201. Title.~~

~~This subchapter shall be cited as the “Industrial Health Service Act of 1947”.~~

~~11-5-202. Exception.~~

~~Nothing in this subchapter shall be construed as applying to the coal mining industry.~~

~~11-5-203. Penalty.~~

~~(a)(1) Any person, firm, or corporation who shall neglect or refuse to~~

1 ~~comply with the provisions of this subchapter shall be guilty of a~~  
2 ~~misdemeanor and upon conviction shall be punished by a fine of not less than~~  
3 ~~ten dollars (\$10.00) nor more than one hundred dollars (\$100) for each~~  
4 ~~offense.~~

5 ~~(2) Each day any employer neglects or refuses to comply with the~~  
6 ~~provisions of this subchapter shall constitute a separate offense.~~

7 ~~(b) It shall be the duty of the prosecuting attorney to prosecute~~  
8 ~~violations of this subchapter.~~

9  
10 ~~11-5-204. Division of Industrial Hygiene—Creation—Duties.~~

11 ~~(a) The Division of Industrial Hygiene is established as one of the~~  
12 ~~offices over which the State Board of Health maintains supervision.~~

13 ~~(b) The division shall investigate places of employment and study~~  
14 ~~those conditions which might be responsible for ill health of the industrial~~  
15 ~~worker.~~

16  
17 ~~11-5-205. State Board of Health—Rules and regulations.~~

18 ~~It shall be the duty of the State Board of Health to adopt rules and~~  
19 ~~regulations pertaining to the control of industrial health hazards, including~~  
20 ~~and concerning the maximum allowable limits of materials, ventilation~~  
21 ~~requirements, water supplies, excreta disposal facilities, washing and shower~~  
22 ~~facilities, and other matters pertaining to the maintenance of the health of~~  
23 ~~the worker.~~

24  
25 ~~11-5-206. Director of Department of Health—Access to certain~~  
26 ~~buildings.~~

27 ~~The Director of the Department of Health or his or her duly authorized~~  
28 ~~deputy shall have access to any firm, corporation, industry, or manufacturing~~  
29 ~~plant for the proper discharge of his or her official duties.~~

30  
31 ~~11-5-207. Use of injurious material, process, or condition prohibited.~~

32 ~~(a) It shall be a violation of this subchapter for any employer to use~~  
33 ~~or permit to be used in the conduct of his or her business, manufacturing~~  
34 ~~establishment, or other place of employment any material, process, or~~  
35 ~~condition known to have an adverse effect on health.~~

36 ~~(b) However, that material, process, or condition may be used when it~~

1 ~~is operated, handled, or used in such a manner that injury to the health of~~  
2 ~~the worker will not occur.~~

3 ~~(c) It shall be the duty of the Division of Industrial Hygiene to~~  
4 ~~evaluate and determine whether the material, process, or condition is being~~  
5 ~~operated, handled, or used in such a manner that injury to the health of the~~  
6 ~~worker will not occur.~~

7  
8 ~~11-5-208. Use of information from studies or investigations.~~

9 ~~(a) Information obtained from studies or upon investigations made in~~  
10 ~~accordance with the provisions of this subchapter shall not be admissible as~~  
11 ~~evidence in any action at law to recover damages for personal injury or in~~  
12 ~~any action under the Workers' Compensation Law, § 11-9-101 et seq.~~

13 ~~(b) By mutual agreement between the Division of Industrial Hygiene and~~  
14 ~~those charged with the administration of the Workers' Compensation Law, § 11-~~  
15 ~~9-101 et seq., studies at the request of the latter may be instituted in~~  
16 ~~industries, and the results of these studies may be reported to the~~  
17 ~~administrators.~~

18  
19 SECTION 4855. Arkansas Code § 14-15-307(a)(2)(G), concerning the  
20 Coroner's Advisory Task Force creation, powers, and duties, is amended to  
21 read as follows:

22 (G) The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Health or  
23 his or her designee; and

24  
25 SECTION 4856. Arkansas Code § 14-229-101(b)(8) and (9), concerning the  
26 creation and members of the Individual Sewage Systems Advisory Committee, are  
27 amended to read as follows:

28 (8) Three (3) members involved with the individual sewage  
29 disposal systems program of the Department of Health, to be appointed by the  
30 ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Health;

31 (9) The Director of the ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of  
32 Environmental Quality or a designee;

33  
34 SECTION 4857. Arkansas Code § 14-229-101(e)(3), concerning the  
35 Individual Sewage Disposal Systems Advisory Committee, is amended to read as  
36 follows:

1           (3) The advisory committee shall meet upon call by the chair, at  
2 the request of any five (5) members of the committee stated in writing, at  
3 the request of the Director of the Division of Environmental Health  
4 Protection of the Department of Health, or upon call by the ~~Director~~  
5 Secretary of the Department of Health.

6  
7           SECTION 4858. Arkansas Code § 14-229-102(1), concerning the Individual  
8 Sewage Disposal Systems Advisory Committee, is amended to read as follows:

9           (1) To advise with and make recommendations to the ~~Director~~  
10 Secretary of the Department of Health and the Director of the Division of  
11 Environmental Health Protection of the Department of Health, concerning the  
12 utilization and application of alternate and experimental individual sewage  
13 disposal systems;

14  
15           SECTION 4859. Arkansas Code § 14-262-119 is amended to read as  
16 follows:

17           14-262-119. County Organization of State Aid Fund.

18           (a)(1) In addition to any and all other appropriations made for the  
19 State Board of Health, there may be made an appropriation which shall be  
20 known as the County Organization of State Aid Fund, which shall be expended  
21 exclusively for this purpose.

22           (2) The fund shall be available to any county whenever the  
23 county shall make an appropriation of an adequate sum of money, to be  
24 approved by the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Health, necessary to  
25 do effective work.

26           (3) All counties which shall be found organized for this work on  
27 July 1 of each year shall receive priority in the allocation of funds.

28           (b)(1) Before any county shall receive state aid under the provisions  
29 of this section, a cooperative budget shall be prepared by the county judge,  
30 the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Health, and any other agency  
31 which may be contributing and shall be signed by each.

32           (2) The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Health shall  
33 draw vouchers against the State Aid Fund, as provided in the cooperative  
34 budget, in the usual manner.

35  
36           SECTION 4860. Arkansas Code § 17-27-406(e), concerning the powers and

1 duties of the State Board of Examiners of Alcoholism and Drug Abuse  
2 Counselors, is amended to read as follows:

3 (e) The ~~board~~ Department of Health may employ any persons it deems  
4 necessary to carry on the work of the board and the department shall define  
5 their duties and fix their compensation within the limits prescribed by law.  
6

7 SECTION 4861. Arkansas Code § 17-43-203(d), concerning the duties and  
8 powers of the Arkansas State Board of Sanitarians, is repealed.

9 ~~(d) The board may employ and fix the compensation of assistants,  
10 clerks, stenographers, typists, and other employees to serve at the pleasure  
11 of the board, and acquire office space, furniture, supplies, equipment, and  
12 other proper conveniences reasonably necessary for the performance of their  
13 duties under this chapter.~~  
14

15 SECTION 4862. Arkansas Code § 17-43-204(b), concerning the disposition  
16 of funds by the Arkansas State Board of Sanitarians, is amended to read as  
17 follows:

18 (b) The board shall make a report annually to the ~~Governor~~ Secretary  
19 of the Department of Health, showing all receipts and disbursements of moneys  
20 and a summary of all business transacted during the year.  
21

22 SECTION 4863. Arkansas Code § 17-43-207(a)(1), concerning the transfer  
23 of the Arkansas State Board of Sanitarians, is amended to read as follows:

24 (a)(1) Effective July 1, 2013, the Arkansas State Board of Sanitarians  
25 is transferred to the Department of Health and shall be administered by the  
26 ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Health.  
27

28 SECTION 4864. Arkansas Code § 17-51-104(g), concerning the creation of  
29 the Drinking Water Advisory and Operator Licensing Committee, is amended to  
30 read as follows:

31 (g) The member of the committee who is a member of the staff of the  
32 Engineering Section of the Department of Health shall serve at the pleasure  
33 of the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Health.  
34

35 SECTION 4865. Arkansas Code § 17-80-101(c), concerning the filing and  
36 compilation of licensing information of the Arkansas State Board of

1 Chiropractic Examiners, is amended to read as follows:

2 (c) The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Health shall report  
3 the deaths of all persons licensed by the boards named in subsection (a) of  
4 this section to the Secretary of State within a reasonable time after the  
5 information has been received in his or her office. The Secretary of State  
6 shall thereupon note after the name of the decedent the fact of his or her  
7 death and the date thereof.

8

9 SECTION 4866. Arkansas Code § 17-81-204(a), concerning the  
10 organization and meetings of the Arkansas State Board of Chiropractic  
11 Examiners, is amended to read as follows:

12 (a) The ~~Arkansas State Board of Chiropractic Examiners~~ Department of  
13 Health shall maintain and operate an office for the administration of ~~its~~ the  
14 business of the Arkansas State Board of Chiropractic Examiners.

15

16 SECTION 4867. Arkansas Code § 17-81-205 is amended to read as follows:  
17 17-81-205. Minutes – Records.

18 (a) The ~~Executive~~ Director of the Arkansas State Board of Chiropractic  
19 Examiners shall keep a record of the minutes of the meetings of the board and  
20 a record of the names of all persons making application for license under the  
21 provisions of this chapter together with a record of the action of the board  
22 thereon.

23 (b) The ~~executive~~ director shall also keep a roll of the names of all  
24 licensed and deceased chiropractors who have been licensed to practice in the  
25 State of Arkansas.

26 (c) The record shall at all reasonable times be open for public  
27 inspection.

28

29 SECTION 4868. Arkansas Code § 17-81-206(a)(1), concerning the duties  
30 of the Arkansas State Board of Chiropractic Examiners, is amended to read as  
31 follows:

32 (a)(1) The Arkansas State Board of Chiropractic Examiners is empowered  
33 to incur whatever expenses ~~it~~ the board may deem necessary or expedient in  
34 performing its functions. ~~It may employ whatever assistants it may deem~~  
35 ~~necessary or expedient therefor and fix their compensation.~~

36

1 SECTION 4869. Arkansas Code § 17-81-206(b)(8), concerning the powers  
2 and duties of the Arkansas State Board of Chiropractic Examiners, is amended  
3 to read as follows:

4 (8) Employ ~~such persons~~ a Director of the Arkansas State Board of  
5 Chiropractic Examiners, in consultation with the Secretary of the Department  
6 of Health, as may be necessary to carry out the work of the board, who shall  
7 have their duties and compensation prescribed by the board within  
8 appropriations for that purpose;

9  
10 SECTION 4870. Arkansas Code § 17-81-207 is amended to read as follows:

11 17-81-207. ~~Executive director~~ Director.

12 (a) Pursuant to its authority set forth in § 17-81-206(b)(8), the  
13 Arkansas State Board of Chiropractic Examiners may employ ~~an executive~~  
14 ~~director~~ a Director of the Arkansas State Board of Chiropractic Examiners ~~to~~  
15 ~~maintain and operate its office pursuant to its directions.~~

16 (b)(1) The ~~Executive Director of the Arkansas State Board of~~  
17 ~~Chiropractic Examiners~~ director in consultation with and review of the  
18 Treasurer of the Arkansas State Board of Chiropractic Examiners shall collect  
19 all fees and fines on behalf of the ~~board~~ Arkansas State Board of  
20 Chiropractic Examiners and submit all payment requests on behalf of the board  
21 for its state appropriations.

22 (2) The ~~executive~~ director shall give in writing at the annual  
23 meeting of the board a fully itemized report of his or her receipts and  
24 disbursements for the preceding year showing the amount of money on hand and  
25 shall submit reports for inspection at other times as may be requested by the  
26 board or by any of its members.

27 (3) Copies of the annual reports, actions of the board, and  
28 number licensed for the year, certified by the Secretary of the Arkansas  
29 State Board of Chiropractic Examiners ~~of the board~~, shall be submitted by the  
30 ~~executive~~ director to the various chiropractic professional organizations in  
31 Arkansas and the Secretary of the Department of Health.

32  
33 SECTION 4871. Arkansas Code § 17-81-208(a), concerning the disposition  
34 of the funds of the Arkansas State Board of Chiropractic Examiners, is  
35 amended to read as follows:

36 (a) All fees and fines authorized by this chapter are the property of

1 the Arkansas State Board of Chiropractic Examiners and shall be paid to the  
2 office of the ~~Executive~~ Director of the Arkansas State Board of Chiropractic  
3 Examiners who shall collect and dispose of such funds on behalf of the board  
4 as provided in this chapter. Any surplus in the treasury of the board at the  
5 end of the fiscal year shall remain in the treasury and may be expended in  
6 succeeding years for the purposes herein set out.

7  
8 SECTION 4872. Arkansas Code § 17-81-304(a)(1)(A), concerning the  
9 application and fee for a license to practice chiropractic in the State of  
10 Arkansas, is amended to read as follows:

11 (a)(1)(A) Applications for a license to practice chiropractic in the  
12 State of Arkansas shall be made to the ~~Executive~~ Director of the Arkansas  
13 State Board of Chiropractic Examiners in writing on forms furnished by the  
14 Arkansas State Board of Chiropractic Examiners.

15  
16 SECTION 4873. Arkansas Code § 17-82-209 is amended to read as follows:  
17 17-82-209. Expenses – Compensation of members and employees.

18 (a) The Arkansas State Board of Dental Examiners is empowered to incur  
19 whatever expenses ~~it~~ the board may deem necessary or expedient in performing  
20 its function.

21 ~~(b) It may employ whatever assistants it may deem necessary or~~  
22 ~~expedient therefor and fix their compensation.~~

23 ~~(c)~~ Each member of the board may receive expense reimbursement and  
24 stipends in accordance with § 25-16-901 et seq.

25 ~~(d)~~(c) The board shall fix the salary of the Secretary-treasurer of  
26 the Arkansas State Board of Dental Examiners.

27 ~~(e)~~(d) All of the disbursements provided for in this section shall be  
28 made out of the fees and fines collected by the board.

29  
30 SECTION 4874. Arkansas Code § 17-82-210(b), concerning annual reports  
31 of the Arkansas State Board of Dental Examiners, is amended to read as  
32 follows:

33 (b) The report shall be filed with the ~~Governor~~ Secretary of the  
34 Department of Health not later than September 1 of each year, and a copy  
35 thereof, certified by the President of the Arkansas State Board of Dental  
36 Examiners and the Secretary-treasurer of the Arkansas State Board of Dental

1 Examiners, shall be filed at the same time with the Secretary of the Arkansas  
2 State Dental Association.

3  
4 SECTION 4875. Arkansas Code § 17-83-202 is amended to read as follows:

5 17-83-202. Organization and meetings —~~Personnel.~~

6 (a)(1) At least two (2) regular meetings of the Arkansas Dietetics  
7 Licensing Board shall be held each calendar year, and at the first regular  
8 meeting every two (2) years, the board shall elect a chair and vice chair.  
9 Other regular meetings may be held at such time as the rules of the board may  
10 provide.

11 (2) Special called meetings may be held at the discretion of the  
12 Chair of the Arkansas Dietetics Licensing Board or at the written request of  
13 any three (3) members of the board.

14 (3) Reasonable notice of all meetings shall be given in the  
15 manner prescribed by the laws of this state.

16 (4) A quorum of the board shall consist of four (4) members.

17 (5) A secretary of the board shall be ~~elected by the board and~~  
18 ~~shall hold office at the pleasure of the board~~ employed by the Department of  
19 Health.

20 (6) The board shall adopt a seal, which must be affixed to all  
21 certificates issued by the board.

22 (b) ~~The board shall employ necessary~~ Department of Health shall employ  
23 personnel for the performance of its the board's functions and fix the  
24 compensation thereof within the limits of funds available to the board the  
25 board may disburse funds to the Department of Health to employ necessary  
26 personnel for the performance of the board's functions.

27  
28 SECTION 4876. Arkansas Code § 17-84-202(c), concerning the  
29 organization and proceedings of the Arkansas Board of Hearing Instrument  
30 Dispensers, is amended to read as follows:

31 (c) The board shall keep a record of all of its proceedings and  
32 transactions and shall annually make a report to the ~~Governor~~ Secretary of  
33 the Department of Health showing all receipts and disbursements and a summary  
34 of all business transacted during the year.

35  
36 SECTION 4877. Arkansas Code § 17-84-203(10), concerning the powers and

1 duties of the Arkansas Board of Hearing Instrument Dispensers, is amended to  
2 read as follows:

3 (10)(A) To ~~employ~~ request the use of Department of Health  
4 investigators, issue subpoenas, and perform all activities necessary to  
5 effectively investigate claims and pursue disciplinary action against  
6 licensees.

7 (B) The board may inspect or may authorize the Department  
8 of Health investigators to inspect an established place of business during  
9 regular hours of operation; and

10

11 SECTION 4878. Arkansas Code § 17-87-202(c) and (d), concerning the  
12 organization and proceedings of the Arkansas State Board of Nursing, are  
13 amended to read as follows:

14 (c) The ~~board~~ Department of Health shall maintain an office for the  
15 administration of ~~its~~ the board's business.

16 (d) The board shall annually elect a president, vice president,  
17 secretary, and treasurer from among its members. The president shall be a  
18 registered nurse.

19 ~~(d)(e)~~ The ~~Executive~~ Director of the Arkansas State Board of Nursing  
20 shall be a registered nurse and meet the qualifications required by the  
21 board.

22

23 SECTION 4879. Arkansas Code § 17-87-203(4) and (5), concerning the  
24 powers and duties of the Arkansas State Board of Nursing, are amended to read  
25 as follows:

26 (4) Make an annual report to the ~~Governor~~ Secretary of the  
27 Department of Health;

28 (5) Employ ~~personnel~~ a Director of the Arkansas State Board of  
29 Nursing, in consultation with of the Secretary of the Department of Health,  
30 if the board determines it necessary for carrying out its functions;

31

32 SECTION 4880. Arkansas Code § 17-89-202(c), concerning meetings and  
33 officers of the Arkansas Board of Dispensing Opticians, is amended to read as  
34 follows:

35 (c)(1) The Secretary-treasurer of the Arkansas Board of Dispensing  
36 Opticians shall perform those administrative duties assigned him or her by

1 the board and shall execute a bond for the state in a sum to be fixed by the  
2 board conditioned on the faithful performance of the duties of his or her  
3 office.

4 (2) The board shall outline the duties of the secretary-  
5 treasurer and fix his or her compensation, in consultation with the Secretary  
6 of the Department of Health, per diem, mileage, and other expense moneys in  
7 accordance with applicable Arkansas laws and regulations.

8  
9 SECTION 4881. Arkansas Code § 17-90-202(c), concerning the appointment  
10 of members of the State Board of Optometry, is amended to read as follows:

11 (c) The Secretary-treasurer of the State Board of Optometry shall  
12 receive such additional salary as may be fixed by the board, and approved by  
13 the Secretary of the Department of Health.

14  
15 SECTION 4882. Arkansas Code § 17-90-203(c), concerning meetings,  
16 officers, and records of the State Board of Optometry, is amended to read as  
17 follows:

18 (c) The board shall make a report annually to the ~~Governor~~ Secretary  
19 of the Department of Health showing all receipts and disbursements of moneys  
20 and a summary of all business transacted during the year.

21  
22 SECTION 4883. Arkansas Code § 17-90-204(4), concerning the powers and  
23 duties of the State Board of Optometry, is repealed.

24 ~~(4) To employ or retain the services of attorneys and other~~  
25 ~~necessary assistants in carrying out the provisions of this chapter;~~

26  
27 SECTION 4884. Arkansas Code § 17-90-205(b)(2), concerning the  
28 disposition of funds and the Secretary-treasurer of the State Board of  
29 Optometry's bond, is amended to read as follows:

30 (2) The secretary-treasurer shall keep a true and faithful  
31 account of all moneys received and all moneys expended and shall file  
32 annually with the ~~Governor~~ Secretary of the Department of Health a report of  
33 all financial transactions duly audited by an independent accountant.

34  
35 SECTION 4885. Arkansas Code § 17-92-205(b), concerning the rules and  
36 regulations of the Arkansas State Board of Pharmacy, is amended to read as

1 follows:

2 (b) It shall be the duty of the board, through officials appointed by  
3 ~~it or under its supervision~~ the Department of Health for that purpose, to  
4 enforce all the provisions of this chapter.

5

6 SECTION 4886. Arkansas Code § 17-92-205(c)(1), concerning the rules  
7 and regulations of the Arkansas State Board of Pharmacy, is amended to read  
8 as follows:

9 (c)(1) Upon written authorization by the board, the ~~board's~~ Department  
10 of Health's inspectors or other designated agents shall have authority to  
11 conduct oversight activities authorized by law, including, but not limited  
12 to, audits, investigations, inspections, licensure, or disciplinary actions,  
13 civil, administrative, or criminal proceedings or actions, or other  
14 activities necessary for appropriate oversight of the regulated activities  
15 and may enter any store, business establishment, including any hospital  
16 pharmacy, or any other facility holding a license, permit, or other authority  
17 issued by the board where drugs, medicines, chemicals, pharmaceuticals,  
18 poisons, home medical equipment, or services or other objects, services, or  
19 activities regulated by the board are manufactured, sold, dispensed, or  
20 conducted to enforce this chapter, the Uniform Controlled Substances Act, §§  
21 5-64-101 – 5-64-510, § 5-64-1001 et seq., § 5-64-1101 et seq., the Food,  
22 Drug, and Cosmetic Act, § 20-56-201 et seq., or § 20-64-501 et seq.

23

24 SECTION 4887. Arkansas Code § 17-92-205(c)(2)(A), concerning the rules  
25 and regulations of the Arkansas State Board of Pharmacy, is amended to read  
26 as follows:

27 (2)(A) Upon written authorization by the board, the ~~board's~~  
28 Department of Health's inspectors and other designated agents may obtain  
29 copies of any document, prescription, drug order, or other record or physical  
30 object relevant to the board's oversight of the regulated activity.

31

32 SECTION 4888. Arkansas Code § 17-92-205(c)(2)(B)(i), concerning the  
33 rules and regulations of the Arkansas State Board of Pharmacy, is amended to  
34 read as follows:

35 (B)(i) With regard to hospital pharmacies, the ~~board's~~  
36 Department of Health's inspectors and other designated agents may also view

1 and at the ~~board's~~ department's expense make copies of identifiable records  
2 relating to patients in patient areas of the hospital if the records are  
3 relevant to an activity regulated by the board.

4  
5 SECTION 4889. Arkansas Code § 17-92-205(c)(6), concerning the rules  
6 and regulations of the Arkansas State Board of Pharmacy, is amended to read  
7 as follows:

8 (6) The ~~board's~~ Department of Health's inspectors and other  
9 designated agents may seize products for testing of sterility, potency, and  
10 pyrogenicity when inspecting permitted facilities.

11  
12 SECTION 4890. Arkansas Code § 17-92-206(b), concerning the issuance of  
13 bulletins and the annual report of the Arkansas State Board of Pharmacy, is  
14 amended to read as follows:

15 (b) The board shall make a written report on September 1 of each year  
16 to the ~~Governor~~ Secretary of the Department of Health and to the Arkansas  
17 Pharmacists Association of all its proceedings, orders, rules, requirements,  
18 and regulations, of its receipts and disbursements, including also the names  
19 of all persons licensed to practice under this chapter, and a record of  
20 permits and renewals.

21  
22 SECTION 4891. Arkansas Code § 17-92-207 is repealed.

23 ~~17-92-207. Maintenance of office.~~

24 ~~The Arkansas State Board of Pharmacy shall have the authority to~~  
25 ~~maintain an office, purchase supplies, etc., for the advancement of pharmacy~~  
26 ~~as may in its judgment be deemed necessary to carry out the purposes of this~~  
27 ~~chapter and to enforce the pharmacy laws of this state.~~

28  
29 SECTION 4892. Arkansas Code § 17-92-208 is amended to read as follows:

30 17-92-208. ~~Athority~~ Authorization for payment to the Department of  
31 Health.

32 (a) The Arkansas State Board of Pharmacy ~~is authorized to~~ may make  
33 payment to the Department of Health for services, salaries, and other  
34 purposes from the funds received by the board from issuance of licensed  
35 pharmacy permits, renewals, or certificates of licensure of licensed  
36 pharmacists, examinations, reciprocity fees, and from other moneys collected.

1 (b)(1) The ~~board is authorized to~~ department may employ an attorney to  
2 supervise and conduct its investigations and to institute and prosecute  
3 actions and charges for the violation of the provisions of the Arkansas  
4 Pharmacy Act, § 17-92-101 et seq.

5 (2) The attorney employed or retained by the ~~board~~ department  
6 may make regular reports to the Attorney General of the actions instituted or  
7 prosecuted by him or her.

8 (3) Appeals from the circuit court to the Supreme Court in  
9 matters affecting the action of the board may be handled by the office of the  
10 Attorney General.

11 (c) The board ~~is authorized to~~ may make reimbursement of the necessary  
12 and reasonable travel, board, and lodging expenses of the staff of the board  
13 incurred in the performance of their duties.

14  
15 SECTION 4893. Arkansas Code § 17-93-406(8), concerning the powers and  
16 duties of the Arkansas State Board of Athletic Training, is amended to read  
17 as follows:

18 (8) To file an annual report of its activities, including the  
19 activities of the board, with the Department of ~~Finance and Administration~~  
20 Health.

21  
22 SECTION 4894. Arkansas Code § 17-95-301(f)(2), concerning the creation  
23 of the Arkansas State Medical Board, is amended to read as follows:

24 (2) The ~~Executive~~ Director of the Arkansas State Medical Board  
25 and the Deputy Director of the Arkansas State Medical Board shall receive  
26 such additional salary as may be fixed by the ~~board~~ Department of Health.

27  
28 SECTION 4895. Arkansas Code § 17-95-301(h)(1)(C)(ii), concerning the  
29 creation of the Arkansas State Medical Board, is amended to read as follows:

30 (ii) The Division of Pharmacy Services and Drug  
31 Control of the Department of Health shall prepare a report for the ~~Governor~~  
32 Secretary of the Department of Health based on its findings.

33  
34 SECTION 4896. Arkansas Code § 17-95-303 is amended to read as follows:  
35 17-95-303. Powers and duties.

36 The Arkansas State Medical Board shall:

1 (1) Make and adopt all rules, ~~regulations,~~ and bylaws not  
2 inconsistent with the laws of this state or of the United States and  
3 necessary or convenient to perform the duties and to transact the business  
4 required by law;

5 (2) Have authority to promulgate and put into effect such rules  
6 ~~and regulations~~ as are necessary to carry out the purposes of the Arkansas  
7 Medical Practices Act, § 17-95-201 et seq., § 17-95-301 et seq., and § 17-95-  
8 401 et seq., and the intentions expressed therein;

9 (3)(A)(i) Have authority to request the Department of Health  
10 employ attorneys to represent the board in all legal matters for a  
11 compensation approved by the board.

12 (ii) Contracts for employment of attorneys shall be  
13 filed by the ~~Executive Director of the Arkansas State Medical Board~~ Secretary  
14 of the Department of Health with the Legislative Council.

15 (B) The board shall ~~further~~ have authority to request the  
16 assistance of the Attorney General and the prosecuting attorneys of Arkansas  
17 in such manner as it deems necessary and proper;

18 (4) Have the authority to employ ~~an executive a~~ director ~~and a~~  
19 ~~deputy director~~ in consultation with the secretary to carry out the purposes  
20 and the mandates of the board ~~and to supervise the other employees of the~~  
21 ~~board;~~

22 (5) ~~Have the authority to employ a medical director, who shall~~  
23 ~~hold a valid license to practice medicine in this state, to evaluate medical~~  
24 ~~issues and to assist in investigations pending before the board;~~

25 (6) ~~Have the power and authority to employ such secretarial and~~  
26 ~~administrative assistance as may be necessary to carry out the provisions of~~  
27 ~~the Arkansas Medical Practices Act, § 17-95-201 et seq., § 17-95-301 et seq.,~~  
28 ~~and § 17-95-401 et seq., and the duties of the board to protect the people of~~  
29 ~~the State of Arkansas;~~

30 (7) ~~Have the power and authority to employ one (1) or more~~  
31 ~~inspectors as may be necessary to carry out the provisions of the Arkansas~~  
32 ~~Medical Practices Act, § 17-95-201 et seq., § 17-95-301 et seq., and § 17-95-~~  
33 ~~401 et seq., and the duties of the board to protect the people of the State~~  
34 ~~of Arkansas;~~

35 (8) Examine, as is provided for by law, all applicants for a  
36 license to practice medicine in this state;

1           ~~(9)~~ Consider and give deference to data, studies, consensus  
2 documents, and conclusions issued by the Centers for Disease Control and  
3 Prevention or the National Institutes of Health whenever their data, studies,  
4 consensus documents, and conclusions are relevant to any decision made  
5 pursuant to the board's powers and duties under the Arkansas Medical  
6 Practices Act, § 17-95-201 et seq., § 17-95-301 et seq., and § 17-95-401 et  
7 seq.;

8           ~~(10)~~(6) Have the power and authority to collect practice data  
9 from licensees; and

10           ~~(11)~~(7) Promulgate rules limiting the amount of Schedule II  
11 narcotics that may be prescribed and dispensed by licensees of the board.  
12

13           SECTION 4897. Arkansas Code § 17-95-304(a), concerning the inspectors  
14 of the Division of Pharmacy Services and Drug Control of the Department of  
15 Health, is amended to read as follows:

16           (a)(1) The Arkansas State Medical Board shall utilize ~~as its employees~~  
17 the investigators and inspectors of the Division of Pharmacy Services and  
18 Drug Control of the Department of Health.

19           (2) The Department of Health is directed to make investigators  
20 and inspectors available for those purposes for as long as they may conduct  
21 investigations and inspections of prescriptions.  
22

23           SECTION 4898. Arkansas Code § 17-95-304(b)(2), concerning the  
24 inspectors of the Division of Pharmacy Services and Drug Control of the  
25 Department of Health, is amended to read as follows:

26           (2) The inspectors shall have the duty and authority upon  
27 written direction by the ~~Executive~~ Director of the Arkansas State Medical  
28 Board to investigate, inspect, and make copies of the records, orders, and  
29 prescriptions, wherever located, of all persons licensed by the board in  
30 order to determine whether or not the persons have:

31           (A) Violated the laws of the State of Arkansas or of the  
32 United States respecting the prescription and use of narcotics and  
33 potentially dangerous drugs;

34           (B) Practiced their profession in such a way as to  
35 endanger the general health and welfare of the public; or

36           (C) Violated the provisions of the Arkansas Medical

1 Practices Act, § 17-95-201 et seq., § 17-95-301 et seq., and § 17-95-401 et  
2 seq.

3  
4 SECTION 4899. Arkansas Code § 17-95-305(b), concerning the disposition  
5 of funds of the Arkansas State Medical Board, is amended to read as follows:

6 (b)(1) All moneys received by the board shall be disbursed by the  
7 Chair of the Arkansas State Medical Board or the ~~Executive~~ Director of the  
8 Arkansas State Medical Board.

9 (2) The ~~chair or the executive director, or both,~~ board shall  
10 furnish a surety bond and shall keep a true and faithful account of all  
11 moneys received and all moneys expended.

12 (3) The ~~executive director~~ chair shall file annually with the  
13 ~~Governor~~ Secretary of the Department of Health a report of all financial  
14 transactions duly audited by an independent accountant.

15  
16 SECTION 4900. Arkansas Code § 17-95-310 is repealed.

17 ~~17-95-310. Medical Director of Arkansas State Medical Board—~~  
18 ~~Qualifications.~~

19 ~~The Medical Director of the Arkansas State Medical Board shall:~~

20 ~~(1) Have been in full-time clinical practice of medicine in~~  
21 ~~direct patient care within one (1) year of filling the position of medical~~  
22 ~~director;~~

23 ~~(2) Have fifteen (15) years of current, continuous full-time~~  
24 ~~medical service immediately before the date of appointment, which shall~~  
25 ~~include, but not be limited to, at least ten (10) years of full-time clinical~~  
26 ~~practice in direct patient care, five (5) years of which shall have been in~~  
27 ~~full-time clinical practice in direct patient care in the State of Arkansas;~~

28 ~~(3) Have not served on the Arkansas State Medical Board within~~  
29 ~~the past five (5) years; and~~

30 ~~(4) Have a comprehensive knowledge of the contemporary, broad-~~  
31 ~~based clinical practice of medicine with experience in direct patient care.~~

32  
33 SECTION 4901. Arkansas Code § 17-95-409(b)(2), concerning the denial,  
34 suspension, or revocation of a license by the Arkansas State Medical Board,  
35 is amended to read as follows:

36 (2) Upon notification from the Dean of the College of Medicine

1 of the University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences and the ~~Director~~ Secretary  
2 of the Department of Health that exigent circumstances warrant a waiver of  
3 the suspension, the Arkansas State Medical Board shall reinstate the holder's  
4 license.

5  
6 SECTION 4902. Arkansas Code § 17-96-203(a), concerning payment of  
7 expenses and compensation of members of the Arkansas Board of Podiatric  
8 Medicine, is amended to read as follows:

9 (a) The Arkansas Board of Podiatric Medicine is empowered to incur  
10 whatever expenses ~~it~~ the board may deem necessary or expedient in performing  
11 ~~its~~ the board's functions, ~~and it may employ whatever assistants it may deem~~  
12 ~~necessary or expedient and fix their compensation.~~

13  
14 SECTION 4903. Arkansas Code § 17-97-204(a), concerning the collection  
15 and disposition of fees by the Arkansas Psychology Board, is amended to read  
16 as follows:

17 (a) The Arkansas Psychology Board ~~is authorized to~~ may establish ~~and~~  
18 ~~collect~~ various fees and penalties for services related to provision of  
19 temporary permits, printed materials, handling returned checks, costs  
20 incurred in processing delinquent payments, and other reasonable services as  
21 may be determined by the board and the Department of Health is authorized to  
22 collect such fees and penalties.

23  
24 SECTION 4904. Arkansas Code § 17-98-203(c), concerning the rules and  
25 regulations of the State Board of Disease Intervention Specialists, is  
26 repealed.

27 ~~(c) The board, if moneys are appropriated therefor, may employ and fix~~  
28 ~~the compensation of such assistants, clerks, stenographers, typists, and~~  
29 ~~other employees to serve at the pleasure of the board, and acquire such~~  
30 ~~office space, furniture, supplies, equipment, and other such proper~~  
31 ~~conveniences as may be reasonably necessary for the performance of their~~  
32 ~~duties under this chapter.~~

33  
34 SECTION 4905. Arkansas Code § 17-100-201(a), concerning the creation  
35 of the Board of Examiners in Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology, is  
36 amended to read as follows:

1 (a) There is established ~~as an independent agency of the executive~~  
2 ~~branch of the government of the State of Arkansas~~ the Board of Examiners in  
3 Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology within the Department of Health.  
4

5 SECTION 4906. Arkansas Code § 17-100-204 is amended to read as  
6 follows:

7 17-100-204. ~~Officers and employees~~ Director.

8 (a) The Board of Examiners in Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology  
9 may employ and, ~~at its pleasure,~~ discharge, in consultation with the  
10 Secretary for the State Board of Health, an executive secretary and such  
11 ~~officers and employees~~ a Director of the Board of Examiners in Speech-  
12 Language Pathology and Audiology as may be necessary to carry out the duties  
13 of the board.

14 (b) The board shall outline duties and fix compensation of ~~employees~~  
15 the director in accordance with law.

16 (c) The amount of per diem and mileage and expense moneys paid  
17 ~~employees of the board~~ to the director shall be in accordance with applicable  
18 law.  
19

20 SECTION 4907. Arkansas Code § 17-100-206 is amended to read as  
21 follows:

22 17-100-206. Disposition of funds – Reports.

23 (a) All fees and other funds received by the Board of Examiners in  
24 Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology shall be deposited into a bank  
25 account in the name of the board in one (1) or more banks in this state and  
26 shall be used by the board exclusively for payment to the Department of  
27 Health of reasonable and necessary salaries, maintenance, and operating  
28 expenses in the performance of duties imposed on the board under the  
29 provisions of this chapter or the payment of the salary of the Director of  
30 the Board of Examiners in Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology.

31 (b) The board shall report monthly to the Department of Health and the  
32 Department of Finance and Administration the amount and source of all revenue  
33 received by it pursuant to this chapter during the preceding month.

34 (c) All appropriate expenses incurred by the board in the  
35 administration of the provisions of this chapter shall be paid when vouchers  
36 relating to such expenses are exhibited as having been approved by the board.

1 (d)(1) The board shall be financed from income accruing from fees,  
2 licenses, and other income collected by the board.

3 (2) All ~~employee salaries and other~~ expenses, which may include  
4 full or partial financing of continuing professional education programs  
5 adopted by the board under § 17-100-306, and the salary of the director shall  
6 be paid as budgeted after budgets are approved or within the limitations of  
7 any appropriation for that purpose that may be included in any appropriate  
8 Arkansas appropriations law.

9 (3) All employee salary reimbursement amounts shall be  
10 determined by the Department of Health and shall be paid as budgeted after  
11 budgets are approved or within the limitations of any appropriation for that  
12 purpose that may be included in any appropriate Arkansas appropriations law.

13 (e) The board will have the authority to establish and change fees for  
14 application, examination, renewal, inactivation, reactivation, and  
15 delinquency purposes.

16  
17 SECTION 4908. Arkansas Code § 17-102-206(a)(1), concerning the  
18 Arkansas State Board of Acupuncture and Related Techniques, is amended to  
19 read as follows:

20 (a)(1) The Arkansas State Board of Acupuncture and Related Techniques  
21 is empowered to incur whatever expenses it may deem necessary or expedient in  
22 performing its functions. ~~It may employ or engage whatever personnel, legal~~  
23 ~~counsel, independent contractors, or assistants it may deem necessary or~~  
24 ~~expedient therefor and fix their compensation. However, no employee of the~~  
25 ~~Arkansas State Board of Acupuncture and Related Techniques shall have any~~  
26 ~~financial interest in the occupation of acupuncture and related techniques.~~  
27

28 SECTION 4909. Arkansas Code § 17-103-202(e), concerning the  
29 organization and function of the Arkansas Social Work Licensing Board, is  
30 amended to read as follows:

31 (e) The board ~~shall~~ may employ ~~necessary personnel~~ a Director of the  
32 Arkansas Social Work Licensing Board, in consultation with the Secretary of  
33 the Department of Health, for the performance of its functions and fix the  
34 compensation of the ~~personnel~~ director within the limits of funds available  
35 to the board.

36

1 SECTION 4910. Arkansas Code § 17-103-204(a), concerning the  
2 disposition of the funds of the Social Work Licensing Fund, is amended to  
3 read as follows:

4 (a) The ~~Executive~~ Director of the Arkansas Social Work Licensing Board  
5 or his or her designee shall receive and account for all money derived under  
6 the provisions of this chapter and shall pay the money to the Treasurer of  
7 State, who shall keep the money in a separate fund to be known as the "Social  
8 Work Licensing Fund".

9  
10 SECTION 4911. Arkansas Code § 17-103-204(d), concerning the  
11 disposition of the funds of the Social Work Licensing Fund, is amended to  
12 read as follows:

13 (d) The ~~executive~~ director shall be bonded to handle the finances of  
14 the Arkansas Social Work Licensing Board in compliance with state rules.

15  
16 SECTION 4912. Arkansas Code § 17-106-104(a)(1)(B), concerning the  
17 Medical Ionizing Radiation Licensure Committee, is amended to read as  
18 follows:

19 (B) One (1) member shall be the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the  
20 Department of Health or his or her designee.

21  
22 SECTION 4913. Arkansas Code § 17-106-105(a)(1)(A), concerning the  
23 duties and powers of the State Board of Health, is amended to read as  
24 follows:

25 (A)(i) Incur whatever expenses ~~it~~ the board may deem  
26 necessary or expedient in performing ~~its~~ the board's duties under the  
27 provisions of this chapter.

28 (ii) ~~It~~ The board, pursuant to the administration of  
29 the Department of Health, may employ or engage whatever personnel, legal  
30 counsel, independent contractors, or assistants it may deem necessary or  
31 expedient and fix their compensation;

32  
33 SECTION 4914. Arkansas Code § 17-107-202(e), concerning the  
34 organization and proceedings of the Arkansas Orthotics, Prosthetics, and  
35 Pedorthics Advisory Board, is amended to read as follows:

36 (e) The ~~Division of Medical Services of the Department of Human~~

1 ~~Services~~ Department of Health shall provide staff support for the board.

2  
3 SECTION 4915. Arkansas Code § 19-5-307(a)(2), concerning the Public  
4 Health Fund, is amended to read as follows:

5 (2) The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Health;

6  
7 SECTION 4916. Arkansas Code § 19-12-113(b), resulting from Initiated  
8 Act 1 of 2000 and concerning the establishment and administration of  
9 prevention and cessation programs, is amended to read as follows:

10 (b) The Department of Health shall be responsible for developing,  
11 integrating, and monitoring tobacco prevention and cessation programs funded  
12 under this chapter and shall provide administrative oversight and management,  
13 including, but not limited to implementing performance based measures. The  
14 Department of Health shall have authority to award grants and allocate money  
15 appropriated to implement the tobacco prevention and cessation program  
16 mandated under this chapter. The Department of Health may contract with  
17 those entities necessary to fully implement the tobacco prevention and  
18 cessation initiatives mandated under this chapter. Within thirty (30) days  
19 of receipt of moneys into the Prevention and Cessation Program Account,  
20 fifteen percent (15%) of those moneys shall be deposited into a special  
21 account within the prevention and cessation account at the Department of  
22 Health to be expended for tobacco prevention and cessation in minority  
23 communities as directed by the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Health  
24 in consultation with the Chancellor of the University of Arkansas at Pine  
25 Bluff, the President of the Arkansas Medical, Dental, and Pharmaceutical  
26 Association, and the League of United Latin American Citizens.

27  
28 SECTION 4917. Arkansas Code § 19-12-113(e)(1), resulting from  
29 Initiated Act 1 of 2000 and concerning the establishment and administration  
30 of prevention and cessation programs, is amended to read as follows:

31 (1) The Advisory Committee shall consist of eighteen (18)  
32 members; one (1) member to be appointed by the President Pro Tempore of the  
33 Senate, one (1) member to be appointed by the Speaker of the House of  
34 Representatives, and sixteen (16) members to be appointed by the Governor  
35 subject to confirmation by the Senate. The Governor shall consult each of the  
36 following designated groups before making an appointment, and shall consist

1 of the following: one (1) member appointed to represent the Arkansas Medical  
2 Society, Inc.; one (1) member shall represent the Arkansas Hospital  
3 Association, Inc.; one (1) member shall represent the American Cancer  
4 Society; one (1) member shall represent the American Heart Association; one  
5 (1) member shall represent the American Lung Association; one (1) member  
6 shall represent the Coalition for a Tobacco-Free Arkansas; one (1) member  
7 shall represent Arkansans for Drug Free Youth; one (1) member shall represent  
8 the ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary Education;  
9 one (1) member shall represent the Arkansas Minority Health Commission; one  
10 (1) member shall represent the Arkansas Center for Health Improvement; one  
11 (1) member shall represent the Arkansas Association of Area Agencies on  
12 Aging; one (1) member shall represent the Arkansas Nurses Association; one  
13 (1) member shall represent the University of Arkansas Cooperative Extension  
14 Service; one (1) member shall represent the University of Arkansas at Pine  
15 Bluff; one (1) member shall represent the League of United Latin American  
16 Citizens; and one (1) member shall represent the Arkansas Medical, Dental,  
17 and Pharmaceutical Association, Inc. The Executive Committee of Arkansas  
18 Students Working Against Tobacco shall serve as youth advisors to this  
19 Advisory Committee. All members of this committee shall be residents of the  
20 State of Arkansas.

21

22 SECTION 4918. Arkansas Code § 19-12-117 resulting from Initiated Act 1  
23 of 2000 is amended to read as follows:

24 19-12-117. Establishment of the Arkansas Tobacco Settlement  
25 Commission.

26 (a) There is hereby created and recognized the Arkansas Tobacco  
27 Settlement Commission, which shall be composed of the following:

28 (1) The ~~Executive~~ Director of the Arkansas Economic Development  
29 Commission or his or her designee;

30 (2) The ~~Director of the Department of Education~~ Commissioner of  
31 Elementary and Secondary Education or his or her designee;

32 (3) The Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of Higher Education  
33 or his or her designee;

34 (4) The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Human Services  
35 or his or her designee;

36 (5) The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Health or his or

1 her designee;

2 (6) A healthcare professional to be selected by the President  
3 Pro Tempore of the Senate;

4 (7) A healthcare professional to be selected by the Speaker of  
5 the House of Representatives;

6 (8) A citizen selected by the Governor; and

7 (9) A citizen selected by the Attorney General.

8 (b)(1) The four (4) members of the commission who are not on the  
9 commission by virtue of being a director of an agency, will serve four-year  
10 terms. The terms shall commence on October 1 of each year. Commission members  
11 are limited to serving two (2) consecutive four-year terms.

12 (2) Members of the commission shall not be entitled to  
13 compensation for their services, but may receive expense reimbursement in  
14 accordance with § 25-16-902, to be paid from funds appropriated for this  
15 program.

16 (c) Members appointed to the commission and the organizations they  
17 represent shall make full disclosure of the members' participation on the  
18 commission when applying for any grant or contract funded by this chapter.

19 (d) All members appointed to the commission shall make full and public  
20 disclosure of any past or present association to the tobacco industry.

21 (e) The commission shall, within ninety (90) days of appointment, hold  
22 a meeting and elect from its membership a chair for a term set by the  
23 commission. The commission is authorized to adopt bylaws.

24 (f) The commission shall meet at least quarterly. However, special  
25 meetings of the commission may be called at any time at the pleasure of the  
26 chair or pursuant to the bylaws of the commission.

27 (g) The commission is authorized to hire an independent third party  
28 with appropriate experience in health, preventive resources, health  
29 statistics, and evaluation expertise to perform monitoring and evaluation of  
30 program expenditures made from the program accounts pursuant to this chapter.  
31 Such monitoring and evaluation shall be performed in accordance with § 19-12-  
32 118, and the third party retained to perform such services shall prepare a  
33 biennial report to be delivered to the General Assembly and the ~~Governor~~  
34 Secretary of the Department of Health by each August 1 preceding a general  
35 session of the General Assembly. The report shall be accompanied by a  
36 recommendation from the commission as to the continued funding for each

1 program.

2 (h) ~~The commission is authorized to hire such staff as it may~~  
3 ~~reasonably need to carry out the duties described in this chapter.~~ The costs  
4 and expenses of the monitoring and evaluation program, as administered by the  
5 Department of Health, as well as the salaries, costs, and expenses of staff  
6 shall be paid from the Arkansas Tobacco Settlement Commission Fund  
7 established pursuant to § 19-12-108.

8 (i) If the deposits into the Arkansas Tobacco Settlement Commission  
9 Fund exceed the amount necessary to pay the costs and expenses described in  
10 subsection (h) of this section, then the commission is authorized to make  
11 grants as follows:

12 (1) Those organizations eligible to receive grants are nonprofit  
13 and ~~community-based~~ community-based;

14 (2) Grant criteria shall be established based upon the following  
15 principles:

16 (A) All funds should be used to improve and optimize the  
17 health of Arkansans;

18 (B) Funds should be spent on long-term projects that  
19 improve the health of Arkansans;

20 (C) Future tobacco-related illness and ~~health-care~~  
21 healthcare costs in Arkansas should be minimized through this opportunity;  
22 and

23 (D) Funds should be invested in solutions that work  
24 effectively and efficiently in Arkansas; and

25 (3) Grant awards shall be restricted in amounts up to fifty-  
26 thousand dollars (\$50,000) per year for each eligible organization.

27

28 SECTION 4919. Arkansas Code § 20-2-103(a)(1), concerning the powers  
29 and duties of the Arkansas Minority Health Commission, is amended to read as  
30 follows:

31 (1) Establish the commission as the comprehensive ~~agency~~  
32 commission in this state for:

33 (A) Gathering and analyzing information regarding  
34 disparities in health and health care and access to health and healthcare  
35 services in this state;

36 (B) Statewide educational programming regarding

1 disparities in health and health care and equal access to health and  
2 healthcare services; and

3 (C) Coordinating events regarding disparities in health  
4 and health care and access to health and healthcare services;

5

6 SECTION 4920. Arkansas Code § 20-2-103(a)(2)(B), concerning the powers  
7 and duties of the Arkansas Minority Health Commission, is amended to read as  
8 follows:

9 (B) The following health and healthcare-related state  
10 ~~agencies~~ entities and divisions of state ~~agencies~~ entities shall collaborate  
11 with the commission to achieve healthcare equity in the ~~state~~ State of  
12 Arkansas:

13 (i) The Department of Health;

14 (ii) The Department of Human Services;

15 (iii) The ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of  
16 Environmental Quality;

17 (iv) The Fay W. Boozman College of Public Health of  
18 the University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences; and

19 (v) The Arkansas Center for Health Improvement.

20

21 SECTION 4921. Arkansas Code § 20-2-103(a)(5), concerning the powers  
22 and duties of the Arkansas Minority Health Commission, is amended to read as  
23 follows:

24 (5) Make recommendations to the relevant agencies, to the  
25 ~~Governor~~ Secretary of the Department of Health, and to the General Assembly  
26 for improving the delivery of and access to health services for minorities;

27

28 SECTION 4922. Arkansas Code § 20-2-107 is amended to read as follows:

29 20-2-107. Report on health disparities.

30 On or before October 1 each year, the Arkansas Minority Health  
31 Commission shall report to the ~~Governor~~ Secretary of the Department of  
32 Health, the Speaker of the House of Representatives, the President Pro  
33 Tempore of the Senate, the Chair of the House Committee on Public Health,  
34 Welfare, and Labor, and the Chair of the Senate Committee on Public Health,  
35 Welfare, and Labor without limitation:

36 (1) Summarizing the previous year's work under § 20-2-103(a)(5)

1 and (6);

2 (2) Describing reductions in disparities in health and health  
3 care in this state; and

4 (3) Outlining plans for continuing and expanding in the coming  
5 year the program to reduce disparities in health and health care in this  
6 state.

7

8 SECTION 4923. Arkansas Code § 20-7-102(a)(17), concerning the members  
9 of the State Board of Health, is amended to read as follows:

10 (17) One (1) member shall be the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the  
11 Department of Health.

12

13 SECTION 4924. Arkansas Code § 20-7-103 is amended to read as follows:  
14 20-7-103. Members – Officers.

15 (a) The members of the State Board of Health shall elect one (1) of  
16 the members as president.

17 (b)(1) The State Board of Health shall nominate to the Governor a  
18 Director of the Department of Health.

19 ~~(2)(A)~~ The Governor shall appoint the director who shall serve  
20 at the pleasure of the Governor.

21 (B) The director shall report to the Secretary of the  
22 Department of Health.

23 (C) The Secretary of the Department of Health may serve as  
24 the Director of the Department of Health if the Governor determines all  
25 statutory requirements are fulfilled.

26 ~~(3)(2)~~ The director ~~shall~~ may:

27 (A) Serve as the State Health Officer;

28 (B) Serve as the Secretary for the State Board of Health  
29 ~~and shall have all the powers of a member of the State Board of Health~~ but  
30 shall not sit as a member of the State Board of Health;

31 (C)(i)(a) Be a licensed medical doctor who is a graduate  
32 of a school of medicine recognized by the Arkansas State Medical Board;

33 (b) Hold a graduate degree in public health or  
34 a graduate degree in a recognized public health discipline from an accredited  
35 college or university or have equivalent knowledge and experience in public  
36 health as determined by the ~~State Board of Health~~ Secretary of the Department

1 of Health; and

2 (c) Have experience in the practice of public  
3 health and in leadership and management, the sufficiency of which shall be  
4 determined by the ~~State Board of Health~~ Secretary of the Department of  
5 Health; or

6 (ii) Hold a doctoral degree in public health or a  
7 doctoral degree in a recognized public health discipline from an accredited  
8 college or university with at least five (5) years of experience in the  
9 practice of public health and at least ten (10) years of experience in the  
10 leadership and management of a large complex organization, the sufficiency of  
11 which shall be determined by the ~~State Board of Health~~ Secretary of the  
12 Department of Health.

13

14 SECTION 4925. Arkansas Code § 20-7-106 is amended to read as follows:  
15 20-7-106. Office.

16 The office of the State Board of Health shall be located in Little  
17 Rock, and the board shall be furnished with all necessary equipment and  
18 supplies, including laboratory supplies, books, stationery, blanks,  
19 furniture, etc., as are provided other officers of the state and as are  
20 necessary for carrying on the work of the board, and the office is to be  
21 provided in a suitable building to be designated by the ~~Director~~ Secretary of  
22 the Department of Health.

23

24 SECTION 4926. Arkansas Code § 20-7-107 is amended to read as follows:  
25 20-7-107. Appointment of assistant director.

26 The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Health may appoint and  
27 employ an assistant director who shall be knowledgeable in the field of  
28 public health and whose duty it shall be to assist the director in the  
29 general supervision of the affairs of his or her office and in the  
30 enforcement of quarantine and sanitation throughout the state.

31

32 SECTION 4927. Arkansas Code § 20-7-108 is amended to read as follows:  
33 20-7-108. Engagement of certain personnel.

34 ~~From time to time, the State Board of Health~~ The Department of Health  
35 may engage suitable persons to render sanitary service, to make or supervise  
36 practical and scientific investigations and examinations requiring expert

1 skill, and to prepare plans and to report relative to sanitary service.

2  
3 SECTION 4928. Arkansas Code § 20-7-111(c), concerning the  
4 administration of certain federal acts by the State Board of Health, is  
5 amended to read as follows:

6 (c)(1) The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Health shall act as  
7 executive officer ~~of the board~~ for the purpose of administering the federal  
8 acts and this section.

9 (2) The ~~director~~ secretary shall carry into effect such rules  
10 and regulations as the federal authorities and the board may adopt pursuant  
11 to the federal acts and this section.

12  
13 SECTION 4929. Arkansas Code § 20-7-114(a)(2), concerning the  
14 establishment of a public health laboratory by the State Board of Health, is  
15 amended to read as follows:

16 (2) The public health laboratory shall be established and  
17 maintained at the Department of Health under the direct supervision of the  
18 ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Health or his or her authorized  
19 representatives.

20  
21 SECTION 4930. Arkansas Code § 20-7-117(a), concerning the creation of  
22 the State Hospice Office, is amended to read as follows:

23 (a) There is created within the Department of Health a State Hospice  
24 Office to be administered in a division of the department to be designated by  
25 the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Health.

26  
27 SECTION 4931. Arkansas Code § 20-7-121(a), concerning the annual  
28 report of the State Board of Health, is amended to read as follows:

29 (a) It shall be the duty of the State Board of Health to make an  
30 annual written report through the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of  
31 Health to the Governor on or before January 1 of each year.

32  
33 SECTION 4932. Arkansas Code § 20-7-133(b)(1), concerning the creation  
34 of the Child Health Advisory Committee, is amended to read as follows:

35 (b)(1) The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Health shall  
36 appoint:

- 1 (A) One (1) member to represent the Department of Health;
- 2 (B) One (1) member to represent the Arkansas Academy of
- 3 Nutrition and Dietetics;
- 4 (C) One (1) member to represent the American Academy of
- 5 Pediatrics, Arkansas Chapter;
- 6 (D) One (1) member to represent the Arkansas Academy of
- 7 Family Practice;
- 8 (E) One (1) member to represent the Arkansas Association
- 9 for Health, Physical Education, Recreation and Dance;
- 10 (F) One (1) member to represent jointly the American Heart
- 11 Association, the American Cancer Society, and the American Lung Association;
- 12 (G) One (1) member to represent the Fay W. Boozman College
- 13 of Public Health of the University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences;
- 14 (H) One (1) member to represent the Arkansas Center for
- 15 Health Improvement;
- 16 (I) One (1) member to represent the Arkansas Advocates for
- 17 Children and Families;
- 18 (J) One (1) member to represent the University of Arkansas
- 19 Cooperative Extension Service; and
- 20 (K) One (1) member to represent the Office of Minority
- 21 Health and Health Disparities of the Department of Health.
- 22

23 SECTION 4933. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 20-7-

24 133(b)(2), concerning the creation of the Child Health Advisory Committee,

25 is amended to read as follows:

26 (2) The Commissioner of Elementary and Secondary Education shall

27 appoint:

28

29 SECTION 4934. Arkansas Code § 20-7-133(b)(2)(A), concerning the

30 creation of the Child Health Advisory Committee, is amended to read as

31 follows:

32 (A) One (1) member to represent the ~~Department of~~

33 Education Division of Elementary and Secondary Education;

34

35 SECTION 4935. Arkansas Code § 20-7-202(4), concerning the definition

36 of "director" under the Arkansas Health Department Building and Local Grant

1 Act, is repealed.

2 ~~(4) "Director" or "State Health Officer" means the Director of~~  
3 ~~the Department of Health;~~

4

5 SECTION 4936. Arkansas Code § 20-7-203 is amended to read as follows:

6 20-7-203. Disposition of funds.

7 (a) The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Health may construct  
8 or acquire such facilities and property as are necessary for the provision of  
9 current and future requirements for the Department of Health.

10 (b) Notwithstanding other provisions of this subchapter, the ~~director~~  
11 secretary, with the approval of the State Board of Health, may use any  
12 unobligated funds in the State Health Department Building and Local Grant  
13 Trust Fund in an amount not to exceed six hundred fifty thousand dollars  
14 (\$650,000) to construct or acquire any land, building, structure, or other  
15 property, real, personal, or mixed, and any expenses incidental thereto which  
16 are deemed appropriate for the provision of current and future requirements  
17 for the department.

18 (c) With the approval of the board, the ~~director~~ secretary may lease,  
19 sublease, or otherwise negotiate for the use of any space acquired or  
20 constructed under this subchapter to other governmental and nongovernmental  
21 entities. Revenues derived from any such lease, sublease, or other  
22 arrangement shall be deposited into the Public Health Fund.

23 (d) Neither the ~~director~~ secretary nor any member of the board shall  
24 be personally liable for any obligation or action undertaken in connection  
25 therewith or for any damages sustained by anyone with respect to any  
26 obligations or actions unless he or she shall have acted with a corrupt  
27 intent.

28

29 SECTION 4937. Arkansas Code § 20-7-204(c), concerning the State Health  
30 Department Building and Local Grant Trust Fund, is amended to read as  
31 follows:

32 (c) The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Health shall be the  
33 disbursing agent and executive officer for the fund.

34

35 SECTION 4938. Arkansas Code § 20-7-303(a) and (b), concerning the  
36 collection and dissemination of health data, are amended to read as follows:

1 (a) With the approval of the State Board of Health, the ~~Director~~  
2 Secretary of the Department of Health shall compile and disseminate health  
3 data collected by the Department of Health.

4 (b)(1) In consultation with advisory groups appointed by the ~~director~~  
5 secretary with representation from hospitals, outpatient surgery centers,  
6 health profession licensing boards, and other state agencies, the department  
7 should:

8 (A) Identify the most practical methods to collect,  
9 transmit, and share required health data as described in § 20-7-304;

10 (B) Utilize, wherever practical, existing administrative  
11 databases and modalities of data collection to provide the required data;

12 (C) Develop standards of accuracy, timeliness, economy,  
13 and efficiency for the provision of the data; and

14 (D) Ensure confidentiality of data by enforcing  
15 appropriate rules and regulations.

16 (2) To maximize limited resources and to prevent duplication of  
17 effort, the department may consider, when appropriate, contracting with  
18 private entities for the collection of data as set forth in this section  
19 subject to this subchapter.

20  
21 SECTION 4939. Arkansas Code § 20-7-303(c)(2), concerning the  
22 collection and dissemination of health data, is amended to read as follows:

23 (2) If health data are already reported to another organization  
24 or governmental agency in the same manner, form, and content or in a manner,  
25 form, and content acceptable to the department, the ~~director~~ secretary may  
26 obtain a copy of the data from the organization or agency, and no duplicate  
27 report need be submitted by the organization.

28  
29 SECTION 4940. Arkansas Code § 20-7-304 is amended to read as follows:  
30 20-7-304. Release of health data.

31 The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Health may release data  
32 collected under this subchapter, except that data released shall not include  
33 any information which identifies or could be used to identify any individual  
34 patient, provider, institution, or health plan except as provided in § 20-7-  
35 305.

36

1 SECTION 4941. Arkansas Code § 20-7-306(a), concerning reports and  
2 assistance by the Department of Health under the State Health Data  
3 Clearinghouse Act, is amended to read as follows:

4 (a) The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Health shall prepare  
5 and submit a biennial report to the Governor and the House Committee on  
6 Public Health, Welfare, and Labor and the Senate Committee on Public Health,  
7 Welfare, and Labor or appropriate subcommittees thereof.

8  
9 SECTION 4942. Arkansas Code § 20-7-403(5), concerning the definition  
10 of "construct" under the Combating Prescription Drug Abuse Act, is amended to  
11 read as follows:

12 (5) "Construct" means to acquire, construct, reconstruct,  
13 remodel, install, and equip any lands, buildings, structures, improvements,  
14 or other property, whether real, personal, or mixed, useful in connection  
15 with the expansion, by any method and manner as may be authorized by law, and  
16 in the case of the acquisition of equipment and other property of a medical,  
17 laboratory, or technical nature, by any method as the board or the ~~Director~~  
18 Secretary of the Department of Health determines to be necessary or desirable  
19 to accomplish the power, purposes, and authorities set forth in this  
20 subchapter and without regard to the provisions of other laws pertaining to  
21 the construction and acquisition of property by state agencies;

22  
23 SECTION 4943. Arkansas Code § 20-7-403(7), concerning the definition  
24 of "Director" under the Combating Prescription Drug Abuse Act, is repealed.

25 ~~(7) "Director" means the Director of the Department of Health;~~

26  
27 SECTION 4944. Arkansas Code § 20-7-404(b) and (c), concerning the  
28 approval of construction of a laboratory under the Combating Prescription  
29 Drug Abuse Act, are amended to read as follows:

30 (b) Subject to the approval of the board, the plans, specifications,  
31 and estimates of cost for the laboratory and renovation of the building shall  
32 be developed by the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Health, and the  
33 ~~director~~ secretary may employ architects and other like professional and  
34 technical assistance as determined to be necessary for the construction of  
35 the laboratory and renovation of the building.

36 (c) The board and the ~~director~~ secretary may take such action as may

1 be appropriate for the construction of the laboratory and renovation of the  
2 building to accomplish the purposes of this subchapter and may engage legal,  
3 technical, and other assistance as necessary.

4  
5 SECTION 4945. Arkansas Code § 20-7-405(d), concerning the financing of  
6 construction and renovation of a laboratory under the Combating Prescription  
7 Drug Abuse Act, is amended to read as follows:

8 (d) The board and the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Health  
9 may execute and deliver agreements, instruments, and other undertakings and  
10 writings and take such action as may be appropriate to evidence the loan and  
11 the security for the loan and to carry out this subchapter.

12  
13 SECTION 4946. Arkansas Code § 20-7-408(a)(1), concerning the  
14 disposition of fees under the Combating Prescription Drug Abuse Act, is  
15 amended to read as follows:

16 (a)(1) Except as set forth in this subchapter, all fee revenues shall  
17 be treated as cash funds and shall not be deposited into the State Treasury,  
18 but shall be deposited as and when received into a bank or banks approved by  
19 the State Board of Health or the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of  
20 Health in an account or accounts of the board designated the "State Board of  
21 Health Laboratory Revenue Fund".

22  
23 SECTION 4947. Arkansas Code § 20-7-408(c)(2), concerning the  
24 disposition of fees under the Combating Prescription Drug Abuse Act, is  
25 amended to read as follows:

26 (2) All transfers from the State Board of Health Laboratory  
27 Revenue Fund and the State Board of Health Public Health Laboratory  
28 Construction Fund shall be made by or at the direction of the ~~director~~  
29 secretary.

30  
31 SECTION 4948. Arkansas Code § 20-7-408(c)(3)(A), concerning the  
32 disposition of fees under the Combating Prescription Drug Abuse Act, is  
33 amended to read as follows:

34 (A) The ~~director~~ secretary; or

35  
36 SECTION 4949. Arkansas Code § 20-7-409 is amended to read as follows:

1 20-7-409. State Board of Health Public Health Laboratory Construction  
2 Fund.

3 The proceeds of the loan other than amounts required to establish  
4 reserves, to pay interest on the loan for a period not to exceed one (1)  
5 year, or to pay costs of the loan and of issuing bonds, all of which shall be  
6 set forth in written directions executed by the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the  
7 Department of Health, shall be deposited as cash funds into an account of the  
8 State Board of Health designated the "State Board of Health Public Health  
9 Laboratory Construction Fund" and disbursed by the ~~director~~ secretary for the  
10 construction of the expansion.

11  
12 SECTION 4950. Arkansas Code § 20-7-410(a), concerning investment of  
13 funds in the State Board of Health Public Health Laboratory Revenue Fund and  
14 the State Board of Health Public Health Laboratory Construction Fund, is  
15 amended to read as follows:

16 (a) All moneys held at any time in the State Board of Health  
17 Laboratory Revenue Fund and the State Board of Health Public Health  
18 Laboratory Construction Fund shall be invested and reinvested to the extent  
19 feasible, as directed by the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Health.

20  
21 SECTION 4951. Arkansas Code § 20-7-412 is amended to read as follows:  
22 20-7-412. Limitations on liability.

23 Neither the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Health nor any  
24 member of the State Board of Health shall be personally liable on the loan or  
25 on account of any of the obligations or actions undertaken in connection with  
26 the loan, or for any damages sustained by anyone with respect to the  
27 obligations or actions, unless he or she acted with a corrupt intent.

28  
29 SECTION 4952. Arkansas Code § 20-7-604(d)(2)(D), concerning the  
30 requirements for the Prescription Drug Monitoring Program, is amended to read  
31 as follows:

32 (D) The State Board of Health may amend, by rule, the  
33 exemptions listed in subdivision (d)(2)(C) of this section upon a  
34 recommendation from the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Health and a  
35 showing that the exemption or lack of exemption is unnecessarily burdensome  
36 or has created a hardship.

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SECTION 4953. Arkansas Code § 20-7-607(a)(1)(A)(i), concerning providing Prescription Drug Monitoring Program information, is amended to read as follows:

(a)(1)(A)(i) The Department of Health shall review the Prescription Drug Monitoring Program information, including without limitation a review to identify information that appears to indicate whether a person is obtaining prescriptions in a manner that may represent misuse or abuse of controlled substances based on prescribing criteria determined by the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Health upon consultation with the Prescription Drug Monitoring Program Advisory Committee.

SECTION 4954. Arkansas Code § 20-7-614(b), concerning the effective date of the Prescription Drug Monitoring Program, is amended to read as follows:

(b) The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Health may suspend operation of the program if adequate funding under § 20-7-610 ceases.

SECTION 4955. Arkansas Code § 20-8-104 is amended to read as follows:  
20-8-104. Health Services Permit Agency – Powers and duties.

(a) There is created and established the Health Services Permit Agency, which shall be ~~an independent agency~~ under the supervision and control of the ~~Governor~~ Department of Health.

(b) The agency, under the administration of the Department of Health, shall possess and exercise such duties and powers as necessary to implement the policy and procedures adopted by the Health Services Permit Commission.

(c) The agency, under the administration of the Department of Health, shall review all applications for permits of approval and approve or deny the application within ninety (90) days from the date the application is deemed complete and submitted for review.

(d) The State of Arkansas shall not participate in the capital expenditures review program, otherwise known as the 1122 Program, unless it becomes mandatory for continuation in federal programs authorized under Title V of the Social Security Act, 42 U.S.C. § 701 et seq., Title XIV of the Social Security Act, 42 U.S.C. § 1351 et seq., and Title XVII of the Social Security Act, 42 U.S.C. § 1391 et seq., for all states.

1 (e) The agency, under the administration of the Department of Health,  
2 shall assist the commission in the performance of its duties under this  
3 subchapter.

4  
5 SECTION 4956. Arkansas Code § 20-8-105 is amended to read as follows:  
6 20-8-105. Director.

7 (a) There shall be a Director of the Health Services Permit Agency,  
8 who shall be the executive head of the Health Services Permit Agency.

9 (b) The director shall be appointed by the Governor, subject to  
10 confirmation by the Senate, and shall serve at the pleasure of the Governor.

11 (c) The director shall report to the Secretary of the Department of  
12 Health.

13  
14 SECTION 4957. Arkansas Code § 20-8-108 is amended to read as follows:  
15 20-8-108. Fees and fines.

16 All fees and fines collected under this subchapter shall be deposited  
17 into the Miscellaneous Agencies Fund Account to be used exclusively for the  
18 maintenance and operation of the Health Services Permit Agency, including any  
19 agreements to reimburse the Department of Health for costs associated with  
20 the operation of the Health Services Permit Agency.

21  
22 SECTION 4958. Arkansas Code § 20-8-110(g), concerning the collection  
23 and dissemination of health data, is amended to read as follows:

24 (g) The ~~director~~ Secretary of the Department of Health shall prescribe  
25 such rules ~~and regulations~~ as may be necessary to carry out the purpose of  
26 this section.

27  
28 SECTION 4959. Arkansas Code § 20-8-110(h)(2)(A), concerning the  
29 collection and dissemination of health data, is amended to read as follows:

30 (2)(A) The director shall prepare an annual report of the Health  
31 Services Permit Agency's findings and submit the report to the ~~Governor~~  
32 Secretary of the Department of Health, the General Assembly, and the House  
33 Committee on Public Health, Welfare, and Labor and the Senate Committee on  
34 Public Health, Welfare, and Labor or appropriate subcommittees thereof.

35  
36 SECTION 4960. Arkansas Code § 20-8-203(1)(G), concerning the powers

1 and duties of the Arkansas Spinal Cord Commission, is amended to read as  
2 follows:

3 (G) Provide an annual report to the ~~Governor~~ Secretary of  
4 the Department of Health, to the General Assembly, and to the public  
5 documenting areas of success, unresolved problems, and overall cost-benefit  
6 analyses of expenditures from the various sources;

7  
8 SECTION 4961. Arkansas Code § 20-8-505(b)(1)(E), concerning the  
9 creation and members of the Arkansas Commission for the Newborn Umbilical  
10 Cord Blood Initiative, is amended to read as follows:

11 (E) The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Health or  
12 his or her designee.

13  
14 SECTION 4962. Arkansas Code § 20-8-506(a)(9), concerning the powers  
15 and duties of the Arkansas Commission for the Newborn Umbilical Cord Blood  
16 Initiative, is amended to read as follows:

17 (9) If funds are available, request the Department of Health to  
18 employ staff and enter into contracts necessary to implement this subchapter,  
19 and reimburse the Department of Health for the cost of implementing this  
20 subchapter; and

21  
22 SECTION 4963. Arkansas Code Title 20, Chapter 8, Subchapter 6, is  
23 repealed as the Alzheimer's Advisory Council expired on September 30, 2017.

24 ~~Subchapter 6 — Alzheimer's Advisory Council~~

25  
26 ~~20-8-601. Findings.~~

27 ~~(a) The General Assembly finds that:~~

28 ~~(1) Alzheimer's disease is a progressive and fatal brain disease~~  
29 ~~that destroys brain cells and causes problems with memory, thinking, and~~  
30 ~~behavior;~~

31 ~~(2) More than five million four hundred thousand (5,400,000)~~  
32 ~~Americans now have Alzheimer's disease;~~

33 ~~(3) Alzheimer's disease is the most common form of dementia and~~  
34 ~~is the sixth leading cause of death in the United States; and~~

35 ~~(4) No cure exists for Alzheimer's disease, but treatments for~~  
36 ~~symptoms used in conjunction with appropriate services and support can~~

1 ~~improve the quality of life for those living with the disease.~~

2 ~~(b) This section shall expire on September 30, 2017.~~

3  
4 ~~20-8-602. Alzheimer's Advisory Council—Creation—Membership.~~

5 ~~(a) There is created the Alzheimer's Advisory Council, to consist of~~  
6 ~~twenty three (23) members as follows:~~

7 ~~(1) Five (5) members appointed by the Speaker of the House of~~  
8 ~~Representatives as follows:~~

9 ~~(A) Two (2) members of the House of Representatives;~~

10 ~~(B) One (1) member who has been diagnosed with Alzheimer's~~  
11 ~~disease;~~

12 ~~(C) One (1) member to represent the healthcare provider~~  
13 ~~community; and~~

14 ~~(D) One (1) member to represent the adult day services~~  
15 ~~industry;~~

16 ~~(2) Five (5) members appointed by the President Pro Tempore of~~  
17 ~~the Senate as follows:~~

18 ~~(A) Two (2) members of the Senate;~~

19 ~~(B) One (1) member who is a paid caregiver of a person~~  
20 ~~with Alzheimer's disease;~~

21 ~~(C) One (1) member to represent the assisted living~~  
22 ~~industry; and~~

23 ~~(D) One (1) member who is a scientist who specializes in~~  
24 ~~Alzheimer's disease research;~~

25 ~~(3) Four (4) members appointed by the Governor as follows:~~

26 ~~(A) One (1) member who is a physician caring for persons~~  
27 ~~diagnosed with Alzheimer's disease;~~

28 ~~(B) One (1) member to represent the nursing facility~~  
29 ~~industry;~~

30 ~~(C) One (1) member who is a person active in the state~~  
31 ~~chapter of the Alzheimer's Association; and~~

32 ~~(D) One (1) member who is a person active in the~~  
33 ~~Alzheimer's Arkansas Programs and Services; and~~

34 ~~(4) Nine (9) members as follows:~~

35 ~~(A) The Director of the Department of Health or his or her~~  
36 ~~designee;~~

1                   ~~(B) The Director of the Department of Human Services or~~  
2 ~~his or her designee;~~

3                   ~~(C) The Director of the Division of Aging, Adult, and~~  
4 ~~Behavioral Health Services of the Department of Human Services or his or her~~  
5 ~~designee;~~

6                   ~~(D) The Director of the Arkansas Center for Health~~  
7 ~~Improvement or his or her designee;~~

8                   ~~(E) The Director of the Department of Workforce Services~~  
9 ~~or his or her designee; and~~

10                   ~~(F) Four (4) members appointed by the state chapter of the~~  
11 ~~Alzheimer's Association to represent Arkansas families that have been~~  
12 ~~affected by Alzheimer's disease.~~

13           ~~(b) Members of the council shall be appointed by September 1, 2011.~~

14           ~~(c)(1) Members of the council shall serve at the pleasure of their~~  
15 ~~appointing authorities.~~

16           ~~(2) A vacancy on the council shall be filled by the original~~  
17 ~~appointing authority.~~

18           ~~(d)(1) The Speaker of the House of Representatives and the President~~  
19 ~~Pro Tempore of the Senate shall each designate a cochair from among the~~  
20 ~~members of the council.~~

21           ~~(2) The cochairs shall jointly call the first meeting of the~~  
22 ~~council.~~

23           ~~(e)(1) A majority of the members of the council shall constitute a~~  
24 ~~quorum.~~

25           ~~(2) A majority vote of the members present is required for any~~  
26 ~~action of the council.~~

27           ~~(f) Council meetings shall be held in Pulaski County, Arkansas, and at~~  
28 ~~other locations in the state as the council shall deem necessary.~~

29           ~~(g) The Bureau of Legislative Research shall provide staff support to~~  
30 ~~the council as necessary to assist the council in the performance of its~~  
31 ~~duties.~~

32           ~~(h) Legislative members of the council shall be reimbursed for~~  
33 ~~expenses and per diem at the same rate and from the same source as provided~~  
34 ~~by law for members of the General Assembly attending meetings of the interim~~  
35 ~~committees.~~

36           ~~(i) This section shall expire on September 30, 2017.~~

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~~20-8-603. Duties.~~

~~(a) The Alzheimer's Advisory Council shall:~~

~~(1) Assess the current and future impact of Alzheimer's disease and other types of dementia on the residents of the State of Arkansas;~~

~~(2) Examine the existing industries, services, and resources addressing the needs of persons living with Alzheimer's disease, their families, and caregivers; and~~

~~(3) Develop a strategy to mobilize a state response to the public health crisis created by Alzheimer's disease and other types of dementia.~~

~~(b) This section shall expire on September 30, 2017.~~

~~20-8-604. Reports.~~

~~(a) The Alzheimer's Advisory Council shall present a draft of assessments and recommendations for meeting the Alzheimer's disease needs in the State of Arkansas to the House Committee on Public Health, Welfare, and Labor and the Senate Committee on Public Health, Welfare, and Labor on or before October 1 of each even-numbered year.~~

~~(b) This section shall expire on September 30, 2017.~~

SECTION 4964. Arkansas Code § 20-8-702(b)(1)(I), concerning the Palliative Care and Quality of Life Interdisciplinary Task Force, is amended to read as follows:

(I) One (1) member, who is appointed in consultation with the ~~Surgeon General~~ Secretary of the Department of Health, who is a palliative care professional with expertise in the following knowledge areas that may include without limitation:

(i) Interdisciplinary palliative care;

(ii) Medical, nursing, social work, pharmacy, or spiritual services;

(iii) Psychosocial issues involved in caregiving for patient and family caregivers or their advocates; and

(iv) Palliative care perspectives and challenges across multiple settings, including inpatient, outpatient, and community settings, and across pediatric, youth, adult, and geriatric populations;

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SECTION 4965. Arkansas Code § 20-8-702(b)(2)(B), concerning the Palliative Care and Quality of Life Interdisciplinary Task Force, is amended to read as follows:

(B) One (1) member, in consultation with the Arkansas Surgeon General, who is a palliative care professional with expertise in the following knowledge areas that may include without limitation:

- (i) Interdisciplinary palliative care;
- (ii) Medical, nursing, social work, pharmacy, or spiritual services;
- (iii) Psychosocial issues involved in caregiving for patient and family caregivers or their advocates; and
- (iv) Palliative care perspectives and challenges across multiple settings, including inpatient, outpatient, and community settings, and across pediatric, youth, adult, and geriatric populations; and

SECTION 4966. Arkansas Code § 20-8-702(b)(3)(B), concerning the Palliative Care and Quality of Life Interdisciplinary Task Force, is amended to read as follows:

(B) One (1) member, in consultation with the Arkansas Surgeon General, who is a palliative care professional with expertise in the following knowledge areas that may include without limitation:

- (i) Interdisciplinary palliative care;
- (ii) Medical, nursing, social work, pharmacy, or spiritual services;
- (iii) Psychosocial issues involved in caregiving for patient and family caregivers or their advocates; and
- (iv) Palliative care perspectives and challenges across multiple settings, including inpatient, outpatient, and community settings, and across pediatric, youth, adult, and geriatric populations.

SECTION 4967. Arkansas Code § 20-8-702(h), concerning the Palliative Care and Quality of Life Interdisciplinary Task Force, is amended to read as follows:

(h) The Department of Health, ~~in conjunction with the Department of Human Services,~~ shall provide staff, information, and other assistance as

1 reasonably necessary to assist the task force in its efficient organization.

2  
3 SECTION 4968. Arkansas Code § 20-9-204(a), concerning the  
4 administration of the state plan for the construction of medical facilities  
5 by the Division of Health Facilities Services, is amended to read as follows:

6 (a) There is established in the ~~State Board of Health~~ Department of  
7 Health a Division of Health Facilities Services, which shall be administered  
8 by a full-time salaried administrator under the supervision and direction of  
9 the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Health.

10  
11 SECTION 4969. Arkansas Code § 20-9-205 is amended to read as follows:  
12 20-9-205. Powers and duties of State Board of Health.

13 (a) In carrying out this subchapter, the State Board of Health is  
14 empowered and directed to:

15 (1) Require such reports, make such inspections and  
16 investigations, and prescribe and enforce such reasonable rules and  
17 regulations as it finds necessary to effectuate the purposes of this  
18 subchapter;

19 (2) Provide methods of administration ~~and appoint an~~  
20 ~~administrator and other personnel~~ of the Division of Health Facilities  
21 Services;

22 (3) Procure and pay for the temporary services of experts or  
23 consultants on a fee-for-service basis;

24 (4) Enter into agreements for the utilization of the facilities  
25 and services of other departments, agencies, and institutions, public and  
26 private;

27 (5) Accept on behalf of the state, and deposit with the  
28 Treasurer of State, any grant, gift, or contribution of funds made to assist  
29 in meeting the cost of carrying out the purposes of this subchapter, and  
30 expend such funds accordingly;

31 (6) Make an annual report to the ~~Governor~~ Secretary of the  
32 Department of Health on activities and expenditures made pursuant to this  
33 subchapter;

34 (7) Procure the services of an attorney to assist the Department  
35 of Health in any legal work involved in carrying out the duties of the  
36 department and to pay for the services on a fee-for-service or retainer

1 basis; and

2 (8) Prescribe and enforce such reasonable rules and regulations  
3 as are necessary to adopt a uniform billing form for hospitals within the  
4 state and to prescribe penalties for the failure or refusal to utilize and  
5 accept such forms. However, the form must be acceptable by Medicare and its  
6 intermediaries within the state and consistent with the form adopted at the  
7 federal level by Medicare and the National Uniform Billing Committee.

8 (b) The department shall adopt, promulgate, and enforce such rules,  
9 regulations, and standards as may be necessary for the accomplishment of the  
10 purposes of this subchapter. The rules, regulations, and standards shall be  
11 modified, amended, or rescinded, from time to time, by the department as may  
12 be in the public interest.

13

14 SECTION 4970. Arkansas Code § 20-9-207(d), concerning the federal  
15 funds for surveying and planning construction programs, is amended to read as  
16 follows:

17 (d) Warrants for all payments from the fund shall bear the signature  
18 of the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Health or his or her agent.

19

20 SECTION 4971. Arkansas Code § 20-9-211(c), concerning the federal  
21 funds for surveying and planning construction programs, is amended to read as  
22 follows:

23 (c) Warrants for all payments from the fund shall bear the signature  
24 of the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Health or his or her agent.

25

26 SECTION 4972. Arkansas Code § 20-9-217(b), concerning alterations,  
27 additions, and new construction of facilities under the Division of Health  
28 Facilities Services, is amended to read as follows:

29 (b)(1) ~~From time to time, the Director~~ The Secretary of the Department  
30 of Health or his or her agent shall inspect each construction project  
31 approved by the ~~United~~ United States Surgeon General.

32 (2) If the inspection so warrants, the ~~director~~ secretary or his  
33 or her agent shall certify to the United States Surgeon General that work has  
34 been performed upon the project, or purchases have been made, in accordance  
35 with the approved plans and specifications, and that payment of an  
36 installment of federal funds is due the applicant.

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SECTION 4973. Arkansas Code § 20-9-1003(b), concerning the creation of the Acute Stroke Care Task Force, is amended to read as follows:

(b) The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Health shall appoint:

(1) One (1) member to represent the Department of Health;

(2) One (1) member to represent the American Heart Association and the American Stroke Association;

(3) One (1) member to represent the Arkansas Minority Health Commission;

(4) One (1) member to represent the Arkansas Hospital Association, Inc.;

(5) One (1) member to represent the Arkansas Foundation for Medical Care, Inc.;

(6) One (1) member to represent the Fay W. Boozman College of Public Health of the University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences;

(7) One (1) member to represent the Division of Medical Services within the Department of Human Services;

(8) One (1) member to represent emergency medical services;

(9) One (1) member to represent the Arkansas Medical Society, Inc.;

(10) One (1) member to represent the medical insurance industry;

(11) One (1) member to represent the community at large; and

(12) One (1) member to represent the Arkansas Medical, Dental, and Pharmaceutical Association, Inc.

SECTION 4974. Arkansas Code § 20-9-1003(d), concerning the creation of the Acute Stroke Care Task Force, is amended to read as follows:

(d) If a vacancy occurs, the ~~director~~ secretary shall appoint a person who represents the same constituency as the member being replaced.

SECTION 4975. Arkansas Code § 20-9-1102(b), concerning the creation of the Cervical Cancer Task Force, is amended to read as follows:

(b) The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Health shall appoint:

(1) One (1) member to represent the Department of Health;

(2) One (1) member to represent the American Cancer Society;

(3) One (1) member to represent the Arkansas Minority Health

1 Commission;

2 (4) One (1) member to represent the Arkansas Hospital

3 Association, Inc.;

4 (5) One (1) member to represent the Arkansas Foundation for

5 Medical Care, Inc.;

6 (6) One (1) member to represent the Fay W. Boozman College of

7 Public Health of the University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences;

8 (7) One (1) member to represent the Division of Medical Services

9 of the Department of Human Services;

10 (8) One (1) member to represent primary care physicians;

11 (9) One (1) member to represent the Arkansas Medical Society,

12 Inc.;

13 (10) One (1) member to represent the medical insurance industry;

14 (11) One (1) member to represent the community at large; and

15 (12) One (1) member to represent the Arkansas Medical, Dental,

16 and Pharmaceutical Association, Inc..

17

18 SECTION 4976. Arkansas Code § 20-9-1102(d), concerning the creation of  
19 the Cervical Cancer Task Force, is amended to read as follows:

20 (d) If a vacancy occurs, the ~~director~~ secretary shall appoint a person  
21 who represents the same constituency as the member being replaced.

22

23 SECTION 4977. Arkansas Code § 20-9-1204(a), concerning the Advisory  
24 Committee on Healthcare Acquired Infections, is amended to read as follows:

25 (a) The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Health shall appoint  
26 an Advisory Committee on Healthcare Acquired Infections, including without  
27 limitation representatives of:

28 (1) Public and private hospitals, including representatives of  
29 hospitals with fewer than fifty (50) beds and representatives of hospitals  
30 with more than fifty (50) beds;

31 (2) Outpatient surgery centers;

32 (3) Direct-care nursing staff;

33 (4) Physicians;

34 (5) Infection-control professionals with expertise in  
35 healthcare-associated infections;

36 (6) Academic researchers; and

1 (7) At least one (1) representative of a consumer organization.

2  
3 SECTION 4978. Arkansas Code § 20-9-1402(a), concerning the  
4 establishment of the shaken baby syndrome education program, is amended to  
5 read as follows:

6 (a) The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Health shall establish  
7 the shaken baby syndrome education program by:

8 (1) Not later than one (1) year after August 16, 2013,  
9 developing educational materials that present readily comprehensible  
10 information for new parents on shaken baby syndrome; and

11 (2) Making available on the Department of Health website in an  
12 easily accessible format the educational materials developed under  
13 subdivision (a)(1) of this section.

14  
15 SECTION 4979. Arkansas Code § 20-9-1402(c)(1), concerning the  
16 establishment of the shaken baby syndrome education program, is amended to  
17 read as follows:

18 (c)(1) Annually beginning on or before January 1, 2014, the ~~director~~  
19 secretary shall assess the effectiveness of the shaken baby syndrome  
20 education program.

21  
22 SECTION 4980. Arkansas Code § 20-13-206(f), concerning the proceedings  
23 of the Emergency Medical Services Advisory Council, is amended to read as  
24 follows:

25 (f)(1) The council shall report in writing to the ~~Governor~~ Secretary  
26 of the Department of Health on or about July 31 of each year.

27 (2) The report shall contain a summary of the proceedings of the  
28 council during the preceding fiscal year, a detailed and itemized statement  
29 of all revenue and of all expenditures made by or in behalf of the council,  
30 other information deemed necessary or useful, and any additional information  
31 which may be requested by the ~~Governor~~ secretary.

32  
33 SECTION 4981. Arkansas Code § 20-13-503(4), concerning the definition  
34 of "director" under the PC-DI-TL program, is repealed.

35 (4) ~~"Director" means the Director of the Department of Health;~~

1 SECTION 4982. Arkansas Code § 20-13-505 is amended to read as follows:  
2 20-13-505. Authority of ~~director~~ secretary.

3 (a) The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Health may:

4 (1) Employ any coordination measures necessary to effectuate the  
5 purposes of this subchapter within and among the responsible components;

6 (2) Engage in any educational program or effort undertaken in  
7 partnership with county or municipal governmental agencies or other groups  
8 if, in his or her judgment, such activity would effectuate the purposes of  
9 this subchapter;

10 (3) Authorize any component within the system to employ experts  
11 and consultants and compensate those individuals at rates determined by the  
12 ~~director~~ secretary in consultation with component representatives of the  
13 University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences; and

14 (4) Engage in programs of experimental or demonstration  
15 research.

16 (b) Additionally, the ~~director~~ secretary may accept and administer  
17 loans, grants, or other funds and gifts, conditional or otherwise, from the  
18 United States Government and any other public or private sources. In all such  
19 transactions, the PC-DI-TL system shall remain unitary, and the ~~director~~  
20 secretary shall allow no function which might require the separation of the  
21 components.

22 (c) The ~~director~~ secretary shall have full authority, in consultation  
23 with the two (2) University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences components of  
24 the PC-DI-TL system, to formulate, promulgate, adopt, amend, and enforce  
25 rules, regulations, and regulatory standards necessary to effectuate this  
26 subchapter in a way consistent with § 10-3-309.

27  
28 SECTION 4983. Arkansas Code § 20-13-506(a)(2), concerning the creation  
29 of the advisory committee for the PC-DI-TL program, is amended to read as  
30 follows:

31 (2) The committee shall consist of an uneven number of persons,  
32 not to exceed seven (7), appointed by the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the  
33 Department of Health.

34  
35 SECTION 4984. Arkansas Code § 20-13-506(b)(3), concerning the creation  
36 of the advisory committee for the PC-DI-TL program, is amended to read as

1 follows:

2 (3) In the selection of members, the ~~director~~ secretary shall  
3 appoint only those persons with professional expertise in poison control,  
4 drug information, toxicological laboratory services, or other health and  
5 safety fields.

6

7 SECTION 4985. Arkansas Code § 20-13-506(d), concerning the creation of  
8 the advisory committee for the PC-DI-TL program, is amended to read as  
9 follows:

10 (d) Any reasonable administrative and technical assistance required by  
11 the committee shall be provided by the ~~director~~ secretary in consultation  
12 with the UAMS-Pharmacy and UAMS-Library permanent components of the PC-DI-TL  
13 program.

14

15 SECTION 4986. Arkansas Code § 20-13-508(a), concerning the designation  
16 of personnel within the PC-DI-TL services system, is amended to read as  
17 follows:

18 (a) Each permanent component within the PC-DI-TL services system shall  
19 designate those persons within the component department who shall have  
20 responsibility for implementing and developing this toxicology services  
21 system, and each shall provide written notice of the designations to the  
22 ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Health.

23

24 SECTION 4987. Arkansas Code § 20-13-511 is amended to read as follows:  
25 20-13-511. Recordkeeping and reporting.

26 Each of the University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences components, the  
27 Arkansas Poison and Drug Information Center, the Library of the University of  
28 Arkansas for Medical Sciences for nonemergency poison and drug information,  
29 and the Chemistry Branch of the Public Health Laboratory of the Department of  
30 Health, shall make available to the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of  
31 Health, in such manner, form, or at such times as he or she shall require,  
32 copies of records and reports regarding all activities authorized and  
33 developed pursuant to this subchapter.

34

35 SECTION 4988. Arkansas Code § 20-13-807(d), concerning the creation of  
36 the Trauma Advisory Council, is amended to read as follows:

1 (d) The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Health or his or her  
2 designee shall serve as a nonvoting ex officio member of the Trauma Advisory  
3 Council.

4  
5 SECTION 4989. Arkansas Code § 20-13-820 is amended to read as follows:  
6 20-13-820. Reports to the General Assembly.

7 The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Health shall provide a  
8 report to the Senate Committee on Public Health, Welfare, and Labor and the  
9 House Committee on Public Health, Welfare, and Labor on or before April 1 and  
10 October 1 of each year through 2011. After 2011, the ~~director~~ secretary shall  
11 provide an annual report to the Senate Committee on Public Health, Welfare,  
12 and Labor and the House Committee on Public Health, Welfare, and Labor on or  
13 before October 1.

14  
15 SECTION 4990. Arkansas Code § 20-13-1106(a), concerning disqualifying  
16 offenses for certification or recertification and waivers, is amended to read  
17 as follows:

18 (a) Except as provided in subdivision (e)(1) of this section, the  
19 Division of Emergency Medical Services shall issue a determination that a  
20 person is disqualified from certification or recertification if the person  
21 has been found guilty of or has pleaded guilty or nolo contendere to any of  
22 the offenses listed in subsection (b) of this section, including offenses for  
23 which the record has been expunged. However, the Division of Emergency  
24 Medical Services shall forward a request for a waiver to the ~~Director~~  
25 Secretary of the Department of Health on all applicants who have been  
26 convicted of the crimes listed in subsection (b) of this section if five (5)  
27 years have passed since the conviction, if five (5) years have passed since  
28 release from custodial confinement, or if the applicants are currently  
29 certified emergency medical technicians, before making the final  
30 determination on certification or recertification. These individuals will not  
31 be suspended before the ~~director's~~ secretary's making the final  
32 determination.

33  
34 SECTION 4991. Arkansas Code § 20-13-1106(d)(2), concerning  
35 disqualifying offenses for certification or recertification and waivers, is  
36 amended to read as follows:

1           (2) The written request for waiver shall be mailed to the  
2 ~~director~~ secretary within fifteen (15) calendar days after receipt of the  
3 determination by the Department of Health.  
4

5           SECTION 4992. Arkansas Code § 20-13-1201(3), concerning the definition  
6 of "director" under the vaccination program for first responders, is  
7 repealed.

8           ~~(3) "Director" means the Director of the Department of Health;~~  
9

10           SECTION 4993. Arkansas Code § 20-14-804(b), concerning the Advisory  
11 Board for Interpreters between Hearing Individuals and Individuals who are  
12 Deaf, Deafblind, Hard of Hearing, or Oral Deaf, is amended to read as  
13 follows:

14           (b) The board shall consist of seven (7) members appointed by the  
15 ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Health as follows:

16           (1) Four (4) licensed qualified interpreters appointed from a  
17 list of eight (8) submitted by the Arkansas Registry of Interpreters for the  
18 Deaf, Inc. in conjunction with the Arkansas Association for the Deaf;

19           (2) Two (2) members appointed from a list of four (4) submitted  
20 by the Arkansas Association for the Deaf in conjunction with the Arkansas  
21 Registry of Interpreters for the Deaf, Inc. who are deaf persons, hard of  
22 hearing persons, or oral deaf persons not licensed under this subchapter; and

23           (3) One (1) member appointed from a list of two (2) submitted by  
24 the Arkansas Association for the Deaf in conjunction with the Arkansas  
25 Registry of Interpreters for the Deaf, Inc. who are neither individuals who  
26 are deaf, deafblind, hard of hearing, or oral deaf and who are not licensed  
27 under this subchapter.  
28

29           SECTION 4994. Arkansas Code § 20-14-804(e), concerning the Advisory  
30 Board for Interpreters between Hearing Individuals and Individuals who are  
31 Deaf, Deafblind, Hard of Hearing, or Oral Deaf, is amended to read as  
32 follows:

33           (e) If a vacancy occurs on the board, the ~~director~~ secretary shall  
34 appoint to complete the term vacated a person who possesses the same  
35 qualifications as those required for the position to which he or she is  
36 appointed.

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SECTION 4995. Arkansas Code § 20-14-805(b), concerning the powers and duties of the Advisory Board for Interpreters between Hearing Individuals and Individuals who are Deaf, Deafblind, Hard of Hearing, or Oral Deaf, is amended to read as follows:

(b) The Advisory Board for Interpreters between Hearing Individuals and Individuals who are Deaf, Deafblind, Hard of Hearing, or Oral Deaf shall review and recommend to the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Health:

(1) Acceptance or rejection of applications for licensure and renewal of licenses for interpreters for the deaf, deafblind, hard of hearing, and oral deaf;

(2) Criteria for issuance and renewal of licenses for licensed qualified interpreters;

(3) Criteria for issuance and continuance of provisional licenses;

(4) Fees for licensure and licensure renewal under this subchapter;

(5) Suspension or revocation of licenses under this subchapter;

(6) Procedures for receiving and investigating complaints under the Arkansas Administrative Procedure Act, § 25-15-201 et seq.;

(7) Rules to ensure that an interpreting agency provides only licensed qualified interpreters for services under this subchapter;

(8) Rules regarding conflicts of interest regarding members of the Advisory Board for Interpreters between Hearing Individuals and Individuals who are Deaf, Deafblind, Hard of Hearing, or Oral Deaf;

(9)(A) A code of professional conduct.

(B) The code of professional conduct shall provide, at a minimum, that:

(i) A licensed qualified interpreter shall make a true interpretation in an understandable manner to an individual who is deaf, deafblind, hard of hearing, or oral deaf for whom the licensed qualified interpreter is appointed and that the licensed qualified interpreter will interpret accurately the statements of the individual who is deaf or hard of hearing who desires that his or her statements be made in English to the best of the licensed qualified interpreter's skill and judgment; and

(ii) All information that a licensed qualified

1 interpreter gathers, learns from, or relays to an individual who is deaf,  
2 deafblind, hard of hearing, or oral deaf during an administrative, civil, or  
3 criminal proceeding shall remain confidential and privileged unless the  
4 individual who is deaf, deafblind, hard of hearing, or oral deaf desires that  
5 the information be communicated to other persons; and

6 (10) A continuing education program for licensed qualified  
7 interpreters.

8

9 SECTION 4996. Arkansas Code § 20-14-806(a), concerning the powers and  
10 duties of the Director of the Department of Health, is amended to read as  
11 follows:

12 (a) After consideration of the recommendation of the Advisory Board  
13 for Interpreters between Hearing Individuals and Individuals who are Deaf,  
14 Deafblind, Hard of Hearing, or Oral Deaf, the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the  
15 Department of Health shall:

16 (1) Issue or deny a license or a renewal of license of a  
17 licensed qualified interpreter;

18 (2) Issue or deny a license or a renewal of a licensed  
19 provisional interpreter license;

20 (3) Confirm or overrule a recommendation to revoke or suspend a  
21 license for an interpreter between a hearing individual and an individual who  
22 is deaf, deafblind, hard of hearing, or oral deaf;

23 (4) Create and maintain a registry of licensed qualified  
24 interpreters; and

25 (5) Establish reasonable fees for licensure and renewal of  
26 licensure.

27

28 SECTION 4997. Arkansas Code § 20-15-202 is amended to read as follows:  
29 20-15-202. State cancer plan.

30 A task force consisting of public and private entities shall be  
31 established by the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Health to assist  
32 the Department of Health in developing a strategic plan for a coordinated,  
33 comprehensive, statewide network of cancer resources, services, and programs.

34

35 SECTION 4998. Arkansas Code § 20-15-401(b), concerning the duty of a  
36 physician to report cases of suspected cases of Reye's syndrome diseases, is

1 amended to read as follows:

2 (b) The report shall be made as promptly as possible from the time the  
3 physician first visits, examines, or prescribes for the patient, and the  
4 report shall state the name, age, sex, race, usual residence, place where the  
5 patient is to be found, the nature of the disease, the date of onset, and any  
6 additional information that the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of  
7 Health may require.

8

9 SECTION 4999. Arkansas Code § 20-15-602(a)(3), concerning the creation  
10 and members of the State Kidney Disease Commission, is amended to read as  
11 follows:

12 (3) The ~~Commissioner of the Arkansas Rehabilitation Services of~~  
13 ~~the Department of Career Education~~ Secretary of the Department of Health, or  
14 his or her designee, shall be a member of the commission and shall serve as  
15 secretary and disbursing officer of funds appropriated to the commission for  
16 the treatment and cure of renal diseases.

17

18 SECTION 5000. Arkansas Code § 20-15-604(a), concerning the advisory  
19 association to the State Kidney Disease Commission, is amended to read as  
20 follows:

21 (a) In developing rules and regulations and in determining standards  
22 for determining eligibility for financial assistance to persons suffering  
23 from chronic renal diseases who require lifesaving care and treatment for  
24 such renal diseases, the State Kidney Disease Commission shall consult with  
25 and obtain the advice of the Arkansas Association for Kidney Disease, Inc., a  
26 nonprofit corporation organized under the laws of this state. This  
27 organization is recognized as the representative body to serve as an advisory  
28 association to the commission and to the deputy director of the appropriate  
29 division as determined by the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Health  
30 in carrying out their functions and duties under this subchapter.

31

32 SECTION 5001. Arkansas Code § 20-15-605 is amended to read as follows:

33 20-15-605. State Kidney Disease Commission – Disbursement of funds.

34 (a) The ~~Commissioner of the Arkansas Rehabilitation Services of the~~  
35 ~~Department of Career Education~~ Secretary of the Department of Health shall be  
36 the disbursing officer of funds appropriated by the General Assembly and of

1 other funds made available to the State Kidney Disease Commission for such  
2 purposes. These funds are to provide monetary assistance to defray the cost  
3 incurred by patients suffering from acute or chronic renal disease who are  
4 unable to meet the total cost of their care or treatment from their own  
5 resources or from third-party resources.

6 (b) The ~~commissioner~~ secretary shall be governed by the policies,  
7 rules and regulations, and procedures promulgated by the commission in  
8 disbursing funds appropriated, or otherwise made available, to the commission  
9 for renal disease treatment purposes.

10  
11 SECTION 5002. Arkansas Code § 20-15-701 is amended to read as follows:  
12 20-15-701. Definition.

13 As used in this subchapter, "active tuberculosis" means that the  
14 disease is in a communicable or infectious stage as established by chest X  
15 ray, microscopical examination of sputum, or other diagnostic procedures  
16 approved ~~jointly~~ by the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Health ~~and~~  
17 ~~the medical director of either the Arkansas Tuberculosis Sanatorium or the~~  
18 ~~Arkansas State Hospital.~~

19  
20 SECTION 5003. Arkansas Code § 20-15-709(b), concerning the discharge  
21 of a person committed, is amended to read as follows:

22 (b) The superintendent of the institution shall report each discharge  
23 with a full statement of reasons therefor at once to the ~~Director~~ Secretary  
24 of the Department of Health, to the county health officer of the county where  
25 the person was committed, and to the clerk of the court from which the person  
26 was committed.

27  
28 SECTION 5004. Arkansas Code § 20-15-1003 is amended to read as  
29 follows:

30 20-15-1003. Advisory committee.

31 (a) To assure the safety and accuracy of screening and diagnostic  
32 mammography and to promote the highest quality imaging in the most efficient  
33 setting to contain costs, radiological standards, and quality assurance  
34 programs shall be established and administered by the ~~Director~~ Secretary of  
35 the Department of Health.

36 (b) To assist the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Health in

1 establishing the quality standards, there is created an advisory committee to  
2 be composed of:

3 (1) The Director of Mammography at the University of Arkansas  
4 for Medical Sciences, or his or her designee;

5 (2) The Chair of the Breast Screening Project of the Arkansas  
6 Division of the American Cancer Society, or his or her designee;

7 (3) A physician appointed by the Arkansas Medical Society, Inc.  
8 or his or her designee;

9 (4) A health physicist from the Radiation Control Section of the  
10 Department of Health, or his or her designee;

11 (5) A medical physicist with experience and training in  
12 mammography procedures appointed by the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department  
13 of Health;

14 (6) A registered X-ray technologist with experience and training  
15 in mammography practices and procedures appointed by the ~~Director~~ Secretary  
16 of the Department of Health; and

17 (7) The President of the Arkansas Chapter of the American  
18 College of Radiology, or his or her designee.

19 (c) The committee and the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of  
20 Health shall continuously review and revise the quality standards in light of  
21 current scientific knowledge, but no less frequently than one (1) time every  
22 year.

23

24 SECTION 5005. Arkansas Code § 20-15-1004(a)(1), concerning the  
25 accreditation of facilities under the federal Mammography Quality Standards  
26 Act of 1992, is amended to read as follows:

27 (a)(1) The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Health shall  
28 establish quality standards for accreditation of facilities wherein  
29 mammography may be conducted in accordance with the Mammography Quality  
30 Standards Act of 1992, Pub. L. No. 102-539 (21 C.F.R. Part 900).

31

32 SECTION 5006. Arkansas Code § 20-15-1502(4), concerning the definition  
33 of "director" under the laws establishing the Universal Newborn Hearing  
34 Screening, Tracking, and Intervention Advisory Board, is repealed.

35 ~~(4) "Director" means the Director of the Department of Health;~~

36

1 SECTION 5007. Arkansas Code § 20-15-1903(2), concerning the definition  
2 of "high risk" under the Colorectal Cancer Prevention, Early Detection, and  
3 Treatment Act, is amended to read as follows:

4 (2) Any additional or expanded definition of "persons at high  
5 risk for colorectal cancer" as recognized by medical science and determined  
6 by the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Health in consultation with  
7 the University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences.

8  
9 SECTION 5008. Arkansas Code § 20-15-1906 is amended to read as  
10 follows:

11 20-15-1906. Colorectal Cancer Prevention, Early Detection, and  
12 Treatment Advisory Committee.

13 (a) There is created a Colorectal Cancer Prevention, Early Detection,  
14 and Treatment Advisory Committee to advise the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the  
15 Department of Health on matters of concern under this subchapter.

16 (b) The ~~director~~ secretary shall appoint:

17 (1) One (1) member to represent the Department of Health;

18 (2) One (1) member to represent the target population of this  
19 subchapter;

20 (3) One (1) member who specializes in primary care or  
21 gastrointestinal medicine to represent the Arkansas Medical Society, Inc.;

22 (4) One (1) member who specializes in primary care or  
23 gastrointestinal medicine to represent the Arkansas Medical, Dental and  
24 Pharmaceutical Association, Inc.;

25 (5) One (1) member who is a surgical oncologist physician;

26 (6) One (1) member who is a radiation oncologist physician;

27 (7) One (1) member to represent the Arkansas Nurses Association;

28 (8) One (1) member who is a behavioral health scientist;

29 (9) One (1) member who is a medical oncologist physician;

30 (10) One (1) member to represent the area health education  
31 centers;

32 (11) One (1) member who is a colorectal cancer survivor;

33 (12) One (1) member to represent the American Cancer Society;

34 (13) One (1) member to represent the Community Health Centers of  
35 Arkansas; and

36 (14) One (1) member selected from the Arkansas Minority Health

1 Commission.

2 (c) The ~~director~~ secretary shall ensure that the membership is  
3 representative of the four (4) congressional districts.

4 (d) Terms of committee members shall be three (3) years except for the  
5 initial members whose terms shall be determined by lot so as to stagger terms  
6 to equalize as nearly as possible the number of members to be appointed each  
7 year.

8 (e) If a vacancy occurs, the ~~director~~ secretary shall appoint a person  
9 who represents the same constituency as the member being replaced.

10 (f) The committee shall elect one (1) of its members to act as chair  
11 for a term of one (1) year.

12 (g) A majority of the members shall constitute a quorum for the  
13 transaction of business.

14 (h) The committee shall meet at least quarterly to study developments  
15 in programs created under this subchapter and to assist the ~~director~~  
16 secretary in improving existing programs and developing new programs.

17 (i) The department shall provide office space and staff for the  
18 committee.

19 (j) Members of the committee shall serve without pay but may receive  
20 expense reimbursement in accordance with § 25-16-902 if funds are available.

21

22 SECTION 5009. Arkansas Code § 20-16-101 is repealed.

23 ~~20-16-101. Authorization to continue the Mississippi County Midwife~~  
24 ~~Program.~~

25 ~~The Director of the Department of Health may continue the Mississippi~~  
26 ~~County Midwife Program utilizing available state and federal funding.~~

27

28 SECTION 5010. Arkansas Code § 20-16-203(c)(3), concerning the advisory  
29 commission to the Arkansas Reproductive Health Monitoring System, is amended  
30 to read as follows:

31 (3) The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Health;

32

33 SECTION 5011. Arkansas Code § 20-16-507(b), concerning the requirement  
34 of testing pregnant women, is amended to read as follows:

35 (b) For the purpose of this section, a standard serological test shall  
36 be a test for syphilis, human immunodeficiency virus, and Hepatitis B,

1 approved or authorized by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, and  
2 approved by the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Health and shall be  
3 made at the division's laboratory or at another laboratory approved to make  
4 such tests.

5  
6 SECTION 5012. Arkansas Code § 20-16-1110(c), concerning civil remedies  
7 to be brought against a person who performed an abortion, is amended to read  
8 as follows:

9 (c)(1) If the Department of Health fails to issue the public report  
10 required under § 20-16-1108, any group of ten (10) or more citizens of this  
11 state may seek an injunction in a court of competent jurisdiction against the  
12 ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Health requiring that a complete  
13 report be issued within a period established by the court.

14 (2) Failure of the ~~director~~ secretary to obey an injunction  
15 issued under subdivision (c)(1) of this section is punishable as civil  
16 contempt.

17  
18 SECTION 5013. Arkansas Code § 20-18-203(a), concerning the State  
19 Registrar of Vital Records, is amended to read as follows:

20 (a) The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Health shall appoint  
21 the State Registrar of Vital Records.

22  
23 SECTION 5014. Arkansas Code § 20-19-309(a), concerning the area of  
24 quarantine, is amended to read as follows:

25 (a)(1) The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Health shall place  
26 certain areas under a rabies quarantine upon request of proper local  
27 officials.

28 (2) In serious situations, the ~~director~~ secretary may place the  
29 area under quarantine without waiting for a local request.

30  
31 SECTION 5015. Arkansas Code § 20-19-311 is amended to read as follows:  
32 20-19-311. Administration by ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of  
33 Health.

34 The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Health or his or her  
35 official representative shall have the responsibility for carrying out the  
36 provisions of this subchapter.

1  
2 SECTION 5016. Arkansas Code § 20-19-406(c)(3), concerning vaccination  
3 of wolves and wolf-dog hybrids, is amended to read as follows:

4 (3) Upon written order by the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the  
5 Department of Health or a specifically designated representative, any biting  
6 animal determined to be at significant risk for the transmission of rabies  
7 shall be humanely killed and the brain tissue submitted for testing; and  
8

9 SECTION 5017. Arkansas Code Title 20, Chapter 20, Subchapter 3, is  
10 repealed.

11 ~~Subchapter 3 — Pesticides and Chemicals Safe for Children Hand-Harvesting~~  
12 ~~Crops~~

13  
14 ~~20-20-301. Approved chemicals — Safe reentry times.~~

15 ~~(a) The Director of the Department of Health may establish by~~  
16 ~~regulation a list of approved pesticides and other agricultural chemicals~~  
17 ~~which are safe for the occupational exposure of children twelve (12) and~~  
18 ~~thirteen (13) years of age employed in hand-harvesting short-season crops.~~

19 ~~(b) The director also may establish by regulation safe reentry times~~  
20 ~~for children twelve (12) and thirteen (13) years of age so employed.~~

21  
22 ~~20-20-302. Assessment fees.~~

23 ~~(a) Any employer, individual, corporation, group, or association which~~  
24 ~~proposes the approval of any pesticide or other agricultural chemical for~~  
25 ~~inclusion on this list shall pay the Department of Health a fee for~~  
26 ~~conducting any necessary study or risk assessment.~~

27 ~~(b) The fee shall be established by regulation of the department and~~  
28 ~~shall be deposited into the State Treasury to the Public Health Fund Account.~~

29  
30 ~~20-20-303. Hand-harvesting by children.~~

31 ~~Children twelve (12) years of age and older may be employed to hand-~~  
32 ~~harvest short-season crops, provided that:~~

33 ~~(1) School is not in session;~~

34 ~~(2) Written parental consent has been obtained by the employer;~~

35 ~~(3) An employment certificate has been obtained from the~~  
36 ~~Director of the Department of Labor pursuant to § 11-6-109;~~

1           ~~(4) No pesticide or other agricultural chemical has been used on~~  
2 ~~the crop except those approved by the Department of Health pursuant to § 20-~~  
3 ~~20-301; and~~

4           ~~(5) Any pesticide or other agricultural chemical used on the~~  
5 ~~crop has been applied and utilized in compliance with the worker protection~~  
6 ~~standards established by the United States Environmental Protection Agency~~  
7 ~~and the department.~~

8  
9           SECTION 5018. Arkansas Code § 20-21-203(18), concerning the definition  
10 of "Director" under the laws governing ionizing radiation, is repealed.

11           ~~(18) "Director" means the Director of the Department of Health;~~

12  
13           SECTION 5019. Arkansas Code § 20-21-206(b), concerning employees of  
14 the State Radiation Control Agency, is amended to read as follows:

15           (b) The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Health shall designate  
16 an individual to perform the functions vested in the agency pursuant to this  
17 subchapter.

18  
19           SECTION 5020. Arkansas Code § 20-21-207(10)(A), concerning the powers  
20 and duties of the State Radiation Control Agency, is amended to read as  
21 follows:

22           (10)(A) Allow the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Health  
23 or his or her authorized representative to require the posting of a bond by  
24 licensees to provide funds in the event of abandonment, default, or other  
25 inability of the licensee to meet the requirements of the agency. The agency  
26 may establish bonding requirements by classes of licensee and by range of  
27 monetary amounts. In establishing the requirements, the agency shall give  
28 consideration to the potential for contamination, injury, cost of disposal,  
29 and reclamation of the property.

30  
31           SECTION 5021. Arkansas Code § 20-21-207(10)(C) and (D), concerning the  
32 powers and duties of the State Radiation Control Agency, are amended to read  
33 as follows:

34           (C) A bond deemed acceptable in Arkansas shall be a bond  
35 issued by a fidelity or surety company authorized to do business in Arkansas,  
36 a personal bond secured by such collateral as the ~~director~~ secretary deems

1 satisfactory, a cash bond, or a letter of credit.

2 (D)(i) All state, local, or other governmental agencies or  
3 subdivisions shall be exempt from the requirements of this subdivision (10).

4 (ii) The ~~director~~ secretary may exempt classes of  
5 licensees from the requirements of this section when a finding is made that  
6 the exemption will not result in a significant risk to the public health and  
7 safety; and

8

9 SECTION 5022. Arkansas Code § 20-21-207(11)(A), concerning the powers  
10 and duties of the State Radiation Control Agency, is amended to read as  
11 follows:

12 (11)(A) Allow the ~~director~~ secretary or his or her authorized  
13 representative to require a licensee to deposit funds on an annual,  
14 semiannual, or quarterly basis into a trust fund established for the  
15 exclusive purpose set out in this subdivision (11). The Perpetual Maintenance  
16 Fund shall be defined so as to embrace each of the following:

17 (i) A source of revenue to provide for perpetual  
18 care and surveillance of a radioactive waste concentration, storage, and  
19 disposal site as described in subdivision (9) of this section or a source of  
20 revenue to provide for perpetual care and surveillance of a formerly licensed  
21 activity still containing or having associated with it radioactive material,  
22 the activity having ceased to operate by reason of default, abandonment, or  
23 decommissioning;

24 (ii) The Perpetual Maintenance Fund shall have two  
25 (2) inputs:

26 (a) Fees which are contributed by the lessee  
27 or licensee resulting from the operation of concentrating, storing, or  
28 disposing of radioactive material as set forth in subdivision (9) of this  
29 section; and

30 (b) Moneys accrued as interest on a trust fund  
31 established by a licensee. These funds shall be automatically transferred to  
32 the Perpetual Maintenance Fund in the event of default, abandonment, or  
33 decommissioning;

34 (iii) Moneys in the Perpetual Maintenance Fund shall  
35 be appropriated to the agency for use in a way consonant with this  
36 subchapter, including such items as perpetual care, maintenance, and

1 surveillance; and

2 (iv) All licensee contributions to the Perpetual  
3 Maintenance Fund shall be payable to the ~~director~~ secretary and deposited by  
4 the Treasurer of State.

5

6 SECTION 5023. Arkansas Code § 20-21-207(11)(F), concerning the powers  
7 and duties of the State Radiation Control Agency, is amended to read as  
8 follows:

9 (F) If a person licensed by any governmental agency other  
10 than the State of Arkansas desires to transfer a site to the state for the  
11 purpose of administering or providing perpetual care, a lump-sum deposit  
12 shall be made to a trust fund. The amount of the deposit shall be determined  
13 by the ~~director~~ secretary, taking into consideration the factors stated in  
14 subdivision (11)(D) of this section.

15

16 SECTION 5024. Arkansas Code § 20-21-306(b), concerning the State  
17 Electronic Product Control Agency, is amended to read as follows:

18 (b) The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Health shall be  
19 Director of the State Electronic Product Control Agency and shall perform the  
20 functions vested in the agency pursuant to this subchapter.

21

22 SECTION 5025. Arkansas Code § 20-21-403(a)(2), concerning the  
23 operating funds of the Nuclear Planning and Response Program, is amended to  
24 read as follows:

25 (2) The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Health shall  
26 certify the amount to each utility in the state which maintains and operates  
27 one (1) or more nuclear generating facilities in the state. The Chief Fiscal  
28 Officer of the State shall then notify each utility of the portion of the  
29 amount to be paid by each utility.

30

31 SECTION 5026. Arkansas Code § 20-21-404(b) and (c), concerning the  
32 fees from utilities operating nuclear generating facilities, are amended to  
33 read as follows:

34 (b) The fees so levied against each utility shall be remitted by the  
35 utility to the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Health within thirty  
36 (30) days after the amount thereof is certified by the Chief Fiscal Officer

1 of the State.

2 (c) If any utility shall fail or refuse to pay the fees as provided in  
3 this section within the time prescribed, the ~~director~~ secretary shall add to  
4 the fee a penalty of twenty-five percent (25%) thereof and shall certify the  
5 amount of the delinquent fee and penalty to the Attorney General for  
6 collection.

7  
8 SECTION 5027. Arkansas Code § 20-21-501(3), concerning the definition  
9 of "Division of Health" under the Nuclear Planning and Response Program of  
10 the Division of Radiation Control and Emergency Management of the Department  
11 of Health, is amended to read as follows:

12 (3) "Division of Health" means the Nuclear Planning and Response  
13 Program of the Division of Radiation Control and Emergency Management of the  
14 Department of Health, with the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Health  
15 having the ultimate authority over any activities conducted by that program,  
16 division, and department;

17  
18 SECTION 5028. Arkansas Code § 20-27-209 is repealed.

19 ~~20-27-209. Sterilization of renovated and remade bedding required.~~

20 ~~(a) No person shall remake or renovate any article of bedding unless~~  
21 ~~all the material to be used in the remade or renovated bedding shall first be~~  
22 ~~thoroughly sterilized and disinfected by a process approved by the Director~~  
23 ~~of the Department of Health.~~

24 ~~(b) Any person who receives bedding to be renovated shall attach to~~  
25 ~~each article of bedding, at the time of its receipt, a tag upon which has~~  
26 ~~been legibly written the name and address of the owner of the bedding and the~~  
27 ~~date it was received for renovation.~~

28 ~~(c) No person shall use in the making of bedding any previously used~~  
29 ~~material unless the material has been sterilized and disinfected by a process~~  
30 ~~approved by the director.~~

31  
32 SECTION 5029. Arkansas Code § 20-27-602(3), concerning the definition  
33 of "Director" under the laws regulating lead poisoning prevention, is  
34 repealed.

35 ~~(3) "Director" means the Director of the Department of Health or~~  
36 ~~his or her authorized delegate or representative;~~

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SECTION 5030. Arkansas Code § 20-27-605(b), concerning the Director of the Lead Poisoning Prevention and Control Agency, is amended to read as follows:

(b) The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Health shall perform the functions vested in the department pursuant to this subchapter.

SECTION 5031. Arkansas Code § 20-27-606(a), concerning the requirement for a search warrant required for inspection, is amended to read as follows:

(a) For reasonable cause, the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Health may obtain from any court of record in the county where a dwelling or other property is located a search warrant permitting the ~~director's~~ secretary's designee to enter at all reasonable times upon any private or public property, including dwellings or dwelling units. Entry may be made for the purpose of determining whether or not a lead poisoning hazard or potential hazard exists, including the collection of samples of laboratory analyses, and to determine abatement compliance. However, entry onto or into any property under the jurisdiction and control of the United States Government shall be effected only with the concurrence of the United States Government or its designated representative.

SECTION 5032. Arkansas Code § 20-27-607(a), concerning the notification of a lead hazard, is amended to read as follows:

(a) After completion of an inspection or investigation, the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Health or his or her designee shall notify the owner and tenant of his or her findings and, in the event any lead hazard was found, the notification shall contain instructions pertaining to abatement as prescribed by this subchapter and rules and regulations promulgated pursuant to this subchapter.

SECTION 5033. Arkansas Code § 20-27-1501(3)(D), concerning the definition of "artist trainer", is amended to read as follows:

(D) Is a registered instructor for the specified field of body art with the ~~Department of Higher Education~~ department;

SECTION 5034. Arkansas Code § 20-27-1503(a)(2), concerning licensing,

1 regulating, and inspecting body art establishments and artists by the  
2 Department of Health, is amended to read as follows:

3 (2) A body art training facility shall be licensed by the  
4 Department of Health as an establishment and ~~by the Department of Higher~~  
5 ~~Education~~ as an approved body art training facility.

6  
7 SECTION 5035. Arkansas Code § 20-27-1507(a) and (b), concerning the  
8 education of an artist in training, is amended to read as follows:

9 (a) An artist trainer shall be a registered instructor in a school  
10 licensed by the ~~Department of Higher Education under § 6-51-601 et seq.~~  
11 Department of Health.

12 (b) ~~In consultation with the State Board of Private Career Education,~~  
13 ~~the Department of Higher Education~~ The department shall develop standards to  
14 determine:

15 (1) The maximum number of artists in training in a training  
16 facility at one time; and

17 (2) The length of the program in hours and across a range of  
18 months.

19  
20 SECTION 5036. Arkansas Code § 20-27-1507(c)(2)(A), concerning the  
21 education of an artist in training, is amended to read as follows:

22 (2)(A) The artist trainer shall maintain a training log of the  
23 clock hours completed by the artist in training on forms approved by the  
24 ~~Department of Higher Education~~ department.

25  
26 SECTION 5037. Arkansas Code § 20-27-1507(c)(2)(D), concerning the  
27 education of an artist in training, is amended to read as follows:

28 (D) The completed training log shall be submitted to the  
29 ~~Department of Health~~ department at the time of the practical examination  
30 under § 20-27-1508.

31  
32 SECTION 5038. Arkansas Code § 20-27-1507(d) and (e), concerning the  
33 education of an artist in training, is amended to read as follows:

34 (d) An artist trainer may offer training only in the area in which the  
35 artist trainer holds a current license from the ~~Department of Health~~  
36 department.

1 (e) The ~~Department of Higher Education~~ department shall adopt a  
2 minimum curriculum for each area of body art training that shall be followed  
3 by all artist trainers, artists in training, and body art training  
4 facilities.

5  
6 SECTION 5039. Arkansas Code § 20-27-2701(3), concerning the definition  
7 of "director" under the laws regarding the unlawful sale of bedding, is  
8 repealed.

9 ~~(3) "Director" means the Director of the Department of Health;~~

10  
11 SECTION 5040. Arkansas Code § 20-27-2702(d), concerning the labeling  
12 of bedding for sale, is amended to read as follows:

13 (d) The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Health shall approve  
14 the form and size of labels, the fabric of which the labels are made, and the  
15 wording and statements on labels provided for under this section.

16  
17 SECTION 5041. Arkansas Code § 20-47-510(d)(1)(A), concerning the  
18 coordination and oversight of annual reports of the Comprehensive Children's  
19 Behavioral Health System of Care Plan, is amended to read as follows:

20 (A) The ~~Commissioner~~ Secretary of Education, the Secretary  
21 of Health, and the Director of the Department of Health, and the ~~Director~~  
22 Secretary of the Department of Human Services; and

23  
24 SECTION 5042. Arkansas Code § 20-47-510(e)(1)(A), concerning the  
25 coordination and oversight of annual reports of the Comprehensive Children's  
26 Behavioral Health System of Care Plan, is amended to read as follows:

27 (A) The commissioner, the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the  
28 Department of Health, and the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Human  
29 Services; and

30  
31 SECTION 5043. Arkansas Code § 20-57-203 is amended to read as follows:  
32 20-57-203. ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Health – Powers and  
33 duties.

34 The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Health shall have:

35 (1) Power and authority to prevent the proliferation of  
36 infections, contagious, and communicable diseases resulting from unsanitary

1 food service operations; and

2 (2) Direction and control over all sanitary and quarantine  
3 measures for dealing with all such diseases within the state and to suppress  
4 the diseases and prevent their spread.

5

6 SECTION 5044. Arkansas Code § 20-57-207(a) and (b), concerning  
7 nonliability for the prevention of choking, are amended to read as follows:

8 (a) The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Health shall study and  
9 approve instructions detailing first aid techniques and a poster diagramming  
10 first aid techniques designed and intended for use by a person without  
11 medical training in removing food which has become lodged in the throat of a  
12 choking victim.

13 (b) The ~~director~~ secretary shall publish the approved instructions and  
14 poster and make them available to each food service operation in the state.

15

16 SECTION 5045. Arkansas Code § 20-57-207(g), concerning nonliability  
17 for the prevention of choking, is amended to read as follows:

18 (g) No food service operation, employee of a food service operation,  
19 person connected with its management, nor any other person shall be liable in  
20 any civil action for damages for personal injury or wrongful death for any  
21 acts or omissions of any individual removing, attempting to remove, or  
22 assisting in the removal of food lodged in the throat of a choking victim in  
23 accordance with instructions supplied by the ~~director~~ secretary.

24

25 SECTION 5046. Arkansas Code § 20-57-304 is amended to read as follows:  
26 20-57-304. Penalty.

27 Any person who violates any of the provisions of this subchapter, or  
28 the orders, rules, or regulations promulgated by the ~~Director~~ Secretary of  
29 the Department of Health under authority thereof, shall upon conviction be  
30 subject to a fine for each and every offense in a sum not exceeding five  
31 hundred dollars (\$500) or to imprisonment for not more than six (6) months,  
32 or both fine and imprisonment.

33

34 SECTION 5047. Arkansas Code § 20-57-305(b), concerning the powers and  
35 duties of the State Board of Health and the Director of the Department of  
36 Health, is amended to read as follows:

1 (b) All orders, rules, and regulations adopted by the board pursuant  
2 to this subchapter shall be published in the manner prescribed in subsection  
3 (c) of this section and, within the limits specified by this subchapter,  
4 shall become effective upon such date as the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the  
5 Department of Health shall fix.

6  
7 SECTION 5048. Arkansas Code § 20-57-305(d)(1), concerning the powers  
8 and duties of the State Board of Health and the Director of the Department of  
9 Health, is amended to read as follows:

10 (d)(1) The ~~director~~ secretary is authorized to collect samples for  
11 analysis and to conduct examinations and investigations for the purposes of  
12 this subchapter through any officers or employees under his or her  
13 supervision.

14  
15 SECTION 5049. Arkansas Code § 20-57-306(d), concerning vitamins and  
16 other ingredients of flour, is amended to read as follows:

17 (d) The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Health is empowered  
18 with the authority and directed to change, or add to, the specifications for  
19 ingredients and the amounts thereof required to conform to the federal  
20 definition of enriched flour when promulgated or as may from time to time be  
21 amended.

22  
23 SECTION 5050. Arkansas Code § 20-57-306(f)(1), concerning vitamins and  
24 other ingredients of flour, is amended to read as follows:

25 (f)(1) The terms of this section shall not apply to flour sold to  
26 distributors, bakers, or other processors if the purchaser furnishes to the  
27 seller a certificate in such form as the ~~director~~ secretary shall by  
28 regulation prescribe, certifying that the flour will be:

29 (A) Resold to a distributor, baker, or other processor;

30 (B) Used in the manufacture, mixing, or compounding of  
31 flour, white bread, or rolls enriched to meet the requirements of this  
32 subchapter; or

33 (C) Used in the manufacture of products other than flour,  
34 white bread, or rolls.

35  
36 SECTION 5051. Arkansas Code § 20-59-201(5), concerning the definition

1 of miscellaneous products under the laws regulating milk and dairy products,  
2 is amended to read as follows:

3 (5) Miscellaneous Products. Varieties, types, and kinds of milk  
4 and dairy products which are not defined in this section shall be  
5 manufactured and marketed under the standards of composition promulgated by  
6 the Bureau of Standards of the United States Food and Drug Administration, or  
7 may be promulgated by the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Health  
8 under authority vested in him or her to make and promulgate rules and  
9 regulations;

10

11 SECTION 5052. Arkansas Code § 20-59-201(10)(F), concerning the  
12 definition of "cream or milk grader" under the laws regulating milk and dairy  
13 products, is amended to read as follows:

14 (F) "Cream or milk grader" shall be considered to mean any  
15 person who shall have passed a satisfactory examination as to his or her  
16 qualifications and to have actually demonstrated his or her ability before  
17 the ~~director~~ secretary or his or her assistants, to determine the quality of  
18 cream or milk purchased for the purpose of manufacture into dairy products;  
19 and

20

21 SECTION 5053. Arkansas Code § 20-59-202(1) and (2), concerning  
22 penalties under the laws governing milk and dairy products, is amended to  
23 read as follows:

24 (1) Hinder, obstruct, or in any way interfere with the ~~Director~~  
25 Secretary of the Department of Health or his or her deputies while  
26 discharging the duties of inspection;

27 (2) Obstruct or hinder in any way the ~~director~~ secretary from  
28 carrying out the full meaning and intent of this subchapter;

29

30 SECTION 5054. Arkansas Code § 20-59-205(a), concerning the right of  
31 review of the State Board of Health regarding milk and dairy products, is  
32 amended to read as follows:

33 (a) It shall be the duty of the State Board of Health, and it is  
34 authorized and empowered through its constituted officers and agents as set  
35 out in this section, to perform the following acts. However, any aggrieved  
36 party shall have the right to apply to the circuit court in the county of his

1 or her residence for a review of any summary action on the part of the board  
2 or its agents and for this purpose service of process upon the ~~Director~~  
3 Secretary of the Department of Health at any place in this state shall  
4 constitute valid service in the application for review:

5 (1) Inspection of Plants. To inspect or cause to be inspected,  
6 as often as may be deemed practicable, all dairy products plants or any other  
7 places where dairy products are produced, manufactured, frozen, processed,  
8 kept, handled, stored, or sold within this state;

9 (2) Production and Sale Prohibited. To prohibit the production  
10 and sale of unclean, adulterated, unwholesome milk, cream, or other dairy  
11 products;

12 (3) Condemnation for Food. To condemn for food purposes by  
13 denaturing with harmless coloring all unclean or unwholesome dairy products  
14 wherever they may find those products;

15 (4) Samples. To take samples anywhere of any dairy products or  
16 imitation thereof and cause the samples to be analyzed or satisfactorily  
17 tested according to the method of the AOAC International in force at the  
18 time. The analyses or tests shall be preserved and recorded;

19 (5) Right of Entry. To enter during business hours all dairy  
20 products plants or other places where dairy products are manufactured,  
21 produced, frozen, processed, stored, sold, or kept for sale or transportation  
22 in order to perform their official duties;

23 (6) Price of Cream or Butterfat.

24 (A) To require that no person, firm, corporation, or  
25 association shall buy or offer to buy cream or butterfat for butter-making  
26 purposes without displaying the price to be paid for cream or butterfat  
27 according to grade of cream.

28 (B) The price shall be posted and displayed continuously  
29 during the business hours of the person, firm, or corporation buying cream,  
30 and the price, according to grade of cream, shall include all premiums and  
31 bonuses, if any, in letters and figures not less than two inches (2") in  
32 height in such manner or place so that the price posted shall be plainly  
33 visible from the street in front of the building or place in which the  
34 purchase is made.

35 (C) It shall be deemed a violation hereof if there is:

36 (i) A failure on the part of the person, firm,

1 corporation, or association, its agent, servant, or employee, to post the  
2 prices; or

3 (ii) A buying of cream or butterfat at a price  
4 different from that which is posted.

5 (D) All persons, firms, corporations, or associations,  
6 their agents, servants, or employees shall keep a record in their respective  
7 cream stations of the time and date on or at which changes in prices are made  
8 and posted.

9 (E) However, nothing in this subdivision (6) shall be  
10 construed as to forbid or prevent:

11 (i) Incorporated cooperative associations from  
12 paying annually earned patronage dividends according to the statutes and  
13 decrees under which they are organized; or

14 (ii) Corporations paying annual dividends according  
15 to the statutes and decrees under which they are incorporated;

16 (7) Subpoenas.

17 (A) To issue subpoenas requiring the appearance of  
18 witnesses and the production of books, papers, reports, and records before  
19 the board or the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Health, in all cases  
20 where sufficient evidence of violation of this subchapter is filed with the  
21 ~~Director of the Department of Health~~ Secretary of the Department of Health.  
22 The ~~Director of the Department of Health~~ Secretary of the Department of  
23 Health shall have power to administer oaths with like effect as is done in  
24 courts of law in this state.

25 (B) It shall be the duty of any circuit court or the judge  
26 thereof upon application to issue an attachment for the witnesses and compel  
27 their attendance before the board or the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department  
28 of Health, to give testimony upon such matters as shall be lawfully required  
29 by the official. The court or judge shall have power, in cases of refusal, to  
30 punish for contempt, as in other cases of refusal to obey the orders and  
31 process of the court;

32 (8) Tests.

33 (A) To test milk, cream, and other dairy products for the  
34 purpose of ascertaining the percentages of butterfat or other ingredients  
35 contained therein.

36 (B) If the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Health

1 or any of his or her deputies shall find upon testing that there is a  
2 variance of more than one percent (1%) of butterfat in a cream test or two-  
3 tenths of one percent (2/10 of 1%) in a milk test between his or her test and  
4 that made by any person engaged in buying or selling milk, cream, or other  
5 dairy products for the basis of payment, the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the  
6 Department of Health or deputy shall cause his or her test to be verified and  
7 substantiated by a recognized laboratory. If the chemist shall find that the  
8 test made by the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Health or deputy is  
9 correct, the test thus made and verified shall be admitted in evidence in all  
10 prosecutions for violation of this section. The ~~Director of the Department of~~  
11 ~~Health~~ secretary is authorized to recall and cancel the testor's permit of  
12 the person thus making false tests or to bring criminal action against the  
13 person, or both;

14 (9) Carrier Regulations.

15 (A) To forbid and prevent any common carrier to neglect or  
16 fail to remove or ship from its depot, within twenty-four (24) hours of its  
17 arrival there for shipment, any milk, cream, or other dairy products left at  
18 that depot for transportation.

19 (B) Railway and express companies and other common  
20 carriers shall provide and utilize sanitary ventilated rooms or canvas covers  
21 at depots or transfer points for the protection from extreme temperatures of  
22 all milk, cream, and ice cream received for shipment and not allow  
23 merchandise of a contaminating nature to be stored on or with the cream.

24 (C) Truck route operators shall protect milk and cream  
25 from extreme temperatures and unsanitary conditions during transportation by  
26 proper covering and separation to prevent contamination from other  
27 transportation products;

28 (10) Cans or Packers at Depot. To forbid and prevent milk or  
29 cream cans or ice cream packers to remain at a railroad or truck depot longer  
30 than forty-eight (48) hours from the date of their arrival, excepting  
31 individual farm shipments;

32 (11) Branded Containers.

33 (A) To forbid and prevent the use of any branded or  
34 registered cream can or milk can, ice cream, or frozen dessert packer or  
35 container for any other purpose than the handling, storing, or shipping of  
36 milk, cream, or frozen dessert.

1 (B) It shall be unlawful for any person or carrier other  
2 than the rightful owner, except with written consent of the owner thereof, to  
3 use, transport, or deliver any milk or cream can, whether filled with cream  
4 or milk or empty, or frozen dessert container, whether filled with frozen  
5 dessert or empty, to other than the rightful owner if the receptacle is  
6 marked with the brand or trademark of the owner, the brand or trademark being  
7 registered according to law with the Secretary of State;

8 (12) Alteration of Brand – Return of Containers.

9 (A) To forbid and prevent any person other than the  
10 rightful owner thereof to in any way alter the mark or brand or ownership  
11 identification on any milk or cream can or other dairy receptacle without  
12 written consent of the owner.

13 (B) Every person, firm, or corporation purchasing frozen  
14 desserts in cans and shipping bags which are to be returned to the  
15 manufacturer shall cause the cans to be washed and cleaned as soon as  
16 emptied, and the bags stored in a dry place, or returned at once;

17 (13) Samples of Frozen Desserts. To take samples of frozen  
18 desserts, ice cream, or other frozen dairy products for official testing at  
19 the factory where desserts are frozen or from an unopened container of frozen  
20 desserts or other frozen dairy products, according to a method approved by  
21 the AOAC International or the American Dairy Science Association; and

22 (14) Containers Used for Other Purposes. To forbid and prevent  
23 the sale or storage of milk, cream, or other dairy products in milk or cream  
24 cans which have previously contained kerosene, gasoline, turpentine, oil, or  
25 products or byproducts of a similar nature;

26 (15) Dairy Product Definitions and Standards of Identity and  
27 Labeling Requirements.

28 (A) To adopt the definitions and standards of identity for  
29 milk, milk products, cheeses, and frozen desserts found at 21 C.F.R., Parts  
30 131, 133, and 135, and to adopt any amendments or additions made thereunder.  
31 The board may adopt definitions and standards of identity of milk products,  
32 cheeses, and frozen desserts if they are not found at 21 C.F.R. All packages  
33 enclosing milk, milk products, cheeses, and frozen desserts shall be labeled  
34 in accordance with the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act and the Fair  
35 Packaging and Labeling Act, and regulations promulgated thereunder.

36 (B) Provided, that the board shall not change, correct,

1 adopt, or promulgate rules or regulations or other health code standards  
2 pertaining to the dairy industry of Arkansas, as defined in this section,  
3 until such changes have been reviewed by active Arkansas milk producers  
4 marketing agents, herein referred to as the “agents”, and by the Arkansas  
5 Dairy Products Association, hereinafter referred to as the “association”, in  
6 regular or especially called meetings of the agents and the association, or  
7 the governing bodies thereof. However, if meetings of the agents and the  
8 association are not held within thirty (30) days after a written notice by  
9 the board of intent to change, correct, adopt, or promulgate rules and  
10 regulations, the review of the agents and the association shall be deemed  
11 waived.

12 (C) Notice as required by this subsection shall be given  
13 in writing by ordinary mail, or be hand delivered, to the agents and to the  
14 Director of the Arkansas Dairy Products Association.

15 (D) The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Health or  
16 the board may change, correct, adopt, or promulgate rules and regulations  
17 pertaining to the dairy industry of Arkansas in times of emergency or natural  
18 disaster without notice to the agents and the association.

19 (E) As used in this subchapter, the term “dairy industry  
20 of Arkansas” means Grade “A” milk plants, milk manufacturing plants, ice  
21 cream plants, milk producers, milk producer-distributors, milk haulers, milk  
22 distributors, dairy farms, receiving stations, and transfer stations.

23  
24 SECTION 5055. Arkansas Code § 20-59-206(b), concerning a dairy plant  
25 license, is amended to read as follows:

26 (b) Every person buying or receiving milk, cream, or dairy products  
27 for manufacturing, processing, or packaging shall be required to procure from  
28 the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Health an annual dairy plant  
29 license for each location where milk, cream, or dairy products are received  
30 for the purpose of manufacturing, processing, or packaging.

31  
32 SECTION 5056. Arkansas Code § 20-59-207(b), concerning the frozen  
33 dessert manufacturer’s license, is amended to read as follows:

34 (b) Any person making frozen dessert for sale shall be required to  
35 procure from the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Health an annual  
36 frozen dessert manufacturer’s license for each location or plant where frozen

1 dessert is manufactured.

2

3 SECTION 5057. Arkansas Code § 20-59-210(b), concerning a sampler and  
4 grader license, is amended to read as follows:

5 (b) Applications to become a licensed sampler and grader shall be made  
6 to the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Health upon such forms as he  
7 or she may prescribe.

8

9 SECTION 5058. Arkansas Code § 20-59-210(e), concerning a sampler and  
10 grader license, is amended to read as follows:

11 (e) In order to qualify for a license, the applicant shall satisfy the  
12 ~~director~~ secretary, either by a written examination or otherwise, that he or  
13 she is honest and competent to do sampling work.

14

15 SECTION 5059. Arkansas Code § 20-59-211(b), concerning the milk tester  
16 license and fee, is amended to read as follows:

17 (b) Application to become a licensed milk tester shall be made to the  
18 ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Health upon such forms as the  
19 ~~director~~ secretary may prescribe.

20

21 SECTION 5060. Arkansas Code § 20-59-211(d), concerning the milk tester  
22 license and fee, is amended to read as follows:

23 (d) If the applicant shall be found upon examination to be qualified  
24 and competent, the ~~director~~ secretary shall issue to him or her a license.

25

26 SECTION 5061. Arkansas Code § 20-59-226 is amended to read as follows:

27 20-59-226. Unlawful acts – Removing label of health officer.

28 It shall be unlawful to remove or deface any tags or labels which have  
29 been attached by the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Health or his or  
30 her deputies to a receptacle containing cream, milk, or other dairy products.

31

32 SECTION 5062. Arkansas Code § 20-59-232 is amended to read as follows:

33 20-59-232. Unlawful acts – Records of cream buyers – Monthly reports.

34 It shall be unlawful for all cream buyers to purchase cream without  
35 keeping a careful record of all cream bought as first grade and second grade,  
36 and they shall render the report regularly to the creamery or factory

1 receiving the cream. Creameries shall report the above information monthly,  
2 together with other cream purchase reports to the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the  
3 Department of Health on forms furnished them.

4  
5 SECTION 5063. Arkansas Code § 20-59-234 is amended to read as follows:  
6 20-59-234. Unlawful acts – Operation without permit.

7 It shall be unlawful for any person, firm, or corporation to operate a  
8 dairy products plant, including milk and cream stations, or freeze or  
9 manufacture frozen desserts, or operate a condensery depot within the State  
10 of Arkansas without having first secured a permit, except as provided for in  
11 § 20-59-244, signed by the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Health and  
12 bearing the seal of his or her office. The permit shall be displayed  
13 conspicuously at the place of business.

14  
15 SECTION 5064. Arkansas Code § 20-59-243 is amended to read as follows:  
16 20-59-243. Unlawful acts – Graded milk.

17 It shall be unlawful to label, sell, or offer for sale any milk as  
18 graded milk unless the grade is officially awarded by the ~~Director~~ Secretary  
19 of the Department of Health having jurisdiction in accordance with the  
20 provisions of the United States Public Health Service Standard Milk Ordinance  
21 and Code.

22  
23 SECTION 5065. Arkansas Code § 20-59-244 is amended to read as follows:  
24 20-59-244. Unlawful acts – Pasteurized milk – Permit.

25 It shall be unlawful to label, sell, or offer for sale as pasteurized  
26 any milk unless it has been pasteurized in accordance with the provisions of  
27 the United States Public Health Service Standard Milk Ordinance and Code  
28 under a permit issued by the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Health.  
29 However, no permit shall be required where plants are operating under permit  
30 from a municipality enforcing the United States Public Health Service  
31 Standard Milk Ordinance and Code.

32  
33 SECTION 5066. Arkansas Code § 20-59-246(a), concerning a manufacturing  
34 milk permit, is amended to read as follows:

35 (a) Every dairy which produces milk or cream to be used for  
36 manufacturing purposes shall be required to procure from the ~~Director~~

1 Secretary of the Department of Health a manufacturing milk permit.

2

3 SECTION 5067. Arkansas Code § 20-59-303(c), concerning enforcement by  
4 the State Board of Health, is amended to read as follows:

5 (c) However, any aggrieved party shall have the right to apply to the  
6 circuit court in the county of his or her residence for a review of any  
7 summary action on the part of the board or its agents. For this purpose,  
8 service of process upon the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Health at  
9 any place in this state shall constitute a valid service in the application  
10 for review.

11

12 SECTION 5068. Arkansas Code § 20-59-305(a), concerning the requirement  
13 for a production permit for mellorine, is amended to read as follows:

14 (a) It shall be unlawful for any person, firm, or corporation to  
15 operate a plant producing, manufacturing, processing, freezing, or packaging  
16 mellorine or mellorine mix without having first secured a permit signed by  
17 the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Health and bearing the seal of  
18 his or her office. The permit shall be displayed conspicuously at the place  
19 of business.

20

21 SECTION 5069. Arkansas Code § 20-59-305(d), concerning the requirement  
22 for a production permit for mellorine, is amended to read as follows:

23 (d) The ~~director~~ secretary shall collect for the permits, and all  
24 funds collected by the ~~director~~ secretary under the provisions of this  
25 subchapter shall be deposited into the State Treasury.

26

27 SECTION 5070. Arkansas Code § 20-59-404(b), concerning inspection fees  
28 under the Grade "A" Milk and Milk Products Inspection and Regulation Program,  
29 is amended to read as follows:

30 (b) If any person fails, neglects, or refuses to pay the above fee and  
31 is delinquent for a period of thirty (30) days, the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the  
32 Department of Health is directed and empowered to prohibit the person from  
33 distributing, hauling, selling, or otherwise handling Grade "A" milk or milk  
34 products in the state and shall suspend his or her permit and withdraw all  
35 inspection service from the establishment until fees are paid in full.

36

1 SECTION 5071. Arkansas Code § 20-59-506(b)(2), concerning the review  
2 of proposed rules concerning the Grade "A" milk industry, is amended to read  
3 as follows:

4 (2) The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Health and the  
5 board may adopt rules and regulations pertaining to the Grade "A" milk  
6 industry of this state in times of emergency or natural disaster without  
7 notice to the committee.

8  
9 SECTION 5072. Arkansas Code § 20-60-204(a) and (b), concerning  
10 regulation of labeling, sanitary standards, practices, and procedures for  
11 livestock producers, are amended to read as follows:

12 (a)(1) The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Health shall, by  
13 regulation and under such conditions as to labeling, sanitary standards,  
14 practices, and procedures as he or she may prescribe, exempt from specific  
15 provisions of this subchapter:

16 (A) Livestock producers with respect to livestock  
17 carcasses and parts thereof, and meat food products, processed by them from  
18 livestock of their own raising on their own farms and used by them for  
19 personal or private consumption, but in no instance where the product is to  
20 be offered or used for public consumption;

21 (B) Any person engaged in slaughtering livestock or  
22 processing livestock carcasses or parts thereof or meat food products for  
23 intrastate commerce and the articles so processed by the person, whenever the  
24 ~~director~~ secretary determines that it would be impracticable to provide  
25 inspection and that the exemption will aid in the effective administration of  
26 this subchapter;

27 (C) Persons slaughtering livestock or otherwise processing  
28 or handling livestock carcasses or parts thereof, or meat food products,  
29 which have been or are to be processed as required by recognized religious  
30 dietary laws, to the extent that the ~~director~~ secretary determines is  
31 necessary to avoid conflict with the requirements while still effectuating  
32 the purposes of this subchapter; and

33 (D) Any establishment engaged in slaughtering livestock or  
34 processing livestock carcasses or parts thereof, or meat food products for  
35 intrastate commerce, and the articles so processed by the establishment when  
36 the establishment is subject to inspection under a city ordinance which sets

1 standards in conformity with the minimum standards determined by the ~~director~~  
2 secretary.

3 (2) The ~~director~~ secretary may, by order, suspend or terminate  
4 any exemption under this section with respect to any person whenever he or  
5 she finds that the action will aid in effectuating the purposes of this  
6 subchapter.

7 (b) This subchapter shall not apply to any act or transaction subject  
8 to regulation under the Federal Meat Inspection Act, where the standards  
9 required under the federal act are in conformity with the minimum standards  
10 determined by the ~~director~~ secretary.

11

12 SECTION 5073. Arkansas Code § 20-60-204(c)(3)(A), concerning  
13 regulation of labeling, sanitary standards, practices, and procedures for  
14 livestock producers, is amended to read as follows:

15 (A) The custom establishment must comply with the  
16 regulations which the ~~director~~ secretary is authorized to promulgate to  
17 assure that any carcasses, parts thereof, meat, or meat food products  
18 prepared or any containers or packages containing uninspected, exempted  
19 custom products are separated at all times from inspected carcasses, parts  
20 thereof, or meat, or meat food products prepared for sale;

21

22 SECTION 5074. Arkansas Code § 20-60-205(d), concerning the penalties  
23 for violating the Arkansas Meat and Meat Products Inspection Act, is amended  
24 to read as follows:

25 (d) Nothing in this subchapter shall be construed as requiring the  
26 ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Health to report violations of this  
27 subchapter for criminal prosecution whenever the ~~director~~ secretary believes  
28 that the public interest will be adequately served and compliance with this  
29 subchapter obtained by a suitable written notice of warning.

30

31 SECTION 5075. Arkansas Code § 20-60-206 is amended to read as follows:

32 20-60-206. ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Health – Powers and  
33 duties.

34 (a)(1) The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Health shall  
35 promulgate such rules and regulations and appoint such veterinarians and  
36 other qualified personnel as are necessary to carry out the purposes or

1 provisions of this subchapter. The rules and regulations shall be in  
2 conformity with the rules and regulations under the Federal Meat Inspection  
3 Act as now in effect and with subsequent amendments thereof unless they are  
4 considered by the ~~director~~ secretary as not to be in accord with the  
5 objectives of this subchapter.

6 (2) Notice of proposed rules and regulations shall be given all  
7 establishments licensed under this subchapter. A hearing shall be called by  
8 the ~~director~~ secretary at which proponents and opponents of the proposed  
9 rules and regulations shall be given the opportunity to present arguments  
10 supporting their positions. The time, place, and procedure for the hearing  
11 shall be determined by the ~~director~~ secretary. No proposed rules and  
12 regulations shall become effective until after the hearing.

13 (b) The ~~director~~ secretary may cooperate with the United States  
14 Government in carrying out the provisions of this subchapter and the Federal  
15 Meat Inspection Act.

16

17 SECTION 5076. Arkansas Code § 20-60-208(a), concerning an application  
18 for a license or exemption for meat food processing, is amended to read as  
19 follows:

20 (a) Applications for inspection or exemption shall be made on forms  
21 furnished by the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Health.

22

23 SECTION 5077. Arkansas Code § 20-60-208(d), concerning an application  
24 for a license or exemption for meat food processing, is amended to read as  
25 follows:

26 (d) Before any license is issued, an inspection shall be made by the  
27 ~~director~~ secretary to determine the acceptability of the establishment to do  
28 business as desired by the applicant in his or her application for license or  
29 exemption.

30

31 SECTION 5078. Arkansas Code § 20-60-209 is amended to read as follows:  
32 20-60-209. Inspection and sanitary practices required.

33 (a) Each official establishment at which livestock are slaughtered or  
34 livestock carcasses or parts thereof or meat food products are processed for  
35 intrastate commerce shall have the premises, facilities, and equipment  
36 inspected and shall be operated in accordance with such sanitary practices as

1 are required by rules or regulations prescribed by the ~~Director~~ Secretary of  
2 the Department of Health for the purpose of preventing the entry into and  
3 movement in commerce of carcasses, parts thereof, and meat food products  
4 which are unwholesome or adulterated.

5 (b) No livestock carcasses or parts thereof, or meat food product,  
6 shall be admitted into any official establishment unless they have been  
7 prepared only under inspection pursuant to this subchapter or the Federal  
8 Meat Inspection Act or their admission is permitted by rules or regulations  
9 prescribed by the ~~director~~ secretary under this subchapter.

10 (c) The ~~director~~ secretary shall refuse to render inspection to any  
11 establishment whose premises, facilities, or equipment, or the operation  
12 thereof, fail to meet the requirements of this section.

13  
14 SECTION 5079. Arkansas Code § 20-60-210(a)-(c), concerning inspection  
15 procedures for the commerce of livestock carcasses, are amended to read as  
16 follows:

17 (a) For the purpose of preventing the entry into or movement in  
18 intrastate commerce of any livestock carcass, part thereof, or meat food  
19 product which is unwholesome or adulterated and is intended for or capable of  
20 use as human food, the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Health shall,  
21 where and to the extent considered by him or her necessary, cause to be made  
22 by inspectors antemortem inspection of livestock in any official  
23 establishment where livestock are slaughtered for such commerce.

24 (b) For the purpose stated in subsection (a) of this section, the  
25 ~~director~~ secretary, whenever slaughtering or other processing operations are  
26 being conducted, shall cause to be made by inspectors postmortem inspection  
27 of the carcasses and parts thereof of each animal slaughtered in any official  
28 establishment. He or she shall cause to be made by inspectors an inspection  
29 of all meat food products processed in any official establishment in which  
30 meat food products are processed for intrastate commerce.

31 (c) The ~~director~~ secretary shall also cause, at any time, such  
32 quarantine, segregation, and reinspection of livestock, livestock carcasses,  
33 and parts thereof, and meat food products in official establishments as he or  
34 she deems necessary to effectuate the purposes of this subchapter.

35  
36 SECTION 5080. Arkansas Code § 20-60-211 is amended to read as follows:

1 20-60-211. Withdrawal and denial of inspection.

2 (a) The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Health may withdraw or  
3 otherwise deny inspection under this subchapter with respect to any  
4 establishment for such period as he or she deems necessary to effectuate the  
5 purposes of this subchapter for any violation of the subchapter or any  
6 requirements thereunder by the operation of the establishment.

7 (b)(1) However, before a withdrawal or denial of inspection is  
8 ordered, the ~~director~~ secretary shall give the affected establishment an  
9 opportunity for a hearing at which the establishment may present evidence  
10 that it has not violated the subchapter or any requirements thereunder.

11 (2) The hearing shall be held after notice to the establishment  
12 in such manner as the ~~director~~ secretary shall determine by his or her rules  
13 and regulations.  
14

15 SECTION 5081. Arkansas Code § 20-60-212(a), concerning the cost of  
16 inspection for overtime or holiday work, is amended to read as follows:

17 (a) The cost of inspection rendered under this subchapter shall be  
18 borne by this state. The cost of overtime and holiday work performed in  
19 establishments subject to the provisions of this subchapter at such rates as  
20 the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Health may determine shall be  
21 borne and paid by the establishments. An inspector performing overtime and  
22 holiday work shall be treated as though he or she were on compensatory leave  
23 at such compensation as shall equal the rates set by the ~~director~~ secretary.  
24

25 SECTION 5082. Arkansas Code § 20-60-213(a)(4), concerning the labeling  
26 and marking of meat or meat food products, is amended to read as follows:

27 (4) The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Health may by  
28 rules or regulations require additional marks or label information to appear  
29 on livestock carcasses or parts thereof or meat food products when they leave  
30 the official establishments or at the time of their transportation or sale in  
31 this state. He or she may permit reasonable variations and grant exemptions  
32 from the marking and labeling requirements of this section in any number not  
33 in conflict with the purposes of this subchapter.  
34

35 SECTION 5083. Arkansas Code § 20-60-213(c), concerning the labeling  
36 and marking of meat or meat food products, is amended to read as follows:

1 (c)(1) No livestock carcasses or parts thereof or meat food products  
2 inspected or required to be inspected pursuant to the provisions of this  
3 subchapter shall be sold or offered for sale by any person, firm, or  
4 corporation under any false or deceptive name, but established trade names  
5 which are usual to the articles and which are not false or deceptive and  
6 which are approved by the ~~director~~ secretary are permitted.

7 (2) If the ~~director~~ secretary has reason to believe that any  
8 advertising or any label in use or prepared for use is false or misleading in  
9 any particular, he or she may direct that the use of the advertising or label  
10 be withheld unless it is modified in such manner as he or she may prescribe  
11 so that it will not be false or misleading.

12 (3) If the person using or proposing to use any advertising or  
13 the label does not accept the determination of the ~~director~~ secretary, he or  
14 she may request a hearing, but the use of the advertising or the label shall,  
15 if the ~~director~~ secretary so directs, be withheld pending hearing and final  
16 determination by the ~~director~~ secretary.

17 (4) Any determination by the ~~director~~ secretary shall be  
18 conclusive unless within thirty (30) days after the receipt of notice of the  
19 final determination, the person adversely affected thereby appeals to the  
20 Pulaski County Circuit Court.

21  
22 SECTION 5084. Arkansas Code § 20-60-214(3), concerning prohibited acts  
23 under the Arkansas Meat and Meat Products Inspection Act, is amended to read  
24 as follows:

25 (3) Falsely making or issuing, altering, forging, simulating,  
26 counterfeiting, or using without proper authority any official inspection  
27 certificate, memorandum, mark, or other identification, or device for making  
28 a mark or identification, used in connection with inspection under this  
29 subchapter; or causing, procuring, aiding, assisting in, or being a party to  
30 false making, issuing, altering, forging, simulating, counterfeiting, or  
31 unauthorized use; or knowingly possessing, without promptly notifying the  
32 ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Health or his or her representative,  
33 uttering, publishing, or using as true, or causing to be uttered, published,  
34 or used as true, any falsely made or issued, altered, forged, simulated, or  
35 counterfeited official inspection certificate, memorandum, mark, or other  
36 identification, or device for making a mark or identification; or

1 representing that any article has been officially inspected under the  
2 authority of this subchapter when the article has in fact not been so  
3 inspected; or knowingly making any false representation in any certificate  
4 prescribed by the ~~director~~ secretary in rules or regulations under this  
5 subchapter or any form resembling the certificate;

6  
7 SECTION 5085. Arkansas Code § 20-60-214(7), concerning prohibited acts  
8 under the Arkansas Meat and Meat Products Inspection Act, is amended to read  
9 as follows:

10 (7) The refusal to permit access by any authorized  
11 representative of the ~~director~~ secretary at all reasonable times to the  
12 premises of an establishment in this state at which livestock are slaughtered  
13 or the carcasses or parts thereof or meat food products are processed for  
14 intrastate commerce upon presentation of appropriate credentials;

15  
16 SECTION 5086. Arkansas Code § 20-60-214(10), concerning prohibited  
17 acts under the Arkansas Meat and Meat Products Inspection Act, is amended to  
18 read as follows:

19 (10) Delivering, receiving, transporting, selling, or offering  
20 for sale or transportation in intrastate commerce for human consumption any  
21 livestock carcass or part thereof or meat food product which has been  
22 processed in violation of any requirements under this subchapter except as  
23 may be authorized by and pursuant to rules and regulations prescribed by the  
24 ~~director~~ secretary;

25  
26 SECTION 5087. Arkansas Code § 20-60-215(a), concerning records under  
27 the Arkansas Meat and Meat Products Inspection Act, is amended to read as  
28 follows:

29 (a) For the purpose of enforcing the provisions of this subchapter,  
30 persons engaged in this state in the business of processing for intrastate  
31 commerce or transporting, shipping, or receiving in commerce livestock  
32 slaughtered for human consumption or meat or meat food products, or holding  
33 articles so received, shall maintain the records as the ~~Director~~ Secretary of  
34 the Department of Health by regulation may require, showing, to the extent  
35 that they are concerned therewith, the receipt, delivery, sale, movement, or  
36 disposition of the articles and shall, upon the request of an authorized

1 representative of the ~~director~~ secretary, permit him or her at reasonable  
2 times to have access to and to copy all the records.

3  
4 SECTION 5088. Arkansas Code § 20-60-303 is amended to read as follows:  
5 20-60-303. Regulatory authority of the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the  
6 Department of Health.

7 The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Health shall promulgate  
8 such rules and regulations as are necessary to carry out the purposes and  
9 provisions of this subchapter.

10  
11 SECTION 5089. Arkansas Code § 20-60-306 is amended to read as follows:  
12 20-60-306. Acceptance service – Cost.

13 The cost of providing the acceptance service and ensuing certification  
14 shall be borne and paid by the seller, slaughterer or processor, or vendor or  
15 merchant requesting the service at such rate as the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the  
16 Department of Health may determine as being necessary to defer the cost of  
17 this service.

18  
19 SECTION 5090. Arkansas Code § 20-64-203 is amended to read as follows:  
20 20-64-203. Manufacturers and wholesalers.

21 No person shall manufacture, compound, mix, cultivate, grow, or by any  
22 other process produce or prepare narcotic drugs, and no person as a  
23 wholesaler shall supply the same, without having first obtained a license so  
24 to do from the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Health.

25  
26 SECTION 5091. Arkansas Code § 20-64-204 is amended to read as follows:  
27 20-64-204. Qualification for licenses.

28 No license shall be issued under § 20-64-203 unless and until the  
29 applicant therefor has furnished proof satisfactory to the ~~Director~~ Secretary  
30 of the Department of Health:

31 (a) That the applicant is of good moral character or, if the  
32 applicant be an association or corporation, that the managing officers are of  
33 good moral character;

34 (b) That the applicant is equipped as to land, buildings, and  
35 paraphernalia properly to carry on the business described in his application.  
36 No license shall be granted to any person who has within five (5) years been

1 convicted of a willful violation of any law of the United States, or of any  
2 state, relating to opium, coca leaves, or other narcotic drugs, or to any  
3 person who is a narcotic drug addict. The ~~director~~ secretary may suspend or  
4 revoke any license for cause.

5  
6 SECTION 5092. Arkansas Code § 20-64-205(3), concerning a sale on  
7 written orders to dispense narcotic drugs under the Uniform Narcotic Drug  
8 Act, is amended to read as follows:

9 (3) Use of Official Written Orders. An official written order  
10 for any narcotic drug shall be signed in quadruplicate by the person giving  
11 said order or his duly authorized agent. The original shall be presented to  
12 the person who sells or dispenses the narcotic drug or drugs named therein,  
13 and one (1) copy shall be sent to the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of  
14 Health not later than the 10th of the month following the month during which  
15 the order was made. In event of the acceptance of such order by said person,  
16 each party to the transaction shall preserve his copy of such order for a  
17 period of two (2) years in such a way as to be readily accessible for  
18 inspection by any public officer or employee engaged in the enforcement of  
19 this subchapter. It shall be deemed a compliance with this subsection if the  
20 parties to the transaction have complied with the federal narcotic laws,  
21 respecting the requirements governing the use of order forms, and the  
22 purchaser has sent a signed copy of the order to the ~~director~~ secretary as  
23 aforesaid.

24  
25 SECTION 5093. Arkansas Code § 20-64-206(1), concerning sales by  
26 apothecaries under the Uniform Narcotic Drug Act, is amended to read as  
27 follows:

28 (1) An apothecary, in good faith, may sell and dispense narcotic drugs  
29 to any person upon a written prescription or an oral prescription in  
30 pursuance to regulations, promulgated by the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the  
31 Department of Health under authority of § 20-64-219, of a physician, dentist,  
32 or veterinarian, dated and signed by the person prescribing on the day when  
33 issued and bearing the full name and address of the patient for whom, or the  
34 owner of the animal for which, the drug is dispensed, and the full name,  
35 address, and registry number under the federal narcotic laws of the person  
36 prescribing. If the prescription is for an animal, it shall state the species

1 of animal for which the drug is prescribed. The person filling the  
2 prescription shall write the date of filling and his own signature on the  
3 face of the prescription. The prescription shall be retained on file by the  
4 proprietor of the pharmacy in which it is filled for a period of two (2)  
5 years, so as to be readily accessible for inspection by any public officer or  
6 employee engaged in the enforcement of this subchapter. The prescription must  
7 not be refilled.

8  
9 SECTION 5094. Arkansas Code § 20-64-208(a)(1), concerning preparations  
10 exempted under the Uniform Narcotic Drug Act, is amended to read as follows:

11 (1) Administering, dispensing, or selling at retail any drug  
12 subject to this subchapter under any circumstances that the ~~Director~~  
13 Secretary of the Department of Health determines, after reasonable notice and  
14 opportunity for hearing, not to be dangerous to the public health, or  
15 promotive of addiction-forming or addiction-sustaining results upon the user,  
16 or harmful to the public health, safety, or morals, and by order so  
17 proclaims. In arriving at his determination, the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the  
18 Department of Health shall consult with the Drug Enforcement Administration  
19 of the Treasury Department of the United States and give due weight to its  
20 investigations and determinations;

21  
22 SECTION 5095. Arkansas Code § 20-64-209(5), concerning records to be  
23 kept under the Uniform Narcotic Drug Act, is amended to read as follows:

24 (5) Form and Preservation of Records. The form of records shall  
25 be prescribed by the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Health. The  
26 record of narcotic drugs received shall in every case show the date of  
27 receipt, the name and address of the person from whom received, and the kind  
28 and quantity of drugs received; the kind and quantity of narcotic drugs  
29 produced or removed from process of manufacturer, and the date of such  
30 production or removal from process of manufacturer; and the record shall in  
31 every case show the proportion of morphine, cocaine, or ecgonine contained in  
32 or producible from crude opium or coca leaves received or produced. The  
33 record of all narcotic drugs sold, administered, dispensed, or otherwise  
34 disposed of shall show the date of selling, administering, or dispensing, the  
35 name and address of the person to whom, or for whose use, or the owner and  
36 species of animal for which the drugs were sold, administered, or dispensed,

1 and the kind and quantity of drugs. Every such record shall be kept for a  
2 period of two (2) years from the date of the transaction recorded. The  
3 keeping of a record required by or under the federal narcotic laws,  
4 containing substantially the same information as is specified above, shall  
5 constitute compliance with this section, except that every such record shall  
6 contain a detailed list of narcotic drugs lost, destroyed, or stolen, if any,  
7 the kind and quantity of such drugs, and the date of the discovery of such  
8 loss, destruction, or theft.

9  
10 SECTION 5096. Arkansas Code § 20-64-214 is amended to read as follows:

11 20-64-214. Narcotic drugs to be delivered to state official, etc.

12 Upon delivery to the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Health of  
13 any narcotic drugs discarded by the owner thereof or other person entitled to  
14 the possession or custody thereof, and upon the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the  
15 Department of Health delivering to such person an itemized receipt therefor,  
16 the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Health is empowered to destroy  
17 such narcotic drugs; provided, that the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department  
18 of Health shall keep for a period of three (3) years from the date of  
19 destruction a record of such transaction, showing the name and address of the  
20 person delivering the narcotic drugs, an itemized description thereof, the  
21 date and place of delivery, and the date of destruction.

22 All narcotic drugs, the lawful possession of which is not established or the  
23 title to which cannot be ascertained, which have come into the custody of a  
24 peace officer, shall be forfeited, and disposed of as follows:

25 (a) Except as in this section otherwise provided, the court or  
26 magistrate having jurisdiction shall order such narcotic drugs forfeited and  
27 destroyed. A record of the place where said drugs were seized, of the kinds  
28 and quantities of drugs so destroyed, and of the time, place, and manner of  
29 destruction shall be kept, and a return under oath, reporting said  
30 destruction, shall be made to the court or magistrate and to the Director of  
31 the Drug Enforcement Administration by the officer who destroys them;

32 (b) Upon written application by the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the  
33 Department of Health, the court or magistrate by whom the forfeiture of  
34 narcotic drugs has been decreed may order the delivery of any of them except  
35 heroin and its salts and derivatives, to said ~~Director~~ Secretary of the  
36 Department of Health, for distribution or destruction, as hereinafter

1 provided;

2 (c) Upon application by any hospital within this state not operated  
3 for private gain, the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Health may in  
4 his discretion deliver any narcotic drugs that have come into his custody by  
5 authority of this section to the applicant for medicinal use. The ~~Director~~  
6 Secretary of the Department of Health may from time to time deliver excess  
7 stocks of such narcotic drugs to the Director of the Drug Enforcement  
8 Administration or may destroy the same;

9 (d) The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Health shall keep a  
10 full and complete record of all drugs received and of all drugs disposed of,  
11 showing the exact kinds, quantities, and forms of such drugs; the persons  
12 from whom received and to whom delivered; by whose authority received,  
13 delivered, and destroyed; and the dates of the receipt, disposal, or  
14 destruction, which record shall be open to inspection by all federal and  
15 state officers charged with the enforcement of federal and state narcotic  
16 laws.

17

18 SECTION 5097. Arkansas Code § 20-64-219 is amended to read as follows:  
19 20-64-219. Enforcement and cooperation.

20 It is hereby made the duty of the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department  
21 of Health, his officers, agents, inspectors, and representatives, and of all  
22 peace officers within the state, and of all prosecuting attorneys, to enforce  
23 all provisions of this subchapter, except those specifically designated, and  
24 to cooperate with all agencies charged with the enforcement of the laws of  
25 the United States, of this state, and of all other states, relating to  
26 narcotic drugs.

27 The authority to promulgate regulations for the efficient enforcement  
28 of this act is hereby vested in the ~~director~~ secretary. The ~~director~~  
29 secretary is hereby authorized to make the regulations promulgated under this  
30 subchapter conform insofar as possible under the standards established herein  
31 and under the policies of this subchapter with those regulations promulgated  
32 under the federal Narcotic Act.

33

34 SECTION 5098. Arkansas Code § 20-64-303 is amended to read as follows:  
35 20-64-303. Minor violations of subchapter.

36 Nothing in this subchapter shall be construed as requiring the State

1 Board of Health to report for the institution of proceedings under this  
2 subchapter minor violations of this subchapter whenever the ~~Director~~  
3 Secretary of the Department of Health believes that the public interest will  
4 be adequately served in the circumstances by a suitable written notice or  
5 warning.

6  
7 SECTION 5099. Arkansas Code § 20-64-308 is amended to read as follows:  
8 20-64-308. Seizure and forfeiture of contraband – Hearing and  
9 disposition.

10 (a)(1) When an article, drug, or other thing is seized and forfeited  
11 under the provisions of § 20-64-307, the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department  
12 of Health or his or her authorized agent shall, within five (5) days  
13 thereafter, publish in a newspaper having a statewide circulation a notice  
14 containing a list of the articles, equipment, drugs, or other things seized,  
15 the name or names of the person or persons, if known, from whom taken, and  
16 the place where seized.

17 (2) The notice shall advise that the article, drug, or other  
18 thing seized and forfeited will be destroyed or sold by the ~~director~~  
19 secretary at the expiration of thirty (30) days from the date of publication  
20 of the notice.

21 (3) Any person claiming any interest in the article, equipment,  
22 drug, or other thing may, at any time within the thirty (30) days after the  
23 publication of the notice, petition the ~~director~~ secretary for a hearing to  
24 be held in the ~~director's~~ secretary's office in Little Rock.

25 (4) The ~~director~~ secretary shall set a date for the hearing not  
26 later than ten (10) days after receiving the written request at which time  
27 witnesses shall be sworn and evidence shall be taken.

28 (5) Within fifteen (15) days after such hearing, the ~~director~~  
29 secretary shall enter his or her written findings of fact and order upon the  
30 testimony so presented.

31 (6) The findings of fact and order of the ~~director~~ secretary may  
32 be appealed to the Pulaski County Circuit Court by lodging with the court  
33 within fifteen (15) days after the ~~director's~~ secretary's order has been  
34 entered a transcript of record of the hearing held before the ~~director~~  
35 secretary. The circuit court shall hear no new evidence on such appeal and  
36 shall render its judgment only on errors of law.

1 (7) An appeal from the judgment of the circuit court may be  
2 taken to the Supreme Court.

3 (b)(1) If the ~~director~~ secretary receives no written petition for a  
4 hearing within thirty (30) days from the date of the publication of notice as  
5 provided in this section, the ~~director~~ secretary shall, in his or her  
6 discretion, proceed to take bids on the article, equipment, drug, or other  
7 things seized and forfeited under § 20-64-307 and shall sell them to the  
8 highest bidder, or he or she may destroy the articles, equipment, drugs, or  
9 other things and shall preserve a written record thereof for two (2) years.

10 (2) The proceeds for the sale of the articles, drugs, or other  
11 things shall be deposited with the Treasurer of State as nonrevenue receipts  
12 for credit to the State Apportionment Fund as general revenues to be  
13 distributed for the respective purposes as provided by law.

14  
15 SECTION 5100. Arkansas Code § 20-64-316 is amended to read as follows:

16 20-64-316. Authority of Department of Health employees to investigate,  
17 examine, and inspect.

18 Any officer or employee of the Department of Health designated by the  
19 ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Health to conduct examinations,  
20 investigations, or inspections under this subchapter relating to depressant  
21 or stimulant drugs or to counterfeit drugs may, when so authorized by the  
22 ~~director~~ secretary:

23 (1) Carry firearms;

24 (2) Execute and serve search warrants and arrest warrants;

25 (3) Execute seizure by process issued pursuant to §§ 20-64-307  
26 and 20-64-308;

27 (4) Make arrests without warrant for offenses under this  
28 subchapter with respect to drugs if the offense is committed in his or her  
29 presence; and

30 (5) Make seizures of drugs or containers or equipment, punches,  
31 dies, plates, stone, labeling, or other things, if they are, or he or she has  
32 reasonable grounds to believe that they are, subject to seizure and  
33 condemnation under §§ 20-64-307 and 20-64-308.

34  
35 SECTION 5101. Arkansas Code § 20-64-503(4), concerning the definition  
36 of "controlled substance" under the laws concerning controlled substances and

1 legend drugs, is amended to read as follows:

2 (4) "Controlled substance" means those substances, drugs, or  
3 immediate precursors listed in Schedules I through VI of the Uniform  
4 Controlled Substances Act, § 5-64-101 et seq., and revised by the ~~Director~~  
5 Secretary of the Department of Health pursuant to his or her authority under  
6 §§ 5-64-214 – 5-64-216;

7

8 SECTION 5102. Arkansas Code § 20-77-1607(b)(4), concerning the  
9 Advisory Council to the Arkansas Youth Suicide Prevention Task Force, is  
10 amended to read as follows:

11 (4) The ~~Commissioner of Education~~ Secretary of the Department of  
12 Education shall appoint one (1) member;

13

14 SECTION 5103. Arkansas Code § 20-78-206(a)(1)(B), concerning the rules  
15 of the Division of Child Care and Early Childhood Education, is amended to  
16 read as follows:

17 (B) In developing proposed rules, the division shall  
18 consult with the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Health or his or her  
19 designated representative in regard to rules relating to health.

20

21 SECTION 5104. Arkansas Code § 20-78-206(a)(3), concerning the rules of  
22 the Division of Child Care and Early Childhood Education, is amended to read  
23 as follows:

24 (3) The ~~director~~ Secretary of the Department of Health and the  
25 ~~commissioner~~ Secretary of the Department of Education and their designated  
26 representatives are directed to cooperate with and assist the division in  
27 developing rules and regulations in the respective areas of health and  
28 education.

29

30 SECTION 5105. Arkansas Code § 20-78-703(b)(1), concerning the Rita  
31 Rowell Hale Prenatal and Early Childhood Nurse Home Visitation Program  
32 Advisory Council, is amended to read as follows:

33 (1) Three (3) members from the Department of Health to be  
34 appointed by the Governor after consulting the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the  
35 Department of Health and subject to confirmation by the Senate;

36

1 SECTION 5106. Arkansas Code § 20-78-708 is amended to read as follows:  
2 20-78-708. Funding.

3 The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Health is authorized to  
4 utilize available general revenue savings and allowable federal funds in  
5 support of the activities described in this subchapter in the event that  
6 sufficient funds are not allocated for the Rita Rowell Hale Prenatal and  
7 Early Childhood Nurse Home Visitation Program herein. The ~~director~~ secretary  
8 is authorized to transfer appropriations and funds as necessary but only for  
9 the purposes provided in this subchapter. Upon approval of the Chief Fiscal  
10 Officer of the State and review by the Legislative Council, the transfers  
11 shall be made upon the books of the Department of Finance and Administration,  
12 the Auditor of State, and the Treasurer of State.

13  
14 SECTION 5107. Arkansas Code § 23-79-1201(3)(B), concerning the  
15 definition of "persons at high risk for colorectal cancer" under the laws  
16 governing coverage for colorectal cancer screening, is amended to read as  
17 follows:

18 (B) Any additional or expanded definition of "persons at  
19 high risk for colorectal cancer" as recognized by medical science and  
20 determined by the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Health in  
21 consultation with the University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences.

22  
23 SECTION 5108. Arkansas Code § 23-79-1202(d)(1)(B), concerning coverage  
24 for colorectal cancer examinations, is amended to read as follows:

25 (B) Any additional medically recognized screening tests  
26 for colorectal cancer required by the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of  
27 Health, determined in consultation with appropriate healthcare organizations.

28  
29 SECTION 5109. Arkansas Code § 23-99-702(2), concerning the definition  
30 of "director" under the laws establishing grievance systems and quality  
31 assessment and improvement systems, is repealed.

32 ~~(2) "Director" means the Director of the Department of Health;~~

33  
34 SECTION 5110. Arkansas Code § 23-99-703(b)(2), concerning a health  
35 carrier and network grievance system, is amended to read as follows:

36 (2) Submit in the form and manner prescribed by the ~~Director~~

1 Secretary of the Department of Health a periodic report which shall include:

2 (A) A written description of the processes and procedures  
3 for resolving grievances; and

4 (B) The total number of grievances handled through the  
5 grievance system, including a compilation of the dates of the grievances, the  
6 reason for the grievances, and resolutions of each grievance.

7

8 SECTION 5111. Arkansas Code § 23-99-703(c), concerning a health  
9 carrier network grievance system, is amended to read as follows:

10 (c) In consultation with the Insurance Commissioner, the ~~director~~  
11 secretary may promulgate rules and regulations in accordance with the  
12 Arkansas Administrative Procedure Act, § 25-15-201 et seq., to carry out the  
13 provisions of this subchapter to enable the state to be properly informed of  
14 quality issues within the state and to adequately respond to any quality  
15 concerns expressed through grievances.

16

17 SECTION 5112. Arkansas Code § 23-99-704(a)(3), concerning health  
18 carrier quality assessment and improvement systems, is amended to read as  
19 follows:

20 (3) Submit to the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Health  
21 in the time, manner, and form prescribed the following information:

22 (A) A written description of any quality assessment and  
23 quality improvement systems; and

24 (B) Findings of relevant quality data as determined by the  
25 ~~director~~ secretary.

26

27 SECTION 5113. Arkansas Code § 23-99-704(b), concerning health carrier  
28 quality assessment and improvement systems, is amended to read as follows:

29 (b) In consultation with the Insurance Commissioner, the ~~director~~  
30 secretary may promulgate rules and regulations in accordance with the  
31 Arkansas Administrative Procedure Act, § 25-15-201 et seq., to carry out the  
32 provisions of this subchapter to enable the state to be properly informed of  
33 quality issues within the state and to adequately respond to any quality  
34 concerns found through the outcome data.

35

36 SECTION 5114. Arkansas Code § 23-99-705(b), concerning the

1 applicability and scope of rules regarding a health carrier, is amended to  
2 read as follows:

3 (b) In terms of the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Health's  
4 regulatory authority pursuant to §§ 23-99-703 and 23-99-704, such authority  
5 shall apply to the quality of care provided by health carriers and networks  
6 operating in this state and shall not apply to the benefits offered by any  
7 health carrier and network or to the administration of such benefits.

8

9 SECTION 5115. Arkansas Code § 23-99-706 is amended to read as follows:  
10 23-99-706. Enforcement and penalties.

11 The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Health shall have the power  
12 to implement and enforce this subchapter.

13

14 SECTION 5116. Arkansas Code Title 25, Chapter 9, is repealed.

15

~~Chapter 9 — Department of Health~~

16

17 ~~25-9-101. Creation — Director — Organization — Personnel.~~

18

19 ~~(a)(1) There is created the Department of Health, which is to be  
20 established if the Governor orders the separation of the Division of Health  
21 of the Department of Health and Human Services from the Department of Health  
22 and Human Services.~~

22

23 ~~(2) Unless stated otherwise, all references in this chapter to  
24 "director" shall mean the Director of the Department of Health, if  
25 established, and otherwise the Director of the Division of Health of the  
26 Department of Health and Human Services.~~

26

27 ~~(b)(1)(A) The director, with the advice and consent of the Governor,  
28 shall appoint the heads of the respective units of the Division of Health of  
29 the Department of Health and Human Services or the Department of Health.~~

29

30 ~~(B) All other personnel of the Department of Health shall  
31 be employed by and shall serve at the pleasure of the director.~~

31

32 ~~(2) However, nothing in this section shall be so construed as to  
33 reduce any right that an employee of the Division of Health of the Department  
34 of Health and Human Services or the Department of Health has under any civil  
35 service or merit system.~~

35

36 ~~(c)(1) Each unit of the Department of Health shall be under the  
direction, control, and supervision of the director.~~

1           ~~(2) The director may delegate his or her functions, powers, and~~  
2 ~~duties to various units of the Department of Health as he or she shall deem~~  
3 ~~desirable and necessary for the effective and efficient operation of the~~  
4 ~~Department of Health.~~

5           ~~(d)(1) The Division of Health of the Department of Health and Human~~  
6 ~~Services or the Department of Health shall maintain an Office of Oral Health.~~

7           ~~(2) The Director of the Office of Oral Health shall be an~~  
8 ~~experienced public health dentist licensed to practice under the Arkansas~~  
9 ~~Dental Practice Act, § 17-82-101 et seq.~~

10           ~~(3) The Director of the Office of Oral Health shall:~~

11                   ~~(A) Plan, direct, and coordinate all dental public health~~  
12 ~~programs with other local, state, and national health programs;~~

13                   ~~(B) Serve as the department's chief advisor on matters~~  
14 ~~involving oral health; and~~

15                   ~~(C) Plan, implement, and evaluate all oral health programs~~  
16 ~~within the department.~~

17  
18           ~~25-9-103. Patient care providers — Wages — Required withholding —~~  
19 ~~Fringe benefits.~~

20           ~~(a) The Department of Health is authorized to pay wages and required~~  
21 ~~state withholding, federal withholding, required matching, and other fringe~~  
22 ~~benefits for patient care part-time intermittent contractual personnel who~~  
23 ~~must be employed in order to provide services in the home.~~

24           ~~(b) These payments will be made from the appropriation for~~  
25 ~~professional fees and services.~~

26  
27           ~~25-9-104. Additional compensation — County Health Unit Administrators.~~

28           ~~(a) Any employee serving in the capacity of County Health Unit~~  
29 ~~Administrator shall be eligible for up to ten percent (10%) of additional~~  
30 ~~compensation within the grade during the period of time in which the employee~~  
31 ~~occupies the position.~~

32           ~~(b) Employees on the highest level of their grade shall be eligible~~  
33 ~~for additional compensation in an amount not to exceed five and one-half~~  
34 ~~percent (5.5%) of their current salary upon assuming responsibility, and this~~  
35 ~~amount shall not be construed as exceeding the line item maximum for the~~  
36 ~~grade for that position.~~

1           ~~(c)(1) The Department of Health shall certify to the Chief Fiscal~~  
2 ~~Officer of the State the assignment of duties of each employee in this~~  
3 ~~position, the length of the assignment, and the location and reason for the~~  
4 ~~assignment.~~

5           ~~(2) The Chief Fiscal Officer of the State shall approve the~~  
6 ~~request prior to the awarding of additional compensation.~~

7  
8           ~~25-9-105. Home health on call and visit pay.~~

9           ~~(a) The Department of Health is hereby authorized to compensate the~~  
10 ~~following personnel responsible for providing in home health care as~~  
11 ~~necessary to maintain continuity of care outside routine working hours on~~  
12 ~~weekdays and on weekends or holidays:~~

13           ~~(1) R055 Hlth Public Hlth Nursing Prog. Coord;~~

14           ~~(2) L082 Nursing Services Specialist;~~

15           ~~(3) L033 Home Health Nurse I;~~

16           ~~(4) L034 Home Health Nurse II;~~

17           ~~(5) L138 Speech Pathologist I;~~

18           ~~(6) L140 Speech Pathologist II;~~

19           ~~(7) L142 Speech Pathologist Supervisor;~~

20           ~~(8) L102 Physical Therapist I;~~

21           ~~(9) L104 Physical Therapist II;~~

22           ~~(10) L106 Physical Therapy Supervisor;~~

23           ~~(11) M086 Social Worker I;~~

24           ~~(12) M088 Social Worker II;~~

25           ~~(13) L086 Occupational Therapist I;~~

26           ~~(14) L088 Occupational Therapist II;~~

27           ~~(15) L090 Occupational Therapist Supervisor;~~

28           ~~(16) R056 Hlth. Pub. Hlth. Nursing Program Administrator;~~

29           ~~(17) L047 LPN I;~~

30           ~~(18) L049 LPN II;~~

31           ~~(19) L154 Public Hlth. Nurse I;~~

32           ~~(20) L156 Public Hlth. Nurse II;~~

33           ~~(21) L021 PH Technician II; and~~

34           ~~(22) L155 PH Technician I.~~

35           ~~(b)(1) Visit pay shall not exceed forty five dollars (\$45.00) per~~  
36 ~~visit.~~

1           ~~(2) Employees requested to be on call or on standby, or both,~~  
2 ~~for visiting on nights, weekends or holidays, or both, will be eligible to~~  
3 ~~receive on call pay not to exceed thirty dollars (\$30.00) per day.~~

4           ~~(3)(A) Provided, however, no compensation shall be paid to any~~  
5 ~~employees required to be on call or on standby, or both, who fail to respond~~  
6 ~~after the second notification that their services are needed.~~

7           ~~(B) In the event of equipment or paging device~~  
8 ~~malfunction, the penalty shall not apply.~~

9           ~~(4) All compensated services shall be provided as directed by~~  
10 ~~the department.~~

11           ~~(5)(A) All visit and on-call pay shall be paid from funds from~~  
12 ~~in-home services extra salaries as appropriated in this act.~~

13           ~~(B) The compensation for visit and on-call pay when added~~  
14 ~~to the employee's regular salary and benefits shall not be construed as~~  
15 ~~exceeding the maximum annual salary as described in the General Accounting~~  
16 ~~and Budgetary Procedures Law, § 19-4-101 et seq.~~

17  
18       ~~25-9-106. Community Alcohol Safety Program—Definition.~~

19       ~~(a) On or after July 1, 1999, all powers, duties, functions, records,~~  
20 ~~and funds administered or provided by other support divisions within the~~  
21 ~~Arkansas Department of Transportation for the Traffic Safety Section of the~~  
22 ~~Planning and Research Division regarding or relating to the state alcohol~~  
23 ~~program, commonly known as the "Community Alcohol Safety Program",~~  
24 ~~administered by the Arkansas Department of Transportation under the laws of~~  
25 ~~this state and transferred to the Arkansas Department of Transportation by~~  
26 ~~Acts 1989, 1st Ex. Sess., No. 153, shall be transferred by a type 2 transfer,~~  
27 ~~as defined in § 25-2-105, to the Division of Aging, Adult, and Behavioral~~  
28 ~~Health Services of the Department of Human Services.~~

29       ~~(b) As used in this section, "funds" means all funds derived from the~~  
30 ~~State Administration of Justice Fund under § 16-10-310 for usage by the state~~  
31 ~~alcohol program, education fees paid by offenders of the Omnibus DWI or BWI~~  
32 ~~Act, § 5-65-101 et seq., and the appropriation for community alcohol safety.~~

33  
34       ~~25-9-107. Transfer of personnel under § 25-9-106.~~

35       ~~All personnel transferred from the Arkansas Department of~~  
36 ~~Transportation under § 25-9-106 are eligible for employment under this~~

1 ~~section in a comparable position with the Division of Aging, Adult, and~~  
2 ~~Behavioral Health Services of the Department of Human Services.~~

3  
4 SECTION 5117. Arkansas Code Title 25, Chapter 42, is repealed.

5 Chapter 42—

6 Health Information Technology

7  
8 ~~25-42-101.—Purpose.~~

9 ~~The purpose of this chapter is to:~~

- 10 ~~(1) Establish the Office of Health Information Technology; and~~  
11 ~~(2) Authorize the Office of Health Information Technology to~~  
12 ~~transfer to a nonprofit corporation the State Health Alliance for Records~~  
13 ~~Exchange.~~

14  
15 ~~25-42-102.—Policy.~~

16 ~~(a) The coordination of health information technology activities~~  
17 ~~throughout Arkansas by the Office of Health Information Technology is~~  
18 ~~necessary to obtain the maximum potential value from the investment of~~  
19 ~~federal and state resources to increase the use of health information~~  
20 ~~technology.~~

21 ~~(b) The exchange of health information made possible by the State~~  
22 ~~Health Alliance for Records Exchange can improve the quality of health of~~  
23 ~~Arkansas citizens by reducing the potential for medical errors, reducing the~~  
24 ~~incidence of redundant tests and procedures, improving patient safety, and~~  
25 ~~making the delivery of healthcare services more efficient and affordable.~~

26 ~~(c) The Office of Health Information Technology and the State Health~~  
27 ~~Alliance for Records Exchange shall respect and safeguard each person's~~  
28 ~~privacy interests in his or her health and medical information.~~

29  
30 ~~25-42-103. Office of Health Information Technology—Creation.~~

31 ~~The Office of Health Information Technology is created within the~~  
32 ~~Department of Health.~~

33  
34 ~~25-42-104.—Definitions.~~

35 ~~As used in this chapter:~~

- 36 ~~(1) “Agency” means any agency, board, commission, public~~

1 ~~instrumentality, political subdivision, or any of the foregoing entities~~  
2 ~~acting on behalf of the State of Arkansas that store, gather, or generate~~  
3 ~~health information;~~

4 ~~(2) "Deidentified" means the same as the meaning under the~~  
5 ~~Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996, Public Law No.~~  
6 ~~104-191;~~

7 ~~(3) "Health information" means any information, whether oral or~~  
8 ~~recorded in any form or medium, that:~~

9 ~~(A) Is created or received by:~~

10 ~~(i) A provider of health care;~~

11 ~~(ii) A health plan;~~

12 ~~(iii) A public health authority;~~

13 ~~(iv) An employer;~~

14 ~~(v) A health insurer;~~

15 ~~(vi) A school or university; or~~

16 ~~(vii) A health care clearinghouse; and~~

17 ~~(B) Relates to the:~~

18 ~~(i) Past, present, or future physical or mental~~  
19 ~~health or condition of an individual;~~

20 ~~(ii) Provision of health care to an individual; or~~

21 ~~(iii) Past, present, or future payment for the~~  
22 ~~provision of health care to an individual;~~

23 ~~(4) "Health information exchange" means the electronic movement~~  
24 ~~of health-related information among organizations according to nationally~~  
25 ~~recognized standards;~~

26 ~~(5) "Health information technology" means the application of~~  
27 ~~information processing involving both computer hardware and software and~~  
28 ~~other technology devices that deal with the storage, retrieval, sharing, and~~  
29 ~~use of health care information, data, and knowledge for communication and~~  
30 ~~decision-making;~~

31 ~~(6) "Identified" means the same as the meaning under the Health~~  
32 ~~Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996, Public Law No. 104-191;~~

33 ~~(7) "Nonprofit corporation" means a corporation no part of the~~  
34 ~~income of which is distributable to its members, directors, or officers as~~  
35 ~~under the Arkansas Nonprofit Corporation Act of 1993, § 4-33-101 et seq.; and~~

36 ~~(8) "State Health Alliance for Records Exchange" means the~~

1 ~~entity responsible for the processes and procedures that enable the~~  
2 ~~electronic exchange of interoperable health information in Arkansas.~~

3  
4 ~~25-42-105.—Duties and responsibilities.~~

5 ~~(a) The Office of Health Information Technology shall coordinate the~~  
6 ~~health information technology initiatives of the state with relevant~~  
7 ~~executive branch agencies, including without limitation state boards,~~  
8 ~~commissions, nonprofit corporations, and institutions of higher education.~~

9 ~~(b) The Office of Health Information Technology Coordinator shall be~~  
10 ~~selected and serve in a manner prescribed by the Director of the Department~~  
11 ~~of Health.~~

12 ~~(c) The office shall:~~

13 ~~(1) Assure the effective coordination and collaboration of~~  
14 ~~health information technology planning, development, implementation, and~~  
15 ~~financing;~~

16 ~~(2) Review all health information technology-related grant~~  
17 ~~applications before submission to funding entities;~~

18 ~~(3) Accept, receive, retain, disburse, and administer any state~~  
19 ~~special or general revenue funds or federal funds specifically appropriated~~  
20 ~~for health information technology;~~

21 ~~(4) Make contracts and execute all instruments necessary or~~  
22 ~~convenient for carrying out its business;~~

23 ~~(5) Recommend to the State Board of Health regarding rules~~  
24 ~~necessary to carry out the policies and objectives of this chapter;~~

25 ~~(6) Plan, establish, and operate the State Health Alliance for~~  
26 ~~Records Exchange until the time when the operational responsibility and~~  
27 ~~authority for the State Health Alliance for Records Exchange is transferred~~  
28 ~~to a nonprofit corporation; and~~

29 ~~(7)(A) Establish reasonable fees or charges for the use of the~~  
30 ~~State Health Alliance for Records Exchange to fund the operational costs of~~  
31 ~~the State Health Alliance for Records Exchange and the office.~~

32 ~~(B) Fees or charges established under subdivision~~  
33 ~~(c)(7)(A) of this section shall be set with the input and guidance of the~~  
34 ~~users of the State Health Alliance for Records Exchange, stakeholders, and~~  
35 ~~other interested parties.~~

36 ~~(C) Fees or charges established under subdivision~~

1 ~~(c)(7)(A) of this section shall not exceed the total cost of operating the~~  
2 ~~State Health Alliance for Records Exchange, not including staffing costs for~~  
3 ~~the State Health Alliance for Records Exchange and the office.~~

4 ~~(D) Users of data under this chapter shall be charged in a~~  
5 ~~manner that is proportional to their use of the State Health Alliance for~~  
6 ~~Records Exchange.~~

7 ~~(E) Revenue generated by the fees or charges under~~  
8 ~~subdivision (c)(7) of this section shall be deposited into the Health~~  
9 ~~Information Technology Fund, § 19-5-1244.~~

10  
11 ~~25-42-106. State Health Alliance for Records Exchange — Duties.~~

12 ~~(a) The State Health Alliance For Records Exchange shall:~~

13 ~~(1) Serve as the official health information exchange for the~~  
14 ~~State of Arkansas;~~

15 ~~(2) Be organized for the purpose of improving the health of~~  
16 ~~Arkansans by:~~

17 ~~(A) Promoting efficient and effective communication among~~  
18 ~~multiple healthcare providers, including without limitation hospitals,~~  
19 ~~physicians, payers, employers, pharmacies, laboratories, and other healthcare~~  
20 ~~entities;~~

21 ~~(B) Creating efficiencies in healthcare costs by~~  
22 ~~eliminating redundancy in data capture and storage and reducing~~  
23 ~~administrative, billing, and data collection costs;~~

24 ~~(C) Creating the ability to monitor community health~~  
25 ~~status; and~~

26 ~~(D) Providing reliable information to healthcare consumers~~  
27 ~~and purchasers regarding the quality and cost-effectiveness of health care,~~  
28 ~~health plans, and healthcare providers;~~

29 ~~(3)(A) Until a nonprofit corporation operates the State Health~~  
30 ~~Alliance for Records Exchange, the State Health Alliance for Records Exchange~~  
31 ~~shall be established and operated by the Office of Health Information~~  
32 ~~Technology with the advice of the Health Information Exchange Council,~~  
33 ~~consisting of the following members appointed by the Director of the~~  
34 ~~Department of Health:~~

35 ~~(i) The Office of Health Information Technology~~  
36 ~~Coordinator;~~

- 1 ~~(ii) A representative of the Department of Finance~~  
2 ~~and Administration;~~
- 3 ~~(iii) A representative of the Department of Human~~  
4 ~~Services;~~
- 5 ~~(iv) A representative of the Department of~~  
6 ~~Information Systems;~~
- 7 ~~(v) A representative of the health insurance~~  
8 ~~industry;~~
- 9 ~~(vi) A representative of the Arkansas Foundation for~~  
10 ~~Medical Care, Inc.;~~
- 11 ~~(vii) A representative of the Arkansas Hospital~~  
12 ~~Association, Inc.;~~
- 13 ~~(viii) A representative of the Arkansas Medical~~  
14 ~~Society, Inc.;~~
- 15 ~~(ix) A representative of the Arkansas Minority~~  
16 ~~Health Commission;~~
- 17 ~~(x) A representative of the Arkansas Nurses~~  
18 ~~Association;~~
- 19 ~~(xi) A representative of the Division of Science and~~  
20 ~~Technology of the Arkansas Economic Development Commission;~~
- 21 ~~(xii) A representative of the Arkansas Pharmacists~~  
22 ~~Association;~~
- 23 ~~(xiii) A representative of the business community;~~  
24 ~~(xiv) A representative of the Community Health~~  
25 ~~Centers of Arkansas, Inc.;~~
- 26 ~~(xv) A representative of the University of Arkansas~~  
27 ~~for Medical Sciences;~~
- 28 ~~(xvi) A representative of the Arkansas Health Care~~  
29 ~~Association; and~~
- 30 ~~(xvii) Two (2) healthcare consumers.~~
- 31 ~~(b) The Chair of the Health Information Exchange Council shall be~~  
32 ~~elected by the members of the council.~~
- 33 ~~(c) All members will serve until the operational responsibility and~~  
34 ~~authority for the State Health Alliance for Records Exchange is transferred~~  
35 ~~to a nonprofit corporation.~~
- 36 ~~(d)(1) The State Health Alliance for Records Exchange is not a~~

1 ~~healthcare provider and is not subject to claims under § 16-114-201 et seq.~~

2 ~~(2) A person who participates in or subscribes to the services~~  
3 ~~or information provided by the State Health Alliance for Records Exchange~~  
4 ~~shall not be liable in any action for damages or cost of any nature that~~  
5 ~~results solely from the person's use or failure to use the State Health~~  
6 ~~Alliance for Records Exchange information or data that was imputed or~~  
7 ~~retrieved under the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of~~  
8 ~~1996, as it existed on January 1, 2011, and regulations adopted under the~~  
9 ~~act, state confidentiality laws and the rules of the State Health Alliance~~  
10 ~~for Records Exchange as approved by the Office of Health Information~~  
11 ~~Technology or the governing body of the nonprofit corporation.~~

12 ~~(3) A person shall not be subject to antitrust or unfair~~  
13 ~~competition liability based on membership or participation in the State~~  
14 ~~Health Alliance for Records Exchange, which provides an essential~~  
15 ~~governmental function for the public health and safety and enjoys state~~  
16 ~~action immunity.~~

17 ~~(c) A person who provides information and data to the State Health~~  
18 ~~Alliance for Records Exchange retains a property right in the information or~~  
19 ~~data but grants to the other participants or subscribers a nonexclusive~~  
20 ~~license to retrieve and use that information or data under the Health~~  
21 ~~Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996, as it existed on~~  
22 ~~January 1, 2011, and any amendments and regulations adopted under the act,~~  
23 ~~state confidentiality laws, and the rules of the State Health Alliance for~~  
24 ~~Records Exchange.~~

25 ~~(f) All processes or software developed, designed, or purchased by the~~  
26 ~~State Health Alliance for Records Exchange shall remain the property of the~~  
27 ~~State Health Alliance for Records Exchange subject to use by participants or~~  
28 ~~subscribers under the rules of the State Health Alliance for Records~~  
29 ~~Exchange.~~

30 ~~(g) Patient-specific protected health information shall be disclosed~~  
31 ~~only in accordance with the patient's authorization or in compliance with~~  
32 ~~state confidentiality laws and the Health Insurance Portability and~~  
33 ~~Accountability Act of 1996, as it existed on January 1, 2011, and regulations~~  
34 ~~under the act.~~

35 ~~(h) No later than December 31, 2014, executive branch agencies,~~  
36 ~~including state boards, commissions, nonprofit corporations, and institutions~~

1 ~~of higher education, that implement, acquire, or upgrade health information~~  
2 ~~technology systems shall use health information technology systems and~~  
3 ~~products that meet minimum standards adopted by the State Health Alliance for~~  
4 ~~Records Exchange.~~

5 ~~(i) All identified or deidentified health information contained in,~~  
6 ~~stored in, submitted to, transferred by, or released from the State Health~~  
7 ~~Alliance for Records Exchange is not disclosable under applicable state or~~  
8 ~~federal law except to:~~

9 ~~(1) A healthcare provider; or~~

10 ~~(2) Other authorized person or entity as described by policies~~  
11 ~~and rules promulgated by the State Board of Health or the State Alliance for~~  
12 ~~Records Exchange.~~

13 ~~(j)(1) Upon the transfer to a nonprofit corporation, the State Health~~  
14 ~~Alliance for Records Exchange shall be governed under the bylaws and~~  
15 ~~incorporation documents of the corporation.~~

16 ~~(2) The bylaws and incorporation documents of the corporation~~  
17 ~~shall further only the objectives and policies set forth in this chapter.~~

18  
19 SECTION 5118. Arkansas Code § 26-57-1106(a)(2)(B), concerning the  
20 distribution of funds for breast cancer research and control, is amended to  
21 read as follows:

22 (B) The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Health  
23 shall be the disbursing officer for the Breast Cancer Control Fund, and the  
24 Chancellor of the University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences shall be the  
25 disbursing officer for the Breast Cancer Research Fund.

26  
27 SECTION 5119. Arkansas Code § 27-3-103(b)(3), concerning the  
28 establishment of the Arkansas Public Transportation Coordination Council, is  
29 amended to read as follows:

30 (3) The remaining seven (7) members of the Arkansas Public  
31 Transportation Coordination Council shall be:

32 (A) The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Human  
33 Services or his or her designee;

34 (B) The Director of State Highways and Transportation or  
35 his or her designee;

36 (C) The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Health or

1 his or her designee;

2 (D) The Chair of the Arkansas Economic Development Council  
3 or his or her designee;

4 (E) The ~~Executive~~ Director of the Arkansas Economic  
5 Development Commission or his or her designee;

6 (F) The Director of the University of Arkansas Cooperative  
7 Extension Service or his or her designee; and

8 (G) The Chair of the Arkansas Workforce Development Board  
9 or his or her successor or designee.

10

11 SECTION 5120. Arkansas Code § 27-101-405(a)(2), concerning the  
12 establishment of the Marine Sanitation Advisory Committee, is amended to read  
13 as follows:

14 (2) Two (2) members from the state at large to be appointed by  
15 the Governor after consulting with the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department  
16 of Health and the Director of the ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of  
17 Environmental Quality; and

18

19 SECTION 5121. Arkansas Code Title 25, Chapter 43, is amended to add an  
20 additional subchapter to read as follows:

21 Subchapter 9 – Department of Human Services

22

23 25-43-901. Department of Human Services.

24 There is created the Department of Human Services as a cabinet-level  
25 department.

26

27 25-43-902. State entities transferred to Department of Human Services.

28 (a) The administrative functions of the following state entities are  
29 transferred to the Department of Human Services by a cabinet-level department  
30 transfer:

31 (1) The Arkansas Alcohol and Drug Abuse Coordinating Council,  
32 created under § 20-64-1002;

33 (2) The Arkansas Drug Director, created under § 20-64-1001;

34 (3) The Arkansas State Council for Interstate Juvenile  
35 Supervision, created under § 9-29-401;

36 (4) The Board of Developmental Disabilities Services, created

1 under § 20-48-203;

2 (5) The Civilian Student Training Program, created under § 12-  
3 61-124;

4 (6) The Department of Human Services, created under § 25-43-901;

5 (7) The Division of Aging, Adult, and Behavioral Services of the  
6 Department of Human Services, created under § 20-46-301;

7 (8) The Division of Child Care and Early Childhood Education,  
8 created under § 20-78-205;

9 (9) The Division of Children and Family Services, created under  
10 §§ 9-28-102 and 25-10-102;

11 (10) The Division of County Operations, created under § 25-10-  
12 102;

13 (11) The Division of Developmental Disabilities Services,  
14 created under § 25-10-102;

15 (12) The Division of Medical Services, created under § 25-10-  
16 102;

17 (13) The Division of Provider Services and Quality Assurance,  
18 created under § 25-10-102;

19 (14) The Division of Youth Services, created under §§ 9-28-202  
20 and 25-10-102; and

21 (15) The Youth Justice Reform Board, created under § 9-28-1201.

22 (b) Unless otherwise provided by law, a cabinet-level department  
23 transfer under subsection (a) of this section includes all state entities  
24 under a state entity transferred to the Department of Human Services under  
25 subsection (a) of this section, including without limitation a division,  
26 office, program, or other unit of a state entity transferred to the  
27 Department of Human Services under subsection (a) of this section.

28 (c) Unless otherwise provided by law, a state entity whose  
29 administrative functions have been transferred to the Human Services under  
30 subsection (a) of this section shall otherwise continue to exercise the  
31 duties of the state entity under the administration of the cabinet-level  
32 Department of Human Services in the same manner as before the creation of the  
33 cabinet-level department.

34  
35 25-43-903. Secretary of the Department of Human Services.

36 (a) The executive head of the Department of Human Services shall be

1 the Secretary of the Department of Human Services.

2 (b) The secretary shall be appointed by the Governor, subject to  
3 confirmation by the Senate, and shall serve at the pleasure of the Governor.

4 (c) Each division of the department shall be under the direction,  
5 control, and supervision of the secretary.

6 (d) The secretary may delegate his or her functions, powers, and  
7 duties to various divisions or employees of the department as he or she shall  
8 deem desirable and necessary for the effective and efficient operation of the  
9 department.

10 (e) The secretary may, unless otherwise provided by law:

11 (1) Hire department personnel;

12 (2) Perform or assign duties assigned to the department; and

13 (3) Serve as the director, or the administrative or executive  
14 head of any state entity under the administrative control of the department  
15 if the secretary also meets all statutory requirements for the position.

16  
17 25-43-904. Civilian Student Training Program.

18 (a) There is created within the Department of Human Services the  
19 Civilian Student Training Program.

20 (b) Juvenile participants in the Civilian Student Training Program at  
21 Camp Joseph T. Robinson receiving services from the department are authorized  
22 to receive a monetary stipend, not to exceed ten dollars (\$10.00) per week to  
23 defray personal hygiene and other personal necessities.

24 (b) Juvenile participants are authorized to receive uniforms and  
25 clothing items as determined by the staff to be appropriate for effective  
26 participation in outdoor activities.

27 (c) Transportation to support Civilian Student Training Program  
28 activities for juvenile participants and staff may be provided by commercial  
29 lease or purchase of motor vehicles not to exceed six (6) vehicles.

30  
31 SECTION 5122. Arkansas Code § 5-2-315(a), concerning the discharge or  
32 conditional release from psychiatric or psychological care, is amended to  
33 read as follows:

34 (a)(1)(A) When the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Human  
35 Services or his or her designee determines that a person acquitted has  
36 recovered from his or her mental disease or defect to such an extent that his

1 or her release or his or her conditional release under a prescribed regimen  
2 of medical, psychiatric, or psychological care or treatment would no longer  
3 create a substantial risk of bodily injury to another person or serious  
4 damage to the property of another person, the ~~director~~ secretary shall  
5 promptly file an application for discharge or conditional release of the  
6 person acquitted with the circuit court that ordered the commitment.

7 (B) In addition, if the person acquitted has an impairment  
8 due to alcohol or substance abuse, the ~~director~~ secretary may petition the  
9 circuit court for involuntary commitment under § 20-64-815.

10 (2) The ~~director~~ secretary shall send a copy of the application  
11 to the counsel for the person acquitted and to the attorney for the state.  
12

13 SECTION 5123. Arkansas Code § 5-2-315(f)(1), concerning the discharge  
14 or conditional release from psychiatric or psychological care, is amended to  
15 read as follows:

16 (f)(1) Regardless of whether the ~~director~~ secretary or his or her  
17 designee has filed an application pursuant to a provision of subsection (a)  
18 of this section, and at any time during the commitment of the person  
19 acquitted, a person acquitted, his or her counsel, or his or her legal  
20 guardian may file with the circuit court that ordered the commitment a motion  
21 for a hearing to determine whether the person acquitted should be discharged  
22 from the facility in which the person acquitted is committed.  
23

24 SECTION 5124. Arkansas Code § 5-2-316(a)(1), concerning the  
25 conditional release and the subsequent discharge, modification, or revocation  
26 of the conditional release, is amended to read as follows:

27 (a)(1) The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Human Services or  
28 his or her designee or a person conditionally released under § 5-2-315, or  
29 both, may apply to the court ordering the conditional release for discharge  
30 from or modification of the order granting conditional release on the ground  
31 that the person conditionally released under § 5-2-315 may be discharged or  
32 the order modified without danger to the person conditionally released under  
33 § 5-2-315 or to the person or property of another person.  
34

35 SECTION 5125. Arkansas Code § 5-2-316(b)(2)(A), concerning the  
36 conditional release and the subsequent discharge, modification, or revocation

1 of the conditional release, is amended to read as follows:

2 (2)(A) If an order is entered revoking the most recent order of  
3 conditional release under subdivision (b)(1) of this section, all conditions  
4 of the release shall be abated, and the person shall be ordered to be  
5 committed to the custody of the ~~director~~ secretary or the ~~director's~~  
6 secretary's designee.

7  
8 SECTION 5126. Arkansas Code § 5-2-317(a), concerning the jurisdiction  
9 of a circuit court over a person acquitted by reason of mental disease or  
10 defect and the venue for a hearing, is amended to read as follows:

11 (a) A circuit court has exclusive jurisdiction over a person acquitted  
12 by reason of mental disease or defect and committed to the custody of the  
13 ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Human Services pursuant to § 5-2-  
14 314(b).

15  
16 SECTION 5127. Arkansas Code § 5-55-104(a)-(e), concerning  
17 authorization for Medicaid by the Director of the Department of Human  
18 Services, are amended to read as follows:

19 (a) No potential Medicaid recipient is eligible for medical assistance  
20 unless he or she has authorized in writing the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the  
21 Department of Human Services to examine all records of the potential Medicaid  
22 recipient's own, or of those receiving or having received Medicaid benefits  
23 through him or her, whether or not the receipt of the benefits would be  
24 allowed by the Arkansas Medicaid Program, for the purpose of investigating  
25 whether any person may have committed the crime of Medicaid fraud or for use  
26 or potential use in any legal, administrative, or judicial proceeding.

27 (b) No person is eligible to receive any payment from the Arkansas  
28 Medicaid Program or its fiscal agents unless the person has authorized in  
29 writing the ~~director~~ secretary to examine all records for the purpose of  
30 investigating whether any person may have committed the crime of Medicaid  
31 fraud or for use or for potential use in any legal, administrative, or  
32 judicial proceeding.

33 (c) The Attorney General and the prosecuting attorneys are allowed  
34 access to all records of persons and Medicaid recipients under the Arkansas  
35 Medicaid Program to which the ~~director~~ secretary has access for the purpose  
36 of investigating whether any person may have committed the crime of Medicaid

1 fraud or for use or potential use in any legal, administrative, or judicial  
2 proceeding.

3 (d) Notwithstanding any other law to the contrary, no person is  
4 subject to any civil or criminal liability for providing access to records to  
5 the ~~director~~ secretary, the Attorney General, or the prosecuting attorneys.

6 (e) Records obtained by the ~~director~~ secretary, the Attorney General,  
7 or the prosecuting attorneys pursuant to this subchapter are classified as  
8 confidential information and are not subject to outside review or release by  
9 any individual except when records are used or potentially to be used by any  
10 government entity in any legal, administrative, or judicial proceeding.

11

12 SECTION 5128. Arkansas Code § 5-55-110 is amended to read as follows:

13 5-55-110. Suspension of violators.

14 The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Human Services may suspend  
15 or revoke the provider agreement between the Department of Human Services and  
16 a person in the event the person is found guilty of violating a provision of  
17 this subchapter.

18

19 SECTION 5129. Arkansas Code § 5-55-111(7)(B)(iii)(b), concerning  
20 criminal acts constituting Medicaid fraud, is amended to read as follows:

21 (b) In the case of an entity that is a  
22 provider of services as defined in § 20-9-101, the person discloses in such  
23 form and manner as the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Human Services  
24 requires to the entity and, upon request, to the ~~director~~ secretary, the  
25 amount received from each vendor with respect to purchases made by or on  
26 behalf of the entity; or

27

28 SECTION 5130. Arkansas Code § 5-55-111(7)(B)(iv), concerning criminal  
29 acts constituting Medicaid fraud, is amended to read as follows:

30 (iv) Any payment practice specified by the ~~director~~  
31 secretary promulgated pursuant to applicable federal or state law;

32

33 SECTION 5131. Arkansas Code § 9-27-310(c), concerning the commencement  
34 of proceedings, is amended to read as follows:

35 (c) Concurrent with filing, a copy of any petition that requests that  
36 the Department of Human Services take custody or provide family services

1 shall be mailed to the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Human Services  
2 and to the attorney of the local Office of Chief Counsel of the Department of  
3 Human Services by the petitioner.  
4

5 SECTION 5132. Arkansas Code § 9-27-333(a), concerning the disposition  
6 of family service funds and limitations, is amended to read as follows:

7 (a) At least five (5) working days before ordering the Department of  
8 Human Services, excluding community-based providers, to provide or pay for  
9 family services, the circuit court shall fax a written notice of intent to  
10 the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Human Services and to the  
11 attorney of the local Office of Chief Counsel of the Department of Human  
12 Services.  
13

14 SECTION 5133. Arkansas Code § 9-27-335(a)(1), concerning the  
15 limitations on the disposition of family service funds, is amended to read as  
16 follows:

17 (a)(1) At least five (5) working days before ordering the Department  
18 of Human Services, excluding community-based providers, to provide or pay for  
19 family services in any case in which the department is not a party, the  
20 circuit court shall fax a written notice of intent to the ~~Director~~ Secretary  
21 of the Department of Human Services and to the attorney of the local office  
22 of chief counsel of the department.  
23

24 SECTION 5134. Arkansas Code § 9-28-119(b)(2), concerning the  
25 definitions in regard to the Department of Human Services' power to obtain  
26 information, is amended to read as follows:

27 (2) The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Human Services  
28 may enter into cooperative agreements with other state agencies, businesses,  
29 or financial entities to provide direct online access to data information  
30 terminals, computers, or other electronic information systems.  
31

32 SECTION 5135. Arkansas Code § 9-28-202(b), concerning creation of the  
33 Division of Youth Services and the Director of the Division of Youth Services  
34 of the Department of Human Services, is amended to read as follows:

35 (b)(1) The Governor may appoint the Director of the Division of Youth  
36 Services of the Department of Human Services or may delegate that function to

1 the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Human Services.

2 (2) The director shall report to the secretary.

3  
4 SECTION 5136. Arkansas Code § 9-28-301(a), concerning the inspections,  
5 timing, report, and audit of facilities operated by the Division of Youth  
6 Services by the Director of the Department of Human Services, is amended to  
7 read as follows:

8 (a) In order to assure that juveniles committed to facilities operated  
9 by or under contract with the Division of Youth Services of the Department of  
10 Human Services are not subject to unsafe and unsanitary living conditions,  
11 the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Human Services or a duly  
12 authorized agent is authorized to enter the controlled premises and conduct  
13 random and unannounced health inspections of the facilities.

14  
15 SECTION 5137. Arkansas Code § 9-28-301(e) and (f), concerning the  
16 inspections, timing, report, and audit of facilities operated by the Division  
17 of Youth Services by Director of the Department of Human Services, are  
18 amended to read as follows:

19 (e)(1) The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Health shall  
20 present a list of findings of the random health inspections to the House  
21 Committee on Aging, Children and Youth, Legislative and Military Affairs and  
22 the Senate Interim Committee on Children and Youth within one (1) month after  
23 completing the random health inspections.

24 (2)(A) In the event the General Assembly is in session, the  
25 ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Health shall provide the report to  
26 the House Committee on Aging, Children and Youth, Legislative and Military  
27 Affairs and the Chair of the Senate Committee on Children and Youth.

28 (B) The complete report, including, but not limited to,  
29 statistics shall be made available to the public.

30 (f)(1) The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Human Services or  
31 the division shall file the report, along with a response not to exceed two  
32 (2) pages, to the House Committee on Aging, Children and Youth, Legislative  
33 and Military Affairs and the Senate Interim Committee on Children and Youth  
34 within thirty (30) days after receiving an inspection report prepared by the  
35 Department of Health.

36 (2) In the event the General Assembly is in session, the

1 ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Human Services shall provide the  
2 response to the House Committee on Aging, Children and Youth, Legislative and  
3 Military Affairs and the Chair of the Senate Committee on Children and Youth.

4 (3) The response shall include a plan of correction and suggest  
5 a means by which the Department of Human Services or the division will  
6 correct any deficiencies within thirty (30) days of the filing of the report  
7 or within the time frame determined by the Department of Health to ensure the  
8 health and safety of the juveniles housed at the facility.

9  
10 SECTION 5138. Arkansas Code § 9-28-301(g)(4), concerning the  
11 inspections, timing, report, and audit of juvenile detention facilities  
12 operated by the Division of Youth Services by the Director of the Department  
13 of Human Services, is amended to read as follows:

14 (4) In the event the General Assembly is in session, the  
15 ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Human Services shall provide the  
16 report to the House Committee on Aging, Children and Youth, Legislative and  
17 Military Affairs and the Chair of the Senate Committee on Children and Youth.

18  
19 SECTION 5139. Arkansas Code § 9-28-301(h), concerning the inspections,  
20 timing, report, and audit of juvenile detention facilities operated by the  
21 Division of Youth Services by the Director of the Department of Human  
22 Services, is amended to read as follows:

23 (h) The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Human Services shall  
24 be required to close any facility when deficiencies are deemed by the  
25 Department of Health to be a danger to the health or safety of juveniles  
26 housed at such a facility.

27  
28 SECTION 5140. Arkansas Code § 9-28-302(f)(1) and (2), concerning  
29 security inspections of juvenile detention facilities operated by the  
30 Division of Youth Services, are amended to read as follows:

31 (f)(1) The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Human Services or  
32 the division shall file the report, along with a response not to exceed two  
33 (2) pages, to the House Committee on Aging, Children and Youth, Legislative  
34 and Military Affairs and the Senate Interim Committee on Children and Youth  
35 within thirty (30) days of receiving an inspection report prepared by the  
36 Department of Correction.

1 (2) In the event the General Assembly is in session, the  
2 ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Human Services shall provide the  
3 response to the House Committee on Aging, Children and Youth, Legislative and  
4 Military Affairs and the Chair of the Senate Committee on Children and Youth.  
5

6 SECTION 5141. Arkansas Code § 9-28-302(g)(3)(B), concerning security  
7 inspections of juvenile detention facilities operated by the Division of  
8 Youth Services, is amended to read as follows:

9 (B) In the event the General Assembly is in session, the  
10 ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Human Services shall provide the  
11 report to the House Committee on Aging, Children and Youth, Legislative and  
12 Military Affairs and the Chair of the Senate Committee on Children and Youth.  
13

14 SECTION 5142. Arkansas Code § 9-28-302(h), concerning security  
15 inspections of juvenile detention facilities operated by the Division of  
16 Youth Services, is amended to read as follows:

17 (h) The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Human Services shall  
18 be required to close any facility when deficiencies are deemed by the  
19 Department of ~~Correction~~ Corrections to be a danger to the health or safety  
20 of juveniles housed at such facility.  
21

22 SECTION 5143. Arkansas Code § 9-28-404(a)(1), concerning the  
23 composition of the Child Welfare Agency Review Board, is amended to read as  
24 follows:

25 (1) The director of the division within the Department of Human  
26 Services designated by the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Human  
27 Services to administer this subchapter or his or her designee;  
28

29 SECTION 5144. Arkansas Code § 9-28-1201(b)(2)(C), concerning the  
30 creation and membership of the Youth Justice Reform Board, is amended to read  
31 as follows:

32 (C) Representatives from the ~~Department of Education~~  
33 Division of Elementary and Secondary Education, ~~Department~~ Division of  
34 Workforce Services, the Division of Children and Family Services of the  
35 Department of Human Services, and the Division of Aging, Adult, and  
36 Behavioral Health Services of the Department of Human Services;

1  
2 SECTION 5145. Arkansas Code § 9-29-204 is amended to read as follows:  
3 9-29-204. ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Human Services to  
4 determine when to discharge child.

5 As used in paragraph (a) of Article V of the Interstate Compact on the  
6 Placement of Children, the phrase "appropriate authority in the receiving  
7 state" with reference to this state means the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the  
8 Department of Human Services.

9  
10 SECTION 5146. Arkansas Code § 9-29-205 is amended to read as follows:  
11 9-29-205. Agreements with other states pursuant to the compact.

12 The officers and agencies of this state and its subdivisions having  
13 authority to place children are empowered to enter into agreements with  
14 appropriate officers or agencies of or in other party states ~~pursuant to~~  
15 under paragraph (b) of Article V of the Interstate Compact on the Placement  
16 of Children. Any such agreement which contains a financial commitment or  
17 imposes a financial obligation on this state or subdivision, or agency  
18 thereof shall not be binding unless it has the approval in writing of the  
19 ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Human Services in the case of the  
20 state and of the chief local fiscal officer in the case of a subdivision of  
21 the state.

22  
23 SECTION 5147. Arkansas Code § 9-31-201(3), concerning the definition  
24 of "director" under the assessment, diagnosis, evaluation, placement, and  
25 treatment services program, is repealed.

26 ~~(3) "Director" means the Director of the Department of Human~~  
27 ~~Services.~~

28  
29 SECTION 5148. Arkansas Code § 9-31-202(1)(B), concerning the  
30 objectives and duties of the ADEPT program, is amended to read as follows:

31 (B) The target population to be served by this type of  
32 program shall be defined by the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Human  
33 Services;

34  
35 SECTION 5149. Arkansas Code § 9-31-202(12)-(14), concerning the  
36 objectives and duties of the ADEPT program, are amended to read as follows:

1 (12) Submit monthly reports to the ~~director~~ secretary that  
2 include intake, closure, and follow-up data;

3 (13) Provide quarterly reports to the ~~director~~ secretary and to  
4 the Bureau of Legislative Research; and

5 (14) Submit an annual report to the ~~director~~ secretary and to  
6 the bureau summarizing the monthly reports and additional information,  
7 including, but not limited to, the types of problems identified, treatment  
8 services provided, and any identifiable service future needs.

9  
10 SECTION 5150. Arkansas Code § 9-32-206(a) and (b), concerning the  
11 provision of information and assistance from the divisions within the  
12 Department of Human Services, are amended to read as follows:

13 (a) The Division of Youth Services of the Department of Human  
14 Services, the Division of Aging, Adult, and Behavioral Health Services of the  
15 Department of Human Services, and the Division of Children and Family  
16 Services of the Department of Human Services shall make available to the  
17 Senate Interim Committee on Children and Youth a list of all reports the unit  
18 submits to the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Human Services.

19 (b) Under the direction of the ~~director~~ secretary, the Division of  
20 Youth Services, the Division of Aging, Adult, and Behavioral Health Services,  
21 and the Division of Children and Family Services shall work cooperatively  
22 with and provide any necessary assistance to the Senate Interim Committee on  
23 Children and Youth.

24  
25 SECTION 5151. Arkansas Code § 10-3-2802(b)(4), concerning the creation  
26 of the Interagency Task Force for the Implementation of Criminal Justice  
27 Prevention Initiatives, is amended to read as follows:

28 (4) One (1) member appointed by the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the  
29 Department of Human Services who represents the Division of Aging, Adult, and  
30 Behavioral Health Services of the Department of Human Services;

31  
32 SECTION 5152. Arkansas Code § 10-3-2802(b)(7) and (8), concerning the  
33 creation of the Interagency Task Force for the Implementation of Criminal  
34 Justice Prevention Initiatives, are amended to read as follows:

35 (7) The Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of Correction or his  
36 or her designee;

1 (8) The Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of Community  
2 Correction or his or her designee; and  
3

4 SECTION 5153. Arkansas Code § 10-3-2802(d)(2), concerning the creation  
5 of the Interagency Task Force for the Implementation of Criminal Justice  
6 Prevention Initiatives, is amended to read as follows:

7 (2) To review performance and outcome measure reports submitted  
8 semiannually by the ~~Department~~ Division of Correction, ~~Department~~ Division of  
9 Community Correction, Parole Board, Board of Corrections, Arkansas Sentencing  
10 Commission, and Specialty Court Program Advisory Committee under this act and  
11 evaluate the impact;  
12

13 SECTION 5154. Arkansas Code § 10-3-2901(b)(7), concerning the creation  
14 of the Specialty Court Program Advisory Committee, is amended to read as  
15 follows:

16 (7) The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Human Services  
17 or the ~~director's~~ secretary's designee;  
18

19 SECTION 5155. Arkansas Code § 12-12-1719 is amended to read as  
20 follows:

21 12-12-1719. Delegation of authority.

22 The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Human Services may assign  
23 responsibilities for administering the various duties imposed upon the  
24 Department of Human Services under this subchapter to respective divisions of  
25 the department that in the ~~director's~~ secretary's opinion are best able to  
26 render service or administer the provisions of this subchapter.  
27

28 SECTION 5156. Arkansas Code § 12-12-1723 is amended to read as  
29 follows:

30 12-12-1723. Rules.

31 The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Human Services may adopt  
32 rules to implement this subchapter.  
33

34 SECTION 5157. Arkansas Code § 12-18-106(b), concerning cooperative  
35 agreements initiated by the Department of Human Services and the Department  
36 of Arkansas State Police, is amended to read as follows:

1 (b) The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Human Services may  
2 enter into cooperative agreements with other states to create a national  
3 child maltreatment registration system.  
4

5 SECTION 5158. Arkansas Code § 12-18-908(f), concerning the removal of  
6 a name from the Child Maltreatment Central Registry, is amended to read as  
7 follows:

8 (f) The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Human Services shall  
9 adopt rules necessary to carry out this chapter pursuant to the Arkansas  
10 Administrative Procedure Act, § 25-15-201 et seq., except that the ~~director~~  
11 secretary shall not begin the process under the Arkansas Administrative  
12 Procedure Act, § 25-15-201 et seq., until the proposed rules have been  
13 reviewed by the House Committee on Aging, Children and Youth, Legislative and  
14 Military Affairs and the Senate Interim Committee on Children and Youth.  
15

16 SECTION 5159. Arkansas Code § 16-87-216(c)(13)(B)(i), concerning the  
17 Juvenile Ombudsman Division of the Arkansas Public Defender Commission, is  
18 amended to read as follows:

19 (i) The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of  
20 Human Services and the Director of the Division of Youth Services of the  
21 Department of Human Services;  
22

23 SECTION 5160. Arkansas Code § 19-5-306(6)(A), concerning the  
24 Department of Human Services Administration Fund Account, is amended to read  
25 as follows:

26 (A) The Department of Human Services Administration Fund  
27 Account shall be used for the maintenance, operation, and improvement  
28 required by the office of the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Human  
29 Services in carrying out the administrative duties and shared business  
30 services of the Department of Human Services as set out in and under the  
31 restrictions and provisions of § 20-46-301 and § 25-10-101 et seq.  
32

33 SECTION 5161. Arkansas Code § 19-5-306(9)(B)(iv), concerning the  
34 Department of Human Services Fund, is amended to read as follows:

35 (iv) Funds received from the ~~Department of Education~~  
36 Division of Elementary and Secondary Education for surplus commodities; and

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SECTION 5162. Arkansas Code § 19-5-953(b) and (c), concerning the Long-Term Care Trust Fund, are amended to read as follows:

(b) The Long-Term Care Trust Fund shall consist of all moneys and interest received from the imposition of civil penalties levied by the state on long-term care facilities found to be out of compliance with the requirements of federal or state law or regulations, there to be administered by the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Human Services solely for the protection of the health or property of residents of long-term care facilities, including, but not limited to, the payment for the costs of relocation of residents to other facilities, maintenance and operation of a facility pending correction of deficiencies or closure, and reimbursement of residents for personal funds lost.

(c) Funds from the Long-term Care Trust Fund may also be administered by the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Human Services for programs or uses that, in the determination of the Director of the Office of Long-Term Care, enhance the quality of life for long-term care facility residents through the adoption of principles and building designs established by the Eden Alternative, Inc., or Green House Project programs or other means.

SECTION 5163. Arkansas Code § 19-5-1020(d), concerning the Department of Human Services Renovation Fund, is amended to read as follows:

(d)(1) At the request of the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Human Services and upon certification of the availability of such funds, the Chief Fiscal Officer of the State shall initiate the necessary transfer documents to reflect the transfer on the books of record of the Treasurer of State, the Auditor of State, the Chief Fiscal Officer of the State, and the department.

(2) The ~~director~~ secretary shall submit any transfer plan to and must receive approval of the plan from the Chief Fiscal Officer of the State, the Governor, and the Legislative Council prior to the effective date of the transfer.

SECTION 5164. Arkansas Code § 19-5-1047(d)(2), concerning definitions under the Arkansas Medicaid Rebate Program Revolving Fund Act of 1991, is amended to read as follows:

1 (2) Any moneys accruing to the department through these rebates  
2 shall be deposited into the State Treasury as nonrevenue receipts to be  
3 credited to the fund and transferred by the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the  
4 Department of Human Services to the Department of Human Services Medicaid  
5 Paying Accounts Account to be used solely for paying pharmacy claims in the  
6 Arkansas Medicaid Drug Rebate Program.

7  
8 SECTION 5165. Arkansas Code § 19-5-1077(b), concerning the Client  
9 Specific Emergency Services Revolving Fund Paying Account of the Office of  
10 Finance and Administration, is amended to read as follows:

11 (b) The account shall be established and maintained in accordance with  
12 procedures established by the Chief Fiscal Officer of the State for cash  
13 funds and shall be administered under the direction of the ~~Director~~ Secretary  
14 of the Department of Human Services.

15  
16 SECTION 5166. Arkansas Code § 19-7-606 is amended to read as follows:

17 19-7-606. Transfer of reimbursements.

18 The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Human Services is  
19 authorized to transfer from the Department of Human Services federal funds as  
20 designated by the Chief Fiscal Officer of the State to the appropriate state  
21 fund account those federal funds recovered as reimbursement for indirect  
22 costs which are not required to be transferred to the Constitutional Officers  
23 Fund or State Central Services Fund pursuant to this subchapter.

24  
25 SECTION 5167. Arkansas Code § 19-7-701(a) and (b), concerning contract  
26 services and advance payment, are amended to read as follows:

27 (a) In order to provide effective purchased services to the needy  
28 citizens of Arkansas, the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Human  
29 Services is authorized to pay one-twelfth (1/12) of the total amount of a  
30 Title XX contract to the service provider on the effective date of the  
31 contract. The amount of the advance payment shall be adjusted out of the  
32 reimbursement actually earned by the provider during the contract period.

33 (b) This section will be used only after the ~~director~~ secretary has  
34 conducted a study of the financial condition of the contracting agency to  
35 determine if an advance payment is necessary. If the advance is necessary,  
36 the ~~director~~ secretary shall forward his or her request and the reasons

1 therefor to the Chief Fiscal Officer of the State for approval.

2  
3 SECTION 5168. Arkansas Code § 19-7-703(a), concerning loan provisions  
4 for the Department of Human Services, is amended to read as follows:

5 (a) It is found and determined that the continued operations of the  
6 Title XX Services Program of the Department of Human Services, in accordance  
7 with the approved annual operations plan, are, from time to time, seriously  
8 impaired by either administrative oversights and delays by the United States  
9 Office of Grants Management or by the processes of federal fiscal year  
10 conversion. It is further found and determined that such delays in the proper  
11 preparation and transmittal of federal grant award authorizations and letter  
12 of credit instruments have created unnecessary hardships on the providers of  
13 services and the needy citizens of this state. Therefore, upon certification  
14 of the pending availability of federal funding by the ~~Director~~ Secretary of  
15 the Department of Human Services, the Chief Fiscal Officer of the State may  
16 grant temporary advances, the maximum amount not to exceed five million  
17 dollars (\$5,000,000), from the Budget Stabilization Trust Fund to the  
18 appropriate account of the Department of Human Services so affected by such  
19 delays.

20  
21 SECTION 5169. Arkansas Code § 19-7-705 is amended to read as follows:  
22 19-7-705. Use of funds.

23 The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Human Services is  
24 authorized to use funds earned through service fees, audit settlements, or  
25 federal program settlements for operation of the Title XX service program.  
26 Any unanticipated federal funding received under this provision will be  
27 handled in accordance with the terms of the Miscellaneous Federal Grant Act,  
28 § 19-7-501 et seq.

29  
30 SECTION 5170. Arkansas Code § 19-7-706(a)(1), concerning the transfer  
31 of funds and appropriations, is amended to read as follows:

32 (a)(1) The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Human Services, in  
33 accordance with rules established by the Chief Fiscal Officer of the State,  
34 shall have the authority to transfer funds and appropriations from the  
35 appropriate division of the Department of Human Services to the various  
36 agencies of the department which receive allotments of Title XX funds. These

1 transfers shall be limited to the allotment of funds available to each agency  
2 within the department.

3  
4 SECTION 5171. Arkansas Code § 19-7-706(b), concerning the transfer of  
5 funds and appropriations, is amended to read as follows:

6 (b) The Chief Fiscal Officer of the State and the ~~director~~ secretary  
7 shall cooperate to establish such fund accounts for deposit and disbursement  
8 of federal and local Title XX funds as are necessary for the orderly  
9 operation of a Title XX services program. The Chief Fiscal Officer of the  
10 State and the ~~director~~ secretary shall establish procedures for the transfers  
11 of funds necessary to make reimbursement to providers or to agency fund  
12 accounts in payment for eligible services. These procedures will include  
13 provision for use of state matching funds where appropriated by law.

14  
15 SECTION 5172. Arkansas Code § 20-3-104(b), concerning the creation of  
16 the Achieving a Better Life Experience Program Trust, is amended to read as  
17 follows:

18 (b) The cotrustees of the trust shall be the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the  
19 Department of Human Services, the Director of Arkansas Rehabilitation  
20 Services, and the Treasurer of State.

21  
22 SECTION 5173. Arkansas Code § 20-3-105(a)(1) and (2), concerning the  
23 administration, authority, and powers of the Achieving a Better Life  
24 Experience Program Committee, are amended to read as follows:

25 (1) The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Human Services,  
26 or his or her designee;

27 (2) The Director of Arkansas Rehabilitation Services of the  
28 ~~Department of Career Education~~ Division of Workforce Services, or his or her  
29 designee; and

30  
31 SECTION 5174. Arkansas Code § 20-9-221(b)(1) and (2), concerning  
32 confidential information received by the Department of Health, are amended to  
33 read as follows:

34 (b)(1) However, in the case of a specific written request by the  
35 deputy director of the appropriate division as determined by the ~~Director~~  
36 Secretary of the Department of Human Services for information concerning a

1 certain nursing home, information obtained during recent inspections of the  
2 home may be supplied in writing to the deputy director.

3 (2) This exception applies only to homes providing care for  
4 recipients of public welfare and is not to be construed as permitting the  
5 exchange of such information on all homes in the state but is specifically  
6 limited to those for which the deputy director of the appropriate division as  
7 determined by the ~~director~~ secretary has specific complaints.

8  
9 SECTION 5175. Arkansas Code § 20-10-101(6), concerning the definition  
10 of "director" under the laws governing long term care facilities and  
11 services, is repealed.

12 ~~(6) "Director" means the Director of the Department of Human~~  
13 ~~Services;~~

14  
15 SECTION 5176. Arkansas Code § 20-10-101(7), concerning the definition  
16 of "division" under the laws governing long term care facilities and  
17 services, is amended to read as follows:

18 (7) "Division" means the appropriate division as determined by  
19 the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Human Services;

20  
21 SECTION 5177. Arkansas Code § 20-10-202 is amended to read as follows:  
22 20-10-202. Creation.

23 There is created an Office of Long-Term Care within the appropriate  
24 division as determined by the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Human  
25 Services. The head of the office shall be appointed by the ~~director~~ Secretary  
26 of the Department of Human Services.

27  
28 SECTION 5178. Arkansas Code § 20-10-204(b)(2)(D), concerning notice of  
29 violation for a long-term care facility, is amended to read as follows:

30 (D) Amount of civil penalty or other administrative  
31 remedy, if any, imposed by the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Human  
32 Services; and

33  
34 SECTION 5179. Arkansas Code § 20-10-207(a), concerning the  
35 notification to media of violations by a long-term care facility, is amended  
36 to read as follows:

1 (a) When the Office of Long-Term Care's appropriate division, as  
2 determined by the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Human Services,  
3 finds, upon inspection and investigation, that any nursing home or  
4 residential care facility has committed two (2) violations constituting Class  
5 A or Class B violations as ~~defined~~ set out in § 20-10-205 during any twelve-  
6 month period, the office shall notify the various news media within the  
7 county wherein the nursing home or residential care facility is located and  
8 shall advise the media that a complete record of the inspection and  
9 investigation will be available for public inspection at the office.

10  
11 SECTION 5180. Arkansas Code § 20-10-208(a) and (b), concerning  
12 hearings of the Department of Human Services, are amended to read as follows:

13 (a)(1) A licensee may contest an assessment of a civil penalty or any  
14 administrative remedy imposed by the Office of Long-Term Care by sending a  
15 written request for a hearing to the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of  
16 Human Services.

17 (2) Requests for hearings shall be received by the ~~Director~~  
18 Secretary of the Department of Human Services within sixty (60) days after  
19 receipt by the licensee of the notice of violation and the assessment of any  
20 civil penalty or any administrative remedy imposed by the office.

21 (b)(1) The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Human Services  
22 shall assign the appeal to a fair and impartial hearing officer who shall not  
23 be a full-time employee of the Department of Human Services.

24 (2) The hearing officer shall preside over the hearing and make  
25 findings of fact and conclusions of law in the form of a recommendation to  
26 the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Human Services.

27 (3) The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Human Services  
28 shall review any recommendation and make the final decision. He or she:

29 (A) May approve the recommendation; or

30 (B) May for good cause:

31 (i) Modify the recommendation in whole or in part;

32 or

33 (ii)(a) Remand the recommendation for further  
34 proceedings as directed by him or her.

35 (b) If the recommendation is remanded, the  
36 hearing officer shall conduct further proceedings as directed by the ~~Director~~

1 Secretary of the Department of Human Services and shall submit an amended  
2 recommendation to the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Human Services.

3 (4) If the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Human  
4 Services modifies a recommendation, in whole or in part, or if the ~~Director~~  
5 Secretary of the Department of Human Services remands the decision, he or she  
6 shall state in writing at the time of the remand or modification all grounds  
7 for the remand or modification, including statutory, regulatory, factual, or  
8 other grounds.

9 (5) The modification or approval of a recommendation by the  
10 ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Human Services shall be the final  
11 agency action as provided by the Arkansas Administrative Procedure Act, § 25-  
12 15-201 et seq.

13

14 SECTION 5181. Arkansas Code § 20-10-208(c)(3), concerning hearings of  
15 the Department of Human Services, is amended to read as follows:

16 (3) Unless the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Human  
17 Services acts on the recommendation of the hearing officer within sixty (60)  
18 days of receipt of the recommendation, the recommendation of the hearing  
19 officer shall be final.

20

21 SECTION 5182. Arkansas Code § 20-10-208(d), concerning hearings of the  
22 Department of Human Services, is amended to read as follows:

23 (d) Except to the extent that it is inconsistent with federal law or  
24 regulation, a written request for a hearing shall stay until denied by the  
25 ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Human Services any enforcement action  
26 imposed by the office pending the hearing and the final decision of the  
27 ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Human Services.

28

29 SECTION 5183. Arkansas Code § 20-10-209 is amended to read as follows:  
30 20-10-209. Disposition of funds.

31 (a)(1) There is established on the books of the Treasurer of State,  
32 Auditor of State, and the Chief Fiscal Officer of the State a trust fund to  
33 be known as the "Long-Term Care Trust Fund".

34 (2) The fund shall consist of all moneys and interest received  
35 from the imposition of civil penalties levied by the state on long-term care  
36 facilities found to be out of compliance with the requirements of federal or

1 state law or regulations, there to be administered by the ~~Director~~ Secretary  
2 of the Department of Human Services solely for the protection of the health  
3 or property of residents of long-term care facilities, including, but not  
4 limited to, the payment for the costs of relocation of residents to other  
5 facilities, maintenance and operation of a facility pending correction of  
6 deficiencies or closure, and reimbursement of residents for personal funds  
7 lost.

8 (b) Funds from the Long-Term Care Trust Fund may also be administered  
9 by the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Human Services for programs or  
10 uses that, in the determination of the Director of the Office of Long-Term  
11 Care, enhance the quality of life for long-term care facility residents  
12 through the adoption of principles and building designs established by the  
13 Eden Alternative, Inc. or Green House Project programs or other means.  
14

15 SECTION 5184. Arkansas Code § 20-10-905(d), concerning a petition for  
16 receivership, is amended to read as follows:

17 (d) The complaint and notice of hearing shall be served on the owner  
18 and administrator or licensee of the facility. In cases when the department  
19 is not the plaintiff in the action, a copy of the complaint and notice shall  
20 be forwarded by mail to the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Human  
21 Services by the plaintiff.  
22

23 SECTION 5185. Arkansas Code § 20-10-916(b), concerning the Long-Term  
24 Care Facility Receivership Fund Account, is amended to read as follows:

25 (b) The fund account established in this section shall be administered  
26 and disbursed under the direction of the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department  
27 of Human Services for the purpose of paying the expenses of receivers  
28 appointed under this subchapter.  
29

30 SECTION 5186. Arkansas Code § 20-10-1004(c)(1), concerning prohibiting  
31 new admissions to long-term care facilities, hearings, and appeals, is  
32 amended to read as follows:

33 (c)(1) The facility may request an immediate hearing by written  
34 request to the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Human Services.  
35

36 SECTION 5187. Arkansas Code § 20-10-1409(b)(1), concerning the

1 staffing standards of the Office of Long-Term Care, is amended to read as  
2 follows:

3 (b)(1) If the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Human Services  
4 determines that the reimbursement methodology or available funding is  
5 insufficient or unable to pay for the minimum staffing standards under § 20-  
6 10-1403, the office, by regulation, may modify the requirements of § 20-10-  
7 1403 to ensure minimum staffing funds.

8

9 SECTION 5188. Arkansas Code § 20-10-1409(c)(1)(A), concerning the  
10 staffing standards of the Office of Long-Term Care, is amended to read as  
11 follows:

12 (c)(1)(A) If the Director of the Office of Long-Term Care determines  
13 that minimum staffing standards should be increased pursuant to subdivision  
14 (b)(2) of this section, the Director of the Office of Long-Term Care shall  
15 certify the determination and any proposed regulatory increases to minimum  
16 staffing standards to the Director of the Division of Medical Services of the  
17 Department of Human Services, who shall notify the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the  
18 Department of Human Services and the Legislative Council of the determination  
19 and whether sufficient appropriated funds exist to fund the costs to be  
20 incurred by the proposed changes to the minimum staffing standards.

21

22 SECTION 5189. Arkansas Code § 20-10-2106 is amended to read as  
23 follows:

24 20-10-2106. Rules.

25 The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Human Services shall adopt  
26 rules necessary to implement and administer this subchapter, including  
27 without limitation:

28 (1) Procedures for a long-term care facility to notify the  
29 Office of Long-Term Care of admissions; and

30 (2)(A) Procedures by which a person in a long-term care facility  
31 may decline options counseling for long-term care.

32 (B)(i) These procedures shall include a form promulgated  
33 by the Department of Human Services for use by a long-term care facility.

34 (ii) The form shall be limited to one (1) page and  
35 shall:

36 (a) Be orally read to the resident or, if

1 applicable, the resident's representative by long-term care facility staff  
2 except as provided in this subdivision (2)(B)(ii);

3 (b) List the date;

4 (c) State the name of the resident or, if  
5 applicable, the resident's representative;

6 (d) Contain checkboxes indicating that:

7 (1) The office was notified of the  
8 admission;

9 (2) The form was not read orally to the  
10 resident or resident's representative because the resident lacks decisional  
11 capacity and does not have a representative; and

12 (3) The resident or the resident's  
13 representative declined the options counseling for long-term care;

14 (e) Contain a statement and an acknowledgment  
15 that options counseling for long-term care is an optional program and may be  
16 declined by execution of the form;

17 (f) Be signed by the resident or, if  
18 applicable, the resident's representative; and

19 (g) Be retained by the long-term care facility  
20 in the resident's admission file for eighteen (18) months or until the next  
21 standard survey, whichever is longer.

22  
23 SECTION 5190. Arkansas Code § 20-22-404 is amended to read as follows:

24 20-22-404. Rules and regulations adopted by Office of Long-Term Care.

25 The Office of Long-Term Care of the appropriate division as determined  
26 by the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Human Services may adopt  
27 appropriate rules and regulations to carry out the purpose and intent of this  
28 subchapter.

29  
30 SECTION 5191. Arkansas Code § 20-46-105(d), concerning reports on  
31 emotionally disturbed youth by the Department of Human Services, is amended  
32 to read as follows:

33 (d) The deputy director of the appropriate division of the department  
34 as determined by the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Human Services  
35 shall certify by his or her signature that the information contained in these  
36 reports is correct to the best of his or her knowledge.

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SECTION 5192. Arkansas Code § 20-46-301(a)-(c), concerning the powers and duties of the Division of Aging, Adult, and Behavioral Health Services of the Department of Human Services, are amended to read as follows:

(a) The Department of Human Services shall have the authority and power to create and maintain the Division of Aging, Adult, and Behavioral Health Services of the Department of Human Services and to provide services for community mental health clinics and centers, which shall be administered through such divisions, offices, sections, or units of the Department Human Services as may be determined by the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Human Services.

(b) The Department of Human Services shall have the authority to establish or assist in the establishment and direction of those mental health clinics and centers in local and regional areas of the state which shall be operated under such divisions, offices, sections, or units of the Department Human Services as may be determined by the ~~director~~ secretary.

(c) The Department of Human Services, in cooperation with the Building Authority Division ~~of the Department of Finance and Administration~~, may sell, donate, lease on a short-term or long-term basis, or assign the use of any property and equipment owned by the Department of Human Services, including real property, furniture, fixtures, and office equipment and supplies, to those community mental health clinics and centers to assist them in the advancement of mental health in the state.

SECTION 5193. Arkansas Code § 20-46-301(e)(2), concerning the powers and duties of the Division of Aging, Adult, and Behavioral Health Services of the Department of Human Services, are amended to read as follows:

(2) The ~~director~~ secretary shall have the authority to negotiate an employee leasing arrangement with the private nonprofit community mental health center as an ongoing contract to perform mental health services for the center. The arrangement shall provide, at a minimum:

(A) For reimbursement for all leased Division of Aging, Adult, and Behavioral Health Services of the Department of Human Services employee financial obligations with respect to wages, employment taxes, and employee benefits of each employee providing services for the center and for reimbursement of administrative costs associated with the leased employees;

1 (B) That all leased employees are covered by workers'  
2 compensation insurance provided in conformance with laws of the state and  
3 which may be provided by either the Department of Human Services or the  
4 center;

5 (C) That all leased employees shall be limited to  
6 providing services to clients or in support of clients which are consistent  
7 with the goals and objectives of the Division of Aging, Adult, and Behavioral  
8 Health Services of the Department of Human Services and the Department of  
9 Human Services;

10 (D) That the Division of Aging, Adult, and Behavioral  
11 Health Services of the Department of Human Services and the Department of  
12 Human Services shall not be vicariously liable for the liabilities of the  
13 center, whether contractual or otherwise;

14 (E) That the center shall provide liability insurance for  
15 the employees and indemnify the state for any actions of the employees; and

16 (F) That the leasing arrangement shall not be effective  
17 for a period of time to exceed each state fiscal biennium and that payment  
18 and performance obligations of the arrangement are subject to the  
19 availability and appropriation of funds for the employees' salaries and other  
20 benefits.

21  
22 SECTION 5194. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 20-46-303,  
23 concerning the standards for community mental health clinics, is amended to  
24 read as follows:

25 In approving or rejecting community mental health clinics for the  
26 purpose of mental health services, the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department  
27 of Human Services shall consider the following factors:

28  
29 SECTION 5195. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 20-46-309,  
30 concerning the composition and qualifications of staff and boards at  
31 community mental health centers, is amended to read as follows:

32 The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Human Services shall  
33 require the following as to the composition and professional qualifications  
34 of the clinic or center staff and control and direction of the clinic or  
35 center:

36

1 SECTION 5196. Arkansas Code § 20-46-310 is amended to read as follows:  
2 20-46-310. Duty to provide screenings and evaluation studies.  
3 Mental health centers in this state, whether local or regional, which  
4 have been approved by the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Human  
5 Services shall provide, upon request of the courts of record in this state,  
6 screening and evaluation studies of such persons as shall be referred to the  
7 mental health center or clinic by the court.

8

9 SECTION 5197. Arkansas Code § 20-46-601(b), concerning the tracking  
10 and treatment of persons suffering from mental illness and substance abuse,  
11 is amended to read as follows:

12 (b) For purposes of this section, "client" means a person diagnosed to  
13 be addicted to drugs or alcohol who has been committed to the custody of the  
14 ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Human Services pursuant to § 5-2-314  
15 as a result of acquittal, on the ground of mental disease or defect, of an  
16 offense involving bodily injury to another person or serious risk of such  
17 injury.

18

19 SECTION 5198. Arkansas Code § 20-46-702(a)(3), concerning the  
20 definition of "director" under the laws governing the Department of Human  
21 Services, is repealed.

22 ~~(3) "Director" means the Director of the Department of Human~~  
23 ~~Services or his or her designee;~~

24

25 SECTION 5199. Arkansas Code § 20-46-703(d), concerning surveys of  
26 program providers for the Department of Human Services, is amended to read as  
27 follows:

28 (d) The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Human Services shall  
29 ensure that the department complies with the Arkansas Administrative  
30 Procedure Act, § 25-15-201 et seq., and with § 20-77-107 in regard to all  
31 surveys of program providers.

32

33 SECTION 5200. Arkansas Code § 20-47-505(a)(2), concerning the Child  
34 and Adolescent Service System Program Coordinating Council, is amended to  
35 read as follows:

36 (2) The council shall include the following persons to be

1 selected and appointed by the Commissioner of Elementary and Secondary  
2 Education and the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Human Services:

3 (A) At least three (3) parents, parent surrogates, or  
4 family members of a child or children with emotional disturbance;

5 (B) A member of an ethnic minority;

6 (C) A child advocate;

7 (D) Child and Adolescent Service System Program  
8 coordinators from each of the certified community mental health centers;

9 (E)(i) One (1) or more representatives from specific  
10 divisions or agencies in the Department of Human Services and the Department  
11 of Education.

12 (ii) Each representative shall have official duties  
13 related to the delivery of behavioral health services for children and  
14 adolescents with emotional disturbances.

15 (iii) Specific designations of membership of the  
16 council shall be determined through interdepartmental and intradepartmental  
17 agreements that will be renewed on an annual basis; and

18 (F)(i) At least seven (7) representatives from private or  
19 public agencies or organizations that are stakeholders in behavioral health  
20 services for children and adolescents with emotional disturbances.

21 (ii) The commissioner and the ~~director~~ secretary  
22 shall jointly appoint an appropriate number of stakeholders.

23  
24 SECTION 5201. Arkansas Code § 20-47-505(b)(1), concerning the Child  
25 and Adolescent Service System Program Coordinating Council, is amended to  
26 read as follows:

27 (1) Advise and report to the commissioner and the ~~director~~  
28 secretary on matters of policy and programs related to children with  
29 emotional disturbances and their families;

30  
31 SECTION 5202. Arkansas Code § 20-47-505(b)(6) and (7), concerning the  
32 Child and Adolescent Service System Program Coordinating Council, are amended  
33 to read as follows:

34 (6) Submit a statewide plan and budget recommendations to the  
35 commissioner and the ~~director~~ secretary on or before March 15 of each even-  
36 numbered year thereafter preceding the legislative session;

1 (7) Develop and recommend special projects to the commissioner  
2 and the ~~director~~ secretary;

3  
4 SECTION 5203. Arkansas Code § 20-47-505(b)(10), concerning the Child  
5 and Adolescent Service System Program Coordinating Council, is amended to  
6 read as follows:

7 (10) Make recommendations for corrective action plans to the  
8 commissioner and the ~~director~~ secretary in the event that a regional program  
9 planning team does not produce a timely regional plan that meets a plan of  
10 care or fails to implement the approved regional plan.

11  
12 SECTION 5204. Arkansas Code § 20-47-507(d), concerning staff for the  
13 Child and Adolescent Service System Program Coordinating Council, is amended  
14 to read as follows:

15 (d) The division's council staff shall provide an annual report  
16 summarizing program regional and coordinating council activities, strategic  
17 plans, and outcomes to the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Human  
18 Services and the Commissioner of Elementary and Secondary Education each year  
19 on or before October 15.

20  
21 SECTION 5205. Arkansas Code § 20-48-202(5), concerning the definition  
22 of "director" under the Arkansas Intellectual Disabilities Act, is repealed.

23 ~~(5) "Director" means the Director of the Department of Human~~  
24 ~~Services;~~

25  
26 SECTION 5206. Arkansas Code § 20-48-202(6), concerning the definition  
27 of "division" under the Arkansas Intellectual Disabilities Act, is amended to  
28 read as follows:

29 (6) "Division" means the Division of Developmental Disabilities  
30 Services of the Department of Human Services or the appropriate division as  
31 determined by the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Human Services;

32  
33 SECTION 5207. Arkansas Code § 20-48-210 is amended to read as follows:  
34 Services.

35 20-48-210. Deputy Director of the Division of Developmental  
36 Disabilities Services.

1 (a) There is created the office of the Deputy Director of the Division  
2 of Developmental Disabilities Services of the Department of Human Services.  
3 The deputy director shall be appointed by ~~and shall serve at the pleasure of~~  
4 the Board of Developmental Disabilities Services in consultation with the  
5 Secretary of the Department of Human Services.

6 (b) The deputy director shall be a person of proven administrative  
7 ability and professional qualifications, preferably holding a Ph.D. or  
8 equivalent, but including at least a master's degree in psychology,  
9 education, social service, or other field of study approved by the board and  
10 shall have at least five (5) years' experience in intellectual disabilities  
11 services.

12 (c) The deputy director shall be the ~~executive secretary of the board~~  
13 Chair of the Board of Development Disabilities Services and shall maintain an  
14 official set of minutes of all board action.

15 (d) The deputy director shall be the executive officer of the Division  
16 of Developmental Disabilities Services and shall operate and manage the  
17 division, subject to the control of the board and in consultation with the  
18 Secretary of the Department of Human Services.

19 (e) The board may delegate to the deputy director any powers of the  
20 board upon such terms and for such duration as the board shall specify.  
21

22 SECTION 5208. Arkansas Code § 20-64-602(b)(4), concerning the powers  
23 and duties of the Division of Aging, Adult, and Behavioral Health Services of  
24 the Department of Human Services, is amended to read as follows:

25 (4) Serve in a liaison capacity between the state and local  
26 communities and the United States Government with respect to alcohol abuse  
27 and drug abuse programs and, subject to the approval of the ~~Director~~  
28 Secretary of the Department of Human Services, enter into agreements with and  
29 make commitments on behalf of the State of Arkansas to meet requirements for  
30 obtaining federal assistance or grants for partially financing alcohol abuse  
31 and drug abuse programs in the state;  
32

33 SECTION 5209. Arkansas Code § 20-64-602(b)(7), concerning the powers  
34 and duties of the Division of Aging, Adult, and Behavioral Health Services of  
35 the Department of Human Services, is amended to read as follows:

36 (7) Review, on a continuing basis, existing and proposed state

1 statutes relating to alcohol abuse and drug abuse education, prevention,  
2 intervention, treatment rehabilitation, and training and make appropriate  
3 recommendations for legislation to the ~~director~~ secretary and the General  
4 Assembly;

5  
6 SECTION 5210. Arkansas Code § 20-64-602(b)(9), concerning the powers  
7 and duties of the Division of Aging, Adult, and Behavioral Health Services of  
8 the Department of Human Services, is amended to read as follows:

9 (9) Review those budget items proposed by other state agencies which  
10 are intended for alcohol or drug abuse prevention, intervention, treatment,  
11 education, rehabilitation, and training services and make recommendations to  
12 the ~~director~~ secretary;

13  
14 SECTION 5211. Arkansas Code § 20-64-602(b)(15), concerning the powers  
15 and duties of the Division of Aging, Adult, and Behavioral Health Services of  
16 the Department of Human Services, is amended to read as follows:

17 (15) Prepare an annual report to coincide with appropriate federal  
18 reports to be submitted to the advisory council, the ~~director~~ secretary, and  
19 the Governor describing activities of the division and the accomplishments  
20 and effectiveness of its programs and also prepare special reports as deemed  
21 necessary for the advisory council to aid in the fulfillment of its advisory  
22 responsibilities;

23  
24 SECTION 5212. Arkansas Code § 20-64-602(b)(19), concerning the powers  
25 and duties of the Division of Aging, Adult, and Behavioral Health Services of  
26 the Department of Human Services, is amended to read as follows:

27 (19) Develop and promulgate standards, rules, and regulations for  
28 accrediting, certifying, and licensing alcohol and drug abuse prevention,  
29 treatment, and rehabilitation programs and facilities within the state, under  
30 the supervision and direction of the ~~director~~ secretary, provided that the  
31 standards, rules, and regulations shall not supersede standards, rules, and  
32 regulations promulgated by other state agencies for programs or facilities  
33 whose primary mission is not alcohol and drug abuse prevention, treatment,  
34 and rehabilitation;

35  
36 SECTION 5213. Arkansas Code § 20-64-603 is amended to read as follows:

1           20-64-603. ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Human Services –  
2 Administration of state plans.

3           The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Human Services shall be the  
4 single state authority and shall have primary responsibility for  
5 administering the state plan on alcohol abuse and alcoholism and the state  
6 plan on drug abuse prevention.

7  
8           SECTION 5214. Arkansas Code § 20-64-1001(a), concerning the Arkansas  
9 Drug Director, is amended to read as follows:

10           (a)(1) There is created within the Division of Aging, Adult, and  
11 Behavioral Health Services of the Department of Human Services ~~office of the~~  
12 ~~Governor~~ a position of Arkansas Drug Director, ~~who shall serve at the~~  
13 ~~pleasure of the Governor.~~

14           (2) ~~Effective at 12:01 a.m. on July 1, 2005, the position of~~  
15 ~~Arkansas Drug Director is transferred to the Division of Aging, Adult, and~~  
16 ~~Behavioral Health Services of the Department of Human Services~~ The Arkansas  
17 Drug Director shall be appointed by the Governor, and shall serve at the  
18 pleasure of the Governor.

19           (3) The Arkansas Drug Director shall report to the Secretary of  
20 the Department of Human Services.

21  
22           SECTION 5215. Arkansas Code § 20-64-1002(b)(1), concerning the  
23 Arkansas Alcohol and Drug Abuse Coordinating Council, is amended to read as  
24 follows:

25           (1) Thirteen (13) members of the coordinating council shall be  
26 administrative officers of the following agencies, or their appropriate  
27 designees, confirmed by gubernatorial appointment:

28           (A) The Arkansas Drug Director, who shall serve as Chair  
29 of the Arkansas Alcohol and Drug Abuse Coordinating Council;

30           (B) The Director of the Division of Aging, Adult, and  
31 Behavioral Health Services of the Department of Human Services;

32           (C) The Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of Arkansas  
33 State Police;

34           (D) The Commissioner of Elementary and Secondary  
35 Education;

36           (E) The Director of the Arkansas Department of

- 1 Transportation;
- 2 (F) The Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of Correction;
- 3 (G) The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance
- 4 and Administration;
- 5 (H) The Adjutant General of the Arkansas National Guard;
- 6 (I) The Attorney General;
- 7 (J) The ~~Executive~~ Director of the State Crime Laboratory;
- 8 (K) The Director of the Office of Alcohol Testing of the
- 9 Department of Health;
- 10 (L) The Director of the Administrative Office of the
- 11 Courts; and
- 12 (M) The Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of Community
- 13 Correction; and
- 14

15 SECTION 5216. Arkansas Code § 20-76-211 is amended to read as follows:

16 20-76-211. ~~Director's office~~ Secretary's Office of Department of Human

17 Services – Client Specific Emergency Services Revolving Fund Paying Account.

18 (a) The ~~Director's office~~ Secretary's Office the Department of Human

19 Services shall establish and maintain as a cash fund account the Client

20 Specific Emergency Services Revolving Fund Paying Account consisting of

21 federal grants, aids, cash donations, reimbursements, and state general

22 revenue, not to exceed a daily balance of ten thousand dollars (\$10,000), for

23 delivery of immediate care, short-term, or emergency services to eligible

24 clients.

25 (b) The account shall be established and maintained in accordance with

26 procedures established by the Chief Fiscal Officer of the State for cash

27 funds and shall be administered under the direction of the ~~Director~~ Secretary

28 of the Department of Human Services.

29

30 SECTION 5217. Arkansas Code § 20-76-422 is repealed.

31 ~~20-76-422. Aged, blind, and disabled Conversion from state to~~

32 ~~federal program.~~

33 ~~(a) The Director of the Department of Human Services is authorized to~~

34 ~~enter into agreements with the United States Secretary of Health and Human~~

35 ~~Services and other state agencies to effectuate an orderly and timely~~

36 ~~conversion from state to federal programs of cash assistance for the aged,~~

1 ~~blind, and disabled, as provided in Pub. L. No. 92-603, Title III, in such a~~  
2 ~~manner as would be expedient to both the United States Government and the~~  
3 ~~State of Arkansas.~~

4 ~~(b) The agreements may include the transfer of state funds to, and the~~  
5 ~~receipt of federal funds from, the secretary for the purposes of~~  
6 ~~supplementing the federal benefits to be paid to eligible persons, to~~  
7 ~~facilitate disability, blindness, and Medicaid eligibility determinations on~~  
8 ~~behalf of the state by the secretary, and to enable the state to perform~~  
9 ~~required administrative or program functions on behalf of the secretary under~~  
10 ~~which the secretary will advance federal funds for the payment of full-time~~  
11 ~~and part-time employees and their related supportive expenses as deemed~~  
12 ~~necessary by both the director and the secretary to carry out the conversion~~  
13 ~~plan.~~

14  
15 SECTION 5218. Arkansas Code § 20-77-102(d), concerning the program for  
16 long-term care facility care, is amended to read as follows:

17 (d) The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Human Services, with  
18 the approval of the Governor and after obtaining the advice of the  
19 Legislative Council, may provide for an expanded comprehensive program of  
20 long-term care facility care for residents of this state if he or she deems  
21 the program advisable or appropriate in order to take advantage of expanded  
22 federal programs or participation therein, within the limitation of funds  
23 that may be available to the department therefor.

24  
25 SECTION 5219. Arkansas Code § 20-77-107(b)-(d), concerning the rules  
26 and regulations for the program for indigent medical care, are amended to  
27 read as follows:

28 (b) The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Human Services is  
29 further authorized to enter into separate agreements with the University of  
30 Arkansas for Medical Sciences and private institutions in order to provide  
31 maximum medical care for the indigent persons of this state.

32 (c) The ~~director~~ secretary may enter into agreements with private or  
33 public entities to assist in the enforcement of rules and regulations of an  
34 indigent medical program, including:

- 35 (1) Utilization review; and  
36 (2) Professional review of providers participating in the

1 program.

2 (d)(1) The ~~director~~ secretary shall ensure that any entity with whom  
3 the department contracts to assist in the enforcement of rules and  
4 regulations of an indigent medical program will fulfill its duties in  
5 accordance with state and federal law and regulations.

6 (2) The ~~director~~ secretary may terminate any contractor who  
7 excessively burdens the State of Arkansas with the defense of appeals of  
8 sanctions or citations of deficiencies that are resolved in favor of the  
9 program provider.

10

11 SECTION 5220. Arkansas Code § 20-77-107(f), concerning the rules and  
12 regulations for the program for indigent medical care, is amended to read as  
13 follows:

14 (f) The ~~director~~ secretary shall ensure that the professional review  
15 of providers, except long-term care facilities and their reviewers,  
16 participating in the program comply with the following:

17 (1) The party conducting any professional reviews of providers  
18 participating in the program shall be knowledgeable in the specific areas of  
19 law and regulations being enforced;

20 (2)(A) Every citation or deficiency cited to a provider shall  
21 refer by source and number to the authority upon which the citation or  
22 deficiency is based.

23 (B) However, the requirement of subdivision (f)(2)(A) of  
24 this section does not limit the department and any entity with whom it  
25 contracts in the exercise and application of professional medical judgment in  
26 determining when and under what circumstances care is medically necessary;

27 (3) The professional review process shall include an informal  
28 dispute resolution process to allow the provider to challenge the citation or  
29 deficiency cited or sanction to a person other than the person making the  
30 citation as defined by the ~~director~~ secretary;

31 (4) The ~~director~~ secretary shall establish a system to ensure  
32 standard and consistent application of sanctions and citation or deficiencies  
33 among surveyors in different areas of the state; and

34 (5) The ~~director~~ secretary shall establish a process for program  
35 providers to appeal a decision of a reviewer pursuant to the Arkansas  
36 Administrative Procedure Act, § 25-15-201 et seq.

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SECTION 5221. Arkansas Code § 20-77-111(a), concerning data reports on the Arkansas Medicaid Program, is amended to read as follows:

(a) The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Human Services shall cause to be prepared a compilation of data on the Arkansas Medicaid Program.

SECTION 5222. Arkansas Code § 20-77-304(b)(1), concerning the notice of an action or claim, is amended to read as follows:

(b)(1) If the recipient, his or her guardian, personal representative, estate, or survivors bring an action against the third party who may be liable for injury, disease, or disability, then notice of institution of the legal proceedings and notice of settlement shall be given the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Human Services.

SECTION 5223. Arkansas Code § 20-77-402 is amended to read as follows:  
20-77-402. Continuation of program.

(a) The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Human Services and the deputy director of the appropriate division of the Department of Human Services are authorized to provide for continued coverage of prescription drugs under the Title XIX Medicaid Program for the State of Arkansas.

(b) The ~~director~~ secretary and deputy director are authorized to establish necessary program guidelines to control the provision of this service, provided that the guidelines are not in conflict with any federal or state law or regulation.

SECTION 5224. Arkansas Code § 20-77-403(a) and (b), concerning fees paid to participating pharmacists, are amended to read as follows:

(a) The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Human Services and the deputy director shall pay each participating pharmacist for each prescription filled under this program the pharmacist's usual and customary charge to the general public for the drug.

(b) However, until existing federal regulations limiting reimbursement for a drug to the lower of the pharmacist's usual and customary charge, or cost of the drug plus a reasonable dispensing fee, are modified or declared invalid by a court, the ~~director~~ secretary and the deputy director shall pay for each prescription, the lower of:

1 (1) The pharmacist's usual and customary charge to the general  
2 public for the drug; or

3 (2) The pharmacist's cost of the drug plus a dispensing fee. The  
4 fee will be adjusted annually on July 1 of each year by the percentage change  
5 in the Consumer Price Index, except that on any July 1 immediately following  
6 a subsequent cost of dispensing survey conducted by the appropriate division  
7 of the Department of Human Services, the fee will be adjusted using the  
8 formula used by the ~~director~~ secretary and the deputy director to determine  
9 the July 1, 1980, fee or other such formula as may be developed subsequently  
10 by the ~~director~~ secretary and the deputy director with the approval of the  
11 Legislative Council.

12  
13 SECTION 5225. Arkansas Code § 20-77-404 is amended to read as follows:

14 20-77-404. Approval from United States Department of Health and Human  
15 Services.

16 (a) The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Human Services and the  
17 deputy director are directed to seek approval by the United States Department  
18 of Health and Human Services of the provisions of this subchapter so as to  
19 qualify this program for maximum contributions from the United States  
20 Department of Health and Human Services under its regulations until those  
21 regulations are declared invalid or modified.

22 (b) If, and to the extent that, the United States Department of Health  
23 and Human Services hereafter makes any valid rule that any provision of this  
24 subchapter disqualifies this program for the maximum contribution, the  
25 ~~director~~ secretary and the deputy director are directed to comply with any  
26 ruling to the extent necessary to qualify for the maximum contribution.

27  
28 SECTION 5226. Arkansas Code § 20-77-710 is amended to read as follows:

29 20-77-710. Annual report of cotrustees of Special Needs Trust  
30 Revolving Fund.

31 The cotrustees of the Special Needs Trust Revolving Fund shall prepare  
32 and transmit annually a report of their activities to the ~~Director~~ Secretary  
33 of the Department of Human Services. This report shall include the amount of  
34 benefits paid and a statistical summary of claims and benefits made and  
35 denied.

36

1 SECTION 5227. Arkansas Code § 20-77-902(7)(B)(iii)(b), concerning  
2 liability for certain acts within the State of Arkansas, is amended to read  
3 as follows:

4 (b) In the case of an entity that is a  
5 Medicaid provider as defined in § 20-77-901, the person discloses, in the  
6 form and manner as the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Human Services  
7 requires, to the entity and upon request to the ~~director~~ secretary the amount  
8 received from each vendor with respect to purchases made by or on behalf of  
9 the entity; or

10  
11 SECTION 5228. Arkansas Code § 20-77-902(7)(B)(iv), concerning  
12 liability for certain acts within the State of Arkansas, is amended to read  
13 as follows:

14 (iv) Any payment practice specified by the ~~director~~  
15 secretary promulgated pursuant to applicable federal or state law;

16  
17 SECTION 5229. Arkansas Code § 20-77-910 is amended to read as follows:  
18 20-77-910. Suspension of violators.

19 The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Human Services may suspend  
20 or revoke the provider agreement between the Department of Human Services and  
21 the person in the event that the person is found guilty of violating the  
22 terms of this subchapter.

23  
24 SECTION 5230. Arkansas Code § 20-77-1302(b), concerning the  
25 legislative intent and purpose to combat and prevent healthcare provider  
26 fraud and abuse, is amended to read as follows:

27 (b) The General Assembly intends to provide the ~~Director~~ Secretary of  
28 the Department of Human Services with the ability, authority, and resources  
29 to pursue administrative sanctions and liquidated damages to protect the  
30 fiscal and programmatic integrity of the medical assistance programs from  
31 healthcare providers and other persons who engage in fraud,  
32 misrepresentation, abuse, or other ill practices, as set forth in this  
33 subchapter in order to obtain payments to which these healthcare providers or  
34 persons are not entitled.

35  
36 SECTION 5231. Arkansas Code § 20-77-1303(3), concerning the definition

1 of "Department Director" under Medical Assistance Programs Integrity Law, is  
2 repealed.

3 ~~(3) "Department director" or "director" means the Director of~~  
4 ~~the Department of Human Services;~~

5  
6 SECTION 5232. Arkansas Code § 20-77-1304(a)(1), concerning claims  
7 reviews and administrative sanctions, is amended to read as follows:

8 (a)(1) Pursuant to rules and regulations promulgated in accordance  
9 with the Arkansas Administrative Procedure Act, § 25-15-201 et seq., the  
10 ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Human Services shall establish a  
11 process to review a claim made by a healthcare provider to determine whether  
12 the claim should be or should have been paid as required by federal or state  
13 law or rule.

14

15 SECTION 5233. Arkansas Code § 20-77-1304(a)(3), concerning claims  
16 reviews and administrative sanctions, is amended to read as follows:

17 (3) The ~~director~~ secretary may withhold payment to a healthcare  
18 provider during claims review if necessary to protect the fiscal integrity of  
19 the medical assistance programs, provided that the healthcare provider has an  
20 opportunity for a hearing within sixty (60) days of the date payment is  
21 withheld.

22

23 SECTION 5234. Arkansas Code § 20-77-1304(b)(1), concerning claims  
24 reviews and administrative sanctions, is amended to read as follows:

25 (b)(1) The ~~director~~ secretary may establish various types of  
26 administrative sanctions pursuant to rules and regulations promulgated in  
27 accordance with the Arkansas Administrative Procedure Act, § 25-15-201 et  
28 seq., which may be imposed on a healthcare provider or other person who  
29 violates any provision of this subchapter or any other applicable federal or  
30 state law or rule related to the medical assistance programs.

31

32 SECTION 5235. Arkansas Code § 20-77-1304(c)(1), concerning claims  
33 reviews and administrative sanctions, is amended to read as follows:

34 (c)(1) The Department of Human Services shall conduct a hearing in  
35 compliance with the Arkansas Administrative Procedure Act, § 25-15-201 et  
36 seq., at the request of a person who wishes to contest an administrative

1 sanction imposed on him or her by the ~~director~~ secretary.

2  
3 SECTION 5236. Arkansas Code § 20-77-1305 is amended to read as  
4 follows:

5 20-77-1305. Settlement.

6 The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Human Services may agree to  
7 settle an administrative sanction. The terms of the settlement shall be  
8 reduced to writing and signed by the parties to the agreement. The terms of  
9 the settlement shall be a public record. The settlement shall include the  
10 method and means of payment for recovery, including, but not limited to,  
11 adequate security for the full amount of the settlement.

12  
13 SECTION 5237. Arkansas Code § 20-77-2510(d)(1), concerning the  
14 Department of Human Services' consultation with the Office of Medicaid  
15 Inspector General, is amended to read as follows:

16 (d)(1) ~~No later than December 1, 2013, the~~ The Director Secretary of  
17 the Department of Human Services in conjunction with the office shall prepare  
18 and submit an interim report to the Governor and the cochairs of the  
19 Legislative Council on the implementation of the initiatives under this  
20 section annually.

21  
22 SECTION 5238. Arkansas Code § 20-78-215(a)(2), concerning federal  
23 funding for background checks for employees of child care facilities, is  
24 amended to read as follows:

25 (2) Specifically, regulations promulgated by the ~~Director~~  
26 Secretary of the Department of Human Services pursuant to this section may  
27 address federally mandated requirements for employment history and background  
28 checks and nationwide criminal record checks, as may be necessary in  
29 accordance with the provisions of Pub. L. No. 92-544, for all operators,  
30 staff, or employees, or prospective operators, staff, or employees of the  
31 child care facilities or programs as defined in this section.

32  
33 SECTION 5239. Arkansas Code § 20-78-215(b), concerning federal funding  
34 for background checks for employees of child care facilities, is amended to  
35 read as follows:

36 (b) In order to enable the State of Arkansas to fully participate and

1 share in federal funds made available to the states through the Social  
2 Services Block Grant Act, or otherwise for the purposes of reducing and  
3 eliminating the incidence of child sexual abuse in child care facilities, as  
4 defined in § 20-78-202(2), the ~~director~~ secretary is authorized at his or her  
5 discretion to promulgate, pursuant to the Arkansas Administrative Procedure  
6 Act, § 25-15-201 et seq., rules and regulations implementing such federal  
7 requirements as may be placed upon the states to qualify for the funds.

8  
9 SECTION 5240. Arkansas Code § 23-61-803(c)(5), concerning the creation  
10 of the Arkansas Health Insurance Marketplace, is amended to read as follows:

11 (5) The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Human Services  
12 or his or her designee as an ex officio nonvoting member.

13  
14 SECTION 5241. Arkansas Code § 25-10-101 is repealed.

15 ~~25-10-101. Creation Appointment of director.~~

16 ~~(a) There is created a Department of Human Services.~~

17 ~~(b)(1) The executive head of the department shall be the Director of~~  
18 ~~the Department of Human Services.~~

19 ~~(2) The director shall be appointed by the Governor with the~~  
20 ~~consent of the Senate and shall serve at the pleasure of the Governor.~~

21  
22 SECTION 5242. Arkansas Code § 25-10-102 is amended to read as follows:

23 25-10-102. Organization generally.

24 (a) The Department of Human Services is a cabinet-level department and  
25 shall consist of and be operated under an integrated service system  
26 consisting of the following programmatic divisions with responsibilities and  
27 programs assigned to them as determined by the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the  
28 Department of Human Services and those state entities transferred to the  
29 Department of Human Services pursuant to a cabinet-level transfer under § 25-  
30 43-902:

31 (1) The Division of Aging, Adult, and Behavioral Health Services  
32 of the Department of Human Services;

33 (2) The Division of Medical Services;

34 (3) The Division of Developmental Disabilities Services;

35 (4) The Division of County Operations;

36 (5) The Division of Youth Services;

1           ~~(6) The Division of State Services for the Blind;~~  
2           ~~(7) The Division of Children and Family Services;~~  
3           ~~(8)(7) The Division of Child Care and Early Childhood Education;~~  
4           and  
5           ~~(9)(8) The Division of Provider Services and Quality Assurance.~~

6           (b) The ~~Director's~~ Secretary's Office of the Department of Human  
7           Services shall consist of:

8           (1) The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Human Services  
9           and his or her personal staff; and

10           (2) Shared business services operating across the divisions,  
11           offices, sections, and units of the department, including without limitation  
12           business operations and administrative functions determined necessary by the  
13           ~~director~~ secretary.

14           (c)(1)(A) Each division of the department shall be under the  
15           direction, control, and supervision of the ~~director~~ secretary.

16           (B) From time to time, the ~~director~~ secretary may transfer  
17           or assign existing duties or new programs or duties of the department to  
18           offices, sections, or units as he or she deems necessary for the efficient  
19           and necessary operation of the department.

20           (C) Before implementation of any reorganization, the  
21           ~~director~~ secretary shall obtain the advice of the House Committee on State  
22           Agencies and Governmental Affairs and the Senate Committee on State Agencies  
23           and Governmental Affairs.

24           (2)(A) However, the state institutions and the operation of  
25           state institutional programs under the jurisdiction of the Board of  
26           Developmental Disabilities Services and the Department of Human Services  
27           State Institutional System Board shall be under the control of their  
28           respective boards, as provided by law.

29           (B) The ~~boards~~ Board of Developmental Disabilities  
30           Services and the Department of Human Services State Institutional System  
31           Board shall perform their respective functions and duties under the general  
32           guidelines and standards promulgated by the ~~director~~ secretary.

33           ~~(3) The Division of State Services for the Blind and the Board~~  
34           ~~of the Division of State Services for the Blind shall continue to function~~  
35           ~~within the department with the powers prescribed in § 25-10-201 et seq.~~  
36

1 SECTION 5243. Arkansas Code § 25-10-104(b)-(d), concerning the Board  
2 of Developmental Disabilities Services, is amended to read as follows:

3 (b) The Board of Developmental Disabilities Services shall name the  
4 administrative head or director of each of the respective institutions under  
5 the board's jurisdiction with the concurrence of the ~~Director~~ Secretary of  
6 the Department of Human Services.

7 (c) Under a type 1 transfer of the Board of Developmental Disabilities  
8 Services, and the institutions under its management and control, to the  
9 Department of Human Services, the board shall have control of all budgeting,  
10 purchasing, and related management functions in accordance with the  
11 limitations and restrictions thereon provided in this act and by other laws  
12 applicable thereto.

13 (d)(1) It is the intent of this section that the administration of the  
14 human development centers located at ~~Alexander~~, Arkadelphia, Booneville,  
15 Conway, Jonesboro, and the Southeast Human Development Center at Warren, and  
16 the various facilities and services thereof, shall be under the control of  
17 the Board of Developmental Disabilities Services, as provided and intended by  
18 ~~the~~ Arkansas Constitution, Amendment 33, but the board shall exercise its  
19 control in accordance with the general guidelines, policies, and regulations  
20 of the Department of Human Services governing divisions, offices, sections,  
21 or units within the department with respect to budgets, personnel and  
22 personnel policies, records, purchasing, bookkeeping, and other  
23 administrative procedures prescribed by the ~~director~~ secretary.

24 (2) It is the intent of this act that the Board of Developmental  
25 Disabilities Services shall devote its time and resources to the operation  
26 and management of the state-owned and controlled institutional programs of  
27 the various state human development centers and that the establishment and  
28 operation of community programs, workshops, and other services for  
29 individuals with developmental disabilities or individuals with intellectual  
30 disabilities in this state and other regional and community services  
31 benefiting individuals with developmental disabilities or individuals with  
32 intellectual disabilities shall be administered by the Department of Human  
33 Services through the divisions, offices, sections, or units of the department  
34 as determined by the ~~director of the department~~ secretary.

35  
36 SECTION 5244. Arkansas Code § 25-10-106 is amended to read as follows:

1 25-10-106. Division heads and other personnel.

2 (a)(1) The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Human Services,  
3 with the advice and consent of the Governor, shall ~~appoint~~ employ the heads  
4 of the various divisions of the Department of Human Services.

5 (2) The heads of the respective offices, sections, or units of  
6 the department and all other personnel of the department shall be employed by  
7 and serve at the pleasure of the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of  
8 Human Services.

9 (b)(1) However, the directors of the various institutions and programs  
10 under the jurisdiction and control of the Department of Human Services State  
11 Institutional System Board and the Board of Developmental Disabilities  
12 Services within the Department of Human Services shall be named by the  
13 ~~respective boards~~ Department of Human Services State Institutional System  
14 Board and the Board of Developmental Disabilities Services, with the  
15 concurrence of the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Human Services.

16 (2) All personnel employed in the institutions under the  
17 management and control of ~~those boards~~ the Department of Human Services State  
18 Institutional System Board and the Board of Developmental Disabilities  
19 Services shall be named by the directors thereof, under the departmental  
20 rules and regulations related to personnel, and all personnel records of the  
21 ~~boards of those~~ institutions of the Department of Human Services State  
22 Institutional System Board and the Board of Developmental Disabilities  
23 Services shall be in conformance with the general personnel policies  
24 promulgated by the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Human Services for  
25 other employees of the department.

26 (c) Nothing in this act shall be construed to reduce any rights which  
27 an employee of the department or the various divisions, offices, sections, or  
28 units thereof shall have under any civil service or merit system.

29  
30 SECTION 5245. Arkansas Code § 25-10-107(a), concerning reports of  
31 divisions of the Department of Human Services, is amended to read as follows:

32 (a) All other divisions within the Department of Human Services shall  
33 provide the ~~Director's~~ Secretary's Office of the Department of Human Services  
34 with all policies regarding personnel administration, procurement of  
35 commodities and services, accounting and budget control, licensure of  
36 facilities, program planning and evaluation, contractual agreements with

1 consultants and providers of services, data processing systems management,  
2 federal grant management, and any other information which may be requested by  
3 the office.

4  
5 SECTION 5246. Arkansas Code § 25-10-108 is amended to read as follows:  
6 25-10-108. Coordination of programs, procedures, etc., of department  
7 and institutional boards.

8 In addition to the functions and duties provided by law to be performed  
9 by the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Human Services, the ~~director~~  
10 secretary shall direct those divisions, offices, sections, or units of the  
11 Department of Human Services which he or she may designate to:

12 (1) Serve in a liaison capacity for the Department of Human  
13 Services and the ~~director~~ secretary thereof with the boards and the directors  
14 of the various institutional facilities of the Department of Human Services  
15 State Institutional System Board and the Board of Developmental Disabilities  
16 Services within the Department of Human Services in efforts to coordinate  
17 services provided citizens of this state through those institutions with  
18 programs of the department for the benefit of neglected, dependent, and  
19 delinquent juveniles, individuals with mental illness, and individuals with  
20 intellectual disabilities or individuals with developmental disabilities of  
21 this state;

22 (2) Cooperate with the administrators of the various  
23 institutions under the direction and control of the Department of Human  
24 Services State Institutional System Board and the Board of Developmental  
25 Disabilities Services within the Department of Human Services in the  
26 administration of fiscal and budgetary policies applicable to all divisions  
27 and programs of the department as promulgated by the ~~director~~ secretary  
28 thereof and as directed by the Chief Fiscal Officer of the State;

29 (3) Offer assistance to the Department of Human Services State  
30 Institutional System Board and the Board of Developmental Disabilities  
31 Services within the Department of Human Services in developing biennial  
32 budgets and annual, quarterly, and monthly fiscal plans for the operation of  
33 those institutions and assist ~~those boards~~ the Department of Human Services  
34 State Institutional System Board and the Board of Developmental Disabilities  
35 Services in complying with the budget and fiscal policies promulgated by the  
36 ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Human Services for the control and

1 management of the funds made available to the department and its various  
2 offices, divisions, programs, and institutions. In connection therewith, the  
3 ~~boards~~ Department of Human Services State Institutional System Board and the  
4 Board of Developmental Disabilities Services shall be furnished records of  
5 all accounts, expenditures, funds, and fund balances available to each  
6 institution for its operation and support;

7 (4)(A) Coordinate, with each institution and its administrator  
8 under the control and direction of the Department of Human Services State  
9 Institutional System Board and the Board of Developmental Disabilities  
10 Services within the Department of Human Services, the purchasing policies and  
11 procedures of the department as promulgated by the ~~director~~ secretary thereof  
12 to assure that all those institutions comply with the uniform purchasing  
13 practices and policies of the department and with the Arkansas Procurement  
14 Law, § 19-11-201 et seq., and the rules and regulations promulgated  
15 thereunder by the State Procurement Director.

16 (B) However, each of the various institutions under the  
17 control of the Department of Human Services State Institutional System Board  
18 and the Board of Developmental Disabilities Services within the Department of  
19 Human Services is authorized to have institutional purchasing officials who  
20 shall be authorized to make purchases in behalf of those institutions which  
21 are not within the exclusive jurisdiction of the State Procurement Director,  
22 but all such purchases shall be made in compliance with the uniform  
23 purchasing practices and policies promulgated by the ~~Director~~ Secretary of  
24 the Department of Human Services to be applicable to all divisions, offices,  
25 sections, or units of the department and shall be in conformance with the  
26 Arkansas Procurement Law, § 19-11-201 et seq., and regulations promulgated by  
27 the State Procurement Director; and

28 (5)(A) Coordinate the policies promulgated by the ~~Director~~  
29 Secretary of the Department of Human Services for the administration of  
30 personnel and personnel records within the various divisions, offices,  
31 sections, or units of the department with the Department of Human Services  
32 State Institutional System Board, the Board of Developmental Disabilities  
33 Services within the Department of Human Services, and the administrators of  
34 each of those institutions to assure that all employee records and personnel  
35 records conform to the personnel policies and records promulgated by the  
36 ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Human Services and to the personnel

1 policies and practices laws of the State of Arkansas.

2 (B) Nothing in this act shall prohibit or restrict the  
3 right of each of the institutional boards to employ, promote, discipline, or  
4 discharge any employee of any of those institutions so long as those actions  
5 are within the overall policies and procedures promulgated by the ~~Director~~  
6 Secretary of the Department of Human Services governing employee practices or  
7 actions.

8  
9 SECTION 5247. Arkansas Code § 25-10-109 is amended to read as follows:

10 25-10-109. Institutional services generally – Development of admission  
11 policies, etc.

12 In addition to the functions and duties provided by law and this act to  
13 be performed by the Board of Developmental Disabilities Services within the  
14 Department of Human Services and the Department of Human Services State  
15 Institutional System Board, it is the intent of this act that ~~those boards~~  
16 the Department of Human Services State Institutional System Board and the  
17 Board of Developmental Disabilities Services shall cooperate with the  
18 ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Human Services, the divisions,  
19 offices, sections, or units of the Department of Human Services created by  
20 this act, and the programs funded by and operated by the department by  
21 developing admission policies, criteria, and services which will assure  
22 appropriate access to institutional services to meet the residential service  
23 needs of the citizens of this state.

24  
25 SECTION 5248. Arkansas Code § 25-10-111 is amended to read as follows:

26 25-10-111. Budgeting generally.

27 (a)(1) The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Human Services  
28 shall obtain from each division, office, section, or unit of the Department  
29 of Human Services, including the institutions and institutional boards  
30 thereunder, all requests for biennial appropriations and all requests for  
31 special supplemental or construction appropriations.

32 (2) The ~~director~~ secretary shall review the requests and submit  
33 to the Chief Fiscal Officer of the State, the Governor, and the Legislative  
34 Council a coordinated budget for all divisions, offices, programs,  
35 institutions, and services of the department in whatever detail may be  
36 required by the state budgetary laws and by the budget forms and procedures

1 promulgated by the Chief Fiscal Officer of the State and by the Legislative  
2 Council.

3 (b) It shall be the responsibility of the ~~director~~ secretary to  
4 operate all of its divisions, offices, and programs and to require that each  
5 of the institutional boards under the department administer their programs  
6 within those fiscal limitations and restraints which the ~~director~~ secretary  
7 deems necessary to assure that each program, service, and institution within  
8 the department receives an allocation of funds in accordance with the needs  
9 of the respective programs, services, and institutions and within the  
10 limitation of the moneys allocated and appropriated to the department for the  
11 operation of those programs, services, and institutions.

12 (c)(1) Although it is the intent of this act that the Department of  
13 Human Services State Institutional System Board and the Board of  
14 Developmental Disabilities Services shall each operate their institutional  
15 programs and services within the Department of Human Services with autonomy  
16 and independence as intended by ~~the~~ Arkansas Constitution, Amendment 33, the  
17 General Assembly recognizes that reasonable fiscal policies are necessary to  
18 assure that the various services of government are operated on a sound  
19 financial basis and that deficit spending is not implemented.

20 (2) In furtherance of that policy, the General Assembly  
21 determines that:

22 (A) The ~~director~~ secretary, with respect to the allocation  
23 of funds and the exercise of fiscal restraint over all divisions, offices,  
24 sections, units, programs, services, and institutions within the department,  
25 shall have the ultimate authority to allocate and limit the amount of funds  
26 to be expended in the operation of each division, office, program, service,  
27 and institution within the department as he or she deems necessary to comply  
28 with the fiscal laws of this state; and

29 (B) Nothing herein shall be construed to limit the  
30 ultimate authority of the ~~director~~ secretary to develop and operate the  
31 various programs in the state institutional system.

32 (3) However, all real property, including capital improvements  
33 thereon, constituting the Department of Human Services State Institutional  
34 System shall be under the control of the Department of Human Services State  
35 Institutional System Board, and ~~that board~~ the Department of Human Services  
36 State Institutional System Board and the Board of Developmental Disabilities

1 Services may convey by sale or lease any real property within the state  
2 institutional system.

3

4 SECTION 5249. Arkansas Code § 25-10-115(a), concerning county offices  
5 of human services, is amended to read as follows:

6 (a) The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Human Services shall  
7 establish a county office of human services in each county of this state. The  
8 county offices shall provide the citizens of each county access to the  
9 various services and programs provided by the Department of Human Services as  
10 well as follow-up contact and services.

11

12 SECTION 5250. Arkansas Code § 25-10-116(a) and (b), concerning the  
13 advisory committees of the Department of Human Services, are amended to read  
14 as follows:

15 (a) From time to time, the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of  
16 Human Services or the Governor may establish various advisory committees to  
17 assist the ~~director~~ secretary and the various divisions, offices, sections,  
18 or units within Department of Human Services in reviewing and offering advice  
19 on any of the programs, services, and duties of the department which the  
20 ~~director~~ secretary or the Governor may deem appropriate for the proper and  
21 efficient operation of the department and its respective programs, services,  
22 and duties.

23 (b) The advisory committees shall exist for the duration determined by  
24 the ~~director~~ secretary or the Governor.

25

26 SECTION 5251. Arkansas Code § 25-10-122(b), concerning the creation of  
27 the Office of Minority Mental Health, is amended to read as follows:

28 (b) The head of the Office of Minority Mental Health shall be  
29 ~~appointed~~ employed by the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Human  
30 Services.

31

32 SECTION 5252. Arkansas Code § 25-10-131 is amended to read as follows:  
33 25-10-131. Match transfer.

34 The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Human Services, with the  
35 approval of the Chief Fiscal Officer of the State, is authorized to effect  
36 interagency fund transfers for the purpose of providing the state's matching

1 share for payments made to that division or office, or its service providers,  
2 for services eligible for federal reimbursement under programs administered  
3 by other divisions or offices of the Department of Human Services.  
4

5 SECTION 5253. Arkansas Code § 25-10-133(a)(2), concerning transfer  
6 provisions, is amended to read as follows:

7 (2) Such reallocations or transfers shall be requested by the  
8 ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Human Services.  
9

10 SECTION 5254. Arkansas Code § 25-10-136(c), concerning notice of  
11 private service contract by the Division of Youth Services, is amended to  
12 read as follows:

13 (c) In the event the General Assembly is in session, the ~~Director~~  
14 Secretary of the Department of Human Services shall provide the report to the  
15 House Committee on Aging, Children and Youth, Legislative and Military  
16 Affairs and the ~~chair~~ Chair of the Senate Interim Committee on Children and  
17 Youth.  
18

19 SECTION 5255. Arkansas Code § 25-10-143(a)-(h), concerning advisory  
20 opinions by the Director of the Department of Human Services, is amended to  
21 read as follows:

22 (a) As used in this section, "advisory opinion" means a written  
23 statement by the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Human Services or  
24 his or her designee that explains the applicability to a specified set of  
25 facts of a pertinent statutory or regulatory provision relating to the  
26 provision of medical items or services under the medical assistance program  
27 administered by the Department of Human Services.

28 (b)(1) The ~~director~~ secretary may issue an advisory opinion at the  
29 request of a provider enrolled in the medical assistance program.

30 (2) Except as under subsection (h) of this section, the opinion  
31 is binding upon the ~~director~~ secretary with respect to that provider only.

32 (3) If the ~~director~~ secretary cannot respond to the request for  
33 an advisory opinion, the ~~director~~ secretary shall within thirty (30) days  
34 notify the provider that he or she will not be responding to the request for  
35 an opinion.

36 (c) A provider may request an advisory opinion concerning:

- 1 (1) A substantive question or a procedural matter;  
2 (2) Questions arising before an audit or investigation  
3 concerning a provider's claim for payment or reimbursement; and  
4 (3) A hypothetical or projected service plan.

5 (d) The ~~director~~ secretary shall not issue an advisory opinion if the  
6 request for an advisory opinion relates to a pending question raised by the  
7 provider in an ongoing or initiated investigation conducted by the Medicaid  
8 Inspector General, the Attorney General, a criminal investigation, or a civil  
9 or criminal proceeding, or if the provider has received a written notice from  
10 the ~~director~~ secretary or the Medicaid Inspector General that advises the  
11 provider of an imminent investigation, audit, suspended claim, or withholding  
12 of payment or reimbursement.

13 (e) This section does not supersede a federal regulation, law,  
14 requirement, or guidance.

15 (f) The ~~director~~ secretary shall adopt a rule establishing the time  
16 within which an advisory opinion shall be issued and the criteria for  
17 determining the eligibility of a request for departmental response.

18 (g) An advisory opinion represents an expression of the views of the  
19 ~~director~~ secretary as to the application of laws, rules, and other  
20 precedential material to the set of facts specified in the request for an  
21 advisory opinion.

22 (h)(1) A previously issued advisory opinion found by the ~~director~~  
23 secretary to be in error may be modified or revoked.

24 (2) If the ~~director~~ secretary modifies or revokes an advisory  
25 opinion, the modification or revocation operates prospectively.

26 (3) A recovery of medical assistance overpayments caused by a  
27 provider's reliance on an advisory opinion that is later modified or revoked  
28 is prohibited for the period up until the modification or revocation unless  
29 the provider is involved in fraud.

30 (4) The department promptly shall notify the provider of a  
31 modification or revocation of an advisory opinion.

32

33 SECTION 5256. Arkansas Code § 25-10-402 is amended to read as follows:  
34 25-10-402. Purpose – Guidelines.

35 (a) The Department of Human Services State Institutional System Board  
36 is established to manage the Department of Human Services State Institutional

1 System, as provided and intended by Arkansas Constitution, Amendment 33.

2 (b) The board shall perform its functions and duties in accordance  
3 with the general guidelines, policies, and regulations of the ~~department~~  
4 Department of Human Services governing divisions, offices, sections, or units  
5 within the department with respect to budgets, personnel and personnel  
6 policies, records, purchasing, bookkeeping, and other administrative  
7 procedures prescribed by the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Human  
8 Services.

9

10 SECTION 5257. Arkansas Code Title 25, Chapter 43, Subchapter 10 is  
11 amended to read as follows:

12 Subchapter 10 – Department of Inspector General

13

14 25-43-1001. Department of Inspector General.

15 There is created the Department of Inspector General as a cabinet-level  
16 department.

17

18 25-43-1002. State entities transferred to Department of Inspector  
19 General.

20 (a) The administrative functions of the following state entities are  
21 transferred to the Department of Inspector General under a cabinet-level  
22 transfer:

23 (1) The Arkansas Fair Housing Commission, created under § 16-  
24 123-303;

25 (2) The Internal Audit Section, created under § 19-4-105; and

26 (3) The Office of Medicaid Inspector General, created under §  
27 20-77-2503.

28 (b) Unless otherwise provided by law, a cabinet-level department  
29 transfer under subsection (a) of this section includes all state entities  
30 under a state entity transferred to the Department of Inspector General under  
31 subsection (a) of this section, including without limitation a division,  
32 office, program, or other unit of a state entity transferred to the  
33 Department of Inspector General under subsection (a) of this section.

34 (c) Unless otherwise provided by law, a state entity whose  
35 administrative functions have been transferred to the Department of Inspector  
36 General under subsection (a) of this section shall otherwise continue to

1 exercise the duties of the state entity under the administration of the  
2 cabinet-level Department of Inspector General in the same manner as before  
3 the creation of the cabinet-level department.

4  
5 25-43-1003. Secretary of Department of Inspector General.

6 (a) The executive head of the Department of Inspector General shall be  
7 the Secretary of the Department of Inspector General.

8 (b) The secretary shall be appointed by the Governor, subject to  
9 confirmation by the Senate, and shall serve at the pleasure of the Governor.

10 (c) Each division of the department shall be under the direction,  
11 control, and supervision of the secretary.

12 (d) The secretary may delegate his or her functions, powers, and  
13 duties to various divisions or employees of the department as he or she shall  
14 deem desirable and necessary for the effective and efficient operation of the  
15 department.

16 (e) The secretary may, unless otherwise provided by law:

17 (1) Hire department personnel;

18 (2) Perform or assign duties assigned to the department; and

19 (3) Serve as the director or the administrative or executive  
20 head of any state entity under the administrative control of the department  
21 if the secretary also meets all statutory requirements for the position.

22 (f) The secretary has the authority to direct the department as  
23 necessary to conduct and supervise activities to prevent, detect, and  
24 investigate fraud and abuse.

25  
26 SECTION 5258. Arkansas Code § 16-123-305 is amended to read as  
27 follows:

28 16-123-305. Director.

29 (a)(1) The Governor shall appoint a Director of the Arkansas Fair  
30 Housing Commission who shall serve at the pleasure of the Governor.

31 (2) The director shall report to the Secretary of the Department  
32 of Inspector General.

33 ~~(2)~~(3) The Arkansas Fair Housing Commission may fix the  
34 compensation, duties, authority, and responsibilities of the director.

35 (b) The commission may authorize the director to hire necessary staff  
36 and to provide for services, furnishings, equipment, and office space and

1 employees of the commission shall be employees of the department.

2  
3 SECTION 5259. Arkansas Code § 19-4-105 is amended to read as follows:  
4 19-4-105. Continuing studies and investigations – Duties of ~~Chief~~  
5 ~~Fiscal Officer of the State~~ Secretary of the Department of Inspector General  
6 and Internal Audit Section – Exemption of internal audit documentation from  
7 Freedom of Information Act of 1967.

8 (a) The ~~Chief Fiscal Officer of the State~~ Secretary of the Department  
9 of Inspector General is directed to make continuing studies and  
10 investigations of the operation of state agencies and to make recommendations  
11 to the General Assembly, the Legislative Council, and the Governor about  
12 improvements which should be made in order to:

13 (1) Safeguard against excessive expenditures of appropriations  
14 and funds;

15 (2) Promote economy, efficiency, and control in the operation of  
16 state agencies; and

17 (3) ~~Properly execute budgets; and~~

18 ~~(4)~~ Accomplish the purposes of this chapter as intended by the  
19 General Assembly.

20 (b) The Internal Audit Section created under the Department of Finance  
21 and Administration by Governor's Executive Order 99-08 and transferred to the  
22 Department of Inspector General by a cabinet-level department transfer under  
23 § 25-43-1002 shall conduct its audits using the suggested standards for the  
24 professional practice of internal auditing as adopted by the Institute of  
25 Internal Auditors.

26 (c) The Internal Audit Section shall:

27 (1) Review the financial and operating controls and the  
28 transactions of state agencies to determine the level of conformity with  
29 established laws, standards, regulations, and procedures;

30 (2) Review the various functions within an enterprise to  
31 appraise the efficiency and economy of operations and the effectiveness with  
32 which those functions achieve the stated objectives, including without  
33 limitation a review of established internal control activities;

34 (3) Investigate reported occurrences of fraud, embezzlement,  
35 theft, waste, abuse, or mismanagement of state resources;

36 (4) Recommend controls to prevent occurrences of fraud,

1 embezzlement, theft, waste, abuse, or mismanagement of state resources;

2 (5) Assist state agencies to resolve areas of concern;

3 (6) Assist state agencies in establishing appropriate internal  
4 controls that will prevent errors or irregularities;

5 (7) Provide objective analysis, appraisals, and recommendations  
6 concerning the activities it reviews; and

7 (8) Perform other functions as directed by the Governor, ~~Chief~~  
8 ~~Fiscal Officer of the State~~ or the Secretary of the Department of Inspector  
9 General, or other board or government entity charged with authority over the  
10 Internal Audit Section by executive order.

11 (d) After an audit is completed, the Internal Audit Section shall file  
12 a written final report concerning the actions and determinations made under  
13 this section with:

14 (1) ~~The Chief Fiscal Officer of the State~~ Secretary of the  
15 Department of Inspector General;

16 (2) The Governor;

17 (3) The State Board of Finance; and

18 (4) Arkansas Legislative Audit; ~~and~~

19 ~~(5) Any other board or government entity charged with authority~~  
20 ~~over the Internal Audit Section by executive order.~~

21 (e) Employees of the Internal Audit Section shall:

22 (1) Be employed by the ~~Governor or other board or government~~  
23 ~~entity charged with authority over the Internal Audit Section by executive~~  
24 ~~order~~ Secretary of the Department of Inspector General as employees of the  
25 Department of Inspector General; and

26 (2) Serve at the pleasure of the ~~Governor or other board or~~  
27 ~~government entity charged with authority over the Internal Audit Section by~~  
28 ~~executive order~~ Secretary of the Department of Inspector General.

29 (f)(1) All internal audit documentation, including notes, memoranda,  
30 preliminary drafts of audit reports, and other data gathered in the  
31 preparation of internal audit reports by the Internal Audit Section, are  
32 privileged and confidential and are exempt from the Freedom of Information  
33 Act of 1967, § 25-19-101 et seq., except as provided in subdivision (f)(2) of  
34 this section.

35 (2)(A) The exemption shall not apply to completed internal  
36 audits of the Internal Audit Section after a final report of the internal

1 audit has been presented to:

2 (i) ~~The Chief Fiscal Officer of the State~~ Secretary  
3 of the Department of Inspector General;

4 (ii) The Governor or the Governor's designee;

5 (iii) The State Board of Finance; or

6 (iv) Arkansas Legislative Audit; ~~or~~

7 ~~(v) Any other board or government entity charged~~  
8 ~~with authority over the Internal Audit Section by executive order.~~

9 (B) The final report and copies of any supporting  
10 documentation shall then be open to public inspection and copying, except for  
11 documents that are exempt from disclosure under other law.

12

13 SECTION 5260. Arkansas Code § 20-77-2503 is amended to read as  
14 follows:

15 20-77-2503. Office of Medicaid Inspector General – Created.

16 The Office of Medicaid Inspector General is created within the ~~office~~  
17 ~~of the Governor~~ Department of Inspector General and is independent from the  
18 Department of Human Services.

19

20 SECTION 5261. Arkansas Code § 20-77-2504 is amended to read as  
21 follows:

22 20-77-2504. Medicaid Inspector General – Appointment – Qualifications.

23 (a)(1) The Medicaid Inspector General shall be appointed by the  
24 Governor, with the advice and consent of the Senate.

25 (2) The inspector shall serve at the pleasure of the Governor.

26 (b) The inspector shall report ~~directly to the Governor~~ to the  
27 Secretary of the Department of Inspector General.

28 (c) The Medicaid Inspector General shall be the Director of the Office  
29 of Medicaid Inspector General.

30 (d) The ~~inspector~~ Medicaid Inspector General shall have not less than  
31 ten (10) years of professional experience in one (1) or more of the following  
32 areas of expertise:

33 (1) Prosecution for fraud;

34 (2) Fraud investigation;

35 (3) Auditing; or

36 (4) Comparable alternate experience in health care, if the

1 healthcare experience involves some consideration of fraud.

2

3 SECTION 5262. Arkansas Code § 20-77-2506 is amended to read as  
4 follows:

5 20-77-2506. Medicaid Inspector General – Duties.

6 The Medicaid Inspector General shall, in consultation with the  
7 Secretary of the Department of Inspector General:

8 (1) Hire deputies, directors, assistants, and other officers and  
9 employees needed for the performance of his or her duties and prescribe the  
10 duties of deputies, directors, assistants, and other officers and fix the  
11 compensation of deputies, directors, assistants, and other officers within  
12 the amounts appropriated;

13 (2)(A) Conduct and supervise activities to prevent, detect, and  
14 investigate medical assistance program fraud and abuse.

15 (B)(i) The Office of Medicaid Inspector General shall  
16 review provider records only for the three (3) years before an investigation  
17 begins.

18 (ii) However, if a credible allegation of fraud has  
19 been made or if the ~~office~~ Office of Medicaid Inspector General has reason to  
20 believe that fraud has occurred, the Office of Medicaid Inspector General may  
21 review provider records for the five (5) years before the investigation  
22 began;

23 (3) Work in a coordinated and cooperative manner with:

24 (A) Federal, state, and local law enforcement agencies;

25 (B) The Medicaid Fraud Control Unit of the office of the  
26 Attorney General;

27 (C) United States Attorneys;

28 (D) The United States Department of Health and Human  
29 Services' Office of Inspector General;

30 (E) The Federal Bureau of Investigation;

31 (F) The United States Drug Enforcement Administration;

32 (G) Prosecuting attorneys;

33 (H) The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services; and

34 (I) An investigative unit maintained by a health insurer;

35 (4) Solicit, receive, and investigate complaints related to  
36 fraud and abuse within the medical assistance program;

1 (5)(A) Inform the Governor, the Secretary of the Department of  
2 Inspector General, the Attorney General, the President Pro Tempore of the  
3 Senate, and the Speaker of the House of Representatives regarding efforts to  
4 prevent, detect, investigate, and prosecute fraud and abuse within the  
5 medical assistance program.

6 (B) All cases in which fraud is determined to have  
7 occurred shall be referred to the appropriate law enforcement agency for  
8 prosecution;

9 (6)(A) Pursue civil and administrative enforcement actions  
10 against an individual or entity that engages in fraud, abuse, or illegal or  
11 improper acts within the medical assistance program, including without  
12 limitation:

13 (i) Referral of information and evidence to  
14 regulatory agencies and licensure boards;

15 (ii) Withholding payment of medical assistance funds  
16 in accordance with state laws and rules and federal laws and regulations;

17 (iii) Imposition of administrative sanctions and  
18 penalties in accordance with state laws and rules and federal laws and  
19 regulations;

20 (iv) Exclusion of providers, vendors, and  
21 contractors from participation in the medical assistance program;

22 (v) Initiating and maintaining actions for civil  
23 recovery and, where authorized by law, seizure of property or other assets  
24 connected with improper payments;

25 (vi) Entering into civil settlements; and

26 (vii) Recovery of improperly expended medical  
27 assistance program funds from those who engage in fraud or abuse or illegal  
28 or improper acts perpetrated within the medical assistance program.

29 (B) In investigating civil and administrative enforcement  
30 actions under subdivision (a)(6)(A) of this section, the Medicaid Inspector  
31 General shall consider the quality and availability of medical care and  
32 services and the best interest of both the medical assistance program and  
33 recipients;

34 (7) Make available to appropriate law enforcement officials  
35 information and evidence relating to suspected criminal acts that have been  
36 obtained in the course of the Medicaid Inspector General's duties;

1 (8)(A) Refer suspected fraud or criminal activity to the  
2 Medicaid Fraud Control Unit.

3 (B) After a referral and with ten (10) days' written  
4 notice to the Medicaid Fraud Control Unit, the Medicaid Inspector General may  
5 provide relevant information about suspected fraud or criminal activity to  
6 another federal or state law enforcement agency that the ~~inspector~~ Medicaid  
7 Inspector General deems appropriate under the circumstances;

8 (9) Subpoena and enforce the attendance of witnesses, administer  
9 oaths or affirmations, examine witnesses under oath, and take testimony in  
10 connection with an investigation or audit under this subchapter and under  
11 rules governing these investigations;

12 (10) Require and compel the production of books, papers,  
13 records, and documents as he or she deems relevant or material to an  
14 investigation, examination, or review undertaken under this section;

15 (11)(A) Examine and copy or remove documents or records related  
16 to the medical assistance program or necessary for the Medicaid Inspector  
17 General to perform his or her duties if the documents are prepared,  
18 maintained, or held by or available to a state agency or local governmental  
19 entity the patients or clients of which are served by the medical assistance  
20 program, or the entity is otherwise responsible for the control of fraud and  
21 abuse within the medical assistance program.

22 (B) A document or record examined and copied or removed by  
23 the Medicaid Inspector General under subdivision (11)(A) of this section is  
24 confidential.

25 (C) The removal of a record under subdivision (11)(A) of  
26 this section is limited to circumstances in which a copy of the record is  
27 insufficient for an appropriate legal or investigative purpose.

28 (D) For a removal under subdivision (11)(A) of this  
29 section, the Medicaid Inspector General shall copy the record and ensure the  
30 expedited return of the original, or of a copy if the original is required  
31 for an appropriate legal or investigative purpose, so that the information is  
32 expedited and the original or copy is readily accessible for the care and  
33 treatment needs of the patient;

34 (12)(A) Recommend and implement policies relating to the  
35 prevention and detection of fraud and abuse.

36 (B) The Medicaid Inspector General shall obtain the

1 consent of the Attorney General before the implementation of a policy under  
2 subdivision (12)(A) of this section that may affect the operations of the  
3 office of the Attorney General;

4 (13)(A) Monitor the implementation of a recommendation made by  
5 the Office of Medicaid Inspector General to an agency or other entity with  
6 responsibility for administration of the medical assistance program and  
7 produce a report detailing the results of its monitoring activity as  
8 necessary.

9 (B) The report shall be submitted to the:

10 (i) ~~Governor~~ Secretary of the Department of  
11 Inspector General;

12 (ii) President Pro Tempore of the Senate;

13 (iii) Speaker of the House of Representatives;

14 (iv) Legislative Council;

15 (v) Arkansas Legislative Audit; and

16 (vi) Attorney General;

17 (14) Prepare cases, provide testimony, and support  
18 administrative hearings and other legal proceedings;

19 (15) Review and audit contracts, cost reports, claims, bills,  
20 and other expenditures of medical assistance program funds to determine  
21 compliance with applicable state laws and rules and federal laws and  
22 regulations and take actions authorized by state laws and rules and federal  
23 laws and regulations;

24 (16)(A) Work with the fiscal agent employed to operate the  
25 Medicaid Management Information System of the Department of Human Services to  
26 optimize the system, including without limitation the ability to add edits  
27 and audits in consultation with the Department of Human Services.

28 (B) The Medicaid Inspector General shall be consulted  
29 before an edit or audit is added or discontinued by the Department of Human  
30 Services;

31 (17) Work in a coordinated and cooperative manner with relevant  
32 agencies in the implementation of information technology relating to the  
33 prevention and identification of fraud and abuse in the medical assistance  
34 program;

35 (18)(A) Conduct educational programs for medical assistance  
36 program providers, vendors, contractors, and recipients designed to limit

1 fraud and abuse within the medical assistance program.

2 (B) The Office of Medicaid Inspector General shall  
3 regularly communicate with and educate providers about the Office of Medicaid  
4 Inspector General's fraud and abuse prevention program and its audit policies  
5 and procedures.

6 (C) The Office of Medicaid Inspector General shall educate  
7 providers annually concerning its areas of focus within the medical  
8 assistance program, appropriate billing and documentation, and methods for  
9 improving compliance with program rules, policies, and procedures;

10 (19)(A) Develop protocols to facilitate the efficient self-  
11 disclosure consistent with the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act,  
12 Pub. L. No. 111-148, and the collection of overpayments and monitor  
13 collections, including those that are self-disclosed by providers.

14 (B) A provider's good faith self-disclosure of  
15 overpayments may be considered as a mitigating factor in the determination of  
16 an administrative enforcement action;

17 (20) Receive and investigate complaints of alleged failures of  
18 state and local officials to prevent, detect, and prosecute fraud and abuse  
19 in the medical assistance program;

20 (21) Implement rules relating to the prevention, detection,  
21 investigation, and referral of fraud and abuse within the medical assistance  
22 program and to the recovery of improperly expended medical assistance program  
23 funds;

24 (22) Conduct, in the context of the investigation of fraud and  
25 abuse, on-site inspections of a facility or an office;

26 (23)(A) Take appropriate authorized actions to ensure that the  
27 medical assistance program is the payor of last resort; and

28 (B) Recommend to the ~~department~~ Department of Human  
29 Services that it take appropriate actions authorized under the ~~department's~~  
30 jurisdiction of the Department of Human Services to ensure that the medical  
31 assistance program is the payor of last resort;

32 (24) Annually submit a budget request for the next state fiscal  
33 year to the Governor;

34 (25) Identify and order the return of underpayments to  
35 providers;

36 (26) Maintain the confidentiality of all information and

1 documents that are deemed confidential by law;

2 (27) Implement, facilitate, and maintain federally required  
3 directives and contracts required for Medicaid integrity programs;

4 (28) Implement and maintain a hotline for reporting complaints  
5 regarding fraud, waste, and abuse by providers;

6 (29) Audit, investigate, and access Medicaid encounter data,  
7 premium data, or other information from an entity contracted with for the  
8 purpose of serving Medicaid programs;

9 (30)(A) Promulgate administrative rules to establish policies  
10 and procedures for audits and investigations that are consistent with the  
11 duties of the Office of Medicaid Inspector General under this chapter.

12 (B) The rules shall be posted on the Office of Medicaid  
13 Inspector General's website;

14 (31) Identify conflicts between the Medicaid state plan,  
15 ~~department~~ Department of Human Services rules, Medicaid provider manuals,  
16 Medicaid notices, or other guidance and recommend that the ~~department~~  
17 Department of Human Services reconcile inconsistencies;

18 (32) When conducting an audit, investigation, or review under  
19 this subchapter, classify violations as either:

20 (A) Errors that do not rise to the level of fraud or  
21 abuse; or

22 (B) Fraud or abuse;

23 (33)(A) If a credible allegation of fraud has been made, review  
24 provider records that have been the subject of a previous audit or review for  
25 the purpose of fraud investigation and referral.

26 (B) However, the Medicaid Inspector General shall not  
27 duplicate an audit of a contract, cost report, claim, bill, or expenditure of  
28 a medical assistance program fund that has been the subject of a previous  
29 audit or review by or on behalf of the Office of Medicaid Inspector General,  
30 the Medicaid Fraud Control Unit, or other federal agency with authority over  
31 the medical assistance program if the audit or review was performed in  
32 accordance with the Government Auditing Standards;

33 (34)(A) Utilize a quality improvement organization as part of  
34 the assessment of quality of services.

35 (B) The quality improvement organization shall refer all  
36 identified improper payments due to technical deficiencies, abuse, waste, or

1 fraud to the Medicaid Inspector General for further investigation and  
2 appropriate action, including without limitation recovery; and

3 (35) Perform other functions necessary or appropriate to fulfill  
4 the duties and responsibilities of the Office of Medicaid Inspector General.  
5

6 SECTION 5263. Arkansas Code § 20-77-2509(a), concerning the reports  
7 required of the Medicaid Inspector General, is amended to read as follows:

8 (a) The Medicaid Inspector General shall, no later than October 1 of  
9 each year, submit to the ~~Governor~~ Secretary of the Department of Inspector  
10 General, the President Pro Tempore of the Senate, the Speaker of the House of  
11 Representatives, Arkansas Legislative Audit, the Legislative Council, and the  
12 Attorney General a report summarizing the activities of the Office of  
13 Medicaid Inspector General during the preceding calendar year.  
14

15 SECTION 5264. Arkansas Code § 20-77-2509(d) and (e), concerning the  
16 reports required of the Medicaid Inspector General, are amended to read as  
17 follows:

18 (d)(1) In making the report required under subsection (a) of this  
19 section, the ~~inspector~~ Medicaid Inspector General shall not disclose  
20 information that jeopardizes an ongoing investigation or proceeding.

21 (2) The ~~inspector~~ Medicaid Inspector General may disclose  
22 information in the report required under subsection (a) of this section if  
23 the information does not jeopardize an ongoing investigation or proceeding  
24 and the ~~inspector~~ Medicaid Inspector General fully apprises the designated  
25 recipients of the scope and quality of the office's activities.

26 (e) Quarterly by April 1, July 1, October 1, and January 1 of each  
27 year, the ~~inspector~~ Medicaid Inspector General shall submit to the Governor,  
28 the President Pro Tempore of the Senate, the Speaker of the House of  
29 Representatives, ~~the Division of~~ Arkansas Legislative Audit, the Legislative  
30 Council, and the Attorney General an accountability statement providing a  
31 statistical profile of the referrals made to the Medicaid Fraud Control Unit  
32 of the office of the Attorney General, audits, investigations, and  
33 recoveries.  
34

35 SECTION 5265. Arkansas Code Title 25, Chapter 43, is amended to add an  
36 additional subchapter to read as follows:

1 Subchapter 11 – Department of Labor and Licensing

2  
3 25-43-1101. Department of Labor and Licensing.

4 There is created the Department of Labor and Licensing as a cabinet-  
5 level department.

6  
7 25-43-1102. State entities transferred to Department of Labor and  
8 Licensing.

9 (a) The administrative functions of the following state entities are  
10 transferred to the Department of Labor and Licensing by a cabinet-level  
11 department transfer:

12 (1) The Arkansas Abstracters' Board, created under § 17-11-401;

13 (2) The Arkansas Appraiser Licensing and Certification Board,  
14 created under § 17-14-201;

15 (3) The Arkansas Fire Protection Licensing Board, created under  
16 § 20-22-606;

17 (4) The Arkansas Home Inspector Registration Board, created  
18 under § 17-52-304;

19 (5) The Arkansas Manufactured Home Commission, created under §  
20 20-25-105;

21 (6) The Arkansas Mediation and Conciliation Service, defined  
22 under § 11-2-203;

23 (7) The Arkansas Motor Vehicle Commission, created under § 23-  
24 112-201;

25 (8) The Arkansas Real Estate Commission, created under § 17-42-  
26 201;

27 (9) The Arkansas State Board of Architects, Landscape  
28 Architects, and Interior Designers, created under § 17-15-201;

29 (10) The Arkansas State Board of Public Accountancy, created  
30 under § 17-12-201;

31 (11) The Arkansas Towing and Recovery Board, created under § 27-  
32 50-1203;

33 (12) The Auctioneer's Licensing Board, created under § 17-17-  
34 201;

35 (13) The Board of Electrical Examiners of the State of Arkansas,  
36 created under § 17-28-201;

1           (14) The Contractors Licensing Board, created under § 17-25-201;  
2           (15) The Department of Labor, created under § 25-43-404; now to  
3 be known as the Division of Labor;

4           (16) The Elevator Inspection and Permits "Elevator Safety Board"  
5 under § 20-24-105;

6           (17) The HVACR Licensing Board, created under § 17-33-201;

7           (18) The Pawnbroker Licensure Commission, created under § 17-56-  
8 201;

9           (19) The Professional Bail Bond Company and Professional Bail  
10 Bondsman Licensing Board, created under § 17-19-106;

11           (20) The State Athletic Commission, created under § 17-22-201;

12           (21) The State Board of Barber Examiners, created under § 17-20-  
13 201;

14           (22) The State Board of Collection Agencies, created under § 17-  
15 24-201;

16           (23) The State Board of Licensure for Professional Engineers and  
17 Professional Surveyors, created under § 17-30-201;

18           (24) The State Board of Registration for Professional  
19 Geologists, created under § 17-32-201; and

20           (25) The Workers' Compensation Commission, created under § 11-9-  
21 201.

22           (b) Unless otherwise provided by law, a cabinet-level department  
23 transfer under subsection (a) of this section includes all state entities  
24 under a state entity transferred to the Department of Labor and Licensing  
25 under subsection (a) of this section, including without limitation a  
26 division, office, program, or other unit of a state entity transferred to the  
27 Department of Labor and Licensing under subsection (a) of this section.

28           (c) Unless otherwise provided by law, a state entity whose  
29 administrative functions have been transferred to the Labor and Licensing  
30 under subsection (a) of this section shall otherwise continue to exercise the  
31 duties of the state entity under the administration of the cabinet-level  
32 Department of Labor and Licensing in the same manner as before the creation  
33 of the cabinet-level department.

34  
35           25-43-1103. Secretary of the Department of Labor and Licensing.

36           (a) The executive head of the Department of Labor and Licensing shall

1 be the Secretary of the Department of Labor and Licensing.

2 (b) The secretary shall be appointed by the Governor, subject to  
3 confirmation by the Senate, and shall serve at the pleasure of the Governor.

4 (c) Each division of the department shall be under the direction,  
5 control, and supervision of the secretary.

6 (d) The secretary may delegate his or her functions, powers, and  
7 duties to various divisions or employees of the department as he or she shall  
8 deem desirable and necessary for the effective and efficient operation of the  
9 department.

10 (e) The secretary may, unless otherwise provided by law:

11 (1) Hire department personnel;

12 (2) Perform or assign duties assigned to the department; and

13 (3) Serve as the director, or the administrative or executive  
14 head of any state entity under the administrative control of the department  
15 if the secretary also meets all statutory requirements for the position.

16  
17 25-43-1104. Organization.

18 (a) The Department of Labor and Licensing shall consist of those  
19 divisions of the Department of Labor which existed as of June 30, 2019, those  
20 state entities transferred to the department pursuant to § 25-43-402, and any  
21 other divisions or state entities which may be created by law and placed  
22 under the department.

23 (b) Members of a statutory board or commission transferred to the  
24 department pursuant to a cabinet-level transfer shall continue to be selected  
25 in the manner and serve for the terms provided by the statutes applicable to  
26 that board or commission as such statutes may from time to time be amended.

27  
28 25-43-1105. Division of Labor.

29 (a) There is created a Division of Labor within the Department of  
30 Labor and Licensing.

31 (b) The Secretary of the Department of Labor and Licensing may  
32 delegate any duties and responsibilities to the Division of Labor.

33 (c) The Division of Labor shall retain the statutory duties delegated  
34 to the division.

35 (d) The Secretary of the Department of Labor and Licensing may employ  
36 a Director of the Division of Labor.

1  
2 25-43-1106. Division of Occupational and Professional Licensing Boards  
3 and Commissions.

4 (a) There is created a Division of Occupational and Professional  
5 Licensing Boards and Commissions within the Department of Labor and  
6 Licensing.

7 (b) The Secretary of the Department of Labor and Licensing may  
8 delegate any duties and responsibilities to the Division of Occupational and  
9 Professional Licensing Boards and Commissions.

10 (c) The Secretary of the Department of Labor and Licensing may employ  
11 a Director of the Division of Occupational and Professional Licensing Boards  
12 and Commissions.

13  
14 SECTION 5266. Arkansas Code § 5-64-1301 is amended to read as follows:

15 5-64-1301. Possession of anhydrous ammonia in unlawful container.

16 Any person who knowingly possesses anhydrous ammonia in a container  
17 that does not comply with the regulations of the Boiler Inspection Division  
18 of the ~~Department~~ Division of Labor for the containment of anhydrous ammonia  
19 is guilty of a Class B felony.

20  
21 SECTION 5267. Arkansas Code § 8-7-1003(a)(2), concerning the  
22 definition of "director" under the Public Employees' Chemical Right to Know  
23 Act, is repealed.

24 ~~(2) "Director" means the Director of the Department of Labor or~~  
25 ~~his or her designee;~~

26  
27 SECTION 5268. Arkansas Code § 8-7-1004(1), concerning the duties of  
28 public employers under the Public Employees' Chemical Right to Know Act, is  
29 amended to read as follows:

30 (1) Post adequate notice, as provided by the Director of the  
31 ~~Department~~ Division of Labor, at locations where notices are normally posted,  
32 informing public employees about their rights under this subchapter;

33  
34 SECTION 5269. Arkansas Code § 8-7-1006(e), concerning material safety  
35 data sheets under the Public Employees' Chemical Right to Know Act, is  
36 amended to read as follows:

1 (e) A public employer, chemical manufacturer, or distributor shall  
2 provide a copy of a material safety data sheet to the Director of the  
3 ~~Department~~ Division of Labor upon request.  
4

5 SECTION 5270. Arkansas Code § 8-7-1007(b), concerning workplace  
6 chemical lists under the Public Employees' Chemical Right to Know Act, is  
7 amended to read as follows:

8 (b) Each public employer shall file the workplace chemical list with  
9 the Director of the Department of Labor or the Division of Labor no later  
10 than ninety (90) days after July 1, 1991, and shall update the workplace  
11 chemical list as necessary, but in any case by July 1 of each subsequent  
12 year.  
13

14 SECTION 5271. Arkansas Code § 8-7-1008(b)(1), concerning employee  
15 information and training under the Public Employees' Chemical Right to Know  
16 Act, is amended to read as follows:

17 (b)(1) The information and training program provided pursuant to this  
18 section shall be developed in accordance with regulations to be promulgated  
19 by the Director of the Department of Labor or the Division of Labor pursuant  
20 to § 8-7-1011 within six (6) months after July 1, 1991.  
21

22 SECTION 5272. Arkansas Code § 8-7-1009(a), concerning outreach  
23 activities of the Director of the Department of Labor under the Public  
24 Employees' Chemical Right to Know Act, is amended to read as follows:

25 (a) The Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of Labor shall develop and  
26 give each public employer a suitable form of notice providing public  
27 employees with information regarding their rights under this subchapter.  
28

29 SECTION 5273. Arkansas Code § 8-7-1010(b), concerning the rights of  
30 public employees under the Public Employees' Chemical Right to Know Act, is  
31 amended to read as follows:

32 (b) No public employer shall discharge or cause to be discharged or  
33 otherwise discipline or discriminate against a public employee because the  
34 public employee has requested information, filed a complaint, assisted an  
35 inspector of the Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of Labor, or instituted  
36 or caused to be instituted any complaint or proceeding under or related to

1 this subchapter or has testified or is about to testify in any such  
2 proceeding or has exercised any rights afforded by this subchapter on behalf  
3 of the public employee or other public employees, nor shall any pay,  
4 position, seniority, or other benefits to which the public employee may be  
5 entitled be lost because the public employee exercised rights afforded by  
6 this subchapter.

7  
8 SECTION 5274. Arkansas Code § 8-7-1011(a), concerning rule-making  
9 under the Public Employees' Chemical Right to Know Act, is amended to read as  
10 follows:

11 (a) The Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of Labor may promulgate  
12 rules and regulations in accordance with the provisions of §§ 11-2-110, 11-2-  
13 112, and 11-2-113 to implement the provisions of this subchapter. This  
14 authority shall include, but not be limited to, the authority to implement  
15 changes corresponding to future amendments to the Hazard Communication  
16 Standard to maintain consistency between this subchapter and the Hazard  
17 Communication Standard.

18  
19 SECTION 5275. Arkansas Code § 8-7-1012(a)(4), concerning rulemaking  
20 under the Public Employees' Chemical Right to Know Act, is amended to read as  
21 follows:

22 (4) The specific chemical identity is made available to health  
23 professionals, employees, and their designated representatives under the same  
24 conditions as are set out in the Hazard Communication Standard, 29 C.F.R. §  
25 1910.1200(i)(2)-(7), provided, the information disclosable to the United  
26 States Occupational Safety and Health Administration under the Hazard  
27 Communication Standard shall also be disclosable to the Director of the  
28 ~~Department~~ Division of Labor.

29  
30 SECTION 5276. Arkansas Code § 8-7-1013(a), concerning complaints and  
31 investigations under the Public Employees' Chemical Right to Know Act, is  
32 amended to read as follows:

33 (a) Complaints received orally or in writing from public employees,  
34 their designated representatives, or public employers related to alleged  
35 violations of this subchapter shall be investigated in a timely manner by the  
36 Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of Labor.

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SECTION 5277. Arkansas Code § 8-7-1014(a), concerning enforcement under the Public Employees' Chemical Right to Know Act, is amended to read as follows:

(a) If the Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of Labor determines that a public employer has violated a provision of this subchapter, the director shall issue an order to the official responsible for performing the duties required by this subchapter directing that official to cease and desist the act or omission constituting the violation. Such an order shall constitute prima facie evidence of a violation in any enforcement action filed pursuant to § 8-7-1015.

SECTION 5278. Arkansas Code § 8-7-1015(a), concerning attorney's fees and a cause of action under the Public Employees' Chemical Right to Know Act, is amended to read as follows:

(a) Any citizen denied the rights granted to him or her by this subchapter may commence a civil action against a public employer or responsible official of a public employer in the Pulaski County Circuit Court or the circuit court of the residence of the aggrieved party, if an agency of the state is involved, or any of the circuit courts of the appropriate judicial districts when any other public employer is involved. Issuance of a cease and desist order by the Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of Labor shall not be a prerequisite to the commencement of such an action.

SECTION 5279. Arkansas Code § 11-2-101 is amended to read as follows:

11-2-101. Purpose.

The purpose of the ~~Department~~ Division of Labor shall be to foster, promote, and develop the welfare of the wage earners of Arkansas, to improve their working conditions, and to advance their opportunities for profitable employment.

SECTION 5280. Arkansas Code § 11-2-104(a), concerning penalties for violations of orders of the Director of the Department of Labor, is amended to read as follows:

(a) Any employer or owner who violates or fails or refuses to comply with any provision of this subchapter, any lawful order of the Director of

1 the ~~Department~~ Division of Labor, or any judgment or decree made by any court  
2 in connection with the provisions of this subchapter for which no penalty has  
3 been otherwise provided shall be guilty of a misdemeanor.

4  
5 SECTION 5281. Arkansas Code § 11-2-105(a)(1), concerning enforcement  
6 actions upon request of the Director of the Department of Labor, is amended  
7 to read as follows:

8 (a)(1) It shall be the duty of the Attorney General and the several  
9 prosecuting attorneys, upon request of the Director of the ~~Department~~  
10 Division of Labor, or any of his or her authorized representatives, to  
11 prosecute any violation of the law that is the duty of the director to  
12 enforce.

13  
14 SECTION 5282. Arkansas Code § 11-2-106 is repealed.

15 ~~11-2-106. Creation.~~

16 ~~(a) A Department of Labor is created and established under the~~  
17 ~~supervision and direction of a director to be known as the Director of the~~  
18 ~~Department of Labor.~~

19 ~~(b) The director may set up within the department such divisions as he~~  
20 ~~or she may deem necessary for the exercise of the powers and the performance~~  
21 ~~of the duties of the department, except as otherwise provided by law.~~

22  
23 SECTION 5283. Arkansas Code § 11-2-107(a)-(c), concerning the  
24 appointment of the Director of the Department of Labor, is amended to read as  
25 follows:

26 (a) The Governor shall appoint the Director of the ~~Department~~ Division  
27 of Labor, subject to confirmation by the Senate.

28 (b)(1) The director shall serve at the pleasure of the Governor.

29 (2) The director shall report to the Secretary of the Department  
30 of Labor and Licensing.

31 ~~(2)(3)~~ (3) The director shall be a person who, on account of his or  
32 her previous vocation, employment, or affiliation can be classed as a  
33 representative of employees.

34 ~~(3) Any individual chosen to fill a vacancy shall be appointed~~  
35 ~~only for the unexpired portion of the term of the director whom he or she~~  
36 ~~shall succeed, and shall have the same qualifications as the director.~~

1 (4) All appointments made while the Senate is not in regular  
2 session shall be effective ad interim.

3 (c) The director shall give a bond in the sum of two thousand dollars  
4 (\$2,000) with sureties to be approved by the ~~Governor~~ Secretary of the  
5 Department of Labor and Licensing, conditioned for the faithful discharge of  
6 the duties of his or her office.

7  
8 SECTION 5284. Arkansas Code § 11-2-108 is amended to read as follows:

9 11-2-108. Director – Powers and duties generally.

10 In addition to such other duties and powers as may be conferred upon  
11 him or her by law, the Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of Labor shall  
12 have the power, jurisdiction, and authority:

13 (1) To enforce all labor laws in the State of Arkansas, the  
14 enforcement of which is not otherwise specifically provided for;

15 (2) To administer and enforce all laws, rules, and regulations  
16 that are the duty of the ~~Department~~ Division of Labor to administer and  
17 enforce;

18 (3) To direct, except as otherwise provided, make, or cause to  
19 be made all necessary inspections to see that all laws and rules made  
20 pursuant thereto that the ~~department~~ division has the duty, power, and  
21 authority to enforce are promptly and effectively carried out; and

22 (4) To make investigations, collect and compile statistical  
23 information, and report upon conditions of labor generally and upon all  
24 matters relating to the enforcement and effect of the provisions of this  
25 subchapter and of the rules issued under this subchapter.

26  
27 SECTION 5285. Arkansas Code § 11-2-109 is amended to read as follows:

28 11-2-109. Director – Intervention in and arbitration of labor  
29 disputes.

30 (a) In addition to such other duties and powers as may be conferred  
31 upon him or her by law, the Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of Labor  
32 shall have the power, jurisdiction, and authority:

33 (1)(A) To intervene or authorize his or her representative to  
34 intervene in any labor dispute in a strictly conciliatory or mediatory  
35 capacity whenever he or she is extended a written invitation to do so by  
36 either party to the controversy.

1 (B) However, the ~~Department~~ Division of Labor may proffer  
2 its services to both parties when a work stoppage is threatened and neither  
3 party requests intervention;

4 (2) To do all in his or her power to promote the voluntary  
5 arbitration of disputes between employers and employees and to avoid the  
6 necessity of resorting to lockouts, boycotts, blacklists, discriminations,  
7 and legal proceedings in matters of employment.

8 (b)(1) In pursuance of his or her duty, whenever both sides to any  
9 controversy agree to voluntary arbitration, the director may appoint  
10 temporary boards of arbitration, prescribe rules of procedure for the  
11 arbitration boards, conduct investigations and hearings, publish reports and  
12 advertisements, and do all things convenient and necessary to accomplish the  
13 purposes of this subchapter.

14 (2) Members of the boards of arbitration may receive expense  
15 reimbursement in accordance with § 25-16-901 et seq.

16 (c)(1) The ~~director~~ secretary may designate an employee of the  
17 ~~department~~ division to act as chief mediator and may detail other employees  
18 or persons not in the ~~department~~ division from time to time to act as his or  
19 her assistants for the purpose of executing these provisions.

20 (2) Employees of the ~~department~~ division shall serve on  
21 temporary boards without extra compensation.

22  
23 SECTION 5286. Arkansas Code § 11-2-110 is amended to read as follows:  
24 11-2-110. Director – Rulemaking authority.

25 (a) In addition to such other powers and duties as may be conferred  
26 upon him or her by law, the Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of Labor  
27 shall have the power to make, modify, and repeal reasonable rules for the  
28 prevention of accidents or industrial or occupational diseases in every  
29 employment or place of employment and to make, modify, and repeal reasonable  
30 rules for the construction, repair, and maintenance of places of employment,  
31 places of public assembly, and public buildings which shall render them safe.

32 (b) The director shall have the power to make, modify, or repeal such  
33 rules, or changes in rules, as he or she may deem necessary to carry out the  
34 provisions of this subchapter.

35 (c) The director may appoint committees composed of employers,  
36 employees, and experts to suggest rules or changes therein.

1 (d) The rules of the director shall have the force and effect of law  
2 and shall be enforced by the director in the same manner as the provisions of  
3 this subchapter.

4  
5 SECTION 5287. Arkansas Code § 11-2-111 is amended to read as follows:

6 11-2-111. Office – Employees – Location of hearings.

7 (a) The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Labor and Licensing is  
8 authorized to appoint a deputy director, a secretary, the heads of divisions,  
9 and such other employees as may be necessary. He or she is authorized to  
10 assign them to their duties and recommend to the General Assembly the  
11 salaries that are to be fixed by appropriation.

12 (b) The ~~Department~~ Division of Labor shall keep an office in ~~the City~~  
13 ~~of Little Rock~~ Pulaski County and shall maintain such other office as shall  
14 meet the convenience of the ~~department~~ division and the public.

15 (c) The members, employees, and agents of the ~~department~~ division  
16 shall be entitled to receive from the state their necessary and actual  
17 expenses while traveling on the business of the ~~department~~ division either  
18 within or without the State of Arkansas.

19 (d) The ~~director~~ secretary and his or her authorized representatives  
20 may hold hearings at any place other than the Capitol when the convenience of  
21 the ~~department~~ division and of the interested parties requires.

22  
23 SECTION 5288. Arkansas Code § 11-2-112 is amended to read as follows:

24 11-2-112. Promulgation of rules.

25 (a) Before any rule is adopted, amended, or repealed, there shall be a  
26 public hearing thereon, notice of which shall be published at least once and  
27 not less than ten (10) days prior to the public hearing in such newspaper as  
28 the Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of Labor may prescribe.

29 (b)(1) All rules and all amendments and repeals thereof shall, unless  
30 otherwise prescribed by the director, take effect thirty (30) days after the  
31 first publication thereof, and certified copies shall be filed in the office  
32 of the Secretary of State.

33 (2) Every rule adopted and every amendment or repeal shall be  
34 published in such manner as the director may determine, and the director  
35 shall deliver a copy to every person making application therefor. The  
36 director shall include the text of each rule or amendment in an appendix to

1 the annual report of the ~~department~~ Division of Labor next following the  
2 adoption or amendment of the rule.

3  
4 SECTION 5289. Arkansas Code § 11-2-113(a), concerning variation of  
5 rules of the Department of Labor due to difficulties or hardship, is amended  
6 to read as follows:

7 (a) If there shall be practical difficulties or unnecessary hardships  
8 in carrying out a rule of the Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of Labor,  
9 the director may, after public hearing, make a variation from such  
10 requirement if the spirit of the rule and law shall be observed.

11  
12 SECTION 5290. Arkansas Code § 11-2-114(a)(1), concerning judicial  
13 review of rules of the Director of the Department of Labor, is amended to  
14 read as follows:

15 (a)(1) Any person aggrieved by a rule of the Director of the  
16 ~~Department~~ Division of Labor made pursuant to § 11-2-112 may commence an  
17 action in the Pulaski County Circuit Court against the ~~Department~~ Division of  
18 Labor, as defendant, to set aside the rule on the ground that it is unlawful  
19 or unreasonable.

20  
21 SECTION 5291. Arkansas Code § 11-2-115(a)(1), concerning the  
22 inspection of employer records, is amended to read as follows:

23 (a)(1) Every employer or owner shall furnish to the Director of the  
24 ~~Department~~ Division of Labor any information that the director is authorized  
25 to require and shall make true and specific answers to all questions, whether  
26 submitted orally or in writing, authorized to be put to the employer or  
27 owner.

28  
29 SECTION 5292. Arkansas Code § 11-2-115(b), concerning the inspection  
30 of employer records, is amended to read as follows:

31 (b) The director and any authorized representative of the ~~Department~~  
32 Division of Labor shall, for the purpose of examination, have access to and  
33 the right to copy from any book, account, record, payroll, paper, or  
34 documents relating to the employment of workers.

35  
36 SECTION 5293. Arkansas Code § 11-2-116(a), concerning the authority to

1 enter and inspect workplaces, is amended to read as follows:

2 (a) The Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of Labor and his or her  
3 authorized representatives shall have the power and authority to enter any  
4 place of employment, place of public assembly, or public building for the  
5 purpose of collecting facts and statistics relating to the employment of  
6 workers and of making inspections for the proper enforcement of all labor  
7 laws of the state.

8

9 SECTION 5294. Arkansas Code § 11-2-117(c), concerning the duties of an  
10 employer to provide a safe place of employment, is amended to read as  
11 follows:

12 (c) If the Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of Labor or his or her  
13 authorized representative finds that any machine, tool, or equipment, or any  
14 part thereof, is in a dangerous condition, is not properly guarded, or is  
15 dangerously placed, he or she shall attach to the machine, tool, or equipment  
16 a notice warning all persons against its use and setting out in complete  
17 detail the conditions that render the machine, tool, or equipment unfit for  
18 service. The machine, tool, or equipment shall not be used until it is made  
19 safe, the required safeguards or safety appliances or devices as set forth in  
20 the certificate attached thereto have been fully corrected, and notice of the  
21 correction is sent to the ~~Department~~ Division of Labor by registered mail,  
22 accompanied by a certificate from a competent mechanic certifying correction  
23 of the defects.

24

25 SECTION 5295. Arkansas Code § 11-2-118 is amended to read as follows:

26 11-2-118. Oaths, certifications, subpoenas, etc. – Enforcement by  
27 contempt.

28 (a) The Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of Labor and any officer  
29 of the ~~Department~~ Division of Labor designated by the director, in the  
30 performance of any duty or the execution of any power prescribed by law,  
31 shall have the power to administer oaths, certify to official acts, take and  
32 cause to be taken depositions of witnesses, issue subpoenas, and compel the  
33 attendance of witnesses and the production of papers, books, accounts,  
34 payrolls, documents, records, and testimony.

35 (b) In case of failure of any person to comply with any subpoena  
36 lawfully issued or on the refusal of any witness to produce evidence or to

1 testify to any matter regarding which he or she may be lawfully interrogated,  
2 it shall be the duty of any court of competent jurisdiction or the judge  
3 thereof, upon application of the director or any officer or agent of the  
4 ~~department~~ division, to compel obedience by attachment proceedings for  
5 contempt, as in the case of disobedience of the requirements of a subpoena  
6 issued for the court or a refusal to testify therein.

7  
8 SECTION 5296. Arkansas Code § 11-2-119 is amended to read as follows:  
9 11-2-119. False statements made under oath deemed perjury.

10 Any employer or owner who shall knowingly testify falsely, under oath,  
11 or shall knowingly make, give, or produce any false statements or false  
12 evidence, under oath, to the Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of Labor or  
13 his or her authorized representatives shall be deemed guilty of perjury.

14  
15 SECTION 5297. Arkansas Code § 11-2-120 is amended to read as follows:  
16 11-2-120. Annual report.

17 (a) The Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of Labor shall annually,  
18 on or before January 1, file with the ~~Governor~~ Secretary of Labor and  
19 Licensing a report covering the activities of the ~~Department~~ Division of  
20 Labor, accompanied by recommendations with reference to such changes in the  
21 law, applying to and affecting industrial and labor conditions, as the  
22 director may deem advisable.

23 (b) The report of the director shall be printed and distributed in  
24 such manner as the ~~Governor~~ Secretary of the Department of Labor and  
25 Licensing shall authorize.

26  
27 SECTION 5298. Arkansas Code § 11-2-121 is amended to read as follows:  
28 11-2-121. Agreements with government agencies.

29 (a) The Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of Labor is authorized to  
30 enter into agreements with the United States Government and any and all other  
31 state governments for assistance and cooperation in enforcing and  
32 implementing state and federal laws and projects in fields related to the  
33 ~~Department~~ Division of Labor.

34 (b)(1) The ~~department~~ division may accept payment or reimbursement for  
35 its services as provided by the acts of Congress or the legislature of any  
36 other state.

1 (2) All payments or funds received by the ~~department~~ division  
2 under this section shall be deposited into the State Treasury, to be expended  
3 as provided by law.

4  
5 SECTION 5299. Arkansas Code § 11-2-122(b), concerning the disclosure  
6 of the availability of health benefits to employees, is amended to read as  
7 follows:

8 (b) The notification shall be made at such time and in such manner as  
9 prescribed by regulation promulgated by the Director of the ~~Department~~  
10 Division of Labor.

11  
12 SECTION 5300. Arkansas Code § 11-2-123(a), concerning the employment  
13 training and placement programs for ex-offenders, is amended to read as  
14 follows:

15 (a) In order to help facilitate the restoration of an ex-offender's  
16 responsibility and self-sufficiency, the ~~Department~~ Division of Labor shall  
17 work in conjunction with other appropriate state agencies, the private  
18 sector, and labor organizations to promulgate rules for implementing  
19 placement and training programs for ex-offenders.

20  
21 SECTION 5301. Arkansas Code § 11-2-203 is amended to read as follows:

22 11-2-203. ~~Definitions~~ Definition.

23 For the purpose of this subchapter, unless the context otherwise  
24 requires, the term

25 ~~(1) "Director" means the Director of the Department of Labor;~~

26 ~~(2) "Person person" means one (1) or more individuals, joint~~  
27 ~~ventures, partnerships, associations, corporations, states, municipalities,~~  
28 ~~business trusts, legal representatives, or any organized group of employees;~~

29 ~~(3) "Service" means the Arkansas Mediation and Conciliation~~  
30 ~~Service of the Department of Labor; and~~

31 ~~(4) "State" means the State of Arkansas.~~

32  
33 SECTION 5302. Arkansas Code § 11-2-204(a), concerning the confidential  
34 records and information of the Arkansas Mediation and Conciliation Service,  
35 is amended to read as follows:

36 (a) All files, reports, letters, memoranda, minutes, documents, or

1 other papers in the official custody of the Arkansas Mediation and  
2 Conciliation Service or any of its employees, or any other information,  
3 whether written or not, obtained in the course of any employee's official  
4 duties, relating to or acquired in its or their official activities under the  
5 labor laws of the state or the rules and regulations lawfully promulgated by  
6 the Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of Labor, are confidential.

7  
8 SECTION 5303. Arkansas Code § 11-2-205(b)(2), concerning the  
9 compliance with subpoenas by the Arkansas Mediation and Conciliation Service,  
10 is amended to read as follows:

11 (2) Immediately upon receipt of the subpoena, the mediator or  
12 former mediator or employee should contact the Director of the ~~Department~~  
13 Division of Labor, who shall immediately notify the staff attorneys of the  
14 Department of Labor and Licensing of the state to ensure that the procedures  
15 set forth in this subchapter will be followed. The director then shall  
16 instruct the staff attorneys to appear in behalf of the mediator and protect  
17 the service from any disclosure that violates the provisions contained in  
18 this subchapter.

19  
20 SECTION 5304. Arkansas Code § 11-2-206(a)(1), concerning judicial  
21 review of orders of the Arkansas Mediation and Conciliation Service, is  
22 amended to read as follows:

23 (a)(1) The mediator or the Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of  
24 Labor on his or her behalf or the Attorney General on his or her behalf may  
25 obtain a review of the order requiring him or her to testify.

26  
27 SECTION 5305. Arkansas Code § 11-3-203(a)(3), concerning medical  
28 examination as a condition for employment, is amended to read as follows:

29 (3) Notwithstanding subdivision (a)(1) of this section, if an  
30 employee tests positive for an illegal drug as defined by rule of the  
31 ~~Department~~ Division of Labor, the employer and employee may agree in writing  
32 who will bear the cost of future drug tests or screens required as a  
33 condition of continued employment.

34  
35 SECTION 5306. Arkansas Code § 11-3-203(c), concerning medical  
36 examination as a condition for employment, is amended to read as follows:

1 (c) The Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of Labor shall administer  
2 and enforce this section, including without limitation, by:

3 (1) Adopting administrative rules; and

4 (2) Demanding payment and seeking recovery in a court of  
5 competent jurisdiction for charges, fees, wage deductions, or other payments  
6 made by employees as a result of an employer's violation of this section.

7  
8 SECTION 5307. Arkansas Code § 11-4-203(1), concerning the definition  
9 of "director" under the laws governing minimum wages, is repealed.

10 ~~(1) "Director" means the Director of the Department of Labor;~~

11  
12 SECTION 5308. Arkansas Code § 11-4-203(3)(R)(ii)(b), concerning the  
13 definition of "employee" under the laws governing minimum wages, is amended  
14 to read as follows:

15 (b) The retroactive effect of this subdivision  
16 (3)(R) does not impose liability on the ~~Department~~ Division of Labor or on an  
17 employee to repay damages, back wages, civil money penalties, or other moneys  
18 collected or paid by the ~~department~~ division or received by an employee;

19  
20 SECTION 5309. Arkansas Code § 11-4-206(a)(1), concerning the penalties  
21 under the laws governing minimum wages, is amended to read as follows:

22 (a)(1) Any employer who willfully hinders or delays the Director of  
23 the ~~Department~~ Division of Labor or his or her authorized representative in  
24 the performance of his or her duties in the enforcement of this subchapter,  
25 willfully refuses to admit the director or his or her authorized  
26 representative to any place of employment, willfully fails to make, keep, and  
27 preserve any records as required under the provisions of this subchapter,  
28 willfully falsifies any such record, willfully refuses to make the record  
29 accessible to the director or his or her authorized representative upon  
30 demand, willfully refuses to furnish a sworn statement of the record or any  
31 other information required for the proper enforcement of this subchapter to  
32 the director or his or her authorized representative upon demand, willfully  
33 fails to post a summary of this subchapter or a copy of any applicable  
34 regulations as required by § 11-4-216, pays or agrees to pay minimum wages at  
35 a rate less than the rate applicable under this subchapter, or otherwise  
36 willfully violates any provision of this subchapter or of any regulation

1 issued under this subchapter shall be deemed in violation of this subchapter  
2 and shall be subject to a civil penalty of not less than fifty dollars  
3 (\$50.00) and not more than one thousand dollars (\$1,000) for each violation.  
4

5 SECTION 5310. Arkansas Code § 11-4-206(g), concerning the penalties  
6 under the laws governing minimum wages, is amended to read as follows:

7 (g) Sums collected under this section shall be paid into the  
8 Department of Labor and Licensing Special Fund.  
9

10 SECTION 5311. Arkansas Code § 11-4-209(a), concerning the powers and  
11 duties of the Director of the Department of Labor, is amended to read as  
12 follows:

13 (a) For any occupation, the Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of  
14 Labor shall make and revise such administrative regulations, including  
15 definitions of terms, as he or she may deem appropriate to carry out the  
16 purposes of this subchapter or necessary to prevent the circumvention or  
17 evasion thereof and to safeguard the minimum wage rates established.  
18

19 SECTION 5312. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 11-4-  
20 211(g), concerning overtime, is amended to read as follows:

21 (g) By rule or regulation, the Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of  
22 Labor may authorize employment in excess of the standard set by subsection  
23 (a) of this section or may authorize the calculation of overtime on a basis  
24 other than the regular rate of pay required by subsection (a) of this section  
25 for employment:  
26

27 SECTION 5313. Arkansas Code § 11-4-212(b), concerning the allowance  
28 for gratuities, is amended to read as follows:

29 (b) In determining whether an employee received in gratuities the  
30 amount claimed, the Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of Labor may require  
31 the employee to show to the satisfaction of the director that the actual  
32 amount of gratuities received by him or her during any work week was less  
33 than the amount determined by the employer as the amount by which the wage  
34 paid the employee was deemed to be increased under this section.  
35

36 SECTION 5314. Arkansas Code § 11-4-213(b), concerning the allowance

1 for furnishing board, lodging, apparel, and other items, is amended to read  
2 as follows:

3 (b) In determining whether an employee received board, lodging,  
4 apparel, or other items and services having a reasonable value of less than  
5 thirty cents (30¢) per hour during any work week, the Director of the  
6 ~~Department~~ Division of Labor may require the employee to show to the  
7 satisfaction of the director that the reasonable value of items and services  
8 received by the employee was less than the amount determined by the employer  
9 as the amount by which the wage paid the employee was deemed to be increased  
10 under this section.

11

12 SECTION 5315. Arkansas Code § 11-4-214(a), concerning disabled  
13 workers, is amended to read as follows:

14 (a) Any person handicapped by lack of skill, age, or physical or  
15 mental deficiency or injury in any way that his or her earning capacity is  
16 impaired shall be granted a temporary special exemption license or permit  
17 authorizing the employment of the person at wages lower than the minimum  
18 prescribed in this subchapter until such time as the Director of the  
19 ~~Department~~ Division of Labor shall hold a hearing and prescribe regulations  
20 regarding exemption of these persons as authorized in this section.

21

22 SECTION 5316. Arkansas Code § 11-4-215(a), concerning learners,  
23 apprentices, and full-time students, is amended to read as follows:

24 (a) For any occupation, the Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of  
25 Labor may provide, by regulation, after a public hearing at which any person  
26 may be heard, for the employment in the occupation of learners, apprentices,  
27 and full-time students at wages lower than the minimum wage rate provided in  
28 § 11-4-210(b) as he or she may find appropriate to prevent curtailment of  
29 opportunities for employment and to safeguard the minimum wage rate under  
30 this subchapter.

31

32 SECTION 5317. Arkansas Code § 11-4-216(a), concerning the posting of  
33 laws, is amended to read as follows:

34 (a) Every employer subject to any provisions of this subchapter or of  
35 any regulations issued under this subchapter shall keep a summary of this  
36 subchapter, approved by the Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of Labor, and

1 copies of any applicable regulations issued under this subchapter, or a  
2 summary of the regulations approved by the director, posted in a conspicuous  
3 and accessible place in or about the premises wherein any person subject  
4 thereto is employed.

5  
6 SECTION 5318. Arkansas Code § 11-4-217(a), concerning records kept by  
7 employers, is amended to read as follows:

8 (a) Every employer subject to any provision of this subchapter or of  
9 any regulation issued under this subchapter shall make and keep for a period  
10 of not less than three (3) years in or about the premises wherein any  
11 employee is employed a record of the name, address, and occupation of each of  
12 his or her employees, the rate of pay, the amount paid each pay period to  
13 each employee, and such other information as the Director of the ~~Department~~  
14 Division of Labor shall prescribe by regulation as necessary or appropriate  
15 for the enforcement of the provisions of this subchapter or of the  
16 regulations under this subchapter.

17  
18 SECTION 5319. Arkansas Code § 11-4-218(d)(1), concerning an employee's  
19 remedies, is amended to read as follows:

20 (d)(1) The Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of Labor shall have the  
21 authority to fully enforce this subchapter by instituting legal action to  
22 recover any wages that he or she determines to be due to employees under this  
23 subchapter.

24  
25 SECTION 5320. Arkansas Code § 11-4-219(b), concerning judicial review  
26 of an administrative regulation, is amended to read as follows:

27 (b) A copy of the petition shall be served upon the Director of the  
28 ~~Department~~ Division of Labor.

29  
30 SECTION 5321. Arkansas Code § 11-4-220(a), concerning the filing of  
31 claims with the Director of the Department of Labor, is amended to read as  
32 follows:

33 (a) Any employee covered by this subchapter may file a claim with the  
34 Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of Labor charging that an employer has  
35 violated § 11-4-210 or § 11-4-211 as to any employee or other person.

36

1 SECTION 5322. Arkansas Code § 11-4-303 is amended to read as follows:

2 11-4-303. Director of ~~Department~~ Division of Labor to conduct hearing.

3 (a) Upon application of either employer or employee, the Director of  
4 the ~~Department~~ Division of Labor or any person authorized by the director  
5 shall have authority to inquire into, hear, and decide disputes arising from  
6 wages earned and shall allow or reject any deduction from wages.

7 (b) Upon motion of either employer or employee, the amount found to be  
8 due may be paid in the presence of the director or person designated by him  
9 or her, and after final hearing by the director or person appointed by him or  
10 her, he or she shall file in the office of the ~~Department~~ Division of Labor a  
11 copy of findings and facts and his or her award.

12 (c) The amount of the award of the director shall be presumed to be  
13 the amount of wages, if any, due and unpaid to the employee.

14  
15 SECTION 5323. Arkansas Code § 11-4-304 is amended to read as follows:

16 11-4-304. Judicial review.

17 (a) If either employer or employee shall fail or refuse to accept the  
18 findings of the Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of Labor, then either  
19 shall have the right to proceed at law as provided.

20 (b) If the claim is meritorious, and if within the discretion of the  
21 director the claimant's lack of financial ability entitles him or her to the  
22 services of the ~~department~~ Division of Labor, the director in the name of the  
23 State of Arkansas, for the benefit of the claimant, may institute action in  
24 any court of competent jurisdiction, without paying costs or giving bond for  
25 costs, and shall be entitled to all remedies available to litigants in the  
26 prosecution of actions and their enforcement, if successful.

27 (c) Nothing in this section shall be construed so as to relieve an  
28 unsuccessful defendant from paying costs.

29  
30 SECTION 5324. Arkansas Code § 11-4-306 is amended to read as follows:

31 11-4-306. Fees prohibited.

32 The Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of Labor or any person  
33 designated by him or her shall not charge or be permitted to accept any fees  
34 or remuneration whatsoever from any person for the performance of any duties  
35 under this subchapter.

36

1 SECTION 5325. Arkansas Code § 11-4-402(b)(3), concerning payments made  
2 in currency and discounts for advance payment, is amended to read as follows:

3 (3) This subsection ~~(b)~~ does not apply to any demand or claim by  
4 the ~~Department~~ Division of Labor.

5  
6 SECTION 5326. Arkansas Code § 11-4-608 is amended to read as follows:

7 11-4-608. Penalties for violation of §§ 11-4-607 – 11-4-612.

8 Any employer who violates any provision of §§ 11-4-607 – 11-4-612, or  
9 who discharges or in any other manner discriminates against any employee  
10 because the employee has made a complaint to his or her employer, the  
11 Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of Labor, or any other person, has  
12 instituted or caused to be instituted any proceedings under or related to §§  
13 11-4-607 – 11-4-612, or has testified or is about to testify in any such  
14 proceeding shall be fined not more than five hundred dollars (\$500) nor  
15 imprisoned more than one (1) year, or both.

16  
17 SECTION 5327. Arkansas Code § 11-4-609 is amended to read as follows:

18 11-4-609. Administration of §§ 11-4-607 – 11-4-612.

19 The Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of Labor shall have the power  
20 and it shall be his or her duty to carry out and administer the provisions of  
21 §§ 11-4-607 – 11-4-612.

22  
23 SECTION 5328. Arkansas Code § 11-4-611(b)(4), concerning an action to  
24 collect unpaid wages, is amended to read as follows:

25 (4) At the request of any employee paid less than the wage to  
26 which he or she is entitled under §§ 11-4-607 – 11-4-612, the Director of the  
27 ~~Department~~ Division of Labor may take an assignment of the wage claim in  
28 trust for the employee and shall bring any legal action necessary to collect  
29 the claim. The director shall not be required to pay any court costs in  
30 connection with the action.

31  
32 SECTION 5329. Arkansas Code § 11-5-101(c), concerning the suitable  
33 temperature, humidity, and air space required, is amended to read as follows:

34 (c) In every room, apartment, or building used as a factory, mill,  
35 workshop, mercantile establishment, laundry, or other place of employment,  
36 sufficient air space shall be provided for every employee which in the

1 judgment of the Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of Labor or of his or her  
2 deputies and inspectors is sufficient for the employees health and welfare.

3  
4 SECTION 5330. Arkansas Code § 11-5-107(a), concerning the inspection  
5 of a working place, is amended to read as follows:

6 (a) The Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of Labor or any of his or  
7 her deputies or inspectors shall have the right to enter any factory, mill,  
8 workshop, mercantile establishment, laundry, or other establishment where  
9 three (3) or more persons are employed for the purpose of making inspections  
10 and enforcing the provisions of §§ 11-5-101 – 11-5-111.

11  
12 SECTION 5331. Arkansas Code § 11-5-108 is amended to read as follows:  
13 11-5-108. Order to correct conditions – Issuance.

14 (a) The Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of Labor or any of his or  
15 her deputies or inspectors may issue a written order to the owner, manager,  
16 superintendent, or other person in control or management of the place or  
17 establishment for the correction of any condition caused or permitted in or  
18 about the place or establishment in violation of any of the requirements of  
19 §§ 11-5-101 – 11-5-111, or of any condition, practice, plan, or method used  
20 therein or thereabouts in supposed compliance with any requirement of §§ 11-  
21 5-101 – 11-5-111 but which are found to be inadequate or insufficient, in any  
22 respect, to comply therewith, and shall state in the order how the  
23 conditions, practices, plans, or methods, in any case, shall be corrected and  
24 the time within which they shall be corrected, a reasonable time being given  
25 in the order therefor.

26 (b) One (1) copy of the order shall be delivered to the owner,  
27 manager, superintendent, or other person in control or management of the  
28 place or establishment, and one (1) copy shall be filed in the office of the  
29 ~~Department~~ Division of Labor.

30  
31 SECTION 5332. Arkansas Code § 11-5-109(b)(1), concerning the  
32 conclusiveness of an order to correct conditions, is amended to read as  
33 follows:

34 (b)(1) The owner or owners, manager, superintendent, or other person  
35 in control or management of any place or establishment covered by this  
36 chapter, and directly affected by any finding or order provided for in §§ 11-

1 5-107 and 11-5-108, may, within fifteen (15) days from the date of the  
2 delivery to him, her, or them of a copy of the order as provided for in §§  
3 11-5-107 and 11-5-108, file a petition setting forth the particular cause of  
4 objection to the order and findings in a court of competent jurisdiction  
5 against the Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of Labor.  
6

7 SECTION 5333. Arkansas Code § 11-5-110(a), concerning the penalties  
8 for noncompliance with an order to correct conditions, is amended to read as  
9 follows:

10 (a) Upon the failure or refusal of the owner, manager, superintendent,  
11 or other person in control or management of a place or establishment, to  
12 comply with an order issued pursuant to § 11-5-108 within the time therein  
13 specified, unless it has been attacked and suspended or set aside as provided  
14 for in § 11-5-109, the Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of Labor or his or  
15 her deputy or inspectors shall have full authority and power to close the  
16 place or establishment, or any part of it that may be in an unsanitary or  
17 dangerous condition or contain immoral influences in violation of any  
18 requirement of §§ 11-5-101 – 11-5-110 or order, until such time as the  
19 condition, practice, or method is corrected.  
20

21 SECTION 5334. Arkansas Code § 11-5-112(b)(1), concerning the  
22 requirement of separate toilet rooms for males and females, is amended to  
23 read as follows:

24 (b)(1) The Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of Labor shall enforce  
25 the provisions of this section and shall give notice in writing to employers  
26 violating it.  
27

28 SECTION 5335. Arkansas Code § 11-5-307(a)(1), concerning a  
29 notification of an overhead electrical line or conductor, is amended to read  
30 as follows:

31 (a)(1) When any person, firm, or corporation desires to temporarily  
32 carry on any function, activity, work, or operation in closer proximity to  
33 any energized overhead electrical line or conductor than permitted by this  
34 subchapter, the person or persons responsible for the work to be done shall  
35 promptly notify the Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of Labor and the  
36 operator or owner of the electrical lines in writing of the work to be

1 performed and make appropriate arrangements with the operator of the  
2 electrical lines before proceeding with any work which would impair the  
3 clearances required by this subchapter.

4  
5 SECTION 5336. Arkansas Code § 11-5-308(c)(4), concerning prohibited  
6 acts, is amended to read as follows:

7 (4) In addition to the requirements of subdivisions (c)(1)(A)  
8 and (B) of this section, there shall be installed an insulated cage-type  
9 guard or protective device, approved by the Director of the ~~Department~~  
10 Division of Labor, about the boom or arm of all equipment, except backhoes or  
11 dippers. Where the equipment includes a lifting hook device also approved by  
12 the director, all lifting lines shall be equipped with insulator links on the  
13 lift hook connection.

14  
15 SECTION 5337. Arkansas Code § 11-6-103(b), resulting from Initiated  
16 Act 1 of 1914 and concerning the disposition of fines and penalties, is  
17 amended to read as follows:

18 (b) The Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of Labor shall determine  
19 the amount of such penalty and shall consider the appropriateness of such  
20 penalty to the size of the business and the gravity of the violation.

21  
22 SECTION 5338. Arkansas Code § 11-6-103(e), resulting from Initiated  
23 Act 1 of 1914 and concerning the disposition of fines and penalties, is  
24 amended to read as follows:

25 (e) Sums collected under this section shall be paid into the  
26 Department of Labor and Licensing Special Fund.

27  
28 SECTION 5339. Arkansas Code § 11-6-107(b)(1), resulting from Initiated  
29 Act 1 of 1914 and concerning prohibitions against certain kinds and places of  
30 work for children under sixteen (16) years of age, is amended to read as  
31 follows:

32 (b)(1) The Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of Labor may, from time  
33 to time after a hearing duly had, determine what other occupations are  
34 sufficiently dangerous to the life or limb or injurious to the health or  
35 morals of children under sixteen (16) years to justify their exclusion  
36 therefrom. No child under sixteen (16) years of age shall be employed or

1 permitted to work in any occupation thus determined to be dangerous or  
2 injurious.

3

4 SECTION 5340. Arkansas Code § 11-6-109(a), resulting from Initiated  
5 Act 1 of 1914 and concerning children under age sixteen (16) years and the  
6 requirement of an employment certificate, is amended to read as follows:

7 (a) No person, firm, or corporation shall employ or permit any child  
8 under sixteen (16) years to work in or in connection with any establishment  
9 or occupation unless the person, firm, or corporation employing the child  
10 procures and keeps on file, accessible to the ~~Department~~ Division of Labor  
11 and the ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary  
12 Education, or local school officials, an employment certificate as provided  
13 in this section.

14

15 SECTION 5341. Arkansas Code § 11-6-109(b)(1), resulting from Initiated  
16 Act 1 of 1914 and concerning children under age sixteen (16) years and the  
17 requirement of an employment certificate, is amended to read as follows:

18 (b)(1) The employment certificate shall be issued only by the Director  
19 of the ~~Department~~ Division of Labor.

20

21 SECTION 5342. Arkansas Code § 11-6-111(a), resulting from Initiated  
22 Act 1 of 1914 and concerning the prosecution of violators and the right to  
23 inspect a workplace, is amended to read as follows:

24 (a) The Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of Labor or his or her  
25 designee shall have the right to enter any building or premises for the  
26 purpose of inspection to ascertain whether any child is employed or permitted  
27 to work in violation of the provisions of this subchapter.

28

29 SECTION 5343. Arkansas Code § 11-6-115(a), concerning domestic labor  
30 and child care in connection with church functions permitted, is amended to  
31 read as follows:

32 (a) As used in this section, "domestic labor" means any occasional,  
33 irregular, or incidental work related to and in or around private residences,  
34 including, but not limited to babysitting, pet sitting, similar household  
35 chores, and manual yard work. This definition specifically excludes  
36 industrial homework, work for a third party such as a sitting service, and

1 any activity determined by the Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of Labor  
2 to be hazardous pursuant to the provisions of § 11-6-107(b).

3  
4 SECTION 5344. Arkansas Code § 11-7-204(c), concerning the appointment,  
5 term, and qualifications of the State Mine Inspector, is amended to read as  
6 follows:

7 (c) The Governor ~~alone~~ and the Secretary of the Department of Labor  
8 and Licensing shall have the power to remove a mine inspector for cause.

9  
10 SECTION 5345. Arkansas Code § 11-7-204(e), concerning the appointment,  
11 term, and qualifications of the State Mine Inspector, is amended to add an  
12 additional subsection to read as follows:

13 (e) The State Mine Inspector shall report to the Secretary of Labor  
14 and Licensing and shall be an employee of the Department of Labor and  
15 Licensing.

16  
17 SECTION 5346. Arkansas Code § 11-7-207(g), concerning the Assistant  
18 State Mine Inspector, is amended to add an additional subsection to read as  
19 follows:

20 (g) The Assistant State Mine Inspector shall report to the State Mine  
21 Inspector and shall be an employee of the Department of Labor and Licensing.

22  
23 SECTION 5347. Arkansas Code § 11-7-402(a), concerning the power of the  
24 Director of the Department of Labor to administer oaths, is amended to read  
25 as follows:

26 (a) To more effectively carry out the intentions and purposes of this  
27 section and §§ 11-7-409 – 11-7-414, the Director of the ~~Department~~ Division  
28 of Labor may administer oaths to all persons who are applicants, or who may  
29 vouch, in any manner, for the previous service or qualifications of an  
30 applicant to obtain for him or her a certificate under this section and §§  
31 11-7-409 – 11-7-414.

32  
33 SECTION 5348. Arkansas Code § 11-7-403(a)-(c), concerning employee  
34 qualification, are amended to read as follows:

35 (a) No fire bosses, hoisting engineers, or mine foremen shall be  
36 employed in any mine in the State of Arkansas unless they have been examined

1 by the ~~Department~~ Division of Labor or the ~~department~~ division determines  
2 that comparable testing criteria have been met in another jurisdiction.

3 (b) No one shall act as State Mine Inspector or Assistant State Mine  
4 Inspector unless he or she has been examined by the ~~department~~ division, as  
5 provided in this section.

6 (c) Applicants for examination shall be able to read and write the  
7 English language and shall satisfy the ~~department~~ division that they are of  
8 good moral character and are not users of intoxicating liquors and are  
9 citizens of the United States.

10  
11 SECTION 5349. Arkansas Code § 11-7-403(f), concerning the payment of  
12 fees for examination, is amended to read as follows:

13 (f)(1) Applicants for certificates as mine inspector shall, before  
14 examination, pay to the ~~department~~ division a fee of four dollars (\$4.00)  
15 and, if successful, a further fee of six dollars (\$6.00) for a certificate.

16 (2) Applicants for certificates as assistant mine inspector  
17 shall, before examination, pay to the ~~department~~ division a fee of three  
18 dollars (\$3.00) and, if successful, a further fee of four dollars and fifty  
19 cents (\$4.50) for a certificate.

20 (3) Applicants for certificates as mine foremen and hoisting  
21 engineers shall, before examination, pay to the ~~department~~ division a fee of  
22 two dollars (\$2.00) and, if successful, a further fee of three dollars  
23 (\$3.00) for a certificate.

24 (4) Other applicants shall, before examination, pay to the  
25 ~~department~~ division of examiners a fee of one dollar (\$1.00) and, if  
26 successful, a further fee of two dollars (\$2.00) for a certificate.

27  
28 SECTION 5350. Arkansas Code § 11-7-404(a)(1), concerning the  
29 certificate and grades of fire bosses and mine foremen, is amended to read as  
30 follows:

31 (a)(1) The Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of Labor shall grant  
32 certificates after examination by the ~~Department~~ Division of Labor or a  
33 determination by the ~~department~~ division that the testing requirements have  
34 been satisfied in another jurisdiction.

35  
36 SECTION 5351. Arkansas Code § 11-7-405 is amended to read as follows:

1 11-7-405. Fire bosses, mine foremen, etc. – Duplicate certificate.  
2 In case of loss or destruction of a certificate, the Director of the  
3 ~~Department~~ Division of Labor, upon satisfactory proof of the loss or  
4 destruction, may issue a duplicate on the payment of the sum of one dollar  
5 (\$1.00).

6  
7 SECTION 5352. Arkansas Code § 11-7-406(a), concerning the revocation  
8 of certificates, is amended to read as follows:

9 (a) All certificates issued pursuant to this subchapter may be revoked  
10 by the Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of Labor after a hearing upon due  
11 notice to the holder of the certificate and upon written charges preferred by  
12 the director or by some interested person for violation of this section and  
13 §§ 11-7-403 – 11-7-405 and 11-7-407.

14  
15 SECTION 5353. Arkansas Code § 11-7-410(a), concerning coal miners'  
16 certificates, is amended to read as follows:

17 (a) It shall be unlawful for any person to work as a coal miner in any  
18 coal mine in this state without first having a certificate of qualification  
19 and competency to do so from the Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of  
20 Labor, nor shall any person, firm, or corporation employ as a coal miner in  
21 his or her coal mine in the State of Arkansas any person who does not hold a  
22 certificate, nor shall any mine foreman, overseer, or superintendent permit  
23 or suffer any person to be employed under him or her, or in any coal mine  
24 under his or her charge or supervision, as a coal miner in this state, except  
25 as provided in this act, who does not hold a certificate of qualification.

26  
27 SECTION 5354. Arkansas Code § 11-7-411(a), concerning coal miners'  
28 examinations, qualifications, and certificates, is amended to read as  
29 follows:

30 (a) The Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of Labor shall hold  
31 sufficient examinations each year in places to be determined by the director,  
32 which, in his or her opinion, will be most convenient to applicants desiring  
33 to engage in the business of coal mining.

34  
35 SECTION 5355. Arkansas Code § 11-7-412(a), concerning coal miners'  
36 temporary permits and grandfather clause, is amended to read as follows:

1 (a) A person making application for a coal miner's certificate of  
2 competency and qualification shall be granted a temporary permit to work  
3 until such time as an examination is held by the Director of the ~~Department~~  
4 Division of Labor and if, in the judgment of the director, he or she is so  
5 qualified.

6  
7 SECTION 5356. Arkansas Code § 11-7-414 is amended to read as follows:  
8 11-7-414. Coal miners – Duplicate certificate – Revocation of  
9 certificate.

10 The Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of Labor shall possess powers  
11 to issue duplicate certificates and revoke certificates in all cases as  
12 provided in §§ 11-7-405 and 11-7-406.

13  
14 SECTION 5357. Arkansas Code § 11-9-205(b)(1) and (2), resulting from  
15 Initiated Act 4 of 1948, concerning the administration of the Workers'  
16 Compensation Law, are amended to read as follows:

17 (b)(1) The commission may appoint as many persons as may be necessary  
18 to be administrative law judges and in addition may appoint such examiners,  
19 rate experts, investigators, medical examiners, clerks, and other employees  
20 as it deems necessary to effectuate the provisions of this chapter, provided  
21 that the appointment of all rate experts shall be made by the ~~Insurance~~  
22 Commissioner Secretary of the Department of Labor and Licensing, whose duty  
23 it is to approve the rates charged.

24 (2) Rate experts shall be considered employees of the commission  
25 and the ~~Insurance Commissioner~~ Department of Labor and Licensing and shall be  
26 paid from the Workers' Compensation Fund.

27  
28 SECTION 5358. Arkansas Code § 11-9-207(a)(12), resulting from  
29 Initiated Act 4 of 1948 and concerning the powers and duties of the Workers'  
30 Compensation Commission, is amended to read as follows:

31 (12) To make available all records in connection with all cases  
32 of personal injury to the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Labor and  
33 Licensing. The ~~director~~ secretary may propose rules for the prevention of  
34 injuries and transmit the rules to the commission. The commission may  
35 recommend proposed rules for prevention of injuries to the ~~director~~  
36 secretary;

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SECTION 5359. Arkansas Code § 11-9-209, resulting from Initiated Act 4 of 1948, is amended to read as follows:

11-9-209. Statistical data collection.

(a) The Workers' Compensation Commission shall publish annually, on an aggregate basis, information pertaining to the distribution of workers' compensation insurance premiums, losses, expenses, and net income to be compiled from reports required to be filed with the ~~Insurance Commissioner~~ Secretary of the Department of Labor and Licensing pursuant to § 23-63-216, as amended, or any similar information required to be filed by the ~~Insurance Commissioner~~ secretary regarding workers' compensation insurance.

(b) The commission shall also publish in that same annual report information regarding aggregate workers' compensation benefit distribution to claimants, medical providers, and attorneys if that specific information or similar information becomes available from revised or additional reporting requirements that may be required by the ~~Insurance Commissioner~~ secretary.

SECTION 5360. Arkansas Code § 11-9-409(a)(2)-(9), concerning safety and health loss control consultative services, are amended to read as follows:

(2) The division shall collect and serve as a repository for statistical information on workers' health and safety. In cooperation with and with the assistance of the Department of Labor and Licensing and the State Insurance Department, the division shall analyze and use the information to identify and assign priorities to safety needs and to better coordinate the safety services provided by public or private organizations, including insurance carriers. In cooperation with and with the assistance of the Department of Labor and Licensing and the State Insurance Department, the division shall promote workers' health and safety through educational programs and other innovative programs developed by the division.

(3) In cooperation with and with the assistance of the Department of Labor and Licensing and the State Insurance Department, the division shall coordinate or supervise the collection of information relating to job safety.

(4) The Chair of the Workers' Compensation Commission, the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Labor and Licensing, and the

1 Insurance Commissioner shall function as an advisory committee to resolve  
2 questions regarding duplication of efforts, assignment of new programs, and  
3 other matters that need cooperation and coordination.

4 (5)(A) In cooperation with and with the assistance of the  
5 Department of Labor and Licensing and the State Insurance Department, the  
6 division shall publish or procure and issue educational books, pamphlets,  
7 brochures, films, videotapes, and other informational and educational  
8 material. Specific educational material shall be directed to high-risk  
9 industries and jobs and shall specifically address means and methods of  
10 avoiding high frequency but preventable workers' injuries. Other educational  
11 material shall be directed to business and industry generally and shall  
12 specifically address means and methods of avoiding common workers' injuries.

13 (B) Specific decisions as to what issues and problems  
14 should be addressed by such information shall be made by the division in  
15 cooperation and with the assistance of the Department of Labor and Licensing  
16 and the State Insurance Department and with commission approval after  
17 assigning appropriate priorities based on frequency of injuries, degree of  
18 hazard, severity of injuries, and similar considerations.

19 (C) Such educational materials shall include specific  
20 references to the requirements of state and federal laws and regulations, to  
21 recommendations and practices of business, industry, and trade associations,  
22 and, where needed, to recommended work practices based on recommendations  
23 made by the division, in cooperation and with the assistance of the  
24 Department of Labor and Licensing and the State Insurance Department, for the  
25 prevention of injury.

26 (6) In cooperation with and with the assistance of the  
27 Department of Labor and Licensing and the State Insurance Department, the  
28 division shall cooperate with employers and employees to develop means and  
29 methods of educating employees and employers with regard to workplace safety.

30 (7) In cooperation with and with the assistance of the  
31 Department of Labor and Licensing and the State Insurance Department, the  
32 division shall encourage other entities to develop safety courses, safety  
33 plans, and safety programs.

34 (8) In cooperation with and with the assistance of the  
35 Department of Labor and Licensing and the State Insurance Department, the  
36 division shall certify safe employers to provide peer review safety programs.

1           (9) In cooperation with and with the assistance of the  
2 Department of Labor and Licensing and the State Insurance Department, the  
3 division shall advise insurance carrier loss control service organizations of  
4 hazard classifications, specific employers, industries, occupations, or  
5 geographic regions to which loss control services should be directed or of  
6 the identity and types of injuries or occupational diseases for prevention of  
7 the same to which loss control services should be directed and shall advise  
8 insurance carrier loss control service organizations of safety needs and  
9 priorities recommended by the division in cooperation with and with the  
10 assistance of the Department of Labor and Licensing and the State Insurance  
11 Department.

12  
13           SECTION 5361. Arkansas Code § 11-9-409(b)(1), concerning safety and  
14 health loss control consultative services, is amended to read as follows:

15           (b) Job Safety Information System.

16           (1) In cooperation with and with the assistance of the  
17 Department of Labor and Licensing and the State Insurance Department, the  
18 division shall establish and maintain a job safety information system.

19  
20           SECTION 5362. Arkansas Code § 11-9-409(b)(4) and (5), concerning  
21 safety and health loss control consultative services, are amended to read as  
22 follows:

23           (4) In cooperation with and with the assistance of the  
24 Department of Labor and Licensing and the State Insurance Department, the  
25 division is authorized, empowered, and directed to obtain, from any state  
26 agency, data and statistics, including those compiled for the purpose of rate  
27 making.

28           (5) The division shall consult the Department of Labor and  
29 Licensing and any other affected state agencies in the design of data  
30 information and retrieval systems that will accomplish the mutual purposes of  
31 those agencies and of the division.

32  
33           SECTION 5363. Arkansas Code § 11-9-409(c)(1)(A), concerning safety and  
34 health loss control consultative services, is amended to read as follows:

35           (1)(A) In cooperation with and with the assistance of the  
36 Department of Labor and Licensing and the State Insurance Department, the

1 division shall develop a program, including injury frequency, to identify  
2 extra-hazardous employers. The term "extra-hazardous employer" includes an  
3 employer whose injury frequencies substantially exceed those that may  
4 reasonably be expected in that employer's business or industry, an employer  
5 whose experience modifier is identified by the commission as too high, and  
6 such other employers as may, following a public hearing, be identified as  
7 extra-hazardous.

8  
9 SECTION 5364. Arkansas Code § 11-9-409(c)(2)(A), concerning safety and  
10 health loss control consultative services, is amended to read as follows:

11 (2)(A) An employer who receives notification under subdivision  
12 (c)(1)(B) of this section must obtain a safety consultation within thirty  
13 (30) days from the Department of Labor and Licensing, the employer's  
14 insurance carrier, or another professional source approved by the division  
15 for that purpose.

16  
17 SECTION 5365. Arkansas Code § 11-9-409(d)(4), concerning safety and  
18 health loss control consultative services, is amended to read as follows:

19 (4) In cooperation with and with the assistance of the  
20 Department of Labor and Licensing and the State Insurance Department, the  
21 division shall conduct inspections to determine the adequacy of the accident  
22 prevention services required by subdivision (d)(1) of this section at least  
23 every two (2) years for each insurance company writing workers' compensation  
24 insurance in Arkansas.

25  
26 SECTION 5366. Arkansas Code § 11-9-503(a)(1), resulting from Initiated  
27 Act 4 of 1948 and concerning a violation of safety provisions, is amended to  
28 read as follows:

29 (a)(1) Notwithstanding any other definition of extra-hazardous  
30 employer as provided by § 11-9-409(c), any employer who fails to utilize the  
31 consultative safety services available through the ~~Department~~ Division of  
32 Labor, its own insurance carrier, or a private safety consultant shall be  
33 identified as an extra-hazardous employer if it is established by a  
34 preponderance of the evidence that an injury or death is caused in  
35 substantial part by the failure of the employer to comply with any Arkansas  
36 statute or official regulation pertaining to the health or safety of

1 employees or fails to follow safety consultant recommendations.

2  
3 SECTION 5367. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 11-11-  
4 101(a), concerning recruitment of labor by foreign labor agents, is amended  
5 to read as follows:

6 (a) No foreign labor agent, labor bureau or employment agency, or any  
7 other person shall enter this state and attempt to hire, induce, or take from  
8 this state any labor, singularly or in groups, for any purpose, whether or  
9 not a fee or charge is extracted from the worker, without first applying to  
10 the Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of Labor for a license to do so and  
11 filing with the director:

12  
13 SECTION 5368. Arkansas Code § 11-11-202(3) and (4), concerning  
14 definitions under the laws governing private employment agencies, are  
15 repealed.

16 ~~(3) "Department" means the Department of Labor;~~

17 ~~(4) "Director" means the Director of the Department of Labor;~~

18  
19 SECTION 5369. Arkansas Code § 11-11-203(a), concerning penalties under  
20 the laws governing private employment agencies, is amended to read as  
21 follows:

22 (a) The Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of Labor shall have  
23 authority to impose a fine of not less than twenty-five dollars (\$25.00) nor  
24 more than five hundred dollars (\$500) for violation of the provisions of this  
25 subchapter by an employment agency or its employees or agents.

26  
27 SECTION 5370. Arkansas Code § 11-11-204 is amended to read as follows:  
28 11-11-204. Director and ~~department~~ division – Powers and duties.

29 (a) It shall be the duty of the ~~Department~~ Division of Labor, and it  
30 shall have the power, jurisdiction, and authority to administer and enforce  
31 the provisions of this subchapter.

32 (b) The Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of Labor shall have the  
33 power, jurisdiction, and authority to issue licenses to employment agencies,  
34 agency managers, and counselors and to refuse to issue, revoke, or suspend  
35 the licenses when, after due investigation, and in compliance with the  
36 procedures set forth in §§ 11-11-221 and 11-11-222, the director finds that

1 the applicant is for good and sufficient cause unfit to be an employment  
2 agent, agency manager, or counselor within the meaning of this subchapter or  
3 any rules, regulations, or orders lawfully promulgated under this subchapter.

4 (c)(1) Complaints against any person, employment agent, agency  
5 manager, or counselor may be made to the ~~department~~ division orally or in  
6 writing.

7 (2) The director shall have the power to compel attendance of  
8 witnesses by issuance of subpoenas, administer oaths, direct production of  
9 documents and records, and direct taking of testimony and evidence concerning  
10 all matters within the jurisdiction of the ~~department~~ division.

11 (3) The director may order testimony to be taken by deposition  
12 in any proceeding pending before the ~~department~~ division at any stage of the  
13 proceeding.

14 (4) The director or his or her duly authorized agent shall at  
15 all reasonable times have access to, for the purpose of examination and  
16 copying, the books, records, papers, and documents of any person being  
17 investigated or proceeded against under the provisions of this subchapter, so  
18 long as the books, records, papers, or documents sought to be inspected or  
19 copied are reasonably related to the investigation or proceeding being  
20 conducted by the director.

21 (5) The director or his or her authorized agent shall, upon  
22 application of any party to proceedings before the director, issue to the  
23 party subpoenas requiring the attendance and testimony of witnesses or the  
24 production of any books, records, papers, or documents reasonably related to  
25 issues involved in proceedings before the director or an investigation  
26 conducted by the director.

27 (6) If any person in proceedings before the director or in  
28 investigations conducted by the director disobeys or resists any lawful order  
29 or process issued by the director or his or her authorized agents, or fails  
30 to produce, after being lawfully directed to do so, any book, paper, record,  
31 or document, or refuses to appear and testify after being subpoenaed to do  
32 so, the director shall certify the facts to any court of competent  
33 jurisdiction in the state or to the Pulaski County Circuit Court.

34 (7) The court shall have authority to conduct hearings and  
35 punish any person for failure or refusal to testify or produce books, papers,  
36 documents, or records subpoenaed or ordered by the director as though the

1 conduct constituted contempt of court.

2 (8) Witnesses summoned by the director or his or her authorized  
3 agent shall be paid the same fees and mileage paid to witnesses in the courts  
4 of this state.

5 (d)(1) The director may prescribe such rules and regulations for the  
6 conduct of the business of private employment agencies as necessary to  
7 implement this subchapter.

8 (2) These rules shall have the force and effect of law and shall  
9 be enforced by the director in the same manner as the provisions of this  
10 subchapter.

11 (3) Adoption of rules and regulations pursuant to this  
12 subsection shall be carried out in compliance with the Arkansas  
13 Administrative Procedure Act, § 25-15-201 et seq.

14 (e) The ~~department~~ division shall have authority to investigate  
15 employment agents, agency managers, and counselors. The ~~department~~ division  
16 shall have the right to examine records required by law to be kept and  
17 maintained by employment agents, agency managers, and counselors and to  
18 examine the offices where the business is or shall be conducted by them.

19 (f) The ~~department~~ division may seek to recover in a court of  
20 competent jurisdiction fees charged or collected in violation of this  
21 subchapter.

22

23 SECTION 5371. Arkansas Code § 11-11-208(a), concerning penalties for a  
24 violation of provisions requiring licenses for employment offices and  
25 agencies, is amended to read as follows:

26 (a) No person shall engage in the business of or act as an employment  
27 agent, agency manager, or counselor unless he or she first obtains a license  
28 from the ~~Department~~ Division of Labor.

29

30 SECTION 5372. Arkansas Code § 11-11-209(a), concerning the certificate  
31 of exemption required for certain organizations, is amended to read as  
32 follows:

33 (a) Bona fide nursing schools, nurses' registries, management  
34 consulting firms, business schools, vocational schools whose primary function  
35 and purpose is training and education, and resume services shall obtain from  
36 the Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of Labor a certificate of exemption

1 from the requirements of this subchapter.

2

3 SECTION 5373. Arkansas Code § 11-11-210(b)(1), concerning the  
4 qualifications and application for an employment counselor's license, is  
5 amended to read as follows:

6 (b)(1) Every applicant for an initial license for employment counselor  
7 shall file with the ~~Department~~ Division of Labor a written application on a  
8 form prescribed and furnished by the Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of  
9 Labor.

10

11 SECTION 5374. Arkansas Code § 11-11-211(a)(5), concerning the  
12 qualifications and application for an agency manager license, is amended to  
13 read as follows:

14 (5) A person who has completed the twelfth grade, except that  
15 the Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of Labor may establish proof  
16 necessary to him or her that the applicant is possessed of a twelfth-grade  
17 education in terms of intellectual competency, judgment, and achievement; and  
18

19 SECTION 5375. Arkansas Code § 11-11-211(b)(1), concerning the  
20 qualifications and application for an agency manager license, is amended to  
21 read as follows:

22 (b)(1) Every applicant for an initial license for agency manager shall  
23 file with the ~~Department~~ Division of Labor a written application on a form  
24 prescribed and furnished by the director.

25

26 SECTION 5376. Arkansas Code § 11-11-212(a)(5), concerning the  
27 qualifications and application to hold an employment agency license, is  
28 amended to read as follows:

29 (5) A person who has completed the twelfth grade, except that  
30 the Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of Labor may establish proof  
31 necessary to him or her that the applicant is possessed of a twelfth-grade  
32 education in terms of intellectual competency, judgment, and achievement; and  
33

34 SECTION 5377. Arkansas Code § 11-11-213(a)(2), concerning the bond  
35 required for an employment agency license, is amended to read as follows:

36 (2) The terms and conditions of the bond shall be approved by

1 the Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of Labor.

2  
3 SECTION 5378. Arkansas Code § 11-11-213(d)(1), concerning the bond  
4 required for an employment agency license, is amended to read as follows:

5 (d)(1) If any licensee fails to file a new bond with the ~~Department~~  
6 Division of Labor within thirty (30) days after notice of cancellation by the  
7 surety of the bond required by this section, the license issued to the  
8 principal under the bond is suspended until such time as a new surety bond is  
9 filed with and approved by the director.

10  
11 SECTION 5379. Arkansas Code § 11-11-214(a), concerning the  
12 investigation of an applicant's license, is amended to read as follows:

13 (a) Upon filing of an application for a license as provided in this  
14 subchapter, the Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of Labor shall cause an  
15 investigation to be made regarding the character, business integrity, and  
16 financial responsibility of the license applicant.

17  
18 SECTION 5380. Arkansas Code § 11-11-215(b), concerning the change of  
19 an employment agency license, is amended to read as follows:

20 (b) No employment agent shall permit any person not mentioned in the  
21 license or license application to become a member, officer, director,  
22 shareholder, or partner in the conduct of the business of the employment  
23 agent unless written consent of the Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of  
24 Labor and written consent of the surety on the bond required by this  
25 subchapter shall first be obtained.

26  
27 SECTION 5381. Arkansas Code § 11-11-215(d), concerning the change of  
28 an employment agency license, is amended to read as follows:

29 (d) A charge of ten dollars (\$10.00) shall be made by the ~~Department~~  
30 Division of Labor for the recording of authorization for each change of  
31 office location authorized by this section.

32  
33 SECTION 5382. Arkansas Code § 11-11-216(a)(1)(A), concerning the  
34 examination for a license, is amended to read as follows:

35 (a)(1)(A) Before the Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of Labor  
36 issues a license to an applicant for a permanent employment agent's,

1 permanent agency manager's, or permanent counselor's license, the applicant  
2 shall be required to successfully complete a written examination prepared by  
3 the director.

4  
5 SECTION 5383. Arkansas Code § 11-11-216(b), concerning the timing of  
6 examinations, is amended to read as follows:

7 (b) The ~~Department~~ Division of Labor shall hold examinations at such  
8 times and places as it shall reasonably determine, except that examinations  
9 shall be given to license applicants at least once every sixty (60) days.

10  
11 SECTION 5384. Arkansas Code § 11-11-216(c)(2), concerning the  
12 examination fee, is amended to read as follows:

13 (2) The examination fee shall be retained by the ~~department~~  
14 division, whether or not the applicant successfully completes the  
15 examination.

16  
17 SECTION 5385. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 11-11-  
18 218(a)(1), concerning temporary licenses of private employment agencies, is  
19 amended to read as follows:

20 (a)(1) The Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of Labor shall have  
21 authority to issue a temporary license for operation of a private employment  
22 agency, which shall be valid for no more than ninety (90) days, upon  
23 submission by the applicant for the license of:

24  
25 SECTION 5386. Arkansas Code § 11-11-219(b), concerning renewal of  
26 licenses, is amended to read as follows:

27 (b) Applications for renewal of all licenses provided by this  
28 subchapter must be filed with the Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of  
29 Labor no later than thirty (30) days prior to expiration of the license.

30  
31 SECTION 5387. Arkansas Code § 11-11-220 is amended to read as follows:  
32 11-11-220. Cessation of business by licensee.

33 (a)(1) If an employment agent ceases business operations, the agent  
34 shall, as soon as reasonably possible, notify the ~~Department~~ Division of  
35 Labor and shall deliver or forward by mail the agent's license to the  
36 ~~department~~ division. Failure to give notice, or failure to deliver such

1 employment agent's license, shall be a violation of § 11-11-208.

2 (2)(A) When one (1) or more individuals, on the basis of whose  
3 qualifications an agency license has been obtained, ceases to be connected  
4 with the licensed business for any reason whatsoever, the agency business may  
5 be carried on for a temporary period not to exceed thirty (30) days, under  
6 such terms and conditions as the Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of Labor  
7 shall provide by regulation for the orderly closing of the business or the  
8 replacement and qualification of a new member, partner, or corporate officer,  
9 director, or shareholder.

10 (B) The agency's authorization to continue to do business  
11 under this subchapter beyond the thirty-day period provided in this  
12 subdivision (a)(2) shall be contingent upon approval by the ~~director~~ Director  
13 of the Division of Labor of any new member, principal, partner, officer,  
14 director, or shareholder.

15 (b)(1) If an agency manager terminates his or her employment with an  
16 employment agency by which he or she is employed, the agency shall notify the  
17 ~~department~~ division, as soon as is reasonably possible, to enable the  
18 ~~department~~ division to know at all times the identity of the person charged  
19 with the general management of each of the agency's office locations.

20 (2) The employment agency shall also deliver or forward by mail  
21 the agency manager's license, together with the reasons why the agency  
22 manager has terminated his or her position with the employment agency.

23 (c) If an employment counselor terminates his or her employment with  
24 the employment agency by which he or she is employed, the agency shall, as  
25 soon as is reasonably possible, notify the ~~department~~ division and deliver or  
26 forward by mail the employment counselor's license to the ~~department~~  
27 division, together with the reasons for his or her termination.

28  
29 SECTION 5388. Arkansas Code § 11-11-221(a), concerning the grounds for  
30 the issuance, refusal, suspension, or revocation of a license, is amended to  
31 read as follows:

32 (a) The Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of Labor shall issue a  
33 license as an employment agent, agency manager, or counselor to any person  
34 who qualifies for the license under the terms of this subchapter.

35  
36 SECTION 5389. Arkansas Code § 11-11-222(a)(1), concerning the notice

1 and hearing required for the refusal, suspension, or revocation of a license,  
2 is amended to read as follows:

3 (a)(1) The Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of Labor may not refuse  
4 to issue a license or suspend or revoke a license unless it furnishes the  
5 person, employment agent, agency manager, or employment counselor with a  
6 written statement of the charges against him or her and affords him or her an  
7 opportunity to be heard on the charges.

8

9 SECTION 5390. Arkansas Code § 11-11-222(c)(1), concerning the notice  
10 and hearing required for the refusal, suspension, or revocation of a license,  
11 is amended to read as follows:

12 (c)(1) A stenographic record of all proceedings shall be made, and a  
13 transcript of the proceedings shall be made if desired by the ~~Department~~  
14 Division of Labor or by the accused.

15

16 SECTION 5391. Arkansas Code § 11-11-223(a), concerning judicial review  
17 of the director's administrative orders, is amended to read as follows:

18 (a) If the Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of Labor refuses to  
19 grant a license, suspends or revokes a license that has been granted, or  
20 imposes an administrative fine as provided in §§ 11-11-213, 11-11-221, and  
21 11-11-222, the person adversely affected or aggrieved by the order of the  
22 director issued pursuant to the provisions of §§ 11-11-221 and 11-11-222 may  
23 obtain a review of the order.

24

25 SECTION 5392. Arkansas Code § 11-11-223(c)(2), concerning judicial  
26 review of the director's administrative orders, is amended to read as  
27 follows:

28 (2)(A) A copy of the petition shall be forthwith transmitted by  
29 the clerk of the court to the ~~Department~~ Division of Labor.

30 (B) Thereupon, the ~~department~~ division shall file in the  
31 court the record of proceedings before the ~~department~~ division.

32

33 SECTION 5393. Arkansas Code § 11-11-223(i)(1), concerning judicial  
34 review of the director's administrative orders, is amended to read as  
35 follows:

36 (i)(1) The ~~department~~ division shall certify the record of its

1 proceedings if the party commencing the proceedings shall pay to it the cost  
2 of preparing and certifying the records, including the recording and  
3 transcribing of all testimony introduced in the proceedings.

4  
5 SECTION 5394. Arkansas Code § 11-11-225(8)(A), concerning  
6 miscellaneous restrictions and requirements for employment agencies, is  
7 amended to read as follows:

8 (8)(A) Every employment agency shall inform the public by a  
9 conspicuous sign or poster that the employment agency is subject to the  
10 requirements of this subchapter, which is administered and enforced by the  
11 ~~Department~~ Division of Labor.

12 (B) The ~~department~~ division shall prepare and distribute  
13 the sign or poster to be used by agencies to comply with this subdivision  
14 (8);

15  
16 SECTION 5395. Arkansas Code § 11-11-227(c)(1), concerning fee  
17 restrictions and requirements, is amended to read as follows:

18 (c)(1) When a dispute concerning a fee exists, the ~~Department~~ Division  
19 of Labor may conduct an investigation to determine all of the facts  
20 concerning the dispute. Thereafter, the Director of the ~~Department~~ Division  
21 of Labor shall issue a decision and order resolving the dispute.

22  
23 SECTION 5396. Arkansas Code § 11-11-228(a), concerning filing of fee  
24 schedules, forms, and contracts required for an employment agency, is amended  
25 to read as follows:

26 (a) It shall be the duty of every employment agency to file with the  
27 ~~Department~~ Division of Labor a schedule of all fees, charges, and commissions  
28 that the agency expects to charge and collect for its service, together with  
29 a copy of all forms and contracts to be used in dealings with the public in  
30 the operation of its business.

31  
32 SECTION 5397. Arkansas Code § 11-11-229(e), concerning the records to  
33 be kept by an employment agency, is amended to read as follows:

34 (e) All of the records listed in this section shall be kept in the  
35 employment agency office and shall be open during office hours to inspection  
36 by the ~~Department~~ Division of Labor and its duly authorized agents.

1  
2 SECTION 5398. Arkansas Code § 11-12-102(1), concerning the definition  
3 of "director" under the laws regulating the employment of children in the  
4 entertainment industry, is repealed.

5 ~~(1) "Director" means the Director of the Department of Labor;~~  
6

7 SECTION 5399. Arkansas Code § 11-12-104(b)(1), concerning restrictions  
8 on employment under the laws regulating the employment of children in the  
9 entertainment industry, is amended to read as follows:

10 (1) In a role or in an environment deemed to be hazardous or  
11 detrimental to the health, morals, education, or welfare of the child as  
12 determined by the Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of Labor;  
13

14 SECTION 5400. Arkansas Code § 11-12-105 is amended to read as follows:

15 11-12-105. Implementation and enforcement.

16 The Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of Labor shall have the  
17 authority to:

18 (1) Promulgate rules and regulations for the implementation of  
19 this chapter;

20 (2) Suspend or revoke a permit for the employment of a child in  
21 the entertainment industry for cause;

22 (3) Enter or authorize his or her representative to enter and  
23 inspect any place of employment where children work, rest, or play; and

24 (4) Otherwise enforce and implement the provisions of this  
25 chapter.  
26

27 SECTION 5401. Arkansas Code § 11-14-112 is amended to read as follows:

28 11-14-112. Rating plans based on drug-free workplace program  
29 participation.

30 The Insurance Commissioner shall approve rating plans for workers'  
31 compensation insurance that give specific identifiable consideration in the  
32 setting of rates to employers that implement a drug-free workplace program  
33 pursuant to rules adopted by the Workers' Health and Safety Division of the  
34 Workers' Compensation Commission. The plans must take effect January 1, 2000,  
35 must be actuarially sound, and must state the savings anticipated to result  
36 from the drug testing. The credit shall be at least five percent (5%) unless

1 the Insurance Commissioner determines that five percent (5%) is actuarially  
2 unsound. The Insurance Commissioner is also authorized to develop a schedule  
3 of premium credits for workers' compensation insurance for employers who have  
4 safety programs that attain certain criteria for safety programs. The  
5 Insurance Commissioner shall consult with the Director of the ~~Department~~  
6 Division of Labor in setting such criteria.

7  
8 SECTION 5402. Arkansas Code § 12-13-107(d), concerning the duties of  
9 the Director of the Department of Arkansas State Police, is amended to read  
10 as follows:

11 (d) Nothing in this subchapter shall apply to the inspection of  
12 boilers, § 20-23-101 et seq., the administration and enforcement of which is  
13 now vested in the ~~Department~~ Division of Labor.

14  
15 SECTION 5403. Arkansas Code § 12-19-101(b), concerning the State Task  
16 Force for the Prevention on Human Trafficking, is amended to read as follows:

17 (b) If established, representatives on the task force shall be  
18 appointed by the Attorney General and may include representatives from:

- 19 (1) The office of the Attorney General;
- 20 (2) The office of the Governor;
- 21 (3) The Department of Labor and Licensing;
- 22 (4) The Department of Health;
- 23 (5) The Department of Human Services;
- 24 (6) The Arkansas Association of Chiefs of Police;
- 25 (7) The Arkansas Sheriffs' Association;
- 26 (8) The ~~Department~~ Division of Arkansas State Police;
- 27 (9) The Arkansas Prosecuting Attorneys Association;
- 28 (10) Local law enforcement; and
- 29 (11) Nongovernmental organizations such as:
  - 30 (A) Those specializing in the problems of human  
31 trafficking;
  - 32 (B) Those representing diverse communities  
33 disproportionately affected by human trafficking;
  - 34 (C) Agencies devoted to child services and runaway  
35 services; and
  - 36 (D) Academic researchers dedicated to the subject of human

1 trafficking.

2

3 SECTION 5404. Arkansas Code § 12-19-102(c)(2), concerning posting  
4 information about the National Human Trafficking Resource Center Hotline, is  
5 amended to read as follows:

6 (2) The Department of Labor and Licensing; and

7

8 SECTION 5405. Arkansas Code § 15-10-304(b)(2), concerning studying the  
9 need for changes in the law, is amended to read as follows:

10 (2) The ~~Department~~ Division of Labor, particularly as to  
11 hazardous working conditions, if any;

12

13 SECTION 5406. Arkansas Code § 17-12-204(b), concerning the annual  
14 reporting of the disposition of funds, is amended to read as follows:

15 (b) The board shall file an annual report of its activities with the  
16 ~~Governor~~ Secretary of the Department of Labor and Licensing, and the report  
17 shall include a statement of all receipts and disbursements.

18

19 SECTION 5407. Arkansas Code § 17-17-203(a), concerning the employees  
20 and supplies of the Auctioneer's Licensing Board, is amended to read as  
21 follows:

22 (a) The Auctioneer's Licensing Board shall have ~~full~~ authority to  
23 employ, in consultation with the Secretary of the Department of Labor and  
24 Licensing, and discharge a ~~secretary~~ Director of the Auctioneer's Licensing  
25 Board who shall provide administrative services to the board and who shall  
26 also be the treasurer of the Auctioneer's Licensing Board, and such other  
27 personnel as may be necessary to administer and enforce the provisions of  
28 this chapter.

29

30 SECTION 5408. Arkansas Code § 17-17-203(b), concerning the supplies of  
31 the Auctioneer's Licensing Board, is repealed.

32 ~~(b) The board shall obtain office space, furniture, stationery, and~~  
33 ~~other proper supplies and conveniences reasonably necessary to carry out the~~  
34 ~~provisions of this chapter.~~

35

36 SECTION 5409. Arkansas Code § 17-17-204 is amended to read as follows:

1 17-17-204. ~~Secretary-treasurer~~ Director – Disposition of funds.

2 (a) All fees, charges, and penalties collected by the Auctioneer's  
3 Licensing Board under the provisions of this chapter shall be paid to the  
4 ~~Secretary-treasurer~~ Director of the Auctioneer's Licensing Board, who shall  
5 be the custodian of all funds and shall deposit them into a bank or banks to  
6 be designated by the board.

7 (b) The ~~secretary-treasurer~~ director shall execute a bond in an amount  
8 determined by the State Risk Manager pursuant to the self-insured fidelity  
9 program as authorized in § 21-2-701 et seq.

10 (c)(1) The ~~secretary-treasurer~~ director shall pay funds of the board  
11 only on vouchers signed by himself or herself and countersigned by the Chair  
12 of the Auctioneer's Licensing Board.

13 (2) The total expenses for all purposes and obligations of the  
14 board shall not exceed the total fees, charges, penalties, and other funds  
15 paid to the board under the provisions of this chapter.

16 (d) The ~~secretary-treasurer~~ director shall make semiannual financial  
17 reports in detail to the board not later than January 30 and July 30 of each  
18 year, which will be kept on permanent file by the board.

19  
20 SECTION 5410. Arkansas Code § 17-20-201(a)(1), concerning the creation  
21 of the State Board of Barber Examiners, is amended to read as follows:

22 (a)(1) There is created a State Board of Barber Examiners, consisting  
23 of the Secretary of the ~~State Board of Health~~ Department of Labor and  
24 Licensing, or his or her designee, who shall be an ex officio member of the  
25 board, and five (5) members to be appointed by the Governor for a term of six  
26 (6) years.

27  
28 SECTION 5411. Arkansas Code § 17-20-203 is amended to read as follows:

29 17-20-203. ~~Executive secretary~~ Director of the State Board of Barber  
30 Examiners.

31 (a)(1) The State Board of Barber Examiners in consultation with the  
32 Secretary of the Department of Labor and Licensing may employ a ~~is authorized~~  
33 ~~to employ an executive secretary~~ Director of the State Board of Barber  
34 Examiners, who shall not be a member of the board and who shall have the  
35 responsibility of keeping:

36 (A) A record of the board's proceedings;

1 (B) A record of persons registered as barbers ~~and~~  
2 ~~apprentices~~ showing the name, place of business, and residence of each and  
3 the date and number of his or her certificate;

4 (C) A record of all certificates issued, refused, renewed,  
5 suspended, or revoked; and

6 (D) Such other records as may be directed by the board or  
7 required by law.

8 (2) The records shall be open to public inspection at all  
9 reasonable times.

10 (b) The ~~executive secretary~~ director shall perform such other  
11 functions and duties as may be prescribed by law or directed by the ~~board~~  
12 secretary.

13 (c) The ~~Executive Secretary of the State Board of Barber Examiners~~  
14 director shall receive such compensation for his or her services as may be  
15 prescribed by the ~~board~~ secretary within the limitations of the biennial  
16 appropriation therefor made by the General Assembly.

17  
18 SECTION 5412. Arkansas Code § 17-20-204 is amended to read as follows:  
19 17-20-204. Personnel.

20 The State Board of Barber Examiners is authorized to employ such other  
21 personnel as it deems necessary, and as is approved by the Secretary of the  
22 Department of Labor and Licensing, to carry out the provisions of this  
23 chapter, within such limits as may be provided by biennial appropriation of  
24 the General Assembly. All employees shall work under the direct supervision  
25 of the ~~Executive Secretary~~ Director of the State Board of Barber Examiners.

26  
27 SECTION 5413. Arkansas Code § 17-20-208(b)(1), concerning the fees of  
28 the State Board of Barber Examiners, is amended to read as follows:

29 (b) Funds thus realized shall be expended for:

30 (1) The payment of the salary of the ~~Executive Secretary~~  
31 Director of the State Board of Barber Examiners;

32  
33 SECTION 5414. Arkansas Code § 17-20-209 is amended to read as follows:  
34 17-20-209. Disposition of funds.

35 (a)(1) All moneys received by the State Board of Barber Examiners  
36 under this chapter shall be paid to the ~~Executive Secretary~~ Director of the

1 State Board of Barber Examiners, who shall give a proper receipt for those  
2 moneys to the Auditor of State the total amount received by him or her from  
3 all sources under this chapter.

4 (2) The ~~executive secretary~~ director shall at the same time  
5 deposit the entire amount of such receipts with the Treasurer of State, who  
6 shall place them to the credit of a special fund to be created and known as  
7 the "State Board of Barber Examiners Fund".

8 (b)(1) By the Chair of the State Board of Barber Examiners and the  
9 ~~executive secretary~~ director, the board shall from time to time certify to  
10 the Auditor of State the necessary expenses incurred by the board, including  
11 expense reimbursement and stipends as provided in § 25-16-901 et seq. The  
12 Auditor of State shall issue his or her warrant for the expenses, which shall  
13 be paid out of the funds so established for the maintenance of the board.

14 (2) No order shall be drawn by the Auditor of State on any fund  
15 other than the State Board of Barber Examiners Fund for any stipends or  
16 expenses of the board incident to the administration of this chapter.

17 (c) All funds so paid to the Treasurer of State shall remain and be a  
18 separate and permanent fund for the maintenance of the board and the  
19 administration of this chapter.

20

21 SECTION 5415. Arkansas Code § 17-22-203 is amended to read as follows:

22 17-22-203. ~~Secretary~~ Director of the State Athletic Commission.

23 (a) The State Athletic Commission in consultation with the Secretary  
24 of the Department of Labor and Licensing ~~shall have authority to select~~ may  
25 employ a secretary Director of the State Athletic Commission and fix the  
26 salary thereof at a sum not to exceed the maximum annual salary prescribed  
27 for such a position in the biennial appropriation for the ~~commission~~  
28 Department of Labor and Licensing.

29 (b) The ~~secretary~~ director shall:

30 (1) Keep in the office of the commission a full, complete, and  
31 up-to-date record of all the proceedings of the commission;

32 (2) Keep an up-to-date account of all money received by him or  
33 her on behalf of the commission; and

34 (3) Perform such other duties as shall be prescribed by the  
35 ~~commission~~ secretary.

36

1 SECTION 5416. Arkansas Code § 17-22-209 is repealed.

2 ~~17-22-209. Transfer of the State Athletic Commission.~~

3 ~~(a)(1) Effective July 1, 2013, the State Athletic Commission is~~  
4 ~~transferred to the Department of Health and shall be administered by the~~  
5 ~~Director of the Department of Health.~~

6 ~~(2) All authority, powers, duties, functions, records,~~  
7 ~~authorized positions, property, unexpended balances of appropriations,~~  
8 ~~allocations, or other funds of the commission are transferred to the~~  
9 ~~department.~~

10 ~~(b) In order to protect the commission, to allow for continuation of~~  
11 ~~necessary procedures, and to provide for a smooth transition to the~~  
12 ~~department, the director may not realign the functions and records of the~~  
13 ~~commission before July 1, 2014.~~

14  
15 SECTION 5417. Arkansas Code § 17-25-204 is amended to read as follows:  
16 17-25-204. Employees.

17 The Contractors Licensing Board in consultation with the Secretary of  
18 the Department of Labor and Licensing may ~~shall~~ employ a chief administrative  
19 employee, also known as administrator, who shall possess such qualifications  
20 as may be determined by the ~~board~~ Contractors Licensing Board and who shall  
21 serve at the pleasure of the board. In addition, the board may employ such  
22 additional professional and clerical employees as may be necessary for the  
23 operation of the board and its various functions and pay salaries thereto as  
24 may be authorized by law.

25  
26 SECTION 5418. Arkansas Code § 17-25-206(e), concerning the records and  
27 reports of the Contractors Licensing Board, is amended to read as follows:

28 (e) On or before August 1 of each year, the board shall submit to the  
29 ~~Governor~~ Secretary of the Department of Labor and Licensing a report of its  
30 transactions for the preceding year and shall file with the Secretary of  
31 State a copy of the report, together with a complete statement of receipts  
32 and expenditures of the board attested by the affidavit of the Chair of the  
33 Contractors Licensing Board and ~~secretary~~ Secretary of the Contractors  
34 Licensing Board and a copy of the roster of licensed contractors.

35  
36 SECTION 5419. Arkansas Code § 17-28-103 is amended to read as follows:

1 17-28-103. Disposition of funds.

2 All funds received by the Board of Electrical Examiners of the State of  
3 Arkansas under the provisions of this chapter shall be deposited as special  
4 revenues into the State Treasury to the credit of the Department of Labor and  
5 Licensing Special Fund, there to be used by the ~~Department~~ Division of Labor  
6 in carrying out the functions, powers, and duties as set out in this chapter  
7 and to defray the costs of the maintenance, operation, and improvements  
8 required by the ~~department~~ division in carrying out the functions, powers,  
9 and duties otherwise imposed by law on the ~~department~~ division or the  
10 Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of Labor.

11  
12 SECTION 5420. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 17-28-  
13 201(b), concerning the creation of the Board of Electrical Examiners of the  
14 State of Arkansas, is amended to read as follows:

15 (b) The board shall consist of the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the  
16 Department of Labor and Licensing or his or her authorized representative and  
17 eight (8) other members who shall be residents of this state appointed by the  
18 Governor with the advice and consent of the Senate:

19  
20 SECTION 5421. Arkansas Code § 17-28-202(b), concerning the duties of  
21 the Board of Electrical Examiners of the State of Arkansas, is amended to  
22 read as follows:

23 (b)(1) It shall be the duty of the Department of Labor and Licensing  
24 to administer and enforce the provisions of this chapter.

25 (2) For the enforcement of this chapter, the ~~Director~~ Secretary  
26 of the Department of Labor and Licensing or his or her designated employees  
27 shall have the authority to enter, during normal business hours, upon any  
28 private or public premises with right of access, ingress, and egress for the  
29 purpose of ascertaining whether a person has performed electrical work or  
30 installed or repaired electrical facilities in accordance with this chapter,  
31 the Arkansas Electrical Code Authority Act, § 20-31-101 et seq., and the  
32 regulations and standards adopted pursuant thereto.

33  
34 SECTION 5422. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 17-28-  
35 301(d)(2), concerning the issuance and renewal of an electrician's license,  
36 is amended to read as follows:

1           (2) The Director of the ~~Department of Labor~~ Division of  
2 Occupational and Professional Licensing Boards and Commissions may renew a  
3 temporary license as a master electrician or journeyman electrician issued by  
4 the board for more than one (1) additional period of six (6) months, if:

5  
6           SECTION 5423. Arkansas Code § 17-28-309 is amended to read as follows:  
7           17-28-309. Penalties.

8           (a) The Director of the ~~Department of Labor~~ Division of Occupational  
9 and Professional Licensing Boards and Commissions is authorized to petition  
10 any court of competent jurisdiction to enjoin or restrain any person who  
11 performs electrical work without a license or who otherwise violates the  
12 provisions of this chapter.

13           (b)(1) A civil penalty may be assessed against any person, firm, or  
14 corporation by the ~~Department of Labor~~ Division of Occupational and  
15 Professional Licensing Boards and Commissions and subject to appeal and  
16 hearing before the Board of Electrical Examiners of the State of Arkansas  
17 according to the Arkansas Administrative Procedure Act, § 25-15-201 et seq.,  
18 if it is determined that the person, firm, or corporation has violated any:

19                   (A) Provision of this chapter;

20                   (B) Provision in the Arkansas Electrical Code Authority  
21 Act, § 20-31-101 et seq.;

22                   (C) Rule, regulation, or order issued or promulgated by  
23 the board; or

24                   (D) Condition of a license, certificate, or registration  
25 issued by the board.

26           (2) For each violation, the penalty shall not exceed the  
27 following:

28                   (A) Two hundred fifty dollars (\$250) for a first offense;

29                   (B) Seven hundred fifty dollars (\$750) for a second  
30 offense; or

31                   (C) One thousand dollars (\$1000) for a third offense.

32           (3) Each day of a continuing violation is a separate violation  
33 for purposes of penalty assessment.

34           (4) Assessment of a civil penalty by the board shall be made no  
35 later than two (2) years after the date of the occurrence of the violation.

36           (5) If any person, firm, or corporation against whom a civil

1 penalty has been imposed fails to pay the penalty within sixty (60) days of  
2 the board's decision, the director may file an action in a court of competent  
3 jurisdiction to collect the civil penalty without paying costs or giving bond  
4 for costs.

5 (6) Any penalties collected under this section shall be  
6 deposited as special revenues into the State Treasury to the credit of the  
7 Department of Labor and Licensing Special Fund, there to be used by the  
8 Department of Labor and Licensing in carrying out the functions, powers, and  
9 duties of this chapter.

10  
11 SECTION 5424. Arkansas Code § 17-30-202 is amended to read as follows:

12 17-30-202. Officers and ~~employees~~ Director of State Board of Licensure  
13 for Professional Engineers and Professional Surveyors.

14 The State Board of Licensure for Professional Engineers and  
15 Professional Surveyors shall:

16 (1) Select its own officers; and

17 (2) Have the power in consultation with the Secretary of the  
18 Department of Labor and Licensing to appoint an executive director to employ  
19 a Director of the State Board of Licensure for Professional Engineers and  
20 Professional Surveyors who shall serve as secretary-treasurer of the board.

21  
22 SECTION 5425. Arkansas Code § 17-30-205(c), concerning the duty of the  
23 Attorney General to the State Board of Licensure for Professional Engineers  
24 and Professional Surveyors, is amended to read as follows:

25 (c) The board may employ counsel and necessary assistance to aid in  
26 the enforcement of this chapter or request assistance from the Department of  
27 Labor and Licensing, and the compensation and expenses shall be paid from the  
28 funds of the board.

29  
30 SECTION 5426. Arkansas Code § 17-32-201(h), concerning the creation,  
31 members, and compensation of the State Board of Registration for Professional  
32 Geologists, is amended to read as follows:

33 (h) The members of the board may receive expense reimbursement in  
34 accordance with § 25-16-901 et seq. Board members, ~~except the Secretary-~~  
35 ~~treasurer of the State Board of Registration for Professional Geologists,~~  
36 shall serve without compensation.

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SECTION 5427. Arkansas Code § 17-32-207(b), concerning the official records and registers of the State Board of Registration for Professional Geologists, is amended to read as follows:

(b) All official records of the board, or affidavits by the ~~Secretary-treasurer~~ Director of the State Board of Registration for Professional Geologists as to the content of such records, shall be prima facie evidence of all matters required to be kept therein.

SECTION 5428. Arkansas Code § 17-32-207(c)(1), concerning the official records and registers of the State Board of Registration for Professional Geologists, is amended to read as follows:

(c)(1) A complete roster showing the names, the classification, which will be geologist, specialty, or geologist-in-training, and the last known address of the registered geologists or certified geologists-in-training shall be published by the ~~secretary-treasurer~~ director one (1) time each year or at such intervals as established by board regulations.

SECTION 5429. Arkansas Code § 17-32-207(d), concerning the official records and registers of the State Board of Registration for Professional Geologists, is amended to read as follows:

(d) At the end of the fiscal year, the board shall submit to the ~~Governor~~ Secretary of the Department of Labor and Licensing and the General Assembly a complete statement of the receipts and expenditures of the board.

SECTION 5430. Arkansas Code § 17-32-208 is amended to read as follows:  
17-32-208. ~~Secretary-treasurer, assistants~~ Director of the State Board of Registration for Professional Geologists – Indebtedness.

(a)(1) The ~~Secretary-treasurer~~ Director of the State Board of Registration for Professional Geologists shall receive and account for all moneys received in accordance with state law and the regulations of the State Board of Registration for Professional Geologists.

(2) These moneys shall be deposited into a financial institution located in this state and shall be disbursed only by the ~~secretary-treasurer~~ director.

(b) The ~~secretary-treasurer~~ director shall receive such salary as the

1 board in consultation with Secretary of the Department of Labor and Licensing  
2 determines within the limits set forth by the General Assembly.

3 (c) The ~~board~~ Department of Labor and Licensing shall employ  
4 assistants required to properly perform ~~its~~ the board's work and shall make  
5 expenditures from this account for any purpose that, in the opinion of the  
6 board, is reasonably necessary to perform its duties under law and its rules  
7 and regulations.

8 (d) The board shall have no authority to incur indebtedness.  
9

10 SECTION 5431. Arkansas Code § 17-33-201(a)(1), concerning the creation  
11 and members of the HVACR Licensing Board, is amended to read as follows:

12 (1) The secretary of the board shall be a representative of the  
13 Department of ~~Health~~ Labor and Licensing;  
14

15 SECTION 5432. Arkansas Code § 17-33-201(d), concerning the creation  
16 and members of the HVACR Licensing Board, is amended to read as follows:

17 (d) The secretary of the board, who shall be an employee of the  
18 Department of ~~Health~~ Labor and Licensing, shall serve at the pleasure of the  
19 Governor, and all other members shall serve four-year terms.  
20

21 SECTION 5433. Arkansas Code § 17-33-202(3), concerning the powers and  
22 duties of the HVACR Licensing Board, is amended to read as follows:

23 (3) Assist and advise the Department of ~~Health~~ Labor and  
24 Licensing on all matters related to the licensing of HVACR maintenance work;  
25

26 SECTION 5434. Arkansas Code § 17-33-205(a)(2)(A), concerning the  
27 disposition of fees and payments collected by the HVACR Licensing Board, is  
28 amended to read as follows:

29 (2)(A) All funds deposited into the HVACR Licensing Fund shall  
30 be used for the maintenance, operation, and improvement of the HVACR  
31 Licensing and Inspection Program of the Department of ~~Health~~ Labor and  
32 Licensing.  
33

34 SECTION 5435. Arkansas Code § 17-33-205(a)(3), concerning the  
35 disposition of fees and payments collected by the HVACR Licensing Board, is  
36 amended to read as follows:

1 (3) Subject to such rules and regulations as may be implemented  
2 by the Chief Fiscal Officer of the State, the disbursing officer for the  
3 Department of ~~Health~~ Labor and Licensing is hereby authorized to transfer all  
4 unexpended funds relative to the program that pertain to fees collected, as  
5 certified by the Chief Fiscal Officer of the State, to be carried forward and  
6 made available for expenditures for the same purpose for any following fiscal  
7 year.

8  
9 SECTION 5436. Arkansas Code § 17-33-306 is amended to read as follows:  
10 17-33-306. Expiration and renewal.

11 All licenses or registrations issued under this chapter shall expire  
12 one (1) year after the date of issuance or at a time specified by the HVACR  
13 Licensing Board. To renew a license or registration, the licensee must submit  
14 to the Department of ~~Health~~ Labor and Licensing before the expiration date on  
15 a form prescribed by the department the appropriate license or registration  
16 fees required by this chapter.

17  
18 SECTION 5437. Arkansas Code § 17-52-306(15), concerning the powers and  
19 duties of the Arkansas Home Inspector Registration Board, is amended to read  
20 as follows:

21 (15)(A) Assume the ~~Secretary of State's~~ Secretary of the  
22 Department of Labor and Licensing's responsibilities for home inspector  
23 registration by development of or contracting for a support organization to  
24 perform the administrative duties required by the board if the fund totals at  
25 least fifteen thousand dollars (\$15,000).

26 (B) If the fund totals at least fifteen thousand dollars  
27 (\$15,000) and the board votes to transfer the responsibilities of the  
28 ~~Secretary of State~~ Secretary of the Department of Labor and Licensing to the  
29 board, then the board shall give written notice to the ~~Secretary of State~~  
30 Secretary of the Department of Labor and Licensing ninety (90) calendar days  
31 before the transfer; and

32  
33 SECTION 5438. Arkansas Code § 17-52-311 is amended to read as follows:  
34 17-52-311. Role of ~~Secretary of State~~ Secretary of the Department of  
35 Labor and Licensing.

36 (a)(1) The ~~Secretary of State~~ Secretary of the Department of Labor and

1 Licensing shall be the custodian of permanent, official home inspector  
2 registration files and shall maintain permanent records of all home inspector  
3 registration applications received since the enactment of this subchapter.

4 (2) The ~~Secretary of State~~ secretary shall maintain the  
5 permanent records of the Arkansas Home Inspector Registration Board.

6 (b) The ~~Secretary of State~~ secretary shall receive and process  
7 applications for initial registration and renewal of registration.

8

9 SECTION 5439. Arkansas Code § 17-52-312(d), concerning the Arkansas  
10 Home Inspectors Registration Fund, is amended to read as follows:

11 (d)(1) Except as provided in subdivision (d)(2) of this section,  
12 effective with the 2003 registration and under the provisions of this  
13 subchapter, all funds, fees, charges, costs, and collections accruing to or  
14 collected by the Secretary of ~~State~~ the Department of Labor and Licensing  
15 shall be deposited quarterly into the fund.

16 (2) The ~~Secretary of State~~ secretary shall retain twenty-five  
17 dollars (\$25.00) for processing registration applications and renewals until  
18 this process is transferred to the Arkansas Home Inspector Registration  
19 Board.

20

21 SECTION 5440. Arkansas Code § 17-52-316(a)(2), concerning the fees and  
22 reimbursements by the Arkansas Home Inspector Registration Board, is amended  
23 to read as follows:

24 (2) ~~Within forty five (45) days of the enactment of this~~  
25 ~~section, the~~ The board shall notify the Secretary of ~~State~~ the Department of  
26 Labor and Licensing of the registration fee for the next year and by June 1  
27 every year thereafter until transferred to the board.

28

29 SECTION 5441. Arkansas Code § 17-55-101(c)(2)(C)(iii), concerning the  
30 licensure of electrical inspectors, is amended to read as follows:

31 (iii) The ~~Department of Labor~~ Division of  
32 Occupational and Professional Licensing Boards and Commissions may conduct or  
33 sponsor continuing education classes for electrical inspectors.

34

35 SECTION 5442. Arkansas Code § 17-55-101(d)(2)(A), concerning the  
36 licensure of electrical inspectors, is amended to read as follows:

1 (2)(A) A civil penalty may be assessed against an electrical  
2 inspector by the ~~department~~ Division of Occupational and Professional  
3 Licensing Boards and Commissions and subject to appeal and hearing before the  
4 board according to the Arkansas Administrative Procedure Act, § 25-15-201 et  
5 seq., if it is determined that the electrical inspector has violated a:

- 6 (i) Provision of this chapter;  
7 (ii) Rule, regulation, or order issued or  
8 promulgated by the board; or  
9 (iii) Condition of a license issued by the board.

10  
11 SECTION 5443. Arkansas Code § 17-55-101(d)(2)(E) and (F), concerning  
12 the licensure of electrical inspectors, are amended to read as follows:

13 (E) If an electrical inspector against whom a civil  
14 penalty has been imposed fails to pay the penalty within sixty (60) days of  
15 the board's decision, the Director of the ~~Department of Labor~~ Division of  
16 Occupational and Professional Licensing Boards and Commissions may file an  
17 action in a court of competent jurisdiction to collect the civil penalty  
18 without paying costs or giving bond for costs.

19 (F) Any penalties collected under this section shall be  
20 deposited as special revenues into the State Treasury to the credit of the  
21 Department of Labor and Licensing Special Fund, there to be used by the  
22 ~~department~~ Department of Labor and Licensing in carrying out the functions,  
23 powers, and duties of this chapter.

24  
25 SECTION 5444. Arkansas Code § 17-55-104 is amended to read as follows:  
26 17-55-104. Disposition of funds.

27 All funds received by the Board of Electrical Examiners of the State of  
28 Arkansas under this chapter shall be deposited as special revenues into the  
29 State Treasury to the credit of the Department of Labor and Licensing Special  
30 Fund, there to be used by the Department of Labor and Licensing in carrying  
31 out the functions, powers, and duties as set out in this chapter, § 17-28-101  
32 et seq., and the Arkansas Electrical Code Authority Act, § 20-31-101 et seq.,  
33 and to defray the costs of the maintenance, operation, and improvements  
34 required by the department in carrying out the functions, powers, and duties  
35 otherwise imposed by law on the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Labor  
36 and Licensing.

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SECTION 5445. Arkansas Code § 17-55-105(a), concerning the authority to charge fees for continuing education, is amended to read as follows:

(a) The Department of Labor and Licensing may charge fees for continuing education classes that it conducts or sponsors for electrical inspectors.

SECTION 5446. Arkansas Code § 17-56-103 is amended to read as follows:  
17-56-103. Administration.

~~The Arkansas Commission on Law Enforcement Standards and Training~~  
Department of Labor and Licensing shall administer the provisions of this chapter.

SECTION 5447. Arkansas Code § 19-5-1211 is amended to read as follows:  
19-5-1211. Department of Labor and Licensing Special 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 special fund to be known as the “Department of Labor and Licensing Special Fund”.

(b) The Department of Labor and Licensing Special Fund shall consist of:

(1) Those special revenues set out in § 19-6-301(25), (36), (72), (112), (158), (180), and (251); and

(2) The fee, penalty, and assessment income and all other income, the disposition of which is not otherwise provided by law, of the Department of Labor and Licensing.

(c) The Department of Labor and Licensing Special Fund shall be used for the maintenance, operation, and improvements required by the department in carrying out the special revenue programs enumerated in subsection (b) of this section, and to defray the costs of the maintenance, operation, and improvements required by the department or the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Labor and Licensing in carrying out the functions, powers, and duties imposed by law on the department or the ~~director~~ secretary.

(d) The ~~director~~ secretary, with the approval of the Chief Fiscal Officer of the State, is authorized to transfer funds from the Department of Labor and Licensing Special Fund to the Department of Labor and Licensing Fund Account.

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SECTION 5448. Arkansas Code § 20-20-303(3), concerning hand-harvesting by children, is amended to read as follows:

(3) An employment certificate has been obtained from the Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of Labor pursuant to § 11-6-109;

SECTION 5449. Arkansas Code § 20-22-605(a), concerning the report and investigation of violations of the rules of the Arkansas Fire Protection Licensing Board, is amended to read as follows:

(a) The ~~Department of Labor~~ Division of Occupational and Professional Licensing Boards and Commissions and other state and local agencies and officers may cooperate with and assist the Arkansas Fire Protection Licensing Board in administering and enforcing this subchapter by reporting to the board any violations of this subchapter or any failure to comply with this subchapter or the policies adopted by the board pursuant to the authority granted in this subchapter.

SECTION 5450. Arkansas Code § 20-22-606(c) and (d), concerning the creation of the Arkansas Fire Protection Licensing Board, are amended to read as follows:

(c)(1) The board may expend moneys as necessary to reimburse the Department of Labor and Licensing for stationery, office supplies, application forms, equipment, and other materials necessary for the board to carry out its duties.

(2) The expense reimbursement and stipends authorized by § 25-16-901 et seq. and the expense for necessary office supplies, forms, equipment, and other necessary materials shall be paid from the fees and fines collected by the board.

(d)(1) *The board* shall employ an executive director, chief board investigator, and other staff as necessary whose compensation shall be set by the board.

(2) The staff shall be paid from fees and fines collected by the board.

SECTION 5451. Arkansas Code § 20-23-103(a), concerning the enforcement of the laws governing boiler safety, is amended to read as follows:

1 (a) The criminal penalties provided by this chapter shall be enforced  
2 by the prosecuting attorney of each judicial district. The administrative  
3 penalties provided by this chapter shall be imposed pursuant to regulation of  
4 the Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of Labor.

5  
6 SECTION 5452. Arkansas Code § 20-23-104(a), concerning periodic or  
7 regular attendance by a boiler operator, is amended to read as follows:

8 (a) All boilers subject to the provisions of this chapter shall be  
9 continuously monitored by mechanical and electronic devices approved by the  
10 Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of Labor. When a plant is in operation or  
11 when any public building is occupied, the boilers shall be under regular  
12 attendance by a boiler operator unless otherwise exempt.

13  
14 SECTION 5453. Arkansas Code § 20-23-105(a), concerning the disposition  
15 of funds, is amended to read as follows:

16 (a) All money received under this chapter shall be paid to the  
17 Treasurer of State, who shall place this money to the credit of the  
18 Department of Labor and Licensing Special Fund, there to be used by the  
19 Department of Labor and Licensing in carrying out the functions, powers, and  
20 duties as set out in this chapter and to defray the costs of the maintenance,  
21 operation, and improvements required by the department in carrying out the  
22 functions, powers, and duties otherwise imposed by law on the department or  
23 the Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of Labor.

24  
25 SECTION 5454. Arkansas Code § 20-23-202(a)(1), concerning the Chief  
26 Inspector of the Boiler Inspection Division, is amended to read as follows:

27 (a)(1) When the office of Chief Inspector of the Boiler Inspection  
28 Division becomes vacant, the Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of Labor  
29 shall employ a citizen of the State of Arkansas to be chief inspector.

30  
31 SECTION 5455. Arkansas Code § 20-23-203(c)(1), concerning the Chief  
32 Inspector of the Boiler Inspection Division's duty to inspect and enforce, is  
33 amended to read as follows:

34 (c)(1) The chief inspector shall enforce the laws of the state  
35 governing the use of boilers and unfired pressure vessels. He or she shall  
36 examine into and report to the Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of Labor

1 the causes of boiler explosions which occur within the state.

2  
3 SECTION 5456. Arkansas Code § 20-23-301(a)(1), concerning the  
4 application of regulations and standards and certificates of inspection  
5 required for boilers, is amended to read as follows:

6 (a)(1) No owner or user of a boiler or pressure vessel or engineer or  
7 fireman in charge of a boiler or pressure vessel shall operate or allow the  
8 boiler or pressure vessel to be operated without a certificate of inspection  
9 issued by the Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of Labor or shall allow a  
10 greater pressure in the boiler or pressure vessel than is allowed by the  
11 certificate of inspection.

12  
13 SECTION 5457. Arkansas Code § 20-23-306(a)(1), concerning the issuance  
14 of certificates of inspection by the Boiler Inspection Division, is amended  
15 to read as follows:

16 (a)(1) Upon receipt by the Boiler Inspection Division of an annual or  
17 biennial certificate report of inspection from a state inspector or from an  
18 inspector employed by an insurance company that a boiler or pressure vessel  
19 is in safe working condition with the required fittings, valves, and  
20 appliances properly installed and set, the Director of the ~~Department~~  
21 Division of Labor shall issue to the owner of the boiler or pressure vessel a  
22 certificate of inspection.

23  
24 SECTION 5458. Arkansas Code § 20-23-311(b), concerning inspection fees  
25 of the Boiler Inspection Division, is amended to read as follows:

26 (b) The rates in subsection (a) of this section may be reduced by the  
27 Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of Labor at the beginning of any fiscal  
28 year if the rates produce a greater amount of revenue than is required to  
29 defray the cost of operation of the ~~division~~ the Boiler Inspection Division.

30  
31 SECTION 5459. Arkansas Code § 20-23-312(a), concerning the collection  
32 of inspection fees of the Boiler Inspection Division, is amended to read as  
33 follows:

34 (a)(1) In addition to other remedies provided for by this chapter, if  
35 after the making of any inspection or accrual of any charge or penalty  
36 required or authorized by this chapter, the fee, penalty, or charge is not

1 paid within thirty (30) days after demand upon whoever is liable therefor,  
2 the Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of Labor may employ an attorney, who  
3 is empowered without payment of costs or giving of bond for costs to  
4 institute suit in the name of the State of Arkansas in any court of competent  
5 jurisdiction to collect the fees, penalties, costs, and charges.

6 (2)(A) The court where suit is brought pursuant to subdivision  
7 (a)(1) of this section for collection of fees, penalties, and charges shall,  
8 without limitation, based on the actual amount of the judgment award an  
9 attorney's fee equal to the actual cost to the ~~Department~~ Division of Labor  
10 or the Boiler Inspection Division for the regular hourly rate of pay of the  
11 attorney multiplied by the actual hours, including, but not limited to,  
12 travel time, litigation, and case review.

13 (B) Furthermore, the court shall award, without  
14 limitation, based on the actual amount of the judgment an amount equal to all  
15 costs incurred by the ~~department~~ Division of Labor or the division,  
16 including, but not limited to, travel costs, witness fees, sheriff's service  
17 fees, or costs incurred pursuant to the collection of any judgment obtained  
18 by the ~~department~~ Division of Labor or ~~division~~ Boiler Inspection Division.  
19

20 SECTION 5460. Arkansas Code § 20-23-314(b)-(e), concerning pressure  
21 piping inspections by the Boiler Inspection Division, are amended to read as  
22 follows

23 (b)(1) Upon completion of the installation of any pressure piping, a  
24 final inspection shall be made, and the inspector shall complete a final  
25 inspection report on a form approved by the Director of the ~~Department~~  
26 Division of Labor.

27 (2) A copy of the final inspection report shall be filed with  
28 the ~~division~~ Boiler Inspection Division within thirty (30) days of completion  
29 of the installation.

30 (c) If the report required by subsection (b) of this section is not  
31 filed within thirty (30) days after completion of the installation, the  
32 ~~division~~ Boiler Inspection Division shall designate an inspector in its  
33 employ to make the inspection and report required by subsection (b) of this  
34 section.

35 (d) The inspections and reports required by subsections (a) and (b) of  
36 this section may be made by an inspector in the employ of the ~~division~~ Boiler

1 Inspection Division.

2 (e) For each inspection made by an inspector employed by the division  
3 and required by subsection (a), subsection (b), or subsection (c) of this  
4 section, the holder of the installation permit shall pay the division an  
5 inspection fee in the amount of four hundred forty dollars (\$440) per day or  
6 two hundred twenty dollars (\$220) per half-day, plus expenses and mileage at  
7 the rates authorized for employees of the ~~Department~~ Division of Labor who  
8 furnish their own transportation.

9

10 SECTION 5461. Arkansas Code § 20-23-402(c), concerning inspectors  
11 employed by insurance companies, is amended to read as follows:

12 (c) Within thirty (30) days following each internal inspection made by  
13 its inspectors, each insurance company shall file a copy of the internal  
14 inspection report and date of the inspection with the ~~division~~ Boiler  
15 Inspection Division on forms approved by the ~~Department~~ Division of Labor.

16

17 SECTION 5462. Arkansas Code § 20-23-404(a)(5), concerning applications  
18 for operators by the Boiler Inspection Division, is amended to read as  
19 follows:

20 (5) Before the applicant may participate in an examination, he  
21 or she shall have had not less than six (6) months of on-the-job training.  
22 Proof of this on-the-job training shall be furnished to the ~~Department~~  
23 Division of Labor by the employer prior to the examination.

24

25 SECTION 5463. Arkansas Code § 20-23-406(a)(1)(B), concerning a  
26 certificate of competency and commission and restricted lifetime licenses, is  
27 amended to read as follows:

28 (B) The certificate of competency and commission shall be  
29 issued upon satisfactory proof of age and upon payment of a fee prescribed by  
30 the ~~Department~~ Division of Labor.

31

32 SECTION 5464. Arkansas Code § 20-23-407(a), concerning owner or user  
33 inspection programs for steam boilers or pressure vessels, is amended to read  
34 as follows:

35 (a) Any owner or user of a steam boiler or pressure vessel subject to  
36 this chapter may perform any inspections required by this chapter on such

1 vessels owned or operated by the owner or user if the owner or user meets the  
2 requirements prescribed by regulation of the Director of the ~~Department~~  
3 Division of Labor.

4  
5 SECTION 5465. Arkansas Code § 20-24-101(2), concerning the definition  
6 of "authorized representative" under the laws governing the Elevator Safety  
7 Board, is amended to read as follows:

8 (2) "Authorized representative" means the building department of  
9 cities, towns, or other governmental subdivisions designated by the  
10 ~~Department of Labor~~ Division of Occupational and Professional Licensing  
11 Boards and Commissions to enforce certain provisions of this chapter;

12  
13 SECTION 5466. Arkansas Code § 20-24-101(5) and (6), concerning  
14 definition of "division" and "director" under the laws governing the Elevator  
15 Safety Board, are repealed.

16 ~~(5) "Department" means the Department of Labor;~~

17 ~~(6) "Director" means the Director of the Department of Labor;~~

18  
19 SECTION 5467. Arkansas Code § 20-24-103(b) and (c), concerning the  
20 penalties for violations of the laws governing elevator safety, are amended  
21 to read as follows:

22 (b) An action for recovery of the penalties provided by this section  
23 shall be instituted by the ~~Department of Labor~~ Division of Occupational and  
24 Professional Licensing Boards and Commissions or its authorized  
25 representative and shall be in the form of a civil action before a court of  
26 competent jurisdiction.

27 (c) In addition to the penalties in subsection (a) of this section,  
28 the Director of the ~~Department of Labor~~ Division of Occupational and  
29 Professional Licensing Boards and Commissions may petition a court of  
30 competent jurisdiction to enjoin or restrain violations of this chapter or a  
31 rule adopted by the board.

32  
33 SECTION 5468. Arkansas Code § 20-24-104 is amended to read as follows:  
34 20-24-104. Enforcement.

35 (a) Except when otherwise provided, the ~~Department of Labor~~ Division  
36 of Occupational and Professional Licensing Boards and Commissions shall have

1 the power, and it shall be its duty, to enforce this chapter and the rules  
2 and regulations adopted by the Elevator Safety Board.

3 (b) In cities, towns, or other governmental subdivisions having a  
4 building department with qualified personnel to enforce this chapter or  
5 portions thereof, the Director of the ~~Department of Labor~~ Division of  
6 Occupational and Professional Licensing Boards and Commissions may delegate  
7 the building department as the authorized representative of the ~~Department of~~  
8 ~~Labor~~ Division of Occupational and Professional Licensing Boards and  
9 Commissions to enforce and carry out the provisions of §§ 20-24-112 – 20-24-  
10 116 or any portion thereof as may be designated by him or her.

11  
12 SECTION 5469. Arkansas Code § 20-24-105(a), concerning the creation of  
13 the Elevator Safety Board, is amended to read as follows:

14 (a) There is created the Elevator Safety Board, consisting of six (6)  
15 members, one (1) of whom shall be the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of  
16 Labor and Licensing, who shall serve continuously, and five (5) of whom shall  
17 be appointed by the Governor for terms of four (4) years.

18  
19 SECTION 5470. Arkansas Code § 20-24-105(d) and (e), concerning the  
20 creation of the Elevator Safety Board, are amended to read as follows:

21 (d) The board shall meet at the call of the ~~director~~ secretary who  
22 shall designate in the call the time and place of the meeting.

23 (e) The members except the ~~director~~ secretary may receive expense  
24 reimbursement and stipends in accordance with § 25-16-901 et seq.

25  
26 SECTION 5471. Arkansas Code § 20-24-106(e), concerning the powers and  
27 duties of the Elevator Safety Board, is amended to read as follows:

28 (e) It shall also be the duty of the board to hear and decide any  
29 appeals from the orders or acts of the Department of Labor and Licensing or  
30 its authorized representative as provided in § 20-24-119.

31  
32 SECTION 5472. Arkansas Code § 20-24-107(c)(2)(A), concerning adoption  
33 and amendment of rules and regulations of the Elevator Safety Board, is  
34 amended to read as follows:

35 (2)(A) Any person engaged in the inspection, alteration,  
36 construction, repair, or operation of elevators, dumbwaiters, or escalators,

1 or any owner, insurer, or lessee thereof, may, from time to time, by written  
2 petition to the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Labor and Licensing,  
3 request that any rules and regulations adopted by the board under subsection  
4 (a) of this section be amended, or the ~~director~~ secretary shall refer the  
5 petition to the board for its consideration and recommendation.

6  
7 SECTION 5473. Arkansas Code § 20-24-108(a)(2)(C)(ii), concerning the  
8 qualifications for licenses required by the Elevator Safety Board, is amended  
9 to read as follows:

10 (ii) The provision for liability insurance required  
11 by subdivision (a)(2)(C)(i) of this section shall not apply to elevator  
12 inspectors employed by the ~~Department of Labor~~ Division of Occupational and  
13 Professional Licensing Boards and Commissions; and

14  
15 SECTION 5474. Arkansas Code § 20-24-109(d)(2), concerning the  
16 application and examination for license issuance and renewal, is amended to  
17 read as follows:

18 (2) Whenever the board determines that there are not enough  
19 licensed elevator mechanics available to perform work necessary for the  
20 completion of a project for which the ~~Department of Labor~~ Division of  
21 Occupational and Professional Licensing Boards and Commissions has issued a  
22 permit under § 20-24-115(d), the board may waive the requirements of this  
23 chapter and issue a temporary elevator mechanic license that may be valid for  
24 no longer than thirty (30) days.

25  
26 SECTION 5475. Arkansas Code § 20-24-110(d), concerning prohibited  
27 activities of inspectors of the Elevator Safety Board, is amended to read as  
28 follows:

29 (d) On or before the last day of January of each year, all licensed  
30 elevator inspectors shall file with the Department of Labor and Licensing a  
31 financial disclosure statement on forms provided by the department and  
32 approved by the Elevator Safety Board. Such forms shall include, but not be  
33 limited to, the following:

34 (1) The name and address of any corporation, firm, or enterprise  
35 in which the person has a direct financial interest of a value in excess of  
36 one thousand dollars (\$1,000). Policies of insurance issued to himself or

1 herself or his or her spouse are not to be considered a financial interest;

2 (2) A list of every office or directorship held by himself or  
3 herself or his or her spouse, in any corporation, firm, or enterprise subject  
4 to the jurisdiction of the board;

5 (3) A list showing the name and address of any person,  
6 corporation, firm, or enterprise from which the person received compensation  
7 in excess of one thousand five hundred dollars (\$1,500) during the preceding  
8 year; and

9 (4) A list showing the name and address of any person,  
10 corporation, firm, or enterprise from which the persons received compensation  
11 in excess of twelve thousand five hundred dollars (\$12,500) during the  
12 preceding year.

13  
14 SECTION 5476. Arkansas Code § 20-24-112(a)(1)(B), concerning testing  
15 and inspection required for elevators, is amended to read as follows:

16 (B) The inspections shall be made by a licensed elevator  
17 inspector in the employ of the ~~Department of Labor~~ Division of Occupational  
18 and Professional Licensing Boards and Commissions or its authorized  
19 representative;

20  
21 SECTION 5477. Arkansas Code § 20-24-113(a)(1), concerning the reports  
22 of inspection of the Elevator Safety Board, is amended to read as follows:

23 (a)(1) A report of every required inspection or safety test shall be  
24 filed with the Department of Labor and Licensing or its authorized  
25 representative by the inspector making the inspection or witnessing the test  
26 on a form approved by the department or its authorized representative within  
27 thirty (30) days after the inspection or test has been completed.

28  
29 SECTION 5478. Arkansas Code § 20-24-114 is amended to read as follows:  
30 20-24-114. Additional inspections.

31 In addition to required inspections, the Department of Labor and  
32 Licensing or its authorized representative may designate a licensed inspector  
33 in its employ to make such additional inspections as may be required to  
34 enforce this chapter and the rules adopted by the Elevator Safety Board under  
35 § 20-24-107(a) and (b).

36

1 SECTION 5479. Arkansas Code § 20-24-115(a)(1), concerning the new  
2 construction, relocation, or alteration of elevators, is amended to read as  
3 follows:

4 (a)(1) On and after the effective date of rules and regulations  
5 adopted by the Elevator Safety Board under § 20-24-107(a) and (b), detailed  
6 plans and specifications of the elevator, dumbwaiter, or escalator to be  
7 thereafter installed, relocated, or altered shall be submitted by the  
8 contractor, or in the absence of an installing contractor, by a person or the  
9 owner, to the Department of Labor and Licensing. An application for a  
10 construction or alteration permit on forms to be furnished or approved by the  
11 department shall be submitted at the same time.

12  
13 SECTION 5480. Arkansas Code § 20-24-116(a)(1), concerning the  
14 operating permits for elevators, is amended to read as follows:

15 (a)(1) Operating permits shall be issued by the Department of Labor  
16 and Licensing within the time limits specified in this section to the owner  
17 or lessee of every new or altered elevator, dumbwaiter, and escalator and of  
18 every existing elevator, dumbwaiter, and escalator when the inspection report  
19 indicates compliance with the applicable sections of this chapter.

20  
21 SECTION 5481. Arkansas Code § 20-24-117(a), concerning the fees for  
22 elevator installation permits, is amended to read as follows:

23 (a) The following fees shall be paid to the Department of Labor and  
24 Licensing for each passenger, freight, or one-man elevator or dumbwaiter  
25 installation permit:

26	(1) Elevators	\$150.00
27	(2) Escalators and moving walks	200.00
28	(3) Dumbwaiters	100.00
29	(4) Wheelchair lifts	100.00
30	(5) Workmen's hoists	200.00

31  
32 SECTION 5482. Arkansas Code § 20-24-119(a), concerning appeals from  
33 orders or acts of the Department of Labor, is amended to read as follows:

34 (a) Any person aggrieved by an order or act of the Department of Labor  
35 or Licensing or its authorized representative under this chapter may, within  
36 fifteen (15) days after notice thereof, appeal from the order or act to the

1 Elevator Safety Board, which shall, within thirty (30) days thereafter, hold  
2 a hearing of which at least fifteen (15) days' written notice shall be given  
3 to all interested parties.

4  
5 SECTION 5483. Arkansas Code § 20-27-801(b)(1), concerning an exception  
6 to leaving the door on automatic locking devices or items, is amended to read  
7 as follows:

8 (b)(1) The Labor Safety Administrator of the ~~Department~~ Division of  
9 Labor or any of his or her deputies or inspectors shall have the right to  
10 remove the door hinges or to dismantle, if necessary, any icebox,  
11 refrigerator, or other container that has an air-tight door or lid, snaplock,  
12 or other locking device that violates this subchapter.

13  
14 SECTION 5484. Arkansas Code § 20-27-802 is amended to read as follows:  
15 20-27-802. Inside door handles required on certain walk-in  
16 refrigerators, etc.

17 The Labor Safety Administrator of the ~~Department~~ Division of Labor or  
18 any of his or her deputies or inspectors may require the installation of  
19 inside door handles on any walk-in refrigerator, icebox, freezer, or door of  
20 a cold storage room where in his or her discretion the absence of inside door  
21 handles in the freezing unit may endanger the life of any employee or other  
22 authorized personnel using the unit.

23  
24 SECTION 5485. Arkansas Code § 20-27-901(2)(A), concerning the  
25 definition of "hazardous locations" under the laws governing safety glazing  
26 materials, is amended to read as follows:

27 (2)(A) "Hazardous locations" means those areas in residential,  
28 commercial, and public buildings where the use of other than safety glazing  
29 materials would constitute a hazard as the Director of the ~~Department~~  
30 Division of Labor may determine after notice and hearings as are now required  
31 by law.

32  
33 SECTION 5486. Arkansas Code § 20-27-1102(a), concerning enforcement,  
34 administration, and rules regarding blasting, is amended to read as follows:

35 (a) The Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of Labor shall promulgate  
36 regulations to establish minimum standards for the qualifications of those

1 individuals performing blasting in Arkansas.

2

3 SECTION 5487. Arkansas Code § 20-27-1302(2), concerning the  
4 definitions of "division" and "director" under the laws governing blasting,  
5 are repealed.

6 ~~(4) "Department" means the Department of Labor;~~

7 ~~(5) "Director" means the Director of the Department of Labor;~~

8

9 SECTION 5488. Arkansas Code § 20-27-1303(b)(2)(A), concerning blasting  
10 standards, is amended to read as follows:

11 (2)(A) If necessary to prevent damage, the Director of the  
12 ~~Department~~ Division of Labor may require lower maximum allowable airblast  
13 levels than those specified in subdivision (b)(1) of this section for use in  
14 the vicinity of a specific blasting operation.

15

16 SECTION 5489. Arkansas Code § 20-27-1305(a)(2), concerning record  
17 keeping for mine operators and owners, is amended to read as follows:

18 (2) Upon request, copies of these records shall be made  
19 available to the ~~Department~~ Division of Labor for inspection.

20

21 SECTION 5490. Arkansas Code § 20-27-1306(b), concerning insurance for  
22 blasting operations, is amended to read as follows:

23 (b) Proof of such coverage shall be made available to the Director of  
24 the ~~Department~~ Division of Labor or his or her authorized representative upon  
25 request.

26

27 SECTION 5491. Arkansas Code § 20-27-1307(b), concerning exemptions for  
28 owners and operators of mines and quarries, is amended to read as follows:

29 (b) Notwithstanding subsection (a) of this section, the authority of  
30 the Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of Labor shall not be restricted with  
31 respect to:

32 (1) Mines or quarries which were in existence and operation on  
33 July 1, 1995, but which change owners or operators after July 1, 1995; or

34 (2) New or existing mines or quarries which were not in  
35 operation on July 1, 1995.

36

1 SECTION 5492. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 20-27-  
2 1308(a), concerning the powers and duties of the Director of the Department  
3 of Labor, is amended to read as follows:

4 (a) In addition to other powers and authority provided by law, the  
5 Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of Labor or his or her authorized  
6 representative shall have the following authority:

7  
8 SECTION 5493. Arkansas Code § 20-27-1308(c), concerning the powers and  
9 duties of the Director of the Department of Labor, is amended to read as  
10 follows:

11 (c) In case of failure of any person to comply with any subpoena  
12 lawfully issued under this section or upon the refusal of any witness to  
13 produce evidence or to testify to any matter regarding which he or she may be  
14 lawfully interrogated, it shall be the duty of any circuit court or judge  
15 thereof, upon application of the ~~Department~~ Division of Labor, to compel  
16 obedience by proceedings for contempt, as in the case of disobedience of the  
17 requirements of a subpoena issued by the court or a refusal to testify  
18 therein.

19  
20 SECTION 5494. Arkansas Code § 20-27-1309(a) and (b), concerning  
21 hearings, orders, and notices conducted by the Director of the Department of  
22 Labor, are amended to read as follows:

23 (a) All hearings conducted by the Director of the ~~Department~~ Division  
24 of Labor and all orders, notices, and assessments shall conform to the  
25 requirements of the Arkansas Administrative Procedure Act, § 25-15-201 et  
26 seq.

27 (b) Service of any notice, order, or assessment may be made by  
28 delivery to the person to be ordered or notified or by mailing it, postage  
29 prepaid, addressed to the person at his or her principal place of business as  
30 last of record with the ~~Department~~ Division of Labor.

31  
32 SECTION 5495. Arkansas Code § 20-27-1309(c)(2), concerning hearings,  
33 orders, and notices conducted by the Director of the Department of Labor, are  
34 amended to read as follows:

35 (2) A complainant entitled to notice is any person who has made  
36 a written complaint within the past three (3) years to the ~~department~~

1 division regarding the blasting operations of the person charged with the  
2 violation.

3

4 SECTION 5496. Arkansas Code § 20-27-1310 is amended to read as  
5 follows:

6 20-27-1310. Cooperation with State Fire Marshal.

7 (a) The Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of Labor shall consult the  
8 State Fire Marshal regarding the adoption of any rules or regulations.

9 (b) The ~~Department~~ Division of Labor and the State Fire Marshal shall  
10 cooperate and coordinate their activities in order to avoid duplication of  
11 services.

12

13 SECTION 5497. Arkansas Code § 20-27-1311(b), concerning orders,  
14 remedies and existing rules and regulations, is amended to read as follows:

15 (b) All orders entered, permits granted, and pending legal proceedings  
16 instituted by any person, public or private, relating to subjects embraced  
17 within this subchapter shall remain unimpaired and in full force and effect  
18 until superseded by actions taken by the Director of the ~~Department~~ Division  
19 of Labor under this subchapter.

20

21 SECTION 5498. Arkansas Code § 20-27-1313(a)(1), concerning the  
22 assessment of civil penalties under the Arkansas Quarry and Open Pit Mine  
23 Blasting Control Act, is amended to read as follows:

24 (a)(1) Any person who violates any provision of this subchapter or who  
25 violates any rule, regulation, or order issued under this subchapter may be  
26 assessed an administrative civil penalty by the Director of the ~~Department~~  
27 Division of Labor in an amount not to exceed ten thousand dollars (\$10,000)  
28 per violation.

29

30 SECTION 5499. Arkansas Code § 20-27-1313(d)(1), concerning the  
31 assessment of civil penalties under the Arkansas Quarry and Open Pit Mine  
32 Blasting Control Act, is amended to read as follows:

33 (d)(1) Sums collected as reimbursement for expenses, costs, and  
34 damages to the ~~Department~~ Division of Labor shall be deposited into the  
35 operating fund of the ~~department~~ division.

36

1 SECTION 5500. Arkansas Code § 20-27-1313(e), concerning the assessment  
2 of civil penalties under the Arkansas Quarry and Open Pit Mine Blasting  
3 Control Act, is amended to read as follows:

4 (e) Notice of any assessment by the director shall be served on any  
5 person who has made a written complaint within the past three (3) years to  
6 the ~~department~~ division regarding the blasting operations of the person  
7 charged with the violation.

8  
9 SECTION 5501. Arkansas Code § 20-27-1314 is amended to read as  
10 follows:

11 20-27-1314. Restraint.

12 In addition to the civil penalty provided in § 20-27-1313, the Director  
13 of the ~~Department~~ Division of Labor may petition any court of competent  
14 jurisdiction without paying costs or giving bond for costs to:

15 (1)(A) Enjoin or restrain any violation of or compel compliance  
16 with this subchapter and any rules, regulations, or orders issued under this  
17 subchapter.

18 (B) In situations in which there is an imminent threat to  
19 public or worker safety or to property, the director may seek a temporary  
20 restraining order for the cessation of any blasting;

21 (2) Affirmatively order that such remedial measures be taken as  
22 may be necessary or appropriate to implement or effectuate the purposes and  
23 intent of this subchapter; and

24 (3) Recover all costs, expenses, and damages to the ~~Department~~  
25 Division of Labor and any other agency or subdivision of the state in  
26 enforcing or effectuating this subchapter.

27  
28 SECTION 5502. Arkansas Code § 20-31-102(2), concerning the definition  
29 of "department" under the Arkansas Electrical Code Authority Act, is  
30 repealed.

31 ~~(2) "Department" means the Department of Labor;~~

32  
33 SECTION 5503. Arkansas Code § 20-31-104(f), concerning statewide  
34 standards and the enforcement of rules for the Board of Electrical Examiners  
35 of the State of Arkansas, is amended to read as follows:

36 (f) It shall be the duty of the ~~Department~~ Division of Labor to

1 administer and enforce this chapter.

2

3 SECTION 5504. Arkansas Code § 22-9-212(b), concerning public  
4 improvements to trench or excavation safety systems, is amended to read as  
5 follows:

6 (b) In the event a contractor fails to complete a separate pay item in  
7 accordance with the applicable provisions of subsection (a) of this section,  
8 the agency, county, municipality, school district, local taxing unit, or  
9 improvement district shall declare that the bid fails to comply fully with  
10 the provisions of the specifications and bid documents and will be considered  
11 invalid as a nonresponsive bid. The owners of the above-stated project shall  
12 notify the Safety Division of the ~~Department~~ Division of Labor of the award  
13 of a contract covered by this section.

14

15 SECTION 5505. Arkansas Code § 23-89-502(3), concerning the definition  
16 of "department" under the Amusement Ride and Amusement Attraction Safety  
17 Insurance Act, are repealed.

18 ~~(3) "Department" means the Department of Labor;~~

19 ~~(4) "Director" means the Director of the Department of Labor;~~

20

21 SECTION 5506. Arkansas Code § 23-89-504 is amended to read as follows:

22 23-89-504. Safety inspection and insurance required – Enforcement –  
23 Violations.

24 (a) It is unlawful for any person or entity to operate an amusement  
25 attraction or amusement ride unless the person or entity maintains liability  
26 insurance in the minimum amount required by this subchapter at all times  
27 during the operation of the amusement attraction or amusement ride in the  
28 state and unless the person has a current safety inspection report made at  
29 the time of set-up of the amusement attraction or amusement ride, but before  
30 use by the public.

31 (b)(1) The Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of Labor may conduct  
32 examinations and investigations into the affairs of any person or entity  
33 subject to the provisions of this subchapter for the purpose of determining  
34 compliance with the provisions of this subchapter.

35 (2) The Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of Labor shall  
36 administer and enforce the provisions of this subchapter.

1 (3) The Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of Labor shall  
2 promulgate regulations for the proper administration and enforcement of this  
3 subchapter, including regulations establishing minimum safety requirements  
4 for the operation and maintenance of amusement rides and amusement  
5 attractions.

6 (4) The Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of Labor shall  
7 employ amusement ride inspectors certified by the National Association of  
8 Amusement Ride Safety Officials.

9 (c) If the Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of Labor finds that an  
10 operator or owner has failed to comply with the provisions of this  
11 subchapter, he or she may order the operator or owner to immediately cease  
12 operating the amusement attraction or amusement ride and may impose upon the  
13 operator or owner an administrative penalty of not more than ten thousand  
14 dollars (\$10,000).

15 (d)(1) If the Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of Labor finds that  
16 an operator or owner failed to comply with the provisions of this subchapter,  
17 he or she shall so inform the prosecuting attorney in whose district any  
18 purported violation may have occurred.

19 (2)(A) Upon conviction, the operator or owner shall be guilty of  
20 a Class A misdemeanor.

21 (B) Upon conviction of a knowing violation, the operator  
22 or owner shall be guilty of a Class D felony.

23 (3) Each day of violation shall constitute a separate offense.

24 (e) The Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of Labor shall have  
25 authority to bring a civil action in any court of competent jurisdiction,  
26 without payment of costs or giving bond for costs, to recover any  
27 administrative penalty imposed pursuant to this subchapter or to recover any  
28 delinquent fees owed pursuant to this subchapter.

29 (f) The Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of Labor and his or her  
30 deputies, assistants, examiners, and employees and the Director of the  
31 ~~Department~~ Division of Arkansas State Police and his or her deputies,  
32 officers, assistants, and employees and any public law enforcement officer  
33 shall not be liable for any damages occurring as a result of the  
34 implementation of this subchapter.

35  
36 SECTION 5507. Arkansas Code § 23-89-505(a), concerning safety

1 inspections, notice, and insurance requirements under the Amusement Ride and  
2 Amusement Attraction Safety Insurance Act, is amended to read as follows:

3 (a) Any person or entity desiring to operate any amusement attraction  
4 or amusement ride in this state, other than those specifically exempted in  
5 this subchapter, shall as a condition thereof obtain a safety inspection  
6 report issued by the owner or operator's liability insurer or an inspector  
7 employed by the ~~Department~~ Division of Labor prior to commencing operation or  
8 opening to the public.

9  
10 SECTION 5508. Arkansas Code § 23-89-505(c)(1), concerning safety  
11 inspections, notice, and insurance requirements under the Amusement Ride and  
12 Amusement Attraction Safety Insurance Act, is amended to read as follows:

13 (c)(1) Any person or entity intending to operate an amusement  
14 attraction or amusement ride in this state shall notify the Director of the  
15 ~~Department~~ Division of Labor of such intent and shall notify the director of  
16 the location, dates, and times of intended operation.

17  
18 SECTION 5509. Arkansas Code § 23-89-506(a)(1), concerning inspections  
19 and fees, is amended to read as follows:

20 (a)(1) The Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of Labor is authorized  
21 to inspect each person or entity to ensure compliance with this subchapter.

22  
23 SECTION 5510. Arkansas Code § 23-89-506(c)-(e), concerning inspections  
24 and fees, are amended to read as follows:

25 (c) If the director or an authorized employee of the ~~Department~~  
26 Division of Labor finds that any amusement ride or amusement attraction is  
27 defective in a manner affecting patron safety or unsafe, he or she shall  
28 attach to the amusement ride or amusement attraction a notice and order  
29 prohibiting its use or operation. Operation of the amusement ride shall not  
30 resume until the unsafe or hazardous condition is corrected and the director  
31 or his or her authorized representative permits such an operation.

32 (d) Any inspector certified pursuant to the requirements of this  
33 subchapter who, upon inspection of an amusement ride or amusement attraction,  
34 finds the amusement ride or amusement attraction to be defective or unsafe  
35 shall immediately report the amusement ride or amusement attraction and its  
36 condition to the ~~department~~ division.

1 (e) The director shall charge a fee to be paid by the owner of any  
2 amusement ride or amusement attraction for all amusement ride safety  
3 inspections performed by any employee of the ~~department~~ division. Such fees  
4 shall be as follows:

5 (1) For one (1) to five (5) amusement rides or amusement  
6 attractions, one hundred dollars (\$100);

7 (2) For six (6) to fifteen (15) amusement rides or amusement  
8 attractions, two hundred dollars (\$200);

9 (3) For sixteen (16) to twenty-five (25) amusement rides or  
10 amusement attractions, three hundred dollars (\$300);

11 (4) For twenty-six (26) to thirty-five (35) amusement rides or  
12 amusement attractions, four hundred dollars (\$400); and

13 (5) For thirty-six (36) and more amusement rides or amusement  
14 attractions, six hundred dollars (\$600).  
15

16 SECTION 5511. Arkansas Code § 23-89-507(b), concerning a change in  
17 coverage by an insurance company under the Amusement Ride and Amusement  
18 Attraction Safety Insurance Act, is amended to read as follows:

19 (b) If any insurer insuring an operator shall cancel the coverage of  
20 the operator, the insurer shall notify the Director of the ~~Department~~  
21 Division of Labor of the cancellation at least ten (10) days before the  
22 cancellation is effective.  
23

24 SECTION 5512. Arkansas Code § 23-89-507(f), concerning a change in  
25 coverage by an insurance company under the Amusement Ride and Amusement  
26 Attraction Safety Insurance Act, is amended to read as follows:

27 (f) Any employee or contractor of an insurer inspecting amusement  
28 rides in Arkansas shall be registered and certified by the ~~Department~~  
29 Division of Labor pursuant to regulation adopted by the director.  
30

31 SECTION 5513. Arkansas Code § 23-89-508 is amended to read as follows:  
32 23-89-508. Rules and regulations.

33 The Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of Labor is authorized to adopt  
34 appropriate rules and regulations to carry out the intent and purposes of  
35 this subchapter and to assure its efficient and effective enforcement.  
36

1 SECTION 5514. Arkansas Code § 23-89-509 is amended to read as follows:  
2 23-89-509. Cease and desist orders – Notice required.

3 (a)(1) Upon issuance of cease and desist orders pursuant to § 23-89-  
4 504 or § 23-89-507, the Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of Labor shall  
5 promptly transmit his or her order to the Director of the ~~Department~~ Division  
6 of Arkansas State Police.

7 (2) Whenever possible, the Director of the ~~Department~~ Division  
8 of Labor shall notify any applicable fair boards or sponsoring organizations  
9 in the respective districts or counties of this state where the amusement  
10 attractions or amusement rides are in operation or are scheduled to be in  
11 operation.

12 (3) The Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of Labor shall  
13 promptly notify these parties when a cease and desist order has been  
14 rescinded upon proof of the operator's compliance with the provisions of this  
15 subchapter.

16 (b) Upon receipt of the Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of Labor's  
17 order to cease and desist operations pursuant to subsection (a) of this  
18 section, the ~~Department~~ Division of Arkansas State Police shall promptly  
19 serve the order on the operator and order the operator immediately to cease  
20 operation of all applicable amusement attractions or amusement rides in  
21 operation or scheduled to be in operation in those districts or counties  
22 until the cease and desist order has been rescinded.

23  
24 SECTION 5515. Arkansas Code § 23-89-510 is amended to read as follows:  
25 23-89-510. Accidents – Reporting injuries or death – Investigations.

26 (a) Any mechanical, structural, or electrical defects directly  
27 affecting patron safety for which an amusement ride is closed to patron use  
28 for a period of time more than three (3) hours must be reported in writing  
29 personally or by facsimile by the owner or operator to the ~~Department~~  
30 Division of Labor within twenty-four (24) hours after the closing of the  
31 amusement ride.

32 (b)(1) The operator of an amusement ride shall immediately cease to  
33 operate any ride involved in a fatality or serious physical injury. The owner  
34 or operator shall notify the ~~department~~ division of such an accident within  
35 four (4) hours of its occurrence by telephone or facsimile. The owner or  
36 operator shall file a written accident report personally or by facsimile with

1 the ~~department~~ division within twenty-four (24) hours of the accident. Within  
2 twenty-four (24) hours after receipt of such a report, the ~~department~~  
3 division shall initiate an investigation of the occurrence and an inspection  
4 of the ride. The ~~department~~ division shall perform the inspection in a manner  
5 that proceeds with all practicable speed and minimizes the disruption of the  
6 amusement facility at which the amusement ride is located.

7 (2) Unless authorized in writing by the ~~department~~ division, no  
8 amusement ride may be operated, moved, altered, repaired, or tampered with,  
9 except to protect life, limb, and property following an accident involving a  
10 serious injury or death until the ~~department~~ division has completed its  
11 inspection and investigation.

12  
13 SECTION 5516. Arkansas Code § 23-89-515(b), concerning nondestructive  
14 testing under the Amusement Ride and Amusement Attraction Safety Insurance  
15 Act, is amended to read as follows:

16 (b)(1) If a manufacturer's nondestructive testing standards are  
17 unavailable for an amusement ride and the ~~Department~~ Division of Labor deems  
18 it necessary, the owner shall provide the standards through a professional  
19 engineer as defined in § 17-30-101, an engineering agency, or an individual  
20 qualified by training and experience to compile standards based on the ride's  
21 specifications and history and using accepted engineering practices.

22 (2) The professional engineer or other qualified individual  
23 shall be approved by the Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of Labor.

24 (3) The amusement ride shall meet the criteria established under  
25 this subsection.

26  
27 SECTION 5517. Arkansas Code § 23-89-516(a), concerning records under  
28 the Amusement Ride and Amusement Attraction Safety Insurance Act, is amended  
29 to read as follows:

30 (a) The Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of Labor shall keep  
31 records and statistics by year of serious injuries and fatalities resulting  
32 from amusement ride accidents. Such records and statistics shall specify the  
33 year of the accident, type of injury, type of amusement ride or amusement  
34 attraction involved, and cause of the accident.

35  
36 SECTION 5518. Arkansas Code § 23-89-516(b)(2), concerning records

1 under the Amusement Ride and Amusement Attraction Safety Insurance Act, is  
2 amended to read as follows:

3 (2) The latest safety inspection report by the ~~Department~~  
4 Division of Labor and by the owner or operator's insurer;

5

6 SECTION 5519. Arkansas Code § 23-89-517 is amended to read as follows:  
7 23-89-517. Disposition of funds.

8 All money received under the provisions of this subchapter shall be  
9 deposited into the State Treasury to the credit of the Department of Labor  
10 and Licensing Special Fund.

11

12 SECTION 5520. Arkansas Code § 23-89-518(a)(2)(B), concerning the  
13 creation of the Amusement Ride Safety Advisory Board, is amended to read as  
14 follows:

15 (B) The Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of Labor or  
16 his or her designee shall be ex officio chair.

17

18 SECTION 5521. Arkansas Code § 23-89-518(a)(2)(C)(i), concerning the  
19 creation and duties of the Amusement Ride Safety Advisory Board, is amended  
20 to read as follows:

21 (i) One (1) member of the board shall be the  
22 ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Parks, Heritage, and Tourism or his  
23 or her designee;

24

25 SECTION 5522. Arkansas Code § 23-89-518(a)(3)(A), concerning the  
26 creation of the Amusement Ride Safety Advisory Board, is amended to read as  
27 follows:

28 (3)(A) Except for the Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of  
29 Labor and the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Parks, Heritage, and  
30 Tourism, the terms of office of the members shall be for four (4) years or  
31 until a successor is appointed.

32

33 SECTION 5523. Arkansas Code § 23-89-518(b), concerning the creation of  
34 the Amusement Ride Safety Advisory Board, is amended to read as follows:

35 (b) The duties of the board shall be:

36 (1) To assist the Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of Labor

1 with the formulation of rules and regulations regarding the safe operation of  
2 amusement rides; and

3 (2) To give the ~~Department~~ Division of Labor such counsel and  
4 advice as will aid it in the proper enforcement and administration of the  
5 provisions of this subchapter.

6  
7 SECTION 5524. Arkansas Code § 23-89-518(c), concerning the creation  
8 and the duties of Amusement Ride Safety Advisory Board, is amended to read as  
9 follows:

10 (c) Except for the ex officio chair and the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the  
11 Department of Parks, Heritage, and Tourism, the members of the board may  
12 receive expense reimbursement and stipends in accordance with § 25-16-901 et  
13 seq.

14  
15 SECTION 5525. Arkansas Code § 23-112-202(c)(1), concerning the  
16 proceedings and bond of members of the Arkansas Motor Vehicle Commission, is  
17 amended to read as follows:

18 (c)(1) The commission shall purchase either a blanket position honesty  
19 or faithful performance bond from some surety company authorized to do  
20 business in this state. This bond shall be in the penal sum of ten thousand  
21 dollars (\$10,000), made payable to the State of Arkansas, conditioned for the  
22 honest and faithful performance of the duties of the chair and each member of  
23 the commission, and the ~~Executive~~ Director of the Arkansas Motor Vehicle  
24 Commission, ~~and all other employees of the commission~~, the bond to be  
25 approved by the Governor and filed in the office of the Secretary of State.

26  
27 SECTION 5526. Arkansas Code § 23-112-203 is amended to read as  
28 follows:

29 23-112-203. ~~Executive director — Employees — Office~~ Director of  
30 Arkansas Motor Vehicle Commission.

31 (a)(1) The Arkansas Motor Vehicle Commission in consultation with the  
32 Secretary of the Department of Labor and Licensing shall ~~appoint~~ employ a  
33 qualified person to serve as ~~executive director thereof~~ Director of the  
34 Arkansas Motor Vehicle Commission, to serve at the pleasure of the  
35 commission, and shall fix his or her salary and shall define and prescribe  
36 the duties of the director.

1 (2) The ~~Executive~~ Director of the Arkansas Motor Vehicle  
2 Commission shall be in charge of the ~~commission's~~ office of the Arkansas  
3 Motor Vehicle Commission and shall devote such time to the duties thereof as  
4 may be necessary.

5 (3) The duties of the director shall include, but shall not be  
6 limited to, the collection of all fees and charges under the provisions of  
7 this chapter, keeping a record of all proceedings of the commission, and  
8 keeping an accurate account of all moneys received and disbursed by the  
9 commission, all of which records shall be considered as public records.

10 (b) The commission may employ in consultation with the secretary such  
11 clerical and professional help and incur such expenses as may be reasonably  
12 necessary for the proper discharge of its duties under this chapter.

13 (c) Except as provided in this chapter, the commission shall maintain  
14 its office and transact its business at Little Rock.

15  
16 SECTION 5527. Arkansas Code Title 25, Chapter 12, is repealed.

17 ~~25-12-101. Continuation—Director—Organization—Personnel.~~

18 ~~(a) The Department of Labor, created by § 11-2-101 et seq., is~~  
19 ~~continued.~~

20 ~~(b) The executive head of the department shall be the Director of the~~  
21 ~~Department of Labor. The director shall be appointed by the Governor with the~~  
22 ~~consent of the Senate and shall serve at the pleasure of the Governor.~~

23 ~~(c) The department shall consist of those divisions which existed as~~  
24 ~~of July 1, 1971, and any other divisions which may be created by law and~~  
25 ~~placed under the department.~~

26 ~~(d) The director, with the advice of and consent of the Governor,~~  
27 ~~shall appoint the heads of the respective divisions. All other personnel of~~  
28 ~~the department shall be employed by and serve at the pleasure of the~~  
29 ~~director. Provided, nothing in this section shall be so construed as to~~  
30 ~~reduce any right which an employee of the department may have under any civil~~  
31 ~~service or merit system.~~

32 ~~(e) Each division of the department shall be under the direction,~~  
33 ~~control, and supervision of the director. The director may delegate his or~~  
34 ~~her functions, powers, and duties to various divisions of the department as~~  
35 ~~he or she shall deem desirable and necessary for the effective and efficient~~  
36 ~~operation of the department.~~

1  
2 SECTION 5528. Arkansas Code Title 25, Chapter 43, is amended to add an  
3 additional subchapter to read as follows:

4 Subchapter 12 – Department of the Military

5  
6 25-43-1201. Department of the Military – Creation.

7 There is created the Department of the Military as a cabinet-level  
8 department.

9  
10 25-43-1202. State entities transferred to Department of the Military.

11 (a) The administrative functions of the following state entities are  
12 transferred to the Department of the Military by a cabinet-level department  
13 transfer:

14 (1) The Bureau of War Records, created under § 12-61-123; and

15 (2) The State Military Department, created under the Acts 1929,  
16 No. 85, and established as an independent agency by Acts 1981, No. 45 § 4,  
17 now to be known as the Department of the Military.

18 (b) Unless otherwise provided by law, a cabinet-level department  
19 transfer under subsection (a) of this section includes all state entities  
20 under a state entity transferred to the Department of the Military under  
21 subsection (a) of this section, including without limitation a division,  
22 office, program, or other unit of a state entity transferred to the  
23 Department of the Military under subsection (a) of this section.

24 (c) Unless otherwise provided by law, a state entity whose  
25 administrative functions have been transferred to Department of the Military  
26 under subsection (a) of this section shall otherwise continue to exercise the  
27 duties of the state entity under the administration of the cabinet-level  
28 Department of the Military in the same manner as before the creation of the  
29 cabinet-level department.

30  
31 25-43-1203. Secretary of the Department of the Military.

32 (a) The executive head of the Department of the Military is the  
33 Secretary of the Department of the Military.

34 (b) The secretary shall be appointed by the Governor, subject to  
35 confirmation by the Senate, and shall serve at the pleasure of the Governor.

36 (c) Each division of the department shall be under the direction,

1 control, and supervision of the secretary.

2 (d) The secretary may delegate his or her functions, powers, and  
3 duties to various divisions or employees of the department as he or she shall  
4 deem desirable and necessary for the effective and efficient operation of the  
5 department.

6 (e) The secretary may, unless otherwise provided by law:

7 (1) Hire department personnel;

8 (2) Perform or assign duties assigned to the department; and

9 (3) Serve as the director or the administrative or executive  
10 head of any state entity under the administrative control of the department  
11 if the secretary also meets all statutory requirements for the position.

12 (f) The secretary shall also be the Adjutant General and shall meet  
13 all of the qualifications to hold that position.

14  
15 SECTION 5529. Arkansas Code § 6-60-214(h), concerning tuition benefits  
16 for soldiers and airmen of the Arkansas National Guard, is amended to read as  
17 follows:

18 (h)(1) The Adjutant General, in coordination with the ~~Department~~  
19 Division of Higher Education, shall promulgate rules for the implementation  
20 of this section, including without limitation rules for the eligibility of  
21 soldiers and airmen.

22 (2) The ~~State Military~~ Department of the Military and the  
23 ~~Department~~ Division of Higher Education shall meet regularly to monitor and  
24 measure the success of this section, including without limitation to assess  
25 graduation rates of the soldiers and airmen under this section.

26  
27 SECTION 5530. Arkansas Code § 12-61-106(a), concerning the powers and  
28 duties of the Adjutant General, is amended to read as follows:

29 (a) In addition to being a state staff officer, the Adjutant General  
30 shall be the Chief-of-Staff to the Commander-in-Chief and the ~~administrative~~  
31 ~~head of the Military Department~~ Secretary of the Department of the Military.

32  
33 SECTION 5531. Arkansas Code § 12-61-107(b)(2), concerning the  
34 employment of personnel, is amended to read as follows:

35 (2) This subsection shall only apply to a person who begins  
36 employment with the State Military Department after August 12, 2005 and with

1 the Department of the Military after July 1, 2019.

2  
3 SECTION 5532. Arkansas Code § 12-61-121(a)(3), concerning awards and  
4 medals for exceptional or meritorious service, is amended to read as follows:

5 (3) ~~The State Military Department~~ Department of the Military is  
6 authorized to promulgate necessary rules and regulations to establish the  
7 criteria under which any medal, ribbon, or decoration may be awarded.

8  
9 SECTION 5533. Arkansas Code § 12-61-124 is amended to read as follows:  
10 12-61-124. ~~Civilian juvenile student training programs~~ National Guard  
11 Youth Challenge Program.

12 (a) The Adjutant General may, at his or her discretion and with such  
13 funds as may be appropriated by the General Assembly, or with such funds as  
14 may be provided by the United States, develop and implement ~~civilian juvenile~~  
15 ~~student training programs~~ a National Guard Youth Challenge Program for the  
16 purpose of providing training, education, health, welfare, rehabilitative,  
17 and other services to juveniles.

18 (b) The Adjutant General is authorized to enter into agreements,  
19 contracts, and memoranda of understanding with other state, federal, and  
20 local agencies, other persons, firms, and corporations, ~~and the juvenile~~  
21 ~~courts of this state~~ for the purposes of providing training, education,  
22 health, welfare, rehabilitative, and other services to juveniles  
23 participating in ~~such programs~~ the program.

24 (c) The Adjutant General may promulgate and issue such rules,  
25 regulations, and other guidelines as may be necessary and proper to carry out  
26 the purposes and provisions of this section.

27 ~~(d)(1) Juvenile participants in the Civilian Student Training Program~~  
28 ~~receiving services from the Arkansas National Guard are authorized to receive~~  
29 ~~a monetary stipend, not to exceed ten dollars (\$10.00) per week to defray~~  
30 ~~personal hygiene and other personal necessities. Juvenile participants are~~  
31 ~~authorized to receive uniforms and clothing items as determined by the staff~~  
32 ~~to be appropriate for effective participation in outdoor activities.~~

33 ~~(2) Transportation to support Civilian Student Training Program~~  
34 ~~activities for juvenile participants and staff may be provided by commercial~~  
35 ~~lease/purchase of motor vehicles not to exceed six (6) vehicles.~~

36

1 SECTION 5534. Arkansas Code § 12-61-127 is repealed.

2 ~~12-61-127. Civilian Student Training Program—Stipend.~~

3 ~~(a) Juvenile participants in the Civilian Student Training Program at~~  
4 ~~Camp Joseph T. Robinson receiving services from the Arkansas National Guard~~  
5 ~~are authorized to receive a monetary stipend, not to exceed ten dollars~~  
6 ~~(\$10.00) per week to defray personal hygiene and other personal necessities.~~

7 ~~(b) Juvenile participants are authorized to receive uniforms and~~  
8 ~~clothing items as determined by the staff to be appropriate for effective~~  
9 ~~participation in outdoor activities.~~

10  
11 SECTION 5535. Arkansas Code § 12-61-128 is repealed.

12 ~~12-61-128. Civilian Student Training Program—Transportation.~~

13 ~~Transportation to support Civilian Student Training Program activities~~  
14 ~~for juvenile participants and staff may be provided by commercial lease or~~  
15 ~~purchase of motor vehicles not to exceed six (6) vehicles.~~

16  
17 SECTION 5536. Arkansas Code § 12-63-209(a), concerning the penalty for  
18 criminal trespass upon a military reservation, is amended to read as follows:

19 (a) A person commits the offense of criminal trespass upon a military  
20 reservation if he or she purposefully, and without authority, enters upon or  
21 remains unlawfully upon any military reservation, military armory, or other  
22 military building or property owned, leased, licensed, operated, occupied,  
23 maintained, or under the control or management of the State of Arkansas under  
24 the control and management of the ~~State Military Department~~ Department of the  
25 Military.

26  
27 SECTION 5537. Arkansas Code § 12-63-406(b)(4), concerning the tax  
28 exemption for canteen inventory and sales, is amended to read as follows:

29 (4) Full-time employees of the ~~State Military Department~~  
30 Department of the Military;

31  
32 SECTION 5538. Arkansas Code § 12-63-407(d)(2)(B), concerning the Camp  
33 Joseph T. Robinson and Fort Chaffee canteens, is amended to read as follows:

34 (B) Full-time employees of the ~~Arkansas Department~~  
35 Department of the Military and the United States Department of Defense;

36

1 SECTION 5539. Arkansas Code § 12-64-110 is amended to read as follows:

2 12-64-110. Appropriations – ~~State Military Department~~ Department of  
3 the Military Fund Account.

4 (a) There shall be appropriated annually, for the ~~military department~~  
5 Department of the Military, the sum of twenty thousand dollars (\$20,000) for  
6 the State Judge Advocate to pay for the administration of military justice.

7 (b) For the foregoing purposes, there is created in the State Treasury  
8 a fund to be designated the ~~State Military Department~~ "Department of the  
9 Military Fund Account-Military Justice Fund", from which expenses of military  
10 justice shall be paid in the amounts and manner prescribed by law.

11  
12 SECTION 5540. Arkansas Code § 12-64-518(e), concerning the issuance of  
13 process and subpoenas, is amended to read as follows:

14 (e) Any sheriff, constable, jailer, marshal, or other civil officer  
15 named in this code, who shall neglect or refuse to obey, execute, or return  
16 the lawful warrant or other process of a military court or make a false  
17 return thereon, shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and in addition to the  
18 penalties attaching thereto, shall forfeit fifty dollars (\$50.00) for each  
19 offense or neglect of duty, the money to be recovered in a civil action  
20 against the officer and his or her official sureties by the Attorney General  
21 for the benefit of the ~~State Military Department~~ Department of the Military  
22 Fund.

23  
24 SECTION 5541. Arkansas Code § 12-64-609(c)(1), concerning fines and  
25 forfeitures, is amended to read as follows:

26 (c)(1) Notwithstanding any other law, a fine or penalty imposed by a  
27 military court upon an officer or enlistee shall be paid by the officer  
28 collecting it within thirty (30) days to the Treasurer of State ~~of Arkansas~~  
29 and shall become a part of, be credited to, and be spent from, the ~~State~~  
30 ~~Military Department~~ Department of the Military Fund.

31  
32 SECTION 5542. Arkansas Code § 12-64-610 is amended to read as follows:

33 12-64-610. Delinquent fines or forfeitures.

34 (a)(1) When a fine or forfeiture is delinquent for a period of ninety  
35 (90) days or more, the ~~State Military Department~~ Department of the Military  
36 shall have a cause of action against the person and property liable for the

1 delinquent portion of the fine or forfeiture, costs of collection, penalties,  
2 and interest to which the ~~State Military Department~~ Department of the  
3 Military is entitled, plus a reasonable attorney's fee.

4 (2) The ~~State Military Department~~ Department of the Military  
5 shall have a lien on all property subject to forfeiture.

6 (b) The action shall be brought in the Pulaski County Circuit Court.

7 (c) The judgment awarded the ~~State Military Department~~ Department of  
8 the Military under this section shall be enforceable to the same extent and  
9 in the same manner as other civil judgments.

10  
11 SECTION 5543. Arkansas Code § 17-105-106(4), concerning the exemption  
12 from licensure of a physician assistant, is amended to read as follows:

13 (4) A physician assistant in the service of the ~~State Military~~  
14 ~~Department~~ Department of the Military or the Arkansas National Guard, or  
15 both. These physician assistants shall be allowed to perform their physician  
16 assistant practice duties, including prescribing, in the same manner as they  
17 would if federalized by the United States Government;

18  
19 SECTION 5544. Arkansas Code § 19-5-1007 is amended to read as follows:  
20 19-5-1007. Special Military Fund.

21 (a) There is established on the books of the Treasurer of State, the  
22 Auditor of State, and the Chief Fiscal Officer of the State a fund to be  
23 known as the "Special Military Fund".

24 (b) The Special Military Fund is to consist of federal reimbursement  
25 received on account of eligible expenditures by the ~~State Military Department~~  
26 Department of the Military and shall be used to provide funding wholly or  
27 partially for appropriations made payable from the Special Military Fund and  
28 to provide supplemental support, to the extent necessary, to the ~~State~~  
29 ~~Military Department~~ Department of the Military Fund Account of the State  
30 General Government Fund, there to be used solely for the programs of the  
31 department.

32  
33 SECTION 5545. Arkansas Code § 19-5-1095(b)(1)(B), concerning the  
34 Military Support Revolving Fund, is amended to read as follows:

35 (B) All moneys received by the ~~State Military Department~~  
36 Department of the Military from the United States Army, the United States Air

1 Force, the United States Navy, foreign allied governments, and reserve forces  
2 of the United States, allied nations, and other federal agencies.

3  
4 SECTION 5546. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 21-4-  
5 204(a)(2), concerning the accrual and use of annual leave, is amended to read  
6 as follows:

7 (2) Each fire and emergency service employee of the ~~State~~  
8 ~~Military Department~~ Department of the Military who works a regularly  
9 scheduled shift of more than forty-seven (47) hours per week is entitled to  
10 annual leave with full pay computed on the basis of the following schedule  
11 for each complete month of service:

12  
13 SECTION 5547. Arkansas Code § 21-4-207(a)(1)(B), concerning the  
14 accrual and use of sick leave, is amended to read as follows:

15 (B) Each fire and emergency service employee of the ~~State~~  
16 ~~Military Department~~ Department of the Military who works a regularly  
17 scheduled shift of more than forty-seven (47) hours per week is entitled to  
18 sick leave with full pay computed on the basis of one (1) day and four (4)  
19 hours for each complete month of service.

20  
21 SECTION 5548. Arkansas Code § 24-4-1004(a), concerning determination  
22 of benefits for civilian firefighters of the State Military Department, is  
23 amended to read as follows:

24 (a) For purposes of determining benefits under this chapter, all  
25 credited service, whenever earned, of persons employed as civilian  
26 firefighters of the State Military Department or Department of the Military  
27 as of July 1, 1997, and of persons thereafter employed in those positions  
28 shall be treated as public safety member service if the position is one  
29 hundred percent (100%) federally funded.

30  
31 SECTION 5549. Arkansas Code Title 25, Chapter 43, is amended to add an  
32 additional subchapter to read as follows:

33 Subchapter 13 – Department of Parks, Heritage, and Tourism

34  
35 25-43-1301. Department of Parks, Heritage, and Tourism.

36 There is created the Department of Parks, Heritage, and Tourism as a

1 cabinet-level department.

2  
3 25-43-1302. State entities transferred to Department of Parks,  
4 Heritage, and Tourism.

5 (a) The administrative functions of the following state entities are  
6 transferred to the Department of Parks, Heritage, and Tourism by a cabinet-  
7 level transfer:

8 (1) The Advisory Council of the Arkansas Arts Council, created  
9 under § 13-8-103;

10 (2) The Arkansas Arts Council, created under § 13-8-103;

11 (3) The Arkansas Historic Preservation Program, created under §  
12 13-7-106;

13 (4) The Arkansas History Commission, created under § 13-3-102;

14 (5) The Arkansas Natural and Cultural Heritage Advisory  
15 Committee, created under § 25-3-104;

16 (6) The Arkansas Natural and Cultural Resources Council, created  
17 under § 15-12-101;

18 (7) The Arkansas Natural Heritage Commission, created under §  
19 15-20-304;

20 (8) The Arkansas Post Museum, created under § 13-5-601;

21 (9) The Arkansas State Archives, created under § 13-3-101;

22 (10) The Black History Commission of Arkansas, created under §  
23 13-3-201;

24 (11) The Capitol Zoning District Commission, created under § 22-  
25 3-303;

26 (12) The Delta Cultural Center Policy Advisory Board, created  
27 under § 13-5-704;

28 (13) The Department of Arkansas Heritage, created under § 25-3-  
29 102, now to be known as the Division of Arkansas Heritage;

30 (14) The Department of Parks and Tourism, created under § 25-13-  
31 101, now to be known as the Department of Parks, Heritage, and Tourism, the  
32 State Parks Division, and the Tourism Division as provided under the  
33 Transformation and Efficiencies Act of 2019;

34 (15) The Great River Road Division, created under § 25-13-102;

35 (16) The Historic Arkansas Museum Commission, created under §  
36 13-7-302;

1           (17) The Keep Arkansas Beautiful Commission, created under § 15-  
2 11-601;

3           (18) The Mosaic Templars of America Center for African-American  
4 Cultural and Business Enterprise Advisory Board, created under § 13-5-903;

5           (19) The Mosaic Templars of America Center for African-American  
6 Cultural and Business Enterprise, created under § 13-5-902;

7           (20) The Old State House Commission, created under § 13-7-201;  
8 and

9           (21) The State Parks, Recreation, and Travel Commission, created  
10 under § 15-11-201.

11           (b) Unless otherwise provided by law, a cabinet-level department  
12 transfer under subsection (a) of this section includes all state entities  
13 under a state entity transferred to the Department of Parks, Heritage, and  
14 Tourism under subsection (a) of this section, including without limitation a  
15 division, office, program, or other unit of a state entity transferred to the  
16 Department of Parks, Heritage, and Tourism under subsection (a) of this  
17 section.

18           (c) Unless otherwise provided by law, a state entity whose  
19 administrative functions have been transferred to Department of Parks,  
20 Heritage, and Tourism under subsection (a) of this section shall otherwise  
21 continue to exercise the duties of the state entity under the administration  
22 of the cabinet-level Department of Parks, Heritage, and Tourism in the same  
23 manner as before the creation of the cabinet-level department.

24  
25           25-43-1303. Secretary of the Department of Parks, Heritage, and  
26 Tourism.

27           (a) The executive head of the Department of Parks, Heritage, and  
28 Tourism shall be the Secretary of the Department of Parks, Heritage, and  
29 Tourism.

30           (b) The secretary shall be appointed by the Governor, subject to  
31 confirmation by the Senate, and shall serve at the pleasure of the Governor.

32           (c) Each division of the department shall be under the direction,  
33 control, and supervision of the secretary.

34           (d) The secretary may delegate his or her functions, powers, and  
35 duties to various divisions or employees of the department as he or she shall  
36 deem desirable and necessary for the effective and efficient operation of the

1 department.

2 (e) The secretary may, unless otherwise provided by law:

3 (1) Hire department personnel;

4 (2) Perform or assign duties assigned to the department; and

5 (3) Serve as the director, or the administrative or executive  
6 head of any state entity under the administrative control of the department  
7 if the secretary meets all statutory requirements for the position.

8

9 25-43-1304. State Parks Division.

10 (a) There is created a State Parks Division within the Department of  
11 Parks, Heritage, and Tourism.

12 (b) The Secretary of the Department of Department of Parks, Heritage,  
13 and Tourism may delegate any duties and responsibilities to the State Parks  
14 Division.

15 (c) The Secretary of the Department of Parks, Heritage, and Tourism  
16 may employ a Director of the State Parks Division.

17

18 25-43-1305. Tourism Division.

19 (a) There is created a Tourism Division within the Department of  
20 Parks, Heritage, and Tourism.

21 (b) The Secretary of the Department of Department of Parks, Heritage,  
22 and Tourism may delegate any duties and responsibilities to the Tourism  
23 Division.

24 (c) The Secretary of the Department of Parks, Heritage, and Tourism  
25 may employ a Director of the Tourism Division.

26

27 25-43-1306. Great River Road Division.

28 (a) The Mississippi River Parkway Commission of Arkansas, as  
29 established pursuant to § 27-69-201 et seq., shall be located in the Great  
30 River Road Division created hereby.

31 (b) The Secretary of the Department of Parks, Heritage, and Tourism,  
32 with the advice and consent of the Governor and the Chair of the Mississippi  
33 River Parkway Commission of Arkansas, shall appoint the head of the Great  
34 River Road Division of the Department of Parks, Heritage, and Tourism.

35

36 25-43-1307. Payment of gratuities.

1 The Department of Parks, Heritage, and Tourism, which from time to time  
2 will use the services of hotels and restaurants for conferences, conventions,  
3 meetings, advertising promotions, news blitzes, and other group functions, is  
4 authorized to pay such reasonable charges of involuntary gratuities for group  
5 functions as a part of the cost of services.

6  
7 25-43-1308. Extra help restriction.

8 No employee of the State Parks Division who is employed as extra help  
9 may receive an amount to exceed eighty-five percent (85%) of the maximum  
10 annual salary for a comparable position as authorized under the Uniform  
11 Classification and Compensation Act, § 21-5-201 et seq., during any fiscal  
12 year, nor shall such an employee be employed for a period of time to exceed  
13 one thousand eight hundred (1,800) hours in any single fiscal year.

14  
15 SECTION 5550. Arkansas Code § 10-3-1106(1), concerning the need for  
16 additional legislative space is amended to read as follows:

17 (1) The office space on the north wing of the first floor of the  
18 State Capitol Building currently used by the ~~Division of Purchasing~~ Office of  
19 State Purchasing, the Department of Correction, the Department of Parks,  
20 Heritage, and Tourism, and the Department of Commerce;

21  
22 SECTION 5551. Arkansas Code § 13-3-101(b) and (c), concerning the  
23 creation and purpose of the Arkansas State Archives, are amended to read as  
24 follows:

25 (b) The ~~Department of Arkansas Heritage~~ Department of Parks, Heritage,  
26 and Tourism and the Building Authority Division of the Department of ~~Finance~~  
27 ~~and Administration~~ Transformation and Shared Services shall determine the  
28 facility needs of the Arkansas State Archives.

29 (c) The Building Authority Division ~~of the Department of Finance and~~  
30 ~~Administration~~ may locate and negotiate an appropriate facility for the  
31 Arkansas State Archives, but the ~~Department of Arkansas Heritage~~ Department  
32 of Parks, Heritage, and Tourism shall have final approval of the facility's  
33 location.

34  
35 SECTION 5552. Arkansas Code § 13-3-102(g), concerning the members of  
36 the Arkansas History Commission, is amended to read as follows:

1 (g) The commission shall advise and assist the ~~Director of the~~  
2 ~~Department of Arkansas Heritage~~ Secretary of the Department of Parks,  
3 Heritage, and Tourism in the performance of his or her duties under this  
4 subchapter.

5  
6 SECTION 5553. Arkansas Code § 13-3-103(a)(1)(A), concerning meetings  
7 and records of the Arkansas History Commission, is amended to read as  
8 follows:

9 (A) Upon the request of the ~~Director of the Department of~~  
10 ~~Arkansas Heritage~~ Secretary of the Department of Parks, Heritage, and  
11 Tourism; and

12  
13 SECTION 5554. Arkansas Code § 13-3-105 is amended to read as follows:  
14 13-3-105. Delegation to State Historian.

15 The Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of Arkansas Heritage may  
16 delegate his or her powers and duties concerning the Arkansas State Archives  
17 to the State Historian.

18  
19 SECTION 5555. Arkansas Code § 13-3-106(a)(1), concerning the powers  
20 and duties of the State Historian, is amended to read as follows:

21 (1) Serve at the pleasure of the ~~Director of the Department of~~  
22 ~~Arkansas Heritage~~ Secretary of the Department of Parks, Heritage, and  
23 Tourism; and

24  
25 SECTION 5556. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 13-3-  
26 106(b)(2), concerning the powers and duties of the State Historian, is  
27 amended to read as follows:

28 (2) Been determined by the Director of the ~~Department~~ Division  
29 of Arkansas Heritage to be qualified to perform the duties of State Historian  
30 after considering:

31  
32 SECTION 5557. Arkansas Code § 13-3-106(e), concerning the powers and  
33 duties of the State Historian, is repealed.

34 ~~(e) The State Historian shall employ such personnel as may be~~  
35 ~~authorized by law and fix their compensation within the limits provided by~~  
36 ~~law, subject in both respects, however, to approval by the director.~~

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SECTION 5558. Arkansas Code § 13-3-107(a)(2), concerning the preservation of public officials' records, is amended to read as follows:

(2) When so surrendered, copies from the state, county, or other official's office shall be made and certified by the Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of Arkansas Heritage upon the application of any person interested, which certification shall have the force and effect as if made by the officer originally in the custody of them, and for which the same fee shall be charged to be collected in advance.

SECTION 5559. Arkansas Code § 13-3-201(1), concerning the purpose of the Black History Commission of Arkansas, is amended to read as follows:

(1) Advising the ~~Director of the Department of Arkansas Heritage~~ Secretary of the Department of Parks, Heritage, and Tourism with respect to gathering, developing, and keeping the history of a segment of Arkansas society whose history has been overlooked and forgotten and has been simply neglected because of a lack of concern;

SECTION 5560. Arkansas Code § 13-3-203(b)(1), concerning meetings, rules, bylaws, and the secretary of the Black History Commission of Arkansas, is amended to read as follows:

(b)(1) The Black History Commission of Arkansas shall adopt and may modify rules and bylaws for the conduct of its business, subject to the approval of the ~~Director of the Department of Arkansas Heritage~~ Secretary of the Department of Parks, Heritage, and Tourism.

SECTION 5561. Arkansas Code § 13-5-206 is amended to read as follows:

13-5-206. Program of grants-in-aid and technical assistance.

(a) The ~~State Parks Division of the~~ Department of Parks, Heritage, and Tourism shall establish and carry out a program of grants-in-aid to eligible museums or, in appropriate cases, organizations engaged in or concerned with history, science, art, or culture on the basis of fifty percent (50%) state grant funds and fifty percent (50%) of the funds to be provided by the museum, as follows:

(1) Only museums and programs concerned with historical, scientific, cultural, or artistically oriented programs offering nonprofit

1 services to the general public may make application for and qualify for funds  
2 under this subchapter;

3 (2) None of the funds received by a museum or other organization  
4 which qualifies or utilizes funds under this subchapter shall be used as  
5 matching funds for other state funds; and

6 (3) All requests for state grant funds under this subchapter  
7 shall be prepared on forms promulgated or approved by the ~~division~~ Department  
8 of Parks, Heritage, and Tourism and shall be in compliance with the  
9 provisions of this subchapter and with reasonable rules to be promulgated by  
10 the ~~division~~ Department of Parks, Heritage, and Tourism for the  
11 administration of this subchapter.

12 (b) The ~~division~~ Department of Parks, Heritage, and Tourism shall  
13 provide technical assistance and information to all museums and museum  
14 personnel in Arkansas, within the limitations of available staff and funding.  
15

16 SECTION 5562. Arkansas Code § 13-5-207 is repealed.

17 ~~13-5-207. Arkansas Museum Review Panel.~~

18 ~~(a)(1) The Governor shall establish an Arkansas Museum Review Panel to~~  
19 ~~consist of five (5) members, one (1) member from each congressional district~~  
20 ~~and one (1) member designated at large.~~

21 ~~(2) The members shall serve two year terms.~~

22 ~~(b) The sole purpose and authority of the panel is to analyze, review,~~  
23 ~~and approve the qualifications of the applications and to present~~  
24 ~~recommendations to the Director of the State Parks Division of the Department~~  
25 ~~of Parks and Tourism for the awarding of grants to eligible museums on a~~  
26 ~~yearly basis with the final approval of the Director of the Department of~~  
27 ~~Parks and Tourism.~~

28 ~~(c) The panel shall serve without pay. However, the division is~~  
29 ~~authorized to reimburse the members of the panel for expenses in accordance~~  
30 ~~with § 25-16-901 et seq.~~  
31

32 SECTION 5563. Arkansas Code § 13-5-307 is amended to read as follows:

33 (a)(1) The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Parks, Heritage,  
34 and Tourism is authorized to use any available funds for the construction,  
35 equipment, and operation of a museum and cultural center.

36 (2) The ~~director~~ secretary is authorized to issue revenue bonds,

1 secured by and payable from the revenues specified in this subchapter, and to  
2 use the proceeds of the bonds for the acquisition, construction, and  
3 equipment of the center.

4 (b) The principal amount of bonds to be issued by the ~~director~~  
5 secretary shall be sufficient, together with any available funds, to pay the  
6 cost of accomplishing the specified purposes, the costs of authorizing and  
7 issuing bonds, the amounts necessary for reserves if deemed desirable by the  
8 director, the amounts necessary for interest during and for up to one (1)  
9 year after construction, and all other costs of whatever nature incidental to  
10 the accomplishment of the center, but in no event shall the aggregate  
11 principal amount of bonds exceed twelve million dollars (\$12,000,000).

12 (c)(1) No bonds shall be issued under the provisions of this  
13 subchapter unless and until the ~~director~~ secretary, or a department, or  
14 educational or other institution, or agency of the State of Arkansas has  
15 entered into a signed agreement with the Smithsonian Institution, an agency  
16 thereof, or organization affiliated therewith, which agreement shall provide  
17 that the Smithsonian Institution, the agency, or organization shall involve  
18 itself with the Arkansas Museum and Cultural Center and its operation.

19 (2) The agreement must first be approved in writing by the  
20 Governor of the State of Arkansas.

21  
22 SECTION 5564. Arkansas Code § 13-5-308(a), concerning authorizing  
23 bonds by resolution of the Director of the Department of Parks and Tourism  
24 for the Arkansas Museum and Cultural Center, is amended to read as follows:

25 (a) Bonds shall be authorized by resolution of the Director of the  
26 Department of Parks and Tourism Secretary of the Department of Parks,  
27 Heritage, and Tourism.

28  
29 SECTION 5565. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 13-5-  
30 308(b), concerning authorizing bonds by resolution of the Director of the  
31 Department of Parks and Tourism for the Arkansas Museum and Cultural Center,  
32 is amended to read as follows:

33 (b) The authorizing resolution may contain or may provide for the  
34 execution of a trust indenture which may contain any other terms, covenants,  
35 and conditions that are deemed desirable by the director or secretary,  
36 including, without limitation, those pertaining to:

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SECTION 5566. Arkansas Code § 13-5-309(a), concerning the terms and characteristics of bonds issued by the Director of the Department of Parks and Tourism for the Arkansas Museum and Cultural Center, is amended to read as follows:

(a) As the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Parks, Heritage, and Tourism shall determine, bonds issued pursuant to this subchapter may:

(1) Be coupon bonds, payable to bearer, or may be registrable as to principal only or as to principal and interest, and may be made exchangeable for bonds of another denomination;

(2) Be in a form and denomination as the ~~director~~ secretary determines;

(3) Have such date or dates, may be stated to mature at such times, and bear interest payable at such times and at such rate or rates, as the ~~director~~ secretary determines, provided that no bond may bear interest at a rate exceeding eight percent (8%) per annum;

(4) Be made payable at places within or without the State of Arkansas;

(5) Be made subject to terms of redemption in advance of maturity at such prices, as determined by the ~~director~~ secretary;

(6) Be issued in series from time to time; and

(7) Contain such terms and conditions as the ~~director~~ secretary determines.

SECTION 5567. Arkansas Code § 13-5-310(a), concerning bonds and enforcement of bonds issued by the Director of the Department of Parks and Tourism for the Arkansas Museum and Cultural Center, is amended to read as follows:

(a) Any authorizing resolution and trust indenture shall, together with this subchapter, constitute a contract between the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Parks, Heritage, and Tourism and the holders and registered owners of the bonds.

SECTION 5568. Arkansas Code § 13-5-311(a), concerning the sale of bonds issued by the Director of the Department of Parks and Tourism, is amended to read as follows:

1 (a) The bonds shall be sold at public sale on sealed bids after such  
2 advertisement as the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Parks, Heritage,  
3 and Tourism shall determine to be necessary for the obtaining of favorable  
4 competitive bidding.

5  
6 SECTION 5569. Arkansas Code § 13-5-312(a), concerning the execution of  
7 bonds and coupons issued by the Director of the Department of Parks and  
8 Tourism for the Arkansas Museum and Cultural Center, is amended to read as  
9 follows:

10 (a) The bonds shall be executed by the manual or facsimile signature  
11 of the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Parks, Heritage, and Tourism.  
12 The coupons attached to the bonds shall be executed by the facsimile  
13 signature of the ~~director~~ secretary.

14  
15 SECTION 5570. Arkansas Code § 13-5-312(c), concerning the execution of  
16 bonds and coupons issued by the Director of the Department of Parks and  
17 Tourism for the Arkansas Museum and Cultural Center, is amended to read as  
18 follows:

19 (c) The ~~director~~ secretary shall adopt and use a seal in the execution  
20 and issuance of the bonds. Each bond shall be sealed with the seal of the  
21 ~~director~~ secretary.

22  
23 SECTION 5571. Arkansas Code § 13-5-313(a)(2), concerning statements on  
24 bonds and liability for bonds issued by the Director of the Department of  
25 Parks and Tourism, is amended to read as follows:

26 (2) The bonds are obligations only of the ~~Director~~ Secretary of  
27 the Department of Parks, Heritage, and Tourism;

28  
29 SECTION 5572. Arkansas Code § 13-5-313(a)(4), concerning statements on  
30 bonds and liability for bonds issued by the Director of the Department of  
31 Parks and Tourism, is amended to read as follows:

32 (4) The bonds are not secured by a mortgage or lien on any land  
33 or buildings belonging to the State of Arkansas or the Department of Parks,  
34 Heritage, and Tourism.

35  
36 SECTION 5573. Arkansas Code § 13-5-314(a) and (b), concerning the

1 disposition of revenues from the operation of the Arkansas Museum and  
2 Cultural Center, are amended to read as follows:

3 (a) All revenues derived from the operation of the Arkansas Museum and  
4 Cultural Center and all other funds received by the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the  
5 Department of Parks, Heritage, and Tourism from other sources for use in  
6 connection with the center and its operation are center revenues and are  
7 specifically declared to be cash funds, restricted in their use and to be  
8 used solely as provided in this subchapter.

9 (b) These revenues shall not be deposited in the State Treasury but  
10 shall be deposited by the Department of Parks, Heritage, and Tourism as and  
11 when received in a bank or banks as the ~~director~~ secretary may from time to  
12 time select.

13

14 SECTION 5574. Arkansas Code § 13-5-315(d), concerning debt service,  
15 pledge of revenues and earnings, and charges of the Department of Parks and  
16 Tourism for operating the Arkansas Museum and Cultural Center, is amended to  
17 read as follows:

18 (d) No earnings from the investment of state funds shall be pledged to  
19 secure bonds issued by the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Parks,  
20 Heritage, and Tourism under this subchapter unless the ~~director~~ secretary  
21 shall first enter into an agreement with the State Board of Finance to charge  
22 appropriate fees for admission to the Arkansas Museum and Cultural Center and  
23 to set aside in a special sinking fund, to be used exclusively to pay the  
24 principal of, interest on, and paying agent's fees in connection with, bonds  
25 issued by the ~~director~~ secretary, at least seventy-five cents (75¢) of the  
26 admission fee collected for each adult and fifty cents (50¢) of the admission  
27 fee collected for each person of the ages of six to seventeen (6-17),  
28 inclusive.

29

30 SECTION 5575. Arkansas Code § 13-5-316(a), concerning administration  
31 of debt-servicing provisions and the bond guaranty fund of the Department of  
32 Parks and Tourism, is amended to read as follows:

33 (a) The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Parks, Heritage, and  
34 Tourism shall notify the State Board of Finance or the appropriate officer,  
35 board, or agency then having jurisdiction over the moneys involved when the  
36 ~~director~~ secretary has determined to issue bonds under this subchapter and

1 the amount of investment earnings pledged.

2

3 SECTION 5576. Arkansas Code § 13-5-316(a)-(c), concerning refunding  
4 bonds from the Department of Parks and Tourism, are amended to read as  
5 follows:

6 (a) The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Parks, Heritage, and  
7 Tourism is authorized to issue bonds to refund any bonds issued under the  
8 authority of this subchapter.

9 (b)(1) Thereafter, the ~~director~~ secretary shall constantly keep  
10 advised of revenues derived from the Arkansas Museum and Cultural Center.

11 (2) If it develops that all or any portion of the investment  
12 earnings pledged will actually be needed to satisfy the terms of the pledge,  
13 the ~~director~~ secretary shall promptly notify the board of the amount that  
14 will be actually needed each month to provide for the payment of interest,  
15 principal, and paying agents' fees and for the maintenance of reserves as  
16 specified by the ~~director~~ secretary in the resolution or trust indenture  
17 authorizing and securing the bonds, which monthly amount is designated the  
18 "debt service amount".

19 (c) At the receipt of the notice, the board or the appropriate  
20 officer, board, or agency then having jurisdiction over the moneys involved  
21 shall set aside the debt service amount of the investment earnings and,  
22 subject to first complying with any pledge heretofore or any time hereafter  
23 made of investment earnings authorized by the Industrial Development Guaranty  
24 Bond Act, § 15-4-701 et seq., shall pay the debt service amount directly to  
25 the ~~director~~ secretary in a bank or banks selected by the ~~director~~ secretary  
26 and designated the "Arkansas Museum and Cultural Center Bond Guaranty Fund",  
27 also known as the "Center Guaranty Fund".

28

29 SECTION 5577. Arkansas Code § 13-5-316(d)(2)(A), concerning refunding  
30 bonds from the Department of Parks and Tourism, is amended to read as  
31 follows:

32 (2)(A) The payments shall continue until the ~~director~~ secretary  
33 shall determine that center revenues in the future will be sufficient and  
34 shall notify the board to cease paying the debt service amount.

35

36 SECTION 5578. Arkansas Code § 13-5-320 is amended to read as follows:

1 13-5-320. Audit of records and accounts.

2 Arkansas Legislative Audit is authorized and directed to audit the  
3 records and accounts of the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Parks,  
4 Heritage, and Tourism and to furnish a copy of the report of that audit to  
5 the ~~department~~ Department of Parks, Heritage, and Tourism.

6  
7 SECTION 5579. Arkansas Code § 13-5-321 is amended to read as follows:  
8 13-5-321. Employment of personnel.

9 (a) The ~~Director of the Department of Parks and Tourism~~ Secretary of  
10 the Department of Parks, Heritage, and Tourism is authorized to employ such  
11 full-time or temporary professional, technical, and other consulting services  
12 as the ~~Director of the Department of Parks and Tourism~~ secretary shall  
13 determine necessary or desirable in assisting the Department of Parks,  
14 Heritage, and Tourism to carry out effectively the authority, functions,  
15 powers, and duties conferred and imposed upon it by this subchapter.

16 (b) However, the salaries of regular employees shall be governed by  
17 the provisions of the Uniform Classification and Compensation Act, § 21-5-201  
18 et seq., and by the provisions of the Regular Salary Procedures and  
19 Restrictions Act, § 21-5-101.

20 (c) The Director of the Arkansas Museum and Cultural Center shall be  
21 employed by the ~~Director of the Department of Parks and Tourism~~ secretary.

22  
23 SECTION 5580. Arkansas Code § 13-5-401 is amended to read as follows:  
24 13-5-401. Museum established.

25 The State Parks Division ~~of the Department of Parks and Tourism~~ is  
26 authorized and directed to establish a state historical museum in Union  
27 County to be known and operated as the "Arkansas Museum of Natural  
28 Resources".

29  
30 SECTION 5581. Arkansas Code § 13-5-402(a), concerning the functions  
31 and duties of the Arkansas Museum of Natural Resources, is amended to read as  
32 follows:

33 (a) The Arkansas Museum of Natural Resources shall be developed and  
34 operated by the State Parks Division ~~of the Department of Parks and Tourism~~  
35 and shall be devoted primarily to the acquisition, cataloging, and display of  
36 machinery, equipment, and materials used in the oil boom in Arkansas.

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SECTION 5582. Arkansas Code § 13-5-403 is amended to read as follows:  
13-5-403. Museum site.

The Arkansas Museum of Natural Resources shall be established at a site to be approved by the State Parks Division ~~of the Department of Parks and Tourism~~, with the lands therefor, which shall consist of not fewer than five (5) acres, to be donated without cost to the State of Arkansas.

SECTION 5583. Arkansas Code § 13-5-503(6), concerning the creation, powers, and duties of the county museum commissions, is amended to read as follows:

(6) To enter into agreements with the ~~Department~~ Division of Arkansas Heritage and other public and private agencies or persons, for the purpose of sharing services and facilities, with the view that the historical and cultural resources of this state may be coordinated at the county and state levels for the benefit of the public of this state;

SECTION 5584. Arkansas Code § 13-5-505, concerning the transfer and assumption of ownership by Prairie County of the Des Arc Archeological Museum, is amended to read as follows:

(a) In the event the Prairie County Quorum Court shall establish a county museum and shall, in the ordinance establishing the county museum, elect to take over the ownership, management, and operation of the Des Arc Archeological Museum, the Department of Parks, Heritage, and Tourism is authorized and directed to convey to the Prairie County Museum all rights, title, and interest of the State of Arkansas in the Des Arc Archeological Museum, to be thereafter operated, maintained, and improved by Prairie County as a part of the Prairie County Museum.

SECTION 5585. Arkansas Code § 13-5-601 is amended to read as follows:  
13-5-601. Authorization.

The State Parks Division ~~of the Department of Parks and Tourism~~ is authorized and directed to develop and operate a state historical museum in Arkansas County to be known and operated as the "Arkansas Post Museum".

SECTION 5586. Arkansas Code § 13-5-602 is amended to read as follows:

1 13-5-602. Functions and duties.

2 (a) The Arkansas Post Museum shall be developed and operated by the  
3 State Parks Division ~~of the Department of Parks and Tourism~~ and shall be  
4 devoted primarily to the acquisition, cataloging, and display of objects or  
5 materials which tell the story of the territorial settlement and development  
6 of Arkansas as a state and its relationship to the settlement of the lower  
7 Mississippi Valley.

8 (b) With the approval of the Director of the State Parks Division ~~of~~  
9 ~~the Department of Parks and Tourism~~, the museum shall solicit, purchase, or  
10 accept donations of objects or materials of historical value to be made  
11 available to the public as a source of historical information concerning the  
12 territorial development and settlement of Arkansas.

13

14 SECTION 5587. Arkansas Code § 13-5-702(4) and (5), concerning the  
15 definitions of "department" and "director" under the laws establishing the  
16 Delta Cultural Center, are repealed.

17 ~~(4) "Department" means the Department of Arkansas Heritage;~~

18 ~~(5) "Director" means the Director of the Department of Arkansas~~  
19 ~~Heritage; and~~

20

21 SECTION 5588. Arkansas Code § 13-5-703 is amended to read as follows:  
22 13-5-703. Establishment.

23 (a)(1) There is established the Delta Cultural Center which shall be a  
24 division of the ~~Department~~ Division of Arkansas Heritage. The center shall be  
25 located in ~~Helena~~ Helena-West Helena.

26 (2) The ~~Director of the Department of Arkansas Heritage~~  
27 Secretary of the Department of Parks, Heritage, and Tourism, with the advice  
28 and consent of the Governor, shall ~~appoint~~ employ the Director of the Delta  
29 Cultural Center. All other employees of the center shall be employed by and  
30 serve at the pleasure of the ~~Director of the Department of Arkansas Heritage~~  
31 Secretary of the Department of Parks, Heritage, and Tourism.

32 (b)(1) The center shall operate a program of temporary and permanent  
33 exhibits, a library and resource center, and live performances and shall  
34 provide information on related activities in other parts of the Arkansas  
35 Delta region.

36 (2) The attraction of visitors to the Arkansas Delta shall be a

1 major goal of the center.

2 (c)(1) All budgeting, purchasing, and related management functions of  
3 the center shall be performed under the direction and supervision of the  
4 ~~Director of the Department of Arkansas Heritage~~ Secretary of the Department  
5 of Parks, Heritage, and Tourism.

6 (2) The ~~Director of the Department of Arkansas Heritage~~  
7 Secretary of the Department of Parks, Heritage, and Tourism, after seeking  
8 the advice of the Delta Cultural Center Policy Advisory Board, shall  
9 promulgate any rules necessary for the implementation of this subchapter.

10

11 SECTION 5589. Arkansas Code § 13-5-704(a), concerning the Delta  
12 Cultural Center Policy Advisory Board, is amended to read as follows:

13 (a) There is created the Delta Cultural Center Policy Advisory Board,  
14 which shall advise the Secretary of the Department of Parks, Heritage, and  
15 Tourism, Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of Arkansas Heritage, and staff  
16 of the Delta Cultural Center on:

- 17 (1) The development of permanent and temporary exhibits;  
18 (2) A plan for the acquisition of resource materials; and  
19 (3) The development of educational and other programming.

20

21 SECTION 5590. Arkansas Code § 13-5-706(d)(1), concerning the powers of  
22 the Delta Cultural Center, is amended to read as follows:

23 (d)(1) The center may request the assistance of the Secretary of the  
24 Department of Parks, Heritage, and Tourism ~~Department of Parks and Tourism~~  
25 and any other appropriate state agency in establishing and operating the  
26 center and its programs.

27

28 SECTION 5591. Arkansas Code § 13-5-801 is amended to read as follows:  
29 13-5-801. Arkansas Cotton Museum established.

30 The Department of Parks, Heritage, and Tourism is authorized to  
31 coordinate the establishment of ~~an~~ a historical museum in Lee County, to be  
32 known and operated as the "Arkansas Cotton Museum". The museum shall be  
33 established in association with the University of Arkansas ~~Agricultural~~  
34 ~~Experiment Station in Lee County~~ Cooperative Extension Service.

35

36 SECTION 5592. Arkansas Code § 13-5-901(4) and (5), concerning the

1 definition of "department" and "director" under the laws establishing the  
2 Mosaic Templars of America Center for African-American Culture and Business  
3 Enterprise, are repealed.

4 ~~(4) "Department" means the Department of Arkansas Heritage; and~~

5 ~~(5) "Director" means the Director of the Department of Arkansas~~

6 ~~Heritage.~~

7  
8 SECTION 5593. Arkansas Code § 13-5-902 is amended to read as follows:  
9 13-5-902. Establishment – Administration.

10 (a)(1) There is established the Mosaic Templars of America Center for  
11 African-American Culture and Business Enterprise which shall be a division of  
12 the ~~Department~~ Division of Arkansas Heritage.

13 (2)(A) ~~The Director of the Department of Arkansas Heritage~~  
14 Secretary of the Department of Parks, Heritage, and Tourism, with the advice  
15 and consent of the Governor, shall appoint the Director of the Mosaic  
16 Templars of America Center for African-American Culture and Business  
17 Enterprise.

18 (B) All other employees of the center shall be employed by  
19 and serve at the pleasure of the ~~Director of the Department of Arkansas~~  
20 Heritage Secretary of the Department of Parks, Heritage, and Tourism in  
21 compliance with state law.

22 (b) The center shall operate a program of temporary and permanent  
23 exhibits, a library and resource center, and live performances. The  
24 attraction of visitors shall be a major goal of the center.

25 (c)(1) All budgeting, purchasing, and related management functions of  
26 the center shall be performed under the direction and supervision of the  
27 Secretary of the Department of Parks, Heritage, and Tourism, in consultation  
28 with the Director of the Mosaic Templars of America Center for African-  
29 American Culture and Business Enterprise in compliance with state law.

30 (2) ~~The Director of the Mosaic Templars of America Center for~~  
31 African-American Culture and Business Enterprise Secretary of the Department  
32 of Parks, Heritage, and Tourism, after seeking the advice of the Mosaic  
33 Templars of America Center for African-American Culture and Business  
34 Enterprise Advisory Board, shall promulgate any rules necessary for the  
35 implementation of this subchapter.

36

1 SECTION 5594. Arkansas Code § 13-5-903(a), concerning the creation of  
2 the Mosaic Templars of America Center for African-American Culture and  
3 Business Enterprise Advisory Board, is amended to read as follows:

4 (a) There is created the Mosaic Templars of America Center for  
5 African-American Culture and Business Enterprise Advisory Board which shall  
6 advise the Director of the Arkansas Heritage Division, Director of the Mosaic  
7 Templars of America Center for African-American Culture and Business  
8 Enterprise, and staff of the Mosaic Templars of America Center for African-  
9 American Culture and Business Enterprise on the development of permanent and  
10 temporary exhibits, a plan for acquisition of resource materials, and  
11 development of educational and other programming.  
12

13 SECTION 5595. Arkansas Code § 13-5-904(a), concerning the powers of  
14 the Mosaic Templars of America Center for African-American Culture and  
15 Business Enterprise, is amended to read as follows:

16 (a) The Mosaic Templars of America Center for African-American Culture  
17 and Business Enterprise shall have the power to enter into, with the consent  
18 of the Secretary of the Department of Parks, Heritage, and Tourism:

19 (1) Contracts for the purchase, construction, lease, or other  
20 acquisition of real property to house the center and to acquire or construct  
21 necessary support facilities;

22 (2) Contracts to purchase or lease personal property for use as  
23 exhibits or for use as research material; and

24 (3) Professional service contracts with appropriate  
25 professionals to assist in the establishment of the center and the  
26 development and operation of the center's programs and activities.  
27

28 SECTION 5596. Arkansas Code § 13-5-1013 is amended to read as follows:

29 13-5-1013. Rules.

30 ~~The Department of Parks and Tourism, in consultation with the~~  
31 ~~Department of Arkansas Heritage~~ Department of Parks, Heritage, and Tourism  
32 shall promulgate rules to carry out the provisions of this subchapter,  
33 including, but not limited to, rules concerning the form and substance of  
34 loan agreements.  
35

36 SECTION 5597. Arkansas Code § 13-7-103 is amended to read as follows:

1 13-7-103. Construction.

2 Nothing in this subchapter shall be construed to repeal or diminish any  
3 of the powers, functions, or responsibilities of the ~~Department of Arkansas~~  
4 ~~Heritage~~ Department of Parks, Heritage, and Tourism, the State Parks,  
5 Recreation, and Travel Commission, the Old State House Commission, and the  
6 Arkansas Archeological Survey, as prescribed by law.

7  
8 SECTION 5598. Arkansas Code § 13-7-104 is amended to read as follows:

9 13-7-104. Administration of program.

10 The ~~Department of Arkansas Heritage~~ Department of Parks, Heritage, and  
11 Tourism, Division of Arkansas Heritage is designated as the agency of this  
12 state to develop and implement a statewide program of historic preservation.  
13

14 SECTION 5599. Arkansas Code § 13-7-105(b), concerning the ability of  
15 the Arkansas Archeological Survey to perform archeological functions, is  
16 amended to read as follows:

17 (b) In furtherance of the development and implementation of a  
18 statewide program of historic preservation, the survey and the Arkansas  
19 Historic Preservation Program of the ~~Department~~ Division of Arkansas Heritage  
20 shall cooperate in the fullest manner possible.  
21

22 SECTION 5600. Arkansas Code § 13-7-106(a), concerning the powers and  
23 duties of the Arkansas Historic Preservation Program, is amended to read as  
24 follows:

25 (a) The Arkansas Historic Preservation Program, a division of the  
26 ~~Department~~ Division of Arkansas Heritage, under the State Historic  
27 Preservation Officer, shall have the following powers and duties:

28 (1) To implement the development of a State Historic  
29 Preservation Plan as contemplated by 54 U.S.C. § 302301 et seq., but not  
30 necessarily restricted thereto, and to be responsible for the historical,  
31 architectural, and cultural portions of that plan;

32 (2) To conduct surveys and otherwise develop the data necessary  
33 for the historical, architectural, and cultural portions of the State  
34 Historic Preservation Plan;

35 (3) To cooperate with the Arkansas Archeological Survey which  
36 will be responsible for the archeological portion of the statewide program

1 for historic preservation and the State Historic Preservation Plan as  
2 provided for in § 13-7-105;

3 (4) To coordinate the surveys and other programs of activities  
4 of all state and private agencies in connection with projects supported by  
5 federal funds provided to the ~~department~~ Division of Arkansas Heritage to  
6 implement 54 U.S.C. § 302301 et seq. and all cash funds or appropriated state  
7 funds made available to the ~~department~~ division for the program;

8 (5) To allocate any federal funds which are provided to  
9 implement 54 U.S.C. § 302301 et seq. to those state agencies or private or  
10 other organizations which are professionally staffed and capable of carrying  
11 out the programs provided for by 54 U.S.C. § 302301 et seq.;

12 ~~(6) To employ such necessary personnel, consultants, planners,~~  
13 ~~or other employees or professional services within the limits of funds~~  
14 ~~available therefor as may be required in the performance of services~~  
15 ~~contemplated by this subchapter, and to contract with any and all public~~  
16 ~~firms or agencies for the purpose of making state surveys and plans necessary~~  
17 ~~for the implementation of this subchapter;~~

18 ~~(7)~~ To accept and administer funds received from the state or  
19 federal government or any other governmental agencies or from any private  
20 source in furtherance of the provisions of this subchapter; provided, that  
21 administration and acceptance does not include cash or appropriated funds  
22 made available to the Arkansas Archeological Survey from whatever source;

23 ~~(8)~~(7) To reimburse members of committees appointed by the  
24 Governor for expenses in accordance with § 25-16-901 et seq.;

25 ~~(9)~~(8) To enlist the cooperation and assistance of the Old State  
26 House Commission, the Arkansas State Archives, the State Parks, Recreation,  
27 and Travel Commission, and all other agencies for historical, architectural,  
28 and cultural purposes, to the end that all activities shall be developed in  
29 accordance with the plan as contemplated by this subchapter and 54 U.S.C. §  
30 302301 et seq., and in accordance with existing state laws pertaining to the  
31 duties and responsibilities of each of the agencies indicated in this  
32 subdivision ~~(a)~~(9)(a)(8);

33 ~~(10)~~(9) To cooperate with federal, state, and local government  
34 agencies in surveying the state for historic properties to be included in the  
35 State Register of Historic Places or National Register of Historic Places, or  
36 both, in the planning and conduct of specific undertakings affecting historic

1 properties and preservation objectives, and, generally, in overall planning  
2 for the use of land; and

3 ~~(11)~~(10) To perform all other functions necessary in the  
4 furtherance of the purpose of this subchapter and in coordinating and  
5 implementing the participation by this state in the purposes contemplated by  
6 54 U.S.C. § 302301 et seq.

7

8 SECTION 5601. Arkansas Code § 13-7-107(a), concerning the appointment  
9 and duties of the State Historic Preservation Officer, is amended to read as  
10 follows:

11 (a) The Governor shall designate the State Historic Preservation  
12 Officer who shall be an employee of the ~~Department~~ Division of Arkansas  
13 Heritage.

14

15 SECTION 5602. Arkansas Code § 13-7-111(b)(1), concerning signage for  
16 war relocation centers, is amended to read as follows:

17 (b)(1) The ~~Department~~ Division of Arkansas Heritage shall erect signs  
18 to inform visitors about the historic landmarks of Jerome and Rohwer in  
19 Southeast Arkansas, subject to the appropriation and availability of funding.

20

21 SECTION 5603. Arkansas Code § 13-7-111(c)(5), concerning signage for  
22 war relocation centers, is amended to read as follows:

23 (5) Other information as determined by the ~~Department~~ Division  
24 of Arkansas Heritage that would be of value to visitors of Jerome and Rohwer.

25

26 SECTION 5604. Arkansas Code § 13-7-203(b), concerning the officers,  
27 rules, meetings, and reports of the Old State House Commission, is amended to  
28 read as follows:

29 (b) The commission shall select from its membership from time to time  
30 a vice chair and a secretary. ~~The commission shall be authorized to employ~~  
31 ~~the secretary either as curator or as receptionist.~~

32

33 SECTION 5605. Arkansas Code § 13-7-203(f), concerning the officers,  
34 rules, meetings, and reports of the Old State House Commission, is amended to  
35 read as follows:

36 (f) By the first Monday in September of each year, it shall be the

1 duty of the commission to cause to be prepared and presented to the ~~Governor~~  
2 Secretary of the Department of Parks, Heritage, and Tourism a report showing  
3 the operation of the commission during the previous fiscal year and  
4 containing recommendations.

5  
6 SECTION 5606. Arkansas Code § 13-7-205, concerning the powers and  
7 duties of the Old State House Commission, is amended to add an additional  
8 subdivision to read as follows:

9 (10) Receive administrative support and be provided all  
10 employees necessary to carry out the duties of the Old State House Commission  
11 from the Department of Parks, Heritage, and Tourism.

12  
13 SECTION 5607. Arkansas Code § 13-7-302(b), concerning the creation,  
14 duties, and powers of the Historic Arkansas Museum Commission, is amended to  
15 read as follows:

16 (b) The commissioners shall have power to ~~employ~~ request the  
17 Department of Parks, Heritage, and Tourism to employ all architects and other  
18 employees necessary in carrying out restoration and in maintaining a historic  
19 center after restoration is accomplished.

20  
21 SECTION 5608. Arkansas Code Title 13, Chapter 7, Subchapter 4, is  
22 repealed.

23 ~~13-7-401. Creation—Members.~~

24 ~~(a) There is created a Prairie Grove Battlefield State Park Advisory~~  
25 ~~Commission.~~

26 ~~(b)(1) The commission shall be composed of seven (7) qualified~~  
27 ~~electors of the State of Arkansas to be appointed by the Governor and shall~~  
28 ~~serve in an advisory capacity to the State Parks Division of the Department~~  
29 ~~of Parks and Tourism.~~

30 ~~(2) Four (4) members of the commission shall be residents of~~  
31 ~~Washington County, Arkansas.~~

32 ~~(3) One (1) member of the commission shall be an historian by~~  
33 ~~profession.~~

34 ~~(c) The members of the commission shall be appointed for five year~~  
35 ~~staggered terms of office.~~

36 ~~(d) Vacancies on the commission caused by death, resignation, or any~~

1 ~~other reason shall be filled by appointment by the Governor for the unexpired~~  
2 ~~portion of the term.~~

3 ~~(e)(1) The commission shall advise the division in the establishment~~  
4 ~~of policies and procedures for the development and operation of the Prairie~~  
5 ~~Grove Battlefield State Park.~~

6 ~~(2) However, final authority for all matters relating to the~~  
7 ~~development and operation of the park shall rest with the Director of the~~  
8 ~~Department of Parks and Tourism.~~

9 ~~(f) Under the supervision of the Superintendent of the Prairie Grove~~  
10 ~~Battlefield State Park and with the approval of the director, the commission~~  
11 ~~shall develop and coordinate efforts to encourage gifts or donations to the~~  
12 ~~park.~~

13  
14 ~~13-7-402. Officers—Oaths and compensation of members.~~

15 ~~(a) Before any member of the Prairie Grove Battlefield State Park~~  
16 ~~Advisory Commission shall enter upon his or her duties as a member of the~~  
17 ~~commission, the member shall take the oath required of elected state~~  
18 ~~officials and shall file a copy of the oath in the office of the Secretary of~~  
19 ~~State.~~

20 ~~(b)(1) Upon its appointment, the commission shall meet and organize by~~  
21 ~~electing one (1) member as chair and one (1) member as secretary and shall~~  
22 ~~elect any other officers as the commission deems necessary.~~

23 ~~(2) The officers shall be elected annually.~~

24 ~~(c)(1) Members of the commission shall serve without compensation.~~

25 ~~(2) However, the members may receive expense reimbursement in~~  
26 ~~accordance with § 25-16-901 et seq.~~

27  
28 SECTION 5609. Arkansas Code § 13-7-504(e), concerning the creation of  
29 fund and administration of the Historic Preservation Revolving Loan Fund, is  
30 amended to read as follows:

31 (e) In the event the program ceases to make loans from the Historic  
32 Preservation Revolving Loan Fund, any moneys remaining in the Historic  
33 Preservation Revolving Loan Fund may be transferred to the Natural and  
34 Cultural Resources Historic Preservation Fund, as certified to the Chief  
35 Fiscal Officer of the State by the ~~Department~~ Division of Arkansas Heritage.

36

1 SECTION 5610. Arkansas Code § 13-8-103 is amended to read as follows:

2 13-8-103. Establishment and composition.

3 (a) There is established the Arkansas Arts Council ~~as a separate and~~  
4 ~~distinct agency~~ under the laws of the State of Arkansas and under the  
5 jurisdiction and supervision of the ~~Department of Arkansas Heritage~~ Division  
6 of Arkansas Heritage of the Department of Parks, Heritage, and Tourism.

7 (b)(1) The Arkansas Arts Council shall consist of an advisory council  
8 and ~~an executive~~ a director.

9 (2) The Advisory Council of the Arkansas Arts Council shall  
10 develop and implement a comprehensive statewide program for the support of  
11 the arts in Arkansas pursuant to this subchapter.

12 (3) The ~~Executive~~ Director of the Arkansas Arts Council shall  
13 administer the provisions of this subchapter and the rules and orders  
14 established under this subchapter.

15  
16 SECTION 5611. Arkansas Code § 13-8-105 is amended to read as follows:

17 13-8-105. ~~Executive director~~ Director.

18 (a) The ~~Executive~~ Director of the Arkansas Arts Council shall:

19 (1) be Be the ex officio secretary of the Advisory Council of  
20 the Arkansas Arts Council but shall have no vote on matters coming before the  
21 advisory council;

22 (2) Shall be an employee of the Department of Parks, Heritage,  
23 and Tourism; and

24 (3) Shall be employed by the Secretary of the Department of  
25 Parks, Heritage, and Tourism in consultation with the Arkansas Arts Council.

26 (b) The ~~executive~~ director's salary and expenses of his or her office  
27 shall be fixed by the General Assembly within amounts available therefor by  
28 appropriation.

29 (c) The advisory council by resolution duly adopted may delegate to  
30 the ~~executive~~ director any of the powers and duties vested in or imposed upon  
31 it by this subchapter, and the delegated powers and duties may be exercised  
32 by the ~~executive~~ director in the name of the Arkansas Arts Council.

33  
34 SECTION 5612. Arkansas Code § 13-8-106(a)(1)(A), concerning the powers  
35 and duties of the Arkansas Arts Council, is amended to read as follows:

36 (A) To advise the ~~Governor~~ Secretary of the Department of

1 Parks, Heritage, and Tourism and General Assembly on matters relating to the  
2 arts;

3

4 SECTION 5613. Arkansas Code § 13-8-106(c)(2) and (3), concerning the  
5 powers and duties of the Arkansas Arts Council, are amended to read as  
6 follows:

7 (2) The ~~Executive~~ Director of the Arkansas Arts Council shall be  
8 the Governor's liaison officer to implement the National Foundation on the  
9 Arts and Humanities Act of 1965, 20 U.S.C. § 951 et seq.

10 (3) All programs of grants-in-aid as described in this section  
11 shall be administered by the ~~executive~~ director.

12

13 SECTION 5614. Arkansas Code § 13-8-106(f), concerning the powers and  
14 duties of the Arkansas Arts Council, are amended to read as follows:

15 (f) The Arkansas Arts Council shall submit an annual report to the  
16 ~~Governor~~ Secretary of the Department of Parks, Heritage, and Tourism as of  
17 June 30 of each year, summarizing the Arkansas Arts Council's activities,  
18 expenditures, and grants of money or property from all sources for the  
19 preceding year. This report shall include recommendations directed toward  
20 furthering the purposes of this subchapter as the Arkansas Arts Council deems  
21 appropriate.

22

23 SECTION 5615. Arkansas Code § 13-13-101(a), concerning the creation of  
24 the Arkansas Civil War Sesquicentennial Commission, is amended to read as  
25 follows:

26 (a) The Arkansas Civil War Sesquicentennial Commission is created to  
27 assist the ~~Department~~ Division of Arkansas Heritage in carrying out its  
28 duties and responsibilities as provided in this chapter.

29

30 SECTION 5616. Arkansas Code § 13-13-102(c)(4)(A) and (B), concerning  
31 the members of the Arkansas Civil War Sesquicentennial Commission, are  
32 amended to read as follows:

33 (A) Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of Arkansas  
34 Heritage;

35 (B) ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of ~~Arkansas~~  
36 Parks, Heritage, and Tourism;

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SECTION 5617. Arkansas Code § 13-14-103(d), concerning Arkansas heritage trails, is amended to read as follows:

(d) The Department of Parks, Heritage, and Tourism shall:

(1) Administer the provisions of this chapter; and

(2) Establish a uniform marker for the Arkansas heritage trails system.

SECTION 5618. Arkansas Code § 13-14-104(b)(3), concerning designation of the Arkansas heritage trails, is amended to read as follows:

(3) American Indian removal routes designated by the Department of Parks, Heritage, and Tourism, including without limitation land and water routes for Cherokee, Choctaw, Muscogee (Creek), Chickasaw, and Seminole tribes; and

SECTION 5619. Arkansas Code § 13-14-105(a), concerning studies of prospective Arkansas heritage trails, is amended to read as follows:

(a) The Department of Parks, Heritage, and Tourism, in consultation with the Arkansas State Archives, the Arkansas Historic Preservation Program, and the Arkansas Department of Transportation, shall conduct studies to determine the feasibility of designating additional trails as heritage trails.

SECTION 5620. Arkansas Code § 13-14-105(c), concerning studies of prospective Arkansas heritage trails, is amended to read as follows:

(c) The following routes shall be studied by the Department of Parks, Heritage, and Tourism to determine the feasibility and desirability of designating other trails as heritage trails:

(1) The Line Road from Van Buren to Evansville;

(2) The Memphis to Little Rock Road;

(3) The Rock Roe Landing connection to the Memphis to Little Rock Road from where Rock Roe enters the White River to the Memphis to Little Rock Road;

(4) The Cadron to Arkansas Post Road;

(5) The Little Rock to Fort Smith Road section to Potts old place north of Potts Tavern;

- 1 (6) The Little Rock to Fort Smith and Fort Gibson section from  
2 Potts to Fort Smith crossing the Arkansas River at Dardanelle;  
3 (7) The Upper Cut Road;  
4 (8) The Little Rock to Washington Road;  
5 (9) The Old Fort Towson Road from Washington to American Indian  
6 Territory;  
7 (10) The Antoine to Fort Towson Road;  
8 (11) The Ecore Fabre to Washington Route; and  
9 (12) The Ecore Fabre to Point Chicot Road.

10  
11 SECTION 5621. Arkansas Code § 14-172-207(1)(A)(i), concerning the  
12 establishment of historic districts, is amended to read as follows:

13 (1)(A)(i) An historic district commission, established as  
14 provided in § 14-172-206, shall make an investigation and report on the  
15 historic significance of the buildings, structures, features, sites, or  
16 surroundings included in any such proposed historic district and shall  
17 transmit copies of its report to the Arkansas Historic Preservation Program,  
18 a division of the ~~Department~~ Division of Arkansas Heritage, to the planning  
19 commission of the municipality or county, if any, and in the absence of such  
20 commission, to the governing body of the municipality or county for its  
21 consideration and recommendation.

22  
23 SECTION 5622. Arkansas Code § 14-270-202 is amended to read as  
24 follows:

25 14-270-202. Elements of the grants program.

26 There is hereby established the FUN Parks Grants Program to be  
27 administered by the ~~Arkansas Department of Parks and Tourism~~ Department of  
28 Parks, Heritage, and Tourism. The purpose of the FUN Parks Grants Program is  
29 to provide basic outdoor recreation facilities including baseball and  
30 softball fields, basketball courts, picnic tables and pavilions, and  
31 playground equipment to residents of small Arkansas communities. The goal of  
32 this program is to build two hundred (200) new outdoor parks statewide in  
33 communities of two thousand five hundred (2,500) or less as established by  
34 the 1990 census. Up to fifty (50) new FUN parks may be constructed each year  
35 in each of the next four (4) years at a cost not to exceed ten thousand  
36 dollars (\$10,000) for each FUN park.

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SECTION 5623. Arkansas Code § 14-270-203 is amended to read as follows:

14-270-203. Authorization.

The ~~Arkansas~~ Department of Parks, Heritage, and Tourism is herein authorized to promulgate procedures, rules, guidelines, or regulations necessary for the administration of the FUN Park Grants Program.

SECTION 5624. Arkansas Code § 15-11-101 is amended to read as follows:  
15-11-101. Publicity generally.

It shall be the duty of the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Parks, Heritage, and Tourism to:

~~(1) Devote his or her entire time to the carrying out of the provisions of this section;~~

~~(2)~~ Make available and make use of the materials and information assembled by state agencies and gather additional information and materials concerning the state's resources, its department and divisions of government, and its institutions;

~~(3)~~(2) Make this information available to the newspapers, magazines, and other media of publicity for the preparation of articles and stories favorable to the state, its resources, its institutions, and its department and divisions of government;

~~(4)~~(3) Prepare paid advertisements favorable to the State of Arkansas and, subject to the approval of the State Parks, Recreation, and Travel Commission, expend such state funds as may be made available for this purpose in the publication of advertisements in magazines, newspapers, and ~~other periodicals~~ traditional and digital media, either directly with advertising media or through the services of a recognized advertising agency on a commission basis regularly allowed by the advertising media;

~~(5)~~(4) Assemble and prepare material for the publication of pamphlets, booklets, folders, maps, brochures, and other similar advertising matter concerning the State of Arkansas and contract, subject to the approval of the commission, for the reproduction of advertising matter;

~~(6)~~(5) Distribute advertising matter to the general public or to special groups for which it is intended, either by mail or other method; and

~~(7)~~(6) Assist and aid the various ~~department~~ departments and

1 divisions of state in the preparation and distribution of pamphlets,  
2 booklets, folders, etc., when it may be deemed advisable to give publicity to  
3 the activities of any department or division or to inform the public of the  
4 activities, rules, regulations, or requirements of the state government.  
5

6 SECTION 5625. Arkansas Code § 15-11-102 is amended to read as follows:

7 15-11-102. Promulgation of rules and procedures.

8 (a) The Department of Parks, Heritage, and Tourism is specifically  
9 authorized to promulgate its own rules and procedures applying to the  
10 purchase of printed material and specialty items for advertising purposes.  
11 The Department of Parks, Heritage, and Tourism will take no less than a  
12 minimum of three (3) bids in purchasing printing and specialty items. The  
13 records pertaining to the bidding procedures, bids, and contract awards will  
14 be made a part of the permanent record file of the Department of Parks,  
15 Heritage, and Tourism, and copies will be forwarded to the purchasing  
16 department of the Department of Finance and Administration.

17 (b) The Department of Parks, Heritage, and Tourism is specifically  
18 authorized to promulgate its own rules and procedures applying to the  
19 professional services of an advertising agency. The Department of Parks,  
20 Heritage, and Tourism will take proposals and contract with an advertising  
21 agency with the advice of the Legislative Council.  
22

23 SECTION 5626. Arkansas Code § 15-11-204(b), concerning the  
24 organization and meetings of the State Parks, Recreation, and Travel  
25 Commission, is amended to read as follows:

26 (b) The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Parks, Heritage, and  
27 Tourism ~~provided for in § 15-11-205~~ shall be ex officio Secretary of the  
28 State Parks, Recreation, and Travel Commission but shall have no vote on  
29 matters coming before the commission.  
30

31 SECTION 5627. Arkansas Code § 15-11-205 is amended to read as follows:

32 15-11-205. ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Parks, Heritage,  
33 and Tourism.

34 (a) ~~The State Parks, Recreation, and Travel Commission, with the~~  
35 ~~approval of the Governor, shall employ a Director~~ Secretary of the Department  
36 of Parks, Heritage, and Tourism ~~who~~ shall be charged with the duty of

1 administering the provisions of this subchapter and the rules, regulations,  
2 and orders established thereunder.

3 (b) ~~The commission~~ State Parks, Recreation, and Travel Commission, by  
4 resolution duly adopted, may delegate to the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the  
5 Department of Parks, Heritage, and Tourism any of the powers or duties vested  
6 in or imposed upon it by this subchapter, and the delegated powers and duties  
7 may be exercised by the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Parks,  
8 Heritage, and Tourism in the name of the commission.

9 (c) ~~The Director of the Department of Parks and Tourism shall:~~

10 (1) ~~Be selected with special reference to his or her executive~~  
11 ~~ability, experience, and interest in the resources and development of the~~  
12 ~~state;~~

13 (2) ~~Be a person with at least five (5) years' experience in the~~  
14 ~~newspaper or radio profession in an editorial or advertising capacity;~~

15 (3) ~~Be custodian of all property held in the name of the~~  
16 ~~commission;~~

17 (4) ~~Be ex officio the disbursing agent of all funds available~~  
18 ~~for its use; and~~

19 (5)(A) ~~Furnish a bond to the state with a corporate surety~~  
20 ~~thereon in the penal sum of ten thousand dollars (\$10,000), conditioned that~~  
21 ~~he or she will faithfully perform his or her duties of employment and~~  
22 ~~properly account for all funds received and disbursed by him or her.~~

23 (B) ~~An additional disbursing agent's bond shall not be~~  
24 ~~required of the Director of the Department of Parks and Tourism.~~

25 (C) ~~The bond so furnished shall be filed with the~~  
26 ~~Secretary of State, and an executed counterpart of the bond shall be filed~~  
27 ~~with the Auditor of State.~~

28 (d)(1) ~~The Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Parks, Heritage,  
29 and Tourism, ~~subject to approval of the commission,~~ shall employ, upon the  
30 recommendation of the commission, a Director of the State Parks Division and  
31 a Director of ~~Recreation and Travel~~ the Tourism Division and such assistants  
32 and other personnel as necessary to properly administer the provisions of  
33 this subchapter, with the duties of both the Director of State Parks and the  
34 Director of ~~Recreation and Travel~~ the Tourism Division and such assistants as  
35 appointed to be independent of the other, but the Director of State Parks and  
36 the Director of ~~Recreation and Travel~~ the Tourism Division shall cooperate as

1 necessary for the proper performance of the commission and the department.

2 (2) The Director of ~~Recreation and Travel~~ the Tourism Division,  
3 as appointed by the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Parks, Heritage,  
4 and Tourism, shall be a person with a background in the travel service  
5 industry or editorial experience in news media with a minimum of three (3)  
6 years' experience in news media or travel service, with special consideration  
7 being given to a background in advertising.

8  
9 SECTION 5628. Arkansas Code § 15-11-207(a) and (b), concerning the  
10 Director of the Department of Parks and Tourism's cooperation with news media  
11 representatives, are amended to read as follows:

12 (a) The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Parks, Heritage, and  
13 Tourism and his or her staff shall cooperate with representatives of  
14 newspapers, magazines, and radio and television stations but shall not  
15 otherwise be identified with any of these enterprises.

16 (b)(1) All information or publicity originated or developed by the  
17 ~~director~~ secretary and his or her staff shall be released to all news media  
18 at times agreeable to a majority of the representatives thereof who are  
19 assigned to the State Capitol Building.

20 (2) However, upon the request of any such representative or  
21 other individual for specific information not theretofore originated and  
22 developed for a news release by the ~~director~~ secretary or his or her staff,  
23 the ~~director~~ secretary shall furnish the news release to the individual  
24 making the request without regard to the provision of subdivision (b)(1) of  
25 this section.

26  
27 SECTION 5629. Arkansas Code § 15-11-210 is amended to read as follows:  
28 15-11-210. Award of pistol upon retirement.

29 When a commissioned law enforcement officer of the State Parks Division  
30 ~~of the Department of Parks and Tourism~~ retires from service in good standing  
31 after twenty (20) years of service, in recognition of and appreciation for  
32 the service of the retiring officer, the Director of the State Parks Division  
33 may award to the officer the pistol carried by the officer at the time of his  
34 or her retirement from service.

35  
36 SECTION 5630. Arkansas Code § 15-11-211(a), concerning the disposal of

1 railroad track material by the State Parks, Recreation, and Travel Commission  
2 and the Department of Parks and Tourism, is amended to read as follows:

3 (a) The State Parks, Recreation, and Travel Commission and the  
4 Department of Parks, Heritage, and Tourism are authorized to dispose of rail  
5 and other railroad track material by gift or contract to a regional  
6 intermodal facilities authority organized pursuant to the Regional Intermodal  
7 Facilities Act, § 14-143-101 et seq., a metropolitan port authority organized  
8 pursuant to the Metropolitan Port Authority Act of 1961, § 14-185-101 et  
9 seq., or a planning and development district recognized by § 14-166-202.

10  
11 SECTION 5631. Arkansas Code § 15-11-212 is amended to read as follows:  
12 15-11-212. Enforcement of state law – Statewide jurisdiction.

13 A person designated as and employed as a law enforcement officer by the  
14 Department of Parks, Heritage, and Tourism shall:

15 (1) Be a certified law enforcement officer under § 12-9-101 et  
16 seq.; and

17 (2) Have statewide law enforcement jurisdiction and authority.  
18

19 SECTION 5532. Arkansas Code § 15-11-301 is amended to read as follows:  
20 15-11-301. Creation.

21 The Department of Parks, Heritage, and Tourism is authorized and  
22 directed to establish, as funds are provided therefor, and to maintain and  
23 operate at or near the federal interstate highway points of entry into this  
24 state tourist information bureaus to perform the functions and duties as  
25 provided by this subchapter.  
26

27 SECTION 5633. Arkansas Code § 15-11-302(1), concerning the duties of  
28 the Department of Parks and Tourism, is amended to read as follows:

29 (1) Be open to the public at regular business hours and, during  
30 tourist seasons, shall be operated at such other hours as may be determined  
31 by the Department of Parks, Heritage, and Tourism;  
32

33 SECTION 5634. Arkansas Code § 15-11-305 is amended to read as follows:  
34 15-11-305. Cooperation with other state agencies.

35 The State Highway Commission, the Arkansas State Game and Fish  
36 Commission, and all other state agencies are requested to cooperate and

1 assist the Department of Parks, Heritage, and Tourism with respect to tourist  
2 information bureaus established under the provisions of this subchapter.

3  
4 SECTION 5635. Arkansas Code § 15-11-306(a), concerning the authority  
5 to lease facilities, is amended to read as follows:

6 (a) The Department of Parks, Heritage, and Tourism may lease existing  
7 buildings and facilities for operation as tourist information bureaus at or  
8 near the major highway points of entry into this state and may pay the  
9 necessary cost of maintenance, upkeep, and operation of the leased buildings  
10 and facilities.

11  
12 SECTION 5636. Arkansas Code § 15-11-401(1), concerning the definition  
13 of "commission" under the laws establishing regional tourist promotion  
14 agencies, is amended to read as follows:

15 (1) "Commission" means the State Parks, Recreation, and Travel  
16 Commission or the Department of Parks, Heritage, and Tourism or any successor  
17 agency designated by law to promote tourist travel and vacation business in  
18 Arkansas;

19  
20 SECTION 5637. Arkansas Code § 15-11-401(4), concerning the definition  
21 of "tourism division" under the laws establishing regional tourist promotion  
22 agencies, is amended to read as follows:

23 (4) "Tourism division" means the Tourism Division of the  
24 Department of Parks, Heritage, and Tourism or its successor agency.

25  
26 SECTION 5638. Arkansas Code § 15-11-402(a)(1), concerning formation of  
27 a nonprofit tourist corporation, is amended to read as follows:

28 (a)(1) Any group of interested citizens and residents of counties  
29 composing a natural planning region of this state and who are residents of  
30 counties representing not less than fifty percent (50%) of the total  
31 population of the region, but in no event fewer than fifteen (15)  
32 individuals, who shall form a nonprofit corporation pursuant to the  
33 provisions of the Arkansas Nonprofit Corporation Act, ~~§ 4-28-201 et seq.~~ §§  
34 4-28-201 – 4-28-206 and 4-28-209 – 4-28-224, for the purpose of promoting  
35 tourist travel and vacation business in the counties composing the natural  
36 planning region and whose charters, bylaws, and purposes are in compliance

1 with the rules and regulations promulgated by the State Parks, Recreation,  
2 and Travel Commission or the Department of Parks, Heritage, and Tourism  
3 pursuant to the provisions of this subchapter may apply for recognition by  
4 the commission as a regional tourist promotion agency under this subchapter.  
5

6 SECTION 5639. Arkansas Code § 15-11-403(a), concerning designation of  
7 a nonprofit tourism corporation, is amended to read as follows:

8 (a) The State Parks, Recreation, and Travel Commission or the  
9 Department of Parks, Heritage, and Tourism, upon receipt of a copy of  
10 incorporation papers, constitution, bylaws, and resolutions, if any, of a  
11 nonprofit corporation applying for recognition as a regional tourist  
12 promotion agency under the provisions of this subchapter, is authorized to  
13 designate the applying corporation as a regional tourist promotion agency  
14 under the provisions of this subchapter, provided that the commission shall  
15 determine:

16 (1) That the applying agency is established under the Arkansas  
17 Nonprofit Corporation Act, ~~§ 4-28-201 et seq.~~ §§ 4-28-201 - 4-28-206 and 4-  
18 28-209 - 4-28-224, and has a constitution and bylaws governing the activities  
19 and purposes of the corporation which are in compliance with the rules and  
20 regulations of the commission established in furtherance of the purposes of  
21 this subchapter;

22 (2) That the charter, constitution, or bylaws of the applying  
23 agency provide for the selection of a board of directors and successor  
24 members on the boards, of persons who have demonstrated knowledge of and  
25 interest in the tourist travel and vacation business in the various counties  
26 composing the region to be served by the agency; and

27 (3) That the applying agency has furnished a proposed plan and  
28 demonstration of financial resources to establish and promote an active  
29 tourist travel and vacation business promotion program within the region as  
30 provided in this subchapter.  
31

32 SECTION 5640. Arkansas Code § 15-11-404 is amended to read as follows:

33 15-11-404. Administrative agency.

34 The Tourism Division ~~of the Department of Parks and Tourism~~ is  
35 designated as the administrative agency of this state to act under the  
36 authority of the State Parks, Recreation, and Travel Commission or the

1 Department of Parks, Heritage, and Tourism in administering the provisions of  
2 this subchapter.

3

4 SECTION 5641. Arkansas Code § 15-11-405(b) and (c), concerning grants  
5 under the laws governing regional tourist promotion agencies, are amended to  
6 read as follows:

7 (b) Upon approval of each application and the making of a grant by the  
8 State Parks, Recreation, and Travel Commission in accordance therewith, the  
9 commission or the Department of Parks, Heritage, and Tourism shall give  
10 notice to the applying regional tourist promotion agency of the approval and  
11 grant and shall direct the regional tourist promotion agency to proceed with  
12 its promotional program as described in its application and to use therefor  
13 funds allocated by the regional tourist promotion agency for such purposes.

14 (c) Upon the furnishing of evidence to the commission that the  
15 particular regional tourist promotion agency has proceeded in accordance with  
16 the terms of the application, the grant allocated to the regional tourist  
17 promotion agency shall be paid to the regional tourist promotion agency by  
18 the Tourism Division of the Department of Parks, Heritage, and Tourism.

19

20 SECTION 5642. Arkansas Code § 15-11-406(a), concerning grants from the  
21 Department of Parks and Tourism, is amended to read as follows:

22 (a) Upon approval of the State Parks, Recreation, and Travel  
23 Commission, the Department of Parks, Heritage, and Tourism is authorized to  
24 make grants from funds specifically appropriated for such purposes to  
25 regional tourist promotion agencies, to assist such regional tourist  
26 promotion agencies in the financing of promotional and advertising programs,  
27 and to encourage and stimulate tourist travel and vacation business within  
28 the natural planning region.

29

30 SECTION 5643. Arkansas Code § 15-11-407(a), concerning federal funds  
31 for the State Parks, Recreation, and Travel Commission and the Department of  
32 Parks and Tourism, is amended to read as follows:

33 (a) The State Parks, Recreation, and Travel Commission or the  
34 Department of Parks, Heritage, and Tourism is authorized to accept gifts,  
35 grants, or donations from the federal government or agencies thereof, and  
36 some private individuals, foundations, or concerns to be used in furtherance

1 of the purposes of this subchapter.

2

3 SECTION 5644. Arkansas Code § 15-11-408(a)(2), concerning the rules to  
4 be promulgated by the State Parks, Recreation, and Travel Commission  
5 regarding the use, reversion, and reallocation of matching state funds, is  
6 amended to read as follows:

7 (2) The funds available to each regional tourist promotion  
8 agency may be used for needed approved tourist promotion and advertising or  
9 research programs designed to encourage and stimulate the visitor and  
10 vacation business within the natural planning region and for operational and  
11 administrative expenses, as may have been approved by the commission or the  
12 ~~Department of Parks and Tourism~~ Department of Parks, Heritage, and Tourism.

13

14 SECTION 5645. Arkansas Code § 15-11-408(d), concerning the rules to be  
15 promulgated by the State Parks, Recreation, and Travel Commission regarding  
16 the use, reversion, and reallocation of matching state funds, is amended to  
17 read as follows:

18 (d) In the event sufficient regional or local funds cannot be raised  
19 to match the state funds appropriated for the matching fund program by  
20 January 1 of each year, those state funds not applied for shall revert to the  
21 advertising and promotion budget of the Tourism Division ~~of the Department of~~  
22 ~~Parks and Tourism~~.

23

24 SECTION 5646. Arkansas Code § 15-11-409 is amended to read as follows:  
25 15-11-409. Investigations and audits.

26 The State Parks, Recreation, and Travel Commission or the Tourism  
27 Division ~~of the Department of Parks and Tourism~~ from time to time may make  
28 such investigations and audits and require each participating regional  
29 tourist promotion agency to furnish such evidence or proof to determine that  
30 all funds granted under the provisions of this subchapter are being handled  
31 and expended for the purposes as approved by the commission or the Department  
32 of Parks, Heritage, and Tourism in awarding the grant.

33

34

35 SECTION 5647. Arkansas Code § 15-11-602 is amended to read as follows:  
36 15-11-602. Administration office – Director – Duties.

1 (a) The Administrative Office of the Keep Arkansas Beautiful  
2 Commission shall be located within the Department of Parks, Heritage, and  
3 Tourism.

4 (b) The Director of the Administrative Office of the Keep Arkansas  
5 Beautiful Commission shall be ~~appointed by and serve at the pleasure of~~  
6 employed by the Director Secretary of the Department of Parks, Heritage, and  
7 Tourism.

8 (c) The Director of the Administrative Office of the Keep Arkansas  
9 Beautiful Commission shall develop and administer all programs and projects  
10 of the Keep Arkansas Beautiful Commission and perform such other duties which  
11 the ~~Director of the Department of Parks and Tourism~~ Secretary of the  
12 Department of Parks, Heritage, and Tourism deems necessary and appropriate to  
13 foster and promote the awareness of all Arkansans as to the need to protect  
14 Arkansas's natural environment.

15  
16 SECTION 5648. Arkansas Code § 15-11-603(10), concerning the powers and  
17 duties of the Keep Arkansas Beautiful Commission, is amended to read as  
18 follows:

19 (10) Serve in an advisory capacity to the Director of the  
20 Administrative Office of the Keep Arkansas Beautiful Commission and the  
21 ~~Director of the Department of Parks and Tourism~~ Secretary of the Department  
22 of Parks, Heritage, and Tourism; and  
23

24 SECTION 5649. Arkansas Code § 15-11-702(9), concerning the legislative  
25 findings regarding the Wildlife Observation Trails Pilot Program, is amended  
26 to read as follows:

27 (9) The Department of Parks, Heritage, and Tourism and the  
28 Arkansas State Game and Fish Commission are interested in continuing a  
29 Wildlife Observation Trails Pilot Program to ignite interest in the natural  
30 cultural and scenic beauty and natural resources of Arkansas and to promote  
31 economic development in a healthy and environmentally sound manner.  
32

33 SECTION 5650. Arkansas Code § 15-11-704(b), concerning the Wildlife  
34 Observation Trails Pilot Program, is amended to read as follows:

35 (b) The program shall be developed, implemented, and administered by  
36 the Department of Parks, Heritage, and Tourism with the assistance of the

1 Arkansas State Game and Fish Commission.

2

3 SECTION 5651. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 15-11-  
4 705(a), concerning the development of a wildlife observation trail, is  
5 amended to read as follows:

6 (a) To accept a wildlife observation trail into the Wildlife  
7 Observation Trails Pilot Program and be eligible to receive grant moneys  
8 under this subchapter, the Department of Parks, Heritage, and Tourism shall  
9 require that the wildlife observation trail:

10

11 SECTION 5652. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 15-11-  
12 705(a)(1), concerning the development of a wildlife observation trail, is  
13 amended to read as follows:

14 (1) Meet the criteria established by the department after  
15 consultation with the Wildlife Observation Trails Pilot Program Advisory  
16 Board. The criteria ~~includes~~ shall include without limitation:

17

18 SECTION 5653. Arkansas Code § 15-11-706 is amended to read as follows:  
19 15-11-706. Wildlife Observation Trails Pilot Program Advisory Board –  
20 Created.

21 (a)(1) There is continued an advisory body to the Department of Parks, Heritage, and Tourism to be known as the “Wildlife Observation Trails Pilot  
22 Program Advisory Board” to provide recommendations to the ~~Director~~ Secretary  
23 of the Department of Parks, Heritage, and Tourism and the Arkansas State Game  
24 and Fish Commission to develop criteria to establish and fund the development  
25 and maintenance of wildlife observation trails through the distribution of  
26 grant moneys under this subchapter.

27  
28 (2) The board is a voluntary board that consists of seven (7)  
29 members that are appointed by the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of  
30 Parks, Heritage, and Tourism as follows:

31 (A) One (1) representative of the Arkansas Economic  
32 Development Commission;

33 (B) One (1) representative of the Arkansas State Game and  
34 Fish Commission;

35 (C) One (1) representative of the Arkansas Recreation and  
36 Parks Association;

- 1 (D) One (1) representative of the Association of Arkansas  
2 Counties;
- 3 (E) One (1) representative of the Arkansas Game and Fish  
4 Foundation;
- 5 (F) One (1) representative of the Arkansas Audubon  
6 Society; and
- 7 (G) One (1) representative of the Arkansas Municipal  
8 League.

9 (b) The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Parks, Heritage, and  
10 Tourism shall:

11 (1) Assist the board in establishing criteria consistent with §  
12 15-11-705 by the promulgation of rules in accordance with the Arkansas  
13 Administrative Procedure Act, § 25-15-201 et seq., for recommendation of a  
14 grant for the development of a wildlife observation trail in the Wildlife  
15 Observation Trails Pilot Program; and

16 (2) Seek recommendations from the board for the selection of a  
17 grant recipient.

18 (c) The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Parks, Heritage, and  
19 Tourism shall consult with the Director of the Arkansas State Game and Fish  
20 Commission to establish criteria for the development and maintenance of  
21 wildlife observation trails in the wildlife management areas that are managed  
22 by the Arkansas State Game and Fish Commission.

23

24 SECTION 5654. Arkansas Code § 15-11-707(b)(1), concerning funding for  
25 the Wildlife Observation Trails Pilot Program, is amended to read as follows:

26 (b)(1) The Department of Parks, Heritage, and Tourism and the  
27 commission agree to execute a memorandum of understanding to delineate each  
28 party's participation, obligation, and cooperation in the program sufficient  
29 to fulfill the requirements of this subchapter.

30

31 SECTION 5655. Arkansas Code § 15-11-708 is amended to read as follows:  
32 15-11-708. Grant distribution.

33 (a)(1) A grant application under this subchapter that meets the  
34 criteria under § 15-11-705 shall be submitted to the Wildlife Observation  
35 Trails Pilot Program Advisory Board by the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the  
36 Department of Parks, Heritage, and Tourism for review and comment.

1 (2) The board shall recommend grants for approval by the  
2 ~~director~~ secretary.

3 (3) The ~~director~~ secretary shall designate the grant recipients  
4 that are eligible for moneys under this subchapter and notify the Arkansas  
5 State Game and Fish Commission of the grant recipients.

6 (b) The commission agrees to receive grant designations submitted by  
7 the ~~director~~ secretary and approve distribution of moneys annually to  
8 eligible grant recipients in the Wildlife Observation Trails Pilot Program as  
9 follows:

10 (1) A maximum of eighty percent (80%) of the moneys for grants  
11 for wildlife observation trail development to cities or counties; and

12 (2) A maximum of twenty percent (20%) of the moneys for grants  
13 for wildlife observation trail development to state agencies or nonprofit  
14 organizations.

15  
16 SECTION 5656. Arkansas Code § 15-11-709(a), concerning reporting on  
17 the Wildlife Observation Trails Pilot Program, is amended to read as follows:

18 (a) The Arkansas State Game and Fish Commission and the Department of  
19 Parks, Heritage, and Tourism shall report the status of the Wildlife  
20 Observation Trails Pilot Program biannually to the Game and Fish/State Police  
21 Subcommittee of the Legislative Council and the Parks and Tourism  
22 Subcommittee of the Joint Budget Committee.

23  
24 SECTION 5657. Arkansas Code § 15-11-802 is amended to read as follows:  
25 15-11-802. Arkansas Great Places Program – Creation.

26 (a) The Department of ~~Arkansas Heritage~~ Parks, Heritage, and Tourism  
27 shall administer and establish the Arkansas Great Places Program to:

28 (1) Provide planning and financial assistance to eligible  
29 organizations for community development; and

30 (2) Combine resources of state government in an effort to  
31 showcase the unique and authentic qualities of communities, regions,  
32 neighborhoods, and districts that make those locations exceptional places to  
33 work and live.

34 (b) The Arkansas Economic Development Commission ~~and the Department of~~  
35 ~~Parks and Tourism~~ shall provide assistance to the ~~Department of Arkansas~~  
36 ~~Heritage~~ Department of Parks, Heritage, and Tourism in administering and

1 establishing the program.

2

3 SECTION 5658. Arkansas Code § 15-11-803(b), concerning the definitions  
4 and eligibility for the Arkansas Great Places Program, is amended to read as  
5 follows:

6 (b)(1) An eligible organization may apply to the ~~Department of~~  
7 ~~Arkansas Heritage~~ Department of Parks, Heritage, and Tourism for  
8 participation in the Arkansas Great Places Program.

9 (2) The department shall forward applications for participation  
10 in the program to the Arkansas Natural and Cultural Heritage Advisory  
11 Committee to select applicants for participation in the program.

12

13 SECTION 5659. Arkansas Code § 15-11-804(c), concerning selection for  
14 the Arkansas Great Places Program, is amended to read as follows:

15 (c) The ~~Department of Arkansas Heritage~~ Department of Parks, Heritage,  
16 and Tourism shall work with the Arkansas Economic Development Commission to  
17 maximize grants awarded to participants in the program.

18

19 SECTION 5660. Arkansas Code § 15-12-101(a)(1) and (2), concerning the  
20 creation, members, and meetings of the Arkansas Natural and Cultural  
21 Resources Council, are amended to read as follows:

22 (1) The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Parks, Heritage,  
23 and Tourism or his or her designee;

24 (2) The Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of Arkansas Heritage  
25 or his or her designee;

26

27 SECTION 5661. Arkansas Code § 15-12-101(b)(1), concerning the  
28 creation, members, and meetings of the Arkansas Natural and Cultural  
29 Resources Council, is amended to read as follows:

30 (1)(A) The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Parks,  
31 Heritage, and Tourism, or his or her designee, the Director of the ~~Department~~  
32 Division of Arkansas Heritage, or his or her designee, the Chair of the State  
33 Parks, Recreation, and Travel Commission or his or her designee, and the  
34 Chair of the Arkansas Natural Heritage Commission or his or her designee may  
35 receive expense reimbursement for attending meetings of the council as  
36 provided by § 25-16-902.

1 (B) Expense reimbursement under subdivision (b)(1)(A) of  
2 this section shall be paid from funds appropriated for the support of the  
3 Department of Parks, Heritage, and Tourism, the ~~Department~~ Division of  
4 Arkansas Heritage, the State Parks, Recreation, and Travel Commission, and  
5 the Arkansas Natural Heritage Commission, respectively; and  
6

7 SECTION 5662. Arkansas Code § 15-12-101(b)(2)(B), concerning the  
8 creation, members, and meetings of the Arkansas Natural and Cultural  
9 Resources Council, is amended to read as follows:

10 (B) Expense reimbursement under subdivision (b)(2)(A) of  
11 this section shall be paid from funds appropriated for the support of the  
12 ~~Department of Arkansas Heritage~~ Department of Parks, Heritage, and Tourism.  
13

14 SECTION 5663. Arkansas Code § 15-12-101(d)(2), concerning the  
15 creation, members, and meetings of the Arkansas Natural and Cultural  
16 Resources Council, is amended to read as follows:

17 (2) The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the ~~Department of Arkansas~~  
18 ~~Heritage~~ Department of Parks, Heritage, and Tourism shall serve as Secretary  
19 of the Arkansas Natural and Cultural Resources Council and shall serve as  
20 disbursing officer of any funds appropriated for or administered by the  
21 council.  
22

23 SECTION 5664. Arkansas Code § 15-14-108 is amended to read as follows:  
24 15-14-108. Rules and regulations.

25 The Arkansas Association of Development Organizations, Inc., after  
26 having received input from the Department of Parks, Heritage, and Tourism,  
27 ~~the Department of Arkansas Heritage~~, and the Arkansas Economic Development  
28 Commission, shall promulgate rules and regulations to implement this chapter.  
29

30 SECTION 5665. Arkansas Code § 15-20-705(a), concerning additional  
31 duties of the State Parks, Recreation, and Travel Commission and the  
32 Department of Parks and Tourism, is amended to read as follows:

33 (a) The State Parks, Recreation, and Travel Commission and the  
34 Department of Parks, Heritage, and Tourism shall have the following duties in  
35 addition to those otherwise prescribed by law:

36 (1) To identify and maintain a registry of lands and waters in

1 the state, whether publicly or privately owned, that exhibit outstanding  
2 characteristics of scenic beauty;

3 (2) To cooperate with any federal, state, or local government  
4 agency, private organization, or individual;

5 (3) To investigate, promote, advise, and assist in the  
6 preservation, protection, enhancement, and management of scenic resources;

7 (4) To encourage private organizations and individuals to  
8 recognize scenic resources and to utilize "best management practices" in all  
9 instances, particularly those affecting scenic resources;

10 (5) To encourage scenic resources protection by working with  
11 agencies and individuals to set up demonstration projects involving such  
12 techniques as wildflower plots, adopt-a-spot programs, wetlands restoration,  
13 and native plantings wherever possible;

14 (6) To notify federal agencies of the state's interest in  
15 protecting scenic resources and to request that scenic resources protection  
16 and enhancement be included in the appropriate planning activities of the  
17 agencies;

18 (7) By December 1 of each year, submit a report to the ~~Governor~~  
19 Secretary of the Department of Parks, Heritage, and Tourism and the General  
20 Assembly describing and accounting for the status and condition of each entry  
21 listed in the Registry of Scenic Resources and including any recommendations  
22 to be considered by the secretary and General Assembly for improving and  
23 enhancing the scenic beauty of the state; and

24 (8) To bring the Registry of Scenic Resources to the attention  
25 of the public through its advertising and public relations efforts.  
26

27 SECTION 5666. Arkansas Code § 15-20-706(c) and (d), concerning the  
28 Registry of Scenic Resources are amended to read as follows:

29 (c) The registry shall be maintained by the Department of Parks,  
30 Heritage, and Tourism.

31 (d) The registry shall be prepared in a manner which will enable the  
32 ~~Department~~ Division of Arkansas Heritage to include registry records in its  
33 environmental review procedures.  
34

35 SECTION 5667. Arkansas Code § 15-45-302(a)(2), concerning creation of  
36 the Nongame Preservation Committee, is amended to read as follows:

1 (2) The Director of the State Parks Division ~~of the Department~~  
2 ~~of Parks and Tourism~~; and

3  
4 SECTION 5668. Arkansas Code § 19-5-206(a)(2)(B), concerning service  
5 charges against state agencies, is amended to read as follows:

6 (B) "State agency" shall not include the office of the  
7 Commissioner of State Lands or the Department of Parks, Heritage, and  
8 Tourism.

9  
10 SECTION 5669. Arkansas Code § 19-5-206(b), concerning service charges  
11 against state agencies, is amended to read as follows:

12 (b) Each state agency, whose annual income or revenue as reflected by  
13 the previous fiscal year's audit exceeds twenty-five thousand dollars  
14 (\$25,000), shall remit by check on the first day of each calendar quarter to  
15 the Treasurer of State an amount equal to one and one-half percent (1 ½%) of  
16 the total expenditures of the previous calendar quarter from those cash funds  
17 as defined under § 19-4-801, excluding funds received from the federal  
18 government or those held in trust by the state agency or those funds of the  
19 various state retirement systems. Funds received by the ~~Department~~ Division  
20 of Arkansas Heritage from voluntary donations shall also be excluded. In the  
21 event that a state agency elects to deposit its cash funds into the State  
22 Treasury under the provisions of § 19-4-503, then the amount required under  
23 this section shall be transferred from the state agency's treasury fund to  
24 the State Central Services Fund.

25  
26 SECTION 5670. Arkansas Code § 19-5-956(b), concerning the  
27 establishment of the Tourism Development Trust Fund, is amended to read as  
28 follows:

29 (b) The fund shall consist of those special revenues as specified in §  
30 19-6-301(146) and fifty percent (50%) of those special revenues as specified  
31 in § 19-6-301(262), there to be used by the Department of ~~Parks and Tourism~~  
32 Commerce exclusively for the promotion of wine tourism in Arkansas.

33  
34 SECTION 5671. Arkansas Code § 19-5-1001(b) and (c), concerning the  
35 establishment of the Publication Development and Resale Revolving Fund, are  
36 amended to read as follows:

1 (b) The fund shall consist of income derived from the sale of  
2 publications by the ~~Department~~ Division of Arkansas Heritage or its  
3 successor, there to be used to develop or purchase additional publications  
4 for resale.

5 (c) The fund shall be administered by the Central Administration  
6 Division of the Department of ~~Arkansas Heritage~~ Parks, Heritage, and Tourism  
7 or its successor.

8  
9 SECTION 5672. Arkansas Code § 19-5-1051(b), concerning the  
10 establishment of the Parks and Tourism Outdoor Recreation Grants Fund, is  
11 amended to read as follows:

12 (b) The fund shall consist of ten percent (10%) of those special  
13 revenues as specified in § 19-6-301(145), there to be used by the Department  
14 of Parks, Heritage, and Tourism for making grants for outdoor recreational  
15 purposes to cities and counties of this state in accordance with the Arkansas  
16 Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan as set out in § 15-12-103.

17  
18 SECTION 5673. Arkansas Code § 19-5-1245 is amended to read as follows:  
19 19-5-1245. Arkansas Great Places Program Fund.

20 (a) The ~~Department~~ Division of Arkansas Heritage may establish in a  
21 bank authorized to do business in this state and selected by the ~~department~~  
22 division a revolving cash fund entitled "Arkansas Great Places Program Fund"  
23 into which the ~~department~~ division shall deposit all funds received as  
24 matching funds from eligible organizations participating in the Arkansas  
25 Great Places Program under § 15-11-801 et seq.

26 (b) The ~~department~~ division may receive gifts, grants, bequests,  
27 devises, and donations made to the ~~department~~ division, amounts received as  
28 matching funds from eligible organizations participating in the Arkansas  
29 Great Places Program under § 15-11-801 et seq., and any other funds  
30 authorized by law to be used in the furtherance of the purposes of the  
31 Arkansas Great Places Program under § 15-11-801 et seq.

32 (c) In addition, the ~~department~~ division may accept gifts, grants, or  
33 donations from the federal government or agencies thereof, and private  
34 individuals, foundations, or concerns to be used for the purposes of the  
35 Arkansas Great Places Program under § 15-11-801 et seq.

36

1 SECTION 5674. Arkansas Code § 19-6-426 is amended to read as follows:  
2 19-6-426. Arkansas Museum of Natural Resources Fund.

3 The Arkansas Museum of Natural Resources Fund shall consist of those  
4 special revenues as specified in § 19-6-301(61) and (101), there to be used  
5 for the construction, maintenance, operation, and improvement of the Arkansas  
6 Museum of Natural Resources in exercising the powers, functions, and duties  
7 as set out in § 13-5-401 et seq., and for paying the expenses of  
8 administering such funds by the ~~department~~ Department of Parks, Heritage, and  
9 Tourism as may be authorized by law.

10  
11 SECTION 5675. Arkansas Code § 19-6-484(3)(B) and (C), concerning the  
12 Conservation Tax Fund, are amended to read as follows:

13 (B) Forty-five percent (45%) to the Department of Parks, Heritage,  
14 Heritage, and Tourism Fund Account to be used by the Department of Parks, Heritage,  
15 Heritage, and Tourism for state park purposes as appropriated by the General  
16 Assembly;

17 (C) Nine percent (9%) to the Arkansas ~~Department~~ Division  
18 of Heritage Fund Account to be used exclusively by the ~~Department~~ Division of  
19 Arkansas Heritage as appropriated by the General Assembly; and

20  
21 SECTION 5676. Arkansas Code § 19-6-818(a), concerning the Wildlife  
22 Observation Trail Fund, is amended to read as follows:

23 (a) There is created on the books of the Treasurer of State, the  
24 Auditor of State, and the Chief Fiscal Officer of the State a special revenue  
25 fund to be known as the "Wildlife Observation Trail Fund" administered by the  
26 Department of Parks, Heritage, and Tourism.

27  
28 SECTION 5677. Arkansas Code § 19-6-833 is amended to read as follows:

29 19-6-833. Arkansas ~~Department~~ Division of Heritage Special Fund  
30 Account.

31 (a) There is created on the books of the Treasurer of State, the  
32 Auditor of State, and the Chief Fiscal Officer of the State a special revenue  
33 fund to be known as the "Arkansas ~~Department~~ Division of Heritage Special  
34 Fund Account".

35 (b) The fund shall consist of:

36 (1) That portion of moneys collected from the excise tax of one-

1 eighth of one percent (1/8 of 1%) levied by Arkansas Constitution, Amendment  
2 75, as set out in § 19-6-484(3)(C); and

3 (2) Any other funds authorized or provided by law.

4 (c) The fund shall be used exclusively by the ~~Department~~ Division of  
5 Arkansas Heritage as appropriated by the General Assembly.

6  
7 SECTION 5678. Arkansas Code § 19-6-834 is amended to read as follows:  
8 19-6-834. Department of Parks, Heritage, and Tourism Fund Account.

9 (a) There is created on the books of the Treasurer of State, the  
10 Auditor of State, and the Chief Fiscal Officer of the State a special revenue  
11 fund to be known as the “Department of Parks, Heritage, and Tourism Fund  
12 Account”.

13 (b) The fund shall consist of:

14 (1) That portion of moneys collected from the excise tax of one-  
15 eighth of one percent (1/8 of 1%) levied by Arkansas Constitution, Amendment  
16 75, as set out in § 19-6-484(3)(B); and

17 (2) Any other funds authorized or provided by law.

18 (c) The fund shall be used by the Department of Parks, Heritage, and  
19 Tourism for state park purposes as appropriated by the General Assembly.

20  
21 SECTION 5679. Arkansas Code § 22-2-103(b), concerning the  
22 applicability of the Building Authority Division Act to other laws, is  
23 amended to read as follows:

24 (b) The provisions of this chapter shall not be construed to affect  
25 any bonds issued by state agencies or any covenants or obligations entered  
26 into in connection with such bonds or any revenues pledged or used in the  
27 security or payment of such bonds, or the production, handling, deposit, or  
28 application of such revenues, including bonds issued by the Arkansas Justice  
29 Building Commission, pursuant to § 22-3-901 et seq., by the Arkansas State  
30 Department of Health Building Commission [abolished], pursuant to Acts 1965,  
31 No. 469, by the Department of Parks, Heritage, and Tourism or the agency  
32 performing the functions thereof, pursuant to § 22-4-301 et seq., or by the  
33 Board of Developmental Disabilities Services or the agency performing the  
34 functions thereof, pursuant to § 20-48-411 and § 20-48-501 et seq.

35  
36 SECTION 5680. Arkansas Code § 22-3-303(e), concerning the Capitol

1 Zoning District Commission, is amended to read as follows:

2 (e)(1) The commission is authorized to employ a director in  
3 consultation with the Secretary of the Department of Parks, Heritage, and  
4 Tourism and such other staff as the commission deems appropriate and within  
5 legislative appropriation.

6 (2) The commission shall have the authority to enter into  
7 contracts of any lawful nature, and to do any and all acts necessary to  
8 effect the purposes of this subchapter.

9

10 SECTION 5681. Arkansas Code § 22-3-310(a)(1)(A), concerning an appeal  
11 of a Capital Zoning District Commission action by an aggrieved person, is  
12 amended to read as follows:

13 (a)(1)(A) Any person aggrieved by any rule, regulation, decision, or  
14 order of the Capitol Zoning District Commission may appeal the action to the  
15 ~~Director of the Department of Arkansas Heritage~~ Secretary of the Department  
16 of Parks, Heritage, and Tourism.

17

18 SECTION 5682. Arkansas Code § 22-3-502(a)(2)(D), concerning the  
19 creation and members of the Capitol Arts and Grounds Commission, is amended  
20 to read as follows:

21 (D) The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Parks,  
22 Heritage, and Tourism;

23

24 SECTION 5683. Arkansas Code § 22-3-804(a)(3), concerning the creation,  
25 members, and proceedings of the Arkansas Governor's Mansion Commission, is  
26 amended to read as follows:

27 (3) The ~~Director of the Department of Arkansas Heritage~~  
28 Secretary of the Department of Parks, Heritage, and Tourism or his or her  
29 designee shall serve as an ex officio voting member of the commission.

30

31 SECTION 5684. Arkansas Code § 22-3-1001(a)(1), concerning the creation  
32 of the War Memorial Stadium Commission, is amended to read as follows:

33 (a)(1) There is created within the Department of Parks, Heritage, and  
34 Tourism the War Memorial Stadium Commission consisting of eight (8) members  
35 to be appointed by the Governor with the advice and consent of the Senate.

36

1 SECTION 5685. Arkansas Code § 22-3-1001(i) and (j), concerning the  
2 creation, members, and meetings of the War Memorial Stadium Commission, are  
3 amended to read as follows:

4 (i) The Governor shall designate a member of the commission as Chair  
5 of the War Memorial Stadium Commission, and the member so designated shall  
6 serve as chair at the pleasure of the Governor with advice from the ~~Director~~  
7 Secretary of the Department of Parks, Heritage, and Tourism.

8 (j)(1) All meetings of the commission shall be held on call by the  
9 chair with the consent of the ~~director~~ secretary, or by any four (4) or more  
10 members with the consent of the ~~director~~ secretary, on advance notice to each  
11 member and at such place as in each instance may suit the commission's and  
12 the ~~director's~~ secretary's convenience.

13 (2) All meetings under subdivision (j)(1) of this section shall  
14 be open to the public, and complete records of the proceedings shall be kept.  
15

16 SECTION 5686. Arkansas Code § 22-3-1001(k)(2), concerning the  
17 creation, members, and meetings of the War Memorial Stadium Commission, is  
18 amended to read as follows:

19 (2) An action agreed to by the commission under subdivision  
20 (k)(1) of this section is subject to the approval of the ~~director~~ secretary.  
21

22 SECTION 5687. Arkansas Code § 22-3-1002(a)(1), concerning the powers  
23 and duties of the Department of Parks and Tourism, is amended to read as  
24 follows:

25 (a)(1) The Department of Parks, Heritage, and Tourism has and is  
26 subject to the powers and duties conferred or imposed upon the department by  
27 this subchapter concerning the War Memorial Stadium Commission.  
28

29 SECTION 5688. Arkansas Code § 22-3-1010 is amended to read as follows:  
30 22-3-1010. Audit of accounts – Reports.

31 An audit of the records and accounts of the Department of Parks,  
32 Heritage, and Tourism concerning the War Memorial Stadium Commission shall be  
33 made each year, and a copy of the report shall be filed with the Legislative  
34 Council, the Governor, and the Chief Fiscal Officer of the State.  
35

36 SECTION 5689. Arkansas Code § 22-3-1011(a)-(c), concerning the

1 establishment of bank accounts by the Department of Parks and Tourism, are  
2 amended to read as follows:

3 (a) The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Parks, Heritage, and  
4 Tourism on behalf of the War Memorial Stadium Commission may open accounts in  
5 the name of the Department of Parks, Heritage, and Tourism in one (1) or more  
6 banks and deposit into those bank accounts all moneys received from the sale  
7 of the Department of Parks, Heritage, and Tourism's bonds and from  
8 admissions, fees, concessions, rents, and other charges collected for the use  
9 of War Memorial Stadium or from any other source.

10 (b) From the bank accounts, the Department of Parks, Heritage, and  
11 Tourism on behalf of the commission may withdraw funds for payment of the  
12 following:

- 13 (1) Cost of the construction of War Memorial Stadium;
- 14 (2) Expenses of the commission's members;
- 15 (3) Salaries of a custodian, groundskeepers, and such other  
16 personnel as the Department of Parks, Heritage, and Tourism may employ;
- 17 (4) Insurance premiums for fire, lightning, and tornado  
18 insurance;
- 19 (5) Such other items of reasonable expense as, in the opinion of  
20 the Department of Parks, Heritage, and Tourism with advice from the  
21 commission, may be required to maintain and operate War Memorial Stadium; and  
22 (6) Amounts paid contesting colleges or schools.

23 (c)(1) All withdrawals of funds in the bank accounts shall be made by  
24 use of voucher-checks, the form of which shall be prescribed by the ~~Director~~  
25 Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration.

26 (2) All voucher-checks so drawn are subject to preaudit by the  
27 ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration.

28

29 SECTION 5690. Arkansas Code § 22-4-103(1)(B), concerning the powers of  
30 the State Parks, Recreation, and Travel Commission, is amended to read as  
31 follows:

32 (B) If the Department of Parks, Heritage, and Tourism is  
33 unable to agree with the owner of the land, or if by legal incapacity or  
34 absence of the owner, no agreement can be made for the purchase, the land may  
35 be acquired by condemnation proceedings instituted in the name of the state  
36 in the manner provided by law for the condemnation of property for public

1 purposes.

2

3 SECTION 5691. Arkansas Code § 22-4-103(3), concerning the powers of  
4 the State Parks, Recreation, and Travel Commission, is amended to read as  
5 follows:

6 (3) To apply to the Commissioner of State Lands for the transfer  
7 of any state-owned land or land the title to which has reverted to the state  
8 by reason of tax delinquency and which is deemed by the Department of Parks,  
9 Heritage, and Tourism as suitable and desirable for park and recreational  
10 purposes. The Commissioner of State Lands is authorized and directed to make  
11 such transfers which shall operate as an appropriation of the land for park  
12 and recreational purposes forever and shall be a bar to any grants by the  
13 state of the land so transferred or of any interest in it for any purpose  
14 whatsoever;

15

16 SECTION 5692. Arkansas Code § 22-4-103(8), concerning the powers of  
17 the State Parks, Recreation, and Travel Commission, is amended to read as  
18 follows:

19 (8) To appoint local and regional park and recreational councils  
20 to consider, study, and advise in the work of the commission for the  
21 extension, development, use, and maintenance of the parks for which  
22 appointed. The Chair of the State Parks, Recreation, and Travel Commission  
23 and the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Parks, Heritage, and Tourism  
24 shall be ex officio members of all councils so appointed; and

25

26 SECTION 5693. Arkansas Code § 22-4-105(a), concerning the leasing  
27 powers of the Department of Parks and Tourism, is amended to read as follows:

28 (a) The Department of Park, Heritage, and Tourism, in addition to any  
29 other powers granted in this chapter, shall have the sole authority to lease  
30 state park lands to private companies and to authorize the lessees to  
31 construct, maintain, and operate overnight accommodation facilities,  
32 recreational facilities, and the other major facilities which the department  
33 may deem appropriate.

34

35 SECTION 5694. Arkansas Code § 22-4-106(a), concerning the procedure  
36 for establishing and acquiring property for state parks, is amended to read

1 as follows:

2 (a) The Department of Parks, Heritage, and Tourism and the State  
3 Parks, Recreation, and Travel Commission are directed to consult with and  
4 seek the advice of the Governor, the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of  
5 Finance and Administration, and the Legislative Council before establishing  
6 and acquiring properties for new state parks or before making acquisitions of  
7 real property for additions to or expansions of existing state parks which  
8 have not been specifically authorized or funded by the General Assembly.

9

10 SECTION 5695. Arkansas Code § 22-4-109(a), concerning the acquisition  
11 of land for hiking trails, is amended to read as follows:

12 (a) The Department of Parks, Heritage, and Tourism is authorized to  
13 acquire, by purchase, gift, or devise, interest in real property less than  
14 fee interest, including, but not limited to, easements for the purpose of  
15 establishing trails for public hiking and for related purposes over lands  
16 contiguous to lands controlled by the department.

17

18 SECTION 5696. Arkansas Code § 22-4-403 is amended to read as follows:  
19 22-4-403. Administration of Arkansas Trails System.

20 A statewide trails system to be called the "Arkansas Trails System" is  
21 authorized to be administered by the State Parks Division ~~of the Department~~  
22 ~~of Parks and Tourism~~. The administration shall include:

23 (1) Coordination of trail development between state, federal,  
24 county, municipal, and private entities;

25 (2) Development of a wide variety of types of trails to provide  
26 maximum trail opportunities for the citizens of Arkansas;

27 (3) Establishment of an interconnected trails system by  
28 developing new trails or by connecting existing trails or recreation areas;

29 (4) Encouraging the development of trails in or near population  
30 centers;

31 (5) Providing technical assistance for trail development and  
32 maintenance; and

33 (6) Providing information about Arkansas trails.

34

35 SECTION 5697. Arkansas Code § 22-4-404(a), concerning the creation,  
36 powers, and duties of the Arkansas Trails Council, is amended to read as

1 follows:

2 (a) An advisory body to the State Parks Division ~~of the Department of~~  
3 ~~Parks and Tourism~~ to be known as the "Arkansas Trails Council", is created  
4 for the purpose of informing the ~~division~~ State Parks Division, other trail-  
5 providing agencies, and the public at large of public need, use, and ongoing  
6 and planned trail development and to provide a public forum for discussion of  
7 trail-related issues.

8

9 SECTION 5698. Arkansas Code § 22-4-404(c), concerning the creation,  
10 power, and duties of the Arkansas Trails Council, is amended to read as  
11 follows:

12 (c) The Department of Parks, Heritage, and Tourism's representative on  
13 the council shall serve as the council's executive secretary.

14

15 SECTION 5699. Arkansas Code § 22-4-405 is amended to read as follows:  
16 22-4-405. Criteria for acceptance into Arkansas Trails System.

17 Trails accepted into the Arkansas Trails System shall meet criteria as  
18 established by the Arkansas Trails Council and the State Parks Division ~~of~~  
19 ~~the Department of Parks and Tourism~~, which shall include:

20 (1) A guaranteed right-of-way for public use for a minimum  
21 period of five (5) years;

22 (2) Trail operation and maintenance for a minimum period of five  
23 (5) years by an acceptable responsible organization;

24 (3) Adherence to state trails standards and guidelines for the  
25 trail type designated;

26 (4) Readiness of the trail for public use;

27 (5) Proper marking and signing; and

28 (6) Conformity of the trail with goals established in the  
29 Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan or the Arkansas Trails Plan.

30 G

31 SECTION 5700. Arkansas Code § 24-4-727(e), concerning War Memorial  
32 Stadium Commission employees, is amended to read as follows:

33 (e) The Department of Parks, Heritage, and Tourism on behalf of the  
34 commission shall pay into the fund such sums of money as are necessary to  
35 match the contributions of its employees in the same form and manner as other  
36 public employers and shall be subject to all the provisions of this chapter,

1 to the same extent as other public employers.

2  
3 SECTION 5701. Arkansas Code § 25-1-205(b)(5), concerning filing copies  
4 of distributed state agency publications with the Legislative Council, is  
5 amended to read as follows:

6 (5) Promotional brochures and educational materials published by  
7 the Department of Parks, Heritage, and Tourism;

8  
9 SECTION 5702. Arkansas Code § 25-3-101(b), concerning the legislative  
10 intent creating the Department of Arkansas Heritage, is amended to read as  
11 follows:

12 (b) It is the intent of the General Assembly to provide for an orderly  
13 transfer of powers, duties, and functions of the various state programs or  
14 agencies to the Department of Arkansas Heritage or Division of Arkansas  
15 Heritage with a minimum of disruption of governmental services and functions  
16 and with a minimum of expense.

17  
18 SECTION 5703. Arkansas Code § 25-3-102 is amended to read as follows:  
19 25-3-102. Creation – Director – Organization – Personnel.

20 (a) There is created a ~~Department~~ Division of Arkansas Heritage.

21 (b)(1) The executive head of the ~~department~~ division shall be the  
22 Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of Arkansas Heritage.

23 (2) The director shall be appointed by the Governor, subject to  
24 confirmation by the Senate, and shall serve at the pleasure of the Governor.

25 (3) The director shall report to the Secretary of the Department  
26 of Parks, Heritage, and Tourism.

27 (c) The director, with the advice and consent of the Governor and the  
28 secretary, shall appoint the heads of each of the programs and agencies of  
29 the ~~department~~ division. All other personnel of the ~~department~~ division shall  
30 be employed by and serve at the pleasure of the director. However, nothing in  
31 this section shall be so construed as to reduce any right which an employee  
32 of the ~~department~~ division shall have under any civil service or merit  
33 system.

34 (d) Each agency or program of the ~~department~~ division shall be under  
35 the direction, control, and supervision of the ~~department~~ division. The  
36 director may delegate his or her functions, powers, and duties to the head of

1 any agency or program of the ~~department~~ division as he or she shall deem  
2 desirable and necessary for the effective and efficient operation of the  
3 ~~department~~ division.

4  
5 SECTION 5704. Arkansas Code § 25-3-104(a), concerning the creation of  
6 the Arkansas Natural and Cultural Heritage Advisory Committee, is amended to  
7 read as follows:

8 (a) There is established an Arkansas Natural and Cultural Heritage  
9 Advisory Committee whose members shall consist of:

10 (1) The Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of Arkansas  
11 Heritage;

12 (2) The ~~Executive~~ Director of the Arkansas Economic Development  
13 Commission;

14 (3) The Director of State Highways and Transportation;

15 (4) The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Health;

16 (5) The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Parks, Heritage,  
17 and Tourism;

18 (6) The Director of the Arkansas State Game and Fish Commission;

19 (7) A person appointed by the Governor;

20 (8) A person appointed by the President Pro Tempore of the  
21 Senate; and

22 (9) A person appointed by the Speaker of the House of  
23 Representatives.

24  
25 SECTION 5705. Arkansas Code § 25-3-105(a), concerning fees for  
26 publications, seminars and other educational materials, is amended to read as  
27 follows:

28 (a) The ~~Department~~ Division of Arkansas Heritage through ~~its~~ a Central  
29 Administration Division or any successor division is authorized to establish  
30 and impose reasonable fees to recover costs incurred in the preparation and  
31 distribution of educational published materials and in holding workshops and  
32 seminars and costs of other services rendered.

33  
34 SECTION 5706. Arkansas Code § 25-3-106(a), concerning the Publication  
35 Development and Resale Revolving Fund, is amended to read as follows:

36 (a) There is established a fund to be known as the Publication

1 Development and Resale Revolving Fund for the ~~Department~~ Division of Arkansas  
2 Heritage. This fund shall be located in the Central Administration Division  
3 of the ~~Department~~ Division of Arkansas Heritage and shall be managed by the  
4 ~~division~~ Central Administration Division for the benefit of the various  
5 agencies located within the ~~department~~ Division of Arkansas Heritage. This  
6 fund shall be a revolving fund.

7  
8 SECTION 5707. Arkansas Code § 25-3-108 is amended to read as follows:  
9 25-3-108. Heritage foundation.

10 (a) In addition to any other rights, powers, functions, and duties  
11 granted by law to the ~~Department~~ Division of Arkansas Heritage, the  
12 ~~department~~ division is hereby authorized to promote and cooperate in the  
13 establishment of a heritage foundation under the Arkansas nonprofit  
14 corporation law, to share resources and facilities with the foundation, and  
15 to accept support and assistance in the form of money, property, or otherwise  
16 from the foundation to be used to preserve and promote the heritage of the  
17 state.

18 (b) If a heritage foundation is established and the ~~department~~  
19 division shares resources or facilities with the foundation or accepts  
20 support and assistance from the foundation, the foundation shall annually  
21 file a report with the Governor, the Legislative Council, and the Legislative  
22 Joint Auditing Committee showing the amount and source of all gifts, grants,  
23 and donations of money or property received by the foundation and all  
24 expenditures or other dispositions of money or property by the foundation  
25 during the preceding year.

26 (c) On or before July 1 of each fiscal year, the Director of the  
27 ~~Department~~ Division of Arkansas Heritage shall submit a plan to the  
28 Legislative Council reflecting the proposed uses of private funds for the  
29 ensuing fiscal year for its review and comment. No person over whom the  
30 ~~department~~ division has day-to-day managerial control shall receive  
31 compensation or remuneration from funds not in the State Treasury.

32  
33 SECTION 5708. Arkansas Code Title 25, Chapter 13, is repealed.

34 ~~Chapter 13~~

35 ~~Department of Parks and Tourism~~

36

~~Subchapter 1 — General Provisions~~

~~25-13-101. Creation — Director — Organization — Personnel.~~

~~(a) There is created a Department of Parks and Tourism.~~

~~(b) The executive head of the department shall be the Director of the Department of Parks and Tourism. The director shall be appointed by the Governor with the consent of the Senate and shall serve at the pleasure of the Governor.~~

~~(c) The department shall consist of those divisions which constituted the State Parks, Recreation, and Travel Commission as of July 1, 1971, and any other divisions which may be created by law and placed under the department.~~

~~(d) The director, with the advice and consent of the Governor, shall appoint the heads of the respective divisions. All other personnel of the department shall be employed by and serve at the pleasure of the director. Provided, nothing in this section shall be so construed as to reduce any right which an employee of the department shall have under any civil service or merit system.~~

~~(e) Each division of the department shall be under the direction, control, and supervision of the director. The director may delegate his or her functions, powers, and duties to various divisions of the department as he or she shall deem desirable and necessary for the effective and efficient operation of the department.~~

~~25-13-102. Great River Road Division.~~

~~(a) The Mississippi River Parkway Commission of Arkansas, as established pursuant to § 27-69-201 et seq., shall be located in the Great River Road Division created hereby.~~

~~(b) The Director of the Department of Parks and Tourism, with the advice and consent of the Governor and the Chairman of the national Mississippi River Parkway Planning Commission, shall appoint the head of the Great River Road Division of the Department of Parks and Tourism.~~

~~25-13-103. — Payment of gratuities.~~

~~The Department of Parks and Tourism, which from time to time will use the services of hotels and restaurants for conferences, conventions,~~

1 ~~meetings, advertising promotions, news blitzes, and other group functions, is~~  
2 ~~authorized to pay such reasonable charges of involuntary gratuities for group~~  
3 ~~functions as a part of the cost of services.~~

4  
5 ~~25-13-104. Extra help restriction.~~

6 ~~No employee of the State Parks Division of the Department of Parks and~~  
7 ~~Tourism who is employed as extra help may receive an amount to exceed eighty-~~  
8 ~~five percent (85%) of the maximum annual salary for a comparable position as~~  
9 ~~authorized under the Uniform Classification and Compensation Act, § 21-5-201~~  
10 ~~et seq., during any fiscal year, nor shall such an employee be employed for a~~  
11 ~~period of time to exceed one thousand eight hundred (1,800) hours in any~~  
12 ~~single fiscal year.~~

13  
14  
15 SECTION 5709. Arkansas Code § 26-26-720 is amended to read as follows:  
16 26-26-720. Correcting descriptions already on books.

17 The Attorney General is authorized to have corrected any part of the  
18 description of lands on the books of the Commissioner of State Lands in the  
19 manner provided. This authority shall be exercised upon the application of  
20 any applicant to purchase or upon application by the Department of Parks,  
21 Heritage, and Tourism, the Arkansas Forestry Commission, or the Arkansas  
22 State Game and Fish Commission.

23  
24 SECTION 5710. Arkansas Code § 26-51-2203(3), concerning the definition  
25 of "certification of completion" under the Arkansas Historic Rehabilitation  
26 Income Tax Credit Act, is amended to read as follows:

27 (3) "Certification of completion" means a certificate issued by  
28 the ~~Department~~ Division of Arkansas Heritage certifying that a project is a  
29 certified rehabilitation of an eligible property that qualifies for the  
30 Arkansas historic rehabilitation income tax credit;

31  
32 SECTION 5711. Arkansas Code § 26-51-2203(7), concerning the definition  
33 of "certification of completion" under the Arkansas Historic Rehabilitation  
34 Income Tax Credit Act, is amended to read as follows:

35 (7) "Owner" means a person or an entity that owns eligible  
36 property and is the initial recipient of the certification of completion from

1 the ~~department~~ division;

2  
3 SECTION 5712. Arkansas Code § 26-51-2204(c)(1), concerning the  
4 Arkansas historic rehabilitation income tax credit, is amended to read as  
5 follows:

6 (c)(1) The ~~Department~~ Division of Arkansas Heritage shall only issue  
7 Arkansas historic rehabilitation income tax credits for up to four million  
8 dollars (\$4,000,000) in any one (1) fiscal year.

9  
10 SECTION 5713. Arkansas Code § 26-51-2204(e)-(h), concerning the  
11 Arkansas historic rehabilitation income tax credit, are amended to read as  
12 follows:

13 (e) Upon completion of a rehabilitation, the owner shall submit  
14 documentation required by the ~~department~~ division to verify that the  
15 completed rehabilitation qualifies as a certified rehabilitation.

16 (f) If the ~~department~~ division determines that a rehabilitation  
17 qualifies as a certified rehabilitation and that the certified rehabilitation  
18 is complete, the ~~department~~ division shall issue a freely transferable  
19 certification of completion specifying the total amount of the qualified  
20 rehabilitation expenses and Arkansas historic rehabilitation income tax  
21 credit allowed.

22 (g)(1) If the owner requests a review of the ~~department~~ division  
23 determination under subsection (f) of this section, the owner shall submit a  
24 written request for review of the determination.

25 (2) The owner shall submit the request in writing to the  
26 ~~department~~ division within thirty (30) days of the date of notification to  
27 the owner of the determination.

28 (h)(1) The owner shall certify to the ~~department~~ division the validity  
29 of costs and expenses claimed as qualified rehabilitation expenses and shall  
30 maintain a record supporting the claim for at least five (5) years after the  
31 issuance of the certification of completion.

32 (2) An owner's record supporting a claim for qualified  
33 rehabilitation expenses may be reviewed by the ~~department~~ division, the  
34 appropriate tax collection authority, or a holder.

35  
36 SECTION 5714. Arkansas Code § 26-51-2205(h), concerning the procedure

1 to claim a tax credit and transferring credit, is amended to read as follows:

2 (h) An owner or holder that assigns part or all of an Arkansas  
3 historic rehabilitation income tax credit shall perfect the transfer by  
4 notifying the ~~Department~~ Division of Arkansas Heritage and the appropriate  
5 tax collection authority in writing within thirty (30) calendar days  
6 following the effective date of the transfer and shall provide any  
7 information as may be required by the ~~department~~ division and the appropriate  
8 tax collection authority to administer and carry out this subchapter and to  
9 ensure proper tracking of the ownership of the unused Arkansas historic  
10 rehabilitation income tax credit.

11  
12 SECTION 5715. Arkansas Code § 26-51-2206(a)(1), concerning fees  
13 charged by the Department of Arkansas Heritage, is amended to read as  
14 follows:

15 (a)(1) The ~~Department~~ Division of Arkansas Heritage may charge a  
16 fee to process:

17 (A) An application for an Arkansas historic rehabilitation  
18 income tax credit; and

19 (B) A request to record transfers of interests in an  
20 Arkansas historic rehabilitation income tax credit to other holders.

21  
22 SECTION 5716. Arkansas Code § 26-51-2206(b), concerning fees charged  
23 by the Department of Arkansas Heritage, is amended to read as follows:

24 (b) A fee collected under this subchapter by the ~~department~~ division  
25 shall be considered cash funds of the ~~department~~ division and shall be used  
26 for the administration of this subchapter.

27  
28 SECTION 5717. Arkansas Code § 26-51-2207 is amended to read as  
29 follows:

30 26-51-2207. Rules.

31 (a) The ~~Department~~ Division of Arkansas Heritage shall promulgate  
32 rules to implement this subchapter that shall include criteria for the  
33 prioritizing of the rehabilitation applications and that will stimulate the  
34 local economy where the property is located, including without limitation the  
35 criteria that the rehabilitation project will be prioritized in the following  
36 order:

- 1 (1) Result in the creation of a new business;
- 2 (2) Result in the expansion of an existing business;
- 3 (3) Establish or contribute to the establishment of a tourism  
4 attraction as defined by the Department of Parks, Heritage, and Tourism;
- 5 (4) Contribute to the revitalization of a specific business  
6 district; or
- 7 (5) Be a key property in the revitalization of a specific  
8 neighborhood.

9 (b) The ~~Department~~ Division of Arkansas Heritage shall consult with  
10 the Department of Finance and Administration, the Arkansas Economic  
11 Development Commission, and the State Insurance Department in promulgating  
12 rules under this subchapter.

13 (c) The Department of Parks, Heritage, and Tourism shall promulgate  
14 rules to define a "tourism attraction" as provided in subdivision (a)(3) of  
15 this section.

16

17 SECTION 5718. Arkansas Code § 26-57-604(c)(1), concerning the  
18 remittance of tax, is amended to read as follows:

19 (c)(1) In addition to any premium tax credit not related to the same  
20 eligible property for which an insurer qualifies under subsection (a) of this  
21 section, there is allowed a premium tax credit for the amount of the Arkansas  
22 historic rehabilitation income tax credit allowed by the certification of  
23 completion issued by the ~~Department~~ Division of Arkansas Heritage under the  
24 Arkansas Historic Rehabilitation Income Tax Credit Act, § 26-51-2201 et seq.

25

26 SECTION 5719. Arkansas Code § 26-63-405(c), concerning the Tourism  
27 Development Trust Fund, is amended to read as follows:

28 (c) All revenues collected under this subchapter and credited to the  
29 fund shall be used by the Department of Parks, Heritage, and Tourism  
30 exclusively for the promotion of tourism in Arkansas.

31

32 SECTION 5720. Arkansas Code § 27-24-1601 is amended to read as  
33 follows:

34 27-24-1601. Purpose.

35 The purpose of this subchapter is to:

36 (1) Authorize the design and issuance of license plates

1 featuring state parks for the Department of Parks, Heritage, and Tourism;

2 (2) Provide funding to a cash fund to be used by the Department  
3 of Parks, Heritage, and Tourism for sponsoring college scholarships in the  
4 state parks profession and the state parks education programs; and

5 (3) Authorize the Department of Finance and Administration to  
6 issue, renew, and replace the license plates authorized for the Department of  
7 Parks, Heritage, and Tourism.

8  
9 SECTION 5721. Arkansas Code § 27-24-1603(b)(2), concerning the  
10 issuance, renewal, and replacement of a license plate, is amended to read as  
11 follows:

12 (2)(A) A fee not to exceed twenty-five dollars (\$25.00) to cover  
13 the design-use contribution by the Department of Parks, Heritage, and Tourism  
14 or to cover contributions for fundraising purposes.

15 (B) The fee remitted under subdivision (b)(2)(A) of this  
16 section shall be deposited into a cash fund to be used by the Department of  
17 Parks, Heritage, and Tourism for the following purposes:

18 (i) Sponsoring college scholarships related to the  
19 field of conservation; and

20 (ii) Providing conservation education programs; and

21  
22 SECTION 5722. Arkansas Code § 27-67-204(b), concerning the designation  
23 of roads in and connected to state parks, is amended to read as follows:

24 (b) The provisions of this section shall be applicable to all state  
25 parks which are now or may hereafter be placed under the control and  
26 direction of the Department of Parks, Heritage, and Tourism.

27  
28 SECTION 5723. Arkansas Code § 27-67-204(d)(3) and (4), concerning the  
29 designation of roads in and connected to state parks, are amended to read as  
30 follows:

31 (3) The Department of Parks, Heritage, and Tourism shall study  
32 the needs for public parking areas and parking facilities at the respective  
33 state parks and shall notify the Arkansas Department of Transportation  
34 thereof.

35 (4) The Arkansas Department of Transportation may cooperate with  
36 the Department of Parks, Heritage, and Tourism in the construction and

1 maintenance of such facilities.

2

3 SECTION 5724. Arkansas Code § 27-67-204(e)(1), concerning the  
4 designation of roads in and connected to state parks, is amended to read as  
5 follows:

6 (e)(1) Notwithstanding any law to the contrary the Department of  
7 Parks, Heritage, and Tourism is permitted by regulation to authorize the use  
8 of motorized scooters on roads within areas under the control and management  
9 of the Department of Parks, Heritage, and Tourism.

10

11 SECTION 5725. Arkansas Code § 27-67-224(a)(2)(B), concerning the  
12 Arkansas Wine Country Trail, is amended to read as follows:

13 (B) The Arkansas Department of Transportation shall  
14 determine the location of the Arkansas Wine Country Trail in consultation  
15 with the Department of Parks, Heritage, and Tourism.

16

17 SECTION 5726. Arkansas Code § 27-67-224(a)(4), concerning the Arkansas  
18 Wine Country Trail, is amended to read as follows:

19 (4) The signs shall be of size and shape and of materials  
20 designated by the Arkansas Department of Transportation in consultation with  
21 the Department of Parks, Heritage, and Tourism.

22

23 SECTION 5727. Arkansas Code § 27-67-224(b)(3), concerning the Arkansas  
24 Wine Country Trail, is amended to read as follows:

25 (3) This sign, but on a smaller scale, shall be used as the  
26 symbol on the state highway map and in all tourism literature published by  
27 the Department of Parks, Heritage, and Tourism to indicate the Arkansas Wine  
28 Country Trail or individual vineyards, wineries, or cellars that are part of  
29 the Arkansas Wine Country Trail.

30

31 SECTION 5728. Arkansas Code § 27-67-322(f)(1), concerning the  
32 reacquisition of surplus property by a former owner, is amended to read as  
33 follows:

34 (f)(1) The transfer of surplus rail and other railroad track material  
35 purchased in part with federal transportation enhancement funds and granted  
36 to the State Parks, Recreation, and Travel Commission or the Department of

1 Parks, Heritage, and Tourism, or both, by the State Highway Commission shall  
2 not be subject to the procedures set forth in subsections (a)-(e) of this  
3 section.

4  
5 SECTION 5729. Arkansas Code § 27-67-322(f)(3)(B), concerning the  
6 reacquisition of surplus property by a former owner, is amended to read as  
7 follows:

8 (B) A transfer document executed by the State Parks,  
9 Recreation, and Travel Commission or the Department of Parks, Heritage, and  
10 Tourism, or both.

11  
12 SECTION 5730. Arkansas Code § 27-69-205 is amended to read as follows:  
13 27-69-205. Advisors and assistants.

14 The Director of State Highways and Transportation shall designate one  
15 (1) employee of the Arkansas Department of Transportation who is an engineer  
16 or who has engineering experience, and the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the  
17 Department of Parks, Heritage, and Tourism shall appoint one (1) member of  
18 his or her staff, who shall advise and assist the Mississippi River Parkway  
19 Commission of Arkansas in carrying out its functions and duties under this  
20 subchapter.

21  
22 SECTION 5731. Arkansas Code § 27-74-213 is amended to read as follows:  
23 27-74-213. Rest areas.

24 In order to provide information in the specific interest of the  
25 traveling public, the State Highway Commission is authorized to maintain maps  
26 and to permit informational directories and advertising pamphlets to be made  
27 available at safety rest areas along the interstate, primary, and other state  
28 highways designated by the commission and to establish information centers in  
29 cooperation with the Department of Parks, Heritage, and Tourism at safety  
30 rest areas for the purpose of informing the public of places of interest  
31 within the state and providing other information as may be considered  
32 desirable.

33  
34 SECTION 5732. Arkansas Code § 27-101-105(a)(1)(B), concerning the  
35 failure to obey an officer, is amended to read as follows:

36 (B) Certified law enforcement officers of the Department

1 of Parks, Heritage, and Tourism and municipal police officers may enforce the  
2 provisions of this chapter.

3  
4 SECTION 5733. Arkansas Code Title 25, Chapter 43, is amended to add an  
5 additional subchapter to read as follows:

6 Subchapter 14 - Department of Public Safety

7  
8 25-43-1401. Department of Public Safety.

9 There is created a Department of Public Safety as a cabinet-level  
10 department.

11  
12 25-43-1402. State entities transferred to Department of Public Safety.

13 (a) The administrative functions of the following state entities are  
14 transferred to the Department of Public Safety by a cabinet-level transfer:

15 (1) The Arkansas Commission on Law Enforcement Standards and  
16 Training, created under § 12-9-103;

17 (2) The Arkansas Crime Information Center, created under § 12-  
18 12-201;

19 (3) The Arkansas Emergency Telephone Services Board, created  
20 under § 12-10-318;

21 (4) The Arkansas Homeland Security Advisory Group, created under  
22 12-75-132;

23 (5) The Arkansas State Police Commission, created under § 12-8-  
24 102;

25 (6) The Child Abuse Hotline, created under § 12-18-301;

26 (7) The Crimes Against Children Division, created under § 12-8-  
27 502;

28 (8) The Crime Victims Reparations Board, created under § 16-90-  
29 705;

30 (9) The Arkansas Department of Emergency Management, created  
31 under § 12-75-109, now known as the Division of Emergency Management;

32 (10) The Department of Arkansas State Police, created under §  
33 12-8-101, now known as the Division of Arkansas State Police;

34 (11) The Law Enforcement Support Office, referenced under § 19-  
35 11-605;

36 (12) The Office of Fire Protection Services, created under § 20-

1 22-805;

2 (13) The State Crime Laboratory, created under § 12-12-301;

3 (14) The State Crime Laboratory Board, created under § 12-12-  
4 302;

5 (15) The State Emergency Response Commission, created under 12-  
6 82-104;

7 (16) The State Fire Prevention Commission, created under § 20-  
8 22-202; and

9 (17) The Supervisory Board for the Arkansas Crime Information  
10 Center, created under § 12-12-202.

11 (b) Unless otherwise provided by law, a cabinet-level department  
12 transfer under subsection (a) of this section includes all state entities  
13 under a state entity transferred to the Department of Public Safety under  
14 subsection (a) of this section, including without limitation a division,  
15 office, program, or other unit of a state entity transferred to the  
16 Department of Public Safety under subsection (a) of this section.

17 (c) Unless otherwise provided by law, a state entity whose  
18 administrative functions have been transferred to Department of Public Safety  
19 under subsection (a) of this section shall otherwise continue to exercise the  
20 duties of the state entity under the administration of the cabinet-level  
21 Department of Public Safety in the same manner as before the creation of the  
22 cabinet-level department.

23

24 25-43-1403. Secretary of the Department of Public Safety.

25 (a) The executive head of the Department of Public Safety shall be the  
26 Secretary of the Department of Public Safety.

27 (b) The secretary shall be appointed by the Governor, subject to  
28 confirmation by the Senate, and shall serve at the pleasure of the Governor.

29 (c) Each division of the department shall be under the direction,  
30 control, and supervision of the secretary.

31 (d) The secretary may delegate his or her functions, powers, and  
32 duties to various divisions or employees of the department as he or she shall  
33 deem desirable and necessary for the effective and efficient operation of the  
34 department.

35 (e) The secretary may, unless otherwise provided by law:

36 (1) Hire department personnel;

1           (2) Perform or assign duties assigned to the department; and  
2           (3) Serve as the director, or the administrative or executive  
3 head of any state entity under the administrative control of the department  
4 if the secretary also meets all statutory requirements for the position.

5  
6           25-43-1404. Division of Law Enforcement Standards and Training.

7           There is created within the Department of Public Safety the Division of  
8 Law Enforcement Standards and Training.

9  
10           SECTION 5734. Arkansas Code § 3-2-303(a) and (b), concerning the  
11 authority of the Department of Arkansas State Police, are amended to read as  
12 follows:

13           (a) In addition to the duties otherwise prescribed by law upon the  
14 ~~Department~~ Division of Arkansas State Police, it shall be the duty of the  
15 ~~department~~ division to assist in enforcing all of the laws of the State of  
16 Arkansas against the unlawful manufacture or sale of intoxicating liquors.

17           (b)(1) The Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of Arkansas State  
18 Police, the Deputy Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of Arkansas State  
19 Police, captains, lieutenants, rangers, and other employees of the director  
20 shall perform such duties as may be prescribed by the director with respect  
21 to the enforcement of the laws, and they shall have authority to take  
22 affidavits and to swear the persons signing the affidavits with respect to  
23 the violation of any law.

24           (2) The false swearing or making of the affidavits shall be  
25 deemed and punished as perjury.

26  
27           SECTION 5735. Arkansas Code § 5-64-707 is amended to read as follows:

28           5-64-707. Admissibility of drug analysis – Cross-examination.

29           (a) In any criminal prosecution for an alleged violation of this  
30 chapter, a record or report of any relevant drug analysis made by the State  
31 Crime Laboratory shall be received as competent evidence as to a matter  
32 contained in the record or report in this section in any preliminary hearing  
33 when attested to by the ~~Executive~~ Director of the State Crime Laboratory or  
34 his or her assistant or deputy.

35           (b)(1) Nothing in this section abrogates a defendant's right of cross-  
36 examination.

1 (2) If the defendant desires to cross-examine the ~~executive~~  
2 director or the appropriate assistant or deputy, the defendant may compel the  
3 ~~executive~~ director or his or her appropriate assistant or deputy to attend  
4 court by the issuance of a proper subpoena.

5 (3) If the defendant compels the ~~executive~~ director or his or  
6 her appropriate assistant or deputy to attend court by the issuance of a  
7 proper subpoena:

8 (A) The record or report is only admissible through the  
9 ~~executive~~ director or the appropriate assistant or deputy; and

10 (B) The ~~executive~~ director or the appropriate assistant or  
11 deputy is subject to cross-examination by the defendant or his or her  
12 counsel.  
13

14 SECTION 5736. Arkansas Code § 5-73-302(a), concerning the authority of  
15 the Director the Department of Arkansas State Police to issue a license to  
16 carry a concealed handgun, is amended to read as follows:

17 (a) The Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of Arkansas State Police  
18 may issue a license to carry a concealed handgun to a person qualified as  
19 provided in this subchapter.  
20

21 SECTION 5737. Arkansas Code § 5-73-308(a)(1)(A), concerning the  
22 authority of the Director the Department of Arkansas State Police to issue or  
23 deny a license to carry a concealed handgun, is amended to read as follows:

24 (a)(1)(A) The Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of Arkansas State  
25 Police may deny a license if within the preceding five (5) years the  
26 applicant has been found guilty of one (1) or more crimes of violence  
27 constituting a misdemeanor or for the offense of carrying a weapon.  
28

29 SECTION 5738. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 5-73-309,  
30 concerning the requirements for a license to carry a concealed handgun, is  
31 amended to read as follows:

32 The Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of Arkansas State Police shall  
33 issue a license to carry a concealed handgun if the applicant:  
34

35 SECTION 5739. Arkansas Code § 5-73-309(6), concerning the requirements  
36 for a license to carry a concealed handgun, is amended to read as follows:

1 (6) Is not subject to any federal, state, or local law that  
2 makes it unlawful to receive, possess, or transport any firearm, and has had  
3 his or her background check successfully completed through the ~~Department~~  
4 Division of Arkansas State Police and the Federal Bureau of Investigation's  
5 National Instant Criminal Background Check System;

6  
7 SECTION 5740. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 5-73-310,  
8 concerning the application form for a license to carry a concealed handgun,  
9 is amended to read as follows:

10 The application for a license to carry a concealed handgun shall be  
11 completed, under oath, on a form promulgated by the Director of the  
12 ~~Department~~ Division of Arkansas State Police and shall include only:

13  
14 SECTION 5741. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 5-73-  
15 311(a), concerning the application procedure for a license to carry a  
16 concealed handgun, is amended to read as follows:

17 (a) The applicant for a license to carry a concealed handgun shall  
18 submit the following to the ~~Department~~ Division of Arkansas State Police:

19  
20 SECTION 5742. Arkansas Code § 5-73-311(a)(3)(B), concerning the  
21 application procedure for a license to carry a concealed handgun, is amended  
22 to read as follows:

23 (B) In the event a legible set of fingerprints, as  
24 determined by the ~~department~~ division and the Federal Bureau of  
25 Investigation, cannot be obtained after a minimum of two (2) attempts, the  
26 Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of Arkansas State Police shall determine  
27 eligibility in accordance with criteria that the ~~department~~ division shall  
28 establish by promulgating rules.

29  
30 SECTION 5743. Arkansas Code § 5-73-311(a)(4)(A), concerning the  
31 application procedure for a license to carry a concealed handgun, is amended  
32 to read as follows:

33 (4)(A) A waiver authorizing the ~~department~~ division access to  
34 any medical, criminal, or other records concerning the applicant and  
35 permitting access to all of the applicant's criminal records.

36

1 SECTION 5744. Arkansas Code § 5-73-311(a)(4)(C), concerning the  
2 application procedure for a license to carry a concealed handgun, is amended  
3 to read as follows:

4 (C) The ~~department~~ division shall maintain the  
5 confidentiality of the medical, criminal, or other records; and  
6

7 SECTION 5745. Arkansas Code § 5-73-311(b)(2), concerning the  
8 application procedure for a license to carry a concealed handgun, is amended  
9 to read as follows:

10 (2)(A) The ~~department~~ division shall forward a notice of the  
11 applicant's application to the sheriff of the applicant's county of residence  
12 and, if applicable, the police chief of the applicant's municipality of  
13 residence.

14 (B)(i) The sheriff of the applicant's county of residence  
15 and, if applicable, the police chief of the applicant's municipality of  
16 residence may participate, at his or her discretion, in the process by  
17 submitting a voluntary report to the ~~department~~ division containing any  
18 readily discoverable information that he or she feels may be pertinent to the  
19 licensing of any applicant.

20 (ii) The reporting under subdivision (b)(2)(B)(i) of  
21 this section shall be made within thirty (30) days after the date the notice  
22 of the application was sent by the ~~department~~ division.  
23

24 SECTION 5746. Arkansas Code § 5-73-312(a)(2)(A), concerning the  
25 revocation of a license to carry a concealed handgun, is amended to read as  
26 follows:

27 (2)(A) Any law enforcement officer making an arrest of a  
28 licensee for a violation of this subchapter or any other statutory violation  
29 that requires revocation of a license to carry a concealed handgun shall  
30 confiscate the license and forward it to the Director of the ~~Department~~  
31 Division of Arkansas State Police.  
32

33 SECTION 5747. Arkansas Code § 5-73-312(b), concerning the revocation  
34 of a license to carry a concealed handgun, is amended to read as follows:

35 (b) When the ~~Department~~ Division of Arkansas State Police receives  
36 notification from any law enforcement agency or court that a licensee has

1 been found guilty or has pleaded guilty or nolo contendere to any crime  
2 involving the use of a weapon, the license issued under this subchapter is  
3 immediately revoked.

4  
5 SECTION 5748. Arkansas Code § 5-73-314(a), concerning a license to  
6 carry a concealed handgun which has been lost, destroyed, or duplicated, is  
7 amended to read as follows:

8 (a) Within thirty (30) days after the changing of a permanent address,  
9 or within thirty (30) days after having a license to carry a concealed  
10 handgun lost, the licensee shall notify the Director of the ~~Department~~  
11 Division of Arkansas State Police in writing of the change or loss.

12  
13 SECTION 5749. Arkansas Code § 5-73-314(b)(1) and (2), concerning a  
14 license to carry a concealed handgun which has been lost, destroyed, or  
15 duplicated, are amended to read as follows:

16 (1) Paying the ~~Department~~ Division of Arkansas State Police a  
17 fee established by the director under the Arkansas Administrative Procedure  
18 Act, § 25-15-201 et seq.; and

19 (2) Furnishing a notarized statement to the ~~department~~ division  
20 that the license to carry a concealed handgun has been lost or destroyed or  
21 that a duplicate is requested.

22  
23 SECTION 5750. Arkansas Code § 5-73-317 is amended to read as follows:  
24 5-73-317. Rules and regulations.

25 The Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of Arkansas State Police may  
26 promulgate rules and regulations to permit the efficient administration of  
27 this subchapter.

28  
29 SECTION 5751. Arkansas Code § 5-73-320(a), concerning a handgun  
30 license for certain members of the Arkansas National Guard and military  
31 personnel, is amended to read as follows:

32 (a) The ~~Department~~ Division of Arkansas State Police may issue a  
33 license under this subchapter to a person who:

34 (1) Is currently serving as an active duty member of, or has  
35 recently been honorably discharged from, the United States Armed Forces, the  
36 National Guard, or a reserve component of the United States Armed Forces;

1 (2) Submits the following documents:

2 (A) A completed concealed handgun license application as  
3 prescribed by the ~~department~~ division;

4 (B) A form specified by the Director of the ~~Department~~  
5 Division of Arkansas State Police reflecting the fingerprints of the  
6 applicant;

7 (C) A properly completed and dated certificate from a  
8 concealed handgun carry training instructor who is registered with the  
9 ~~department~~ division;

10 (D) A letter dated and personally signed by a commanding  
11 officer or his or her designee stating that the applicant is of good  
12 character and sound judgment;

13 (E) A form, as designated by the ~~department~~ division,  
14 showing that the applicant has met the military qualification requirements  
15 for issuance and operation of a handgun within one (1) year of the  
16 application date;

17 (F) A copy of the face or photograph side of a current  
18 uniformed services of the United States identification card, if the applicant  
19 is a member of the United States Armed Forces; and

20 (G) An electronic passport-style photo of the applicant,  
21 if the applicant does not hold an Arkansas driver's license or identification  
22 card; and

23 (3) Submits any required fees.  
24

25 SECTION 5752. Arkansas Code § 5-73-322(g)(1), concerning concealed  
26 handguns in a university, college, or community college building, is amended  
27 to read as follows:

28 (g)(1) A licensee who intends to carry a concealed handgun in the  
29 buildings and on the grounds of a public university, public college, or  
30 community college is required to complete a training course approved by the  
31 Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of Arkansas State Police.  
32

33 SECTION 5753. Arkansas Code § 5-73-322(g)(2)(B), concerning concealed  
34 handguns in a university, college, or community college building, is amended  
35 to read as follows:

36 (B) The Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of Arkansas

1 State Police may waive up to four (4) hours of training required under this  
2 subsection for a licensee based on the licensee's prior training attended  
3 within ten (10) years of applying for the endorsement provided for under  
4 subdivision (g)(3) of this section on appropriate topics.

5  
6 SECTION 5754. Arkansas Code § 5-73-322(g)(3), concerning concealed  
7 handguns in a university, college, or community college building, is amended  
8 to read as follows:

9 (3) A licensee who completes a training course under this  
10 subsection shall be given a concealed carry endorsement by the ~~Department~~  
11 Division of Arkansas State Police on his or her license to carry a concealed  
12 handgun that the person is permitted to possess and carry a concealed handgun  
13 in the buildings and on the grounds of a public university, public college,  
14 or community college.

15  
16 SECTION 5755. Arkansas Code § 5-73-322(i), concerning concealed  
17 handguns in a university, college, or community college building, is amended  
18 to read as follows:

19 (i) The ~~department~~ division shall maintain a list of licensees who  
20 have successfully completed a training course under subsection (g) of this  
21 section.

22  
23 SECTION 5756. Arkansas Code § 6-10-121(b), concerning tornado safety  
24 drills, is amended to read as follows:

25 (b) The Director of the ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of Emergency  
26 Management shall require all public schools to conduct tornado safety drills  
27 not less than three (3) times per year in the months of September, January,  
28 and February.

29  
30 SECTION 5757. Arkansas Code § 12-8-101(a), concerning the creation of  
31 the Department of Arkansas State Police, is amended to read as follows:

32 (a) There is created the ~~Department~~ Division of Arkansas State Police  
33 for the purposes of enforcing the motor vehicle laws, traffic laws, and other  
34 state laws relating to protecting and properly maintaining the state highway  
35 system of the State of Arkansas and to render more effective the apprehension  
36 of criminals and the enforcement of criminal law.

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SECTION 5758. Arkansas Code § 12-8-103(a)(3), concerning the powers, duties, and restrictions of the Arkansas State Police Commission, is amended to read as follows:

(3) Review each application for employment presented to it by the Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of Arkansas State Police for certification to the eligibility list.

SECTION 5759. Arkansas Code § 12-8-103(c), concerning the powers, duties, and restrictions of the Arkansas State Police Commission, is amended to read as follows:

(c) The members of the commission are granted disciplinary authority equal to that of supervisory and administrative personnel of the ~~Department~~ Division of Arkansas State Police with respect to violations of rules and regulations committed by a ~~department~~ division employee in the presence of a commissioner.

SECTION 5760. Arkansas Code § 12-8-104 is amended to read as follows:  
12-8-104. Director.

(a)(1)(A) After conferring with the members of the Arkansas State Police Commission, the Governor shall appoint a Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of Arkansas State Police who shall be the executive and administrative head of the ~~Department~~ Division of Arkansas State Police and shall receive a salary as fixed by law.

(B) The Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of Arkansas State Police shall serve at the pleasure of the Governor.

(C) The Director of the Division of Arkansas State Police shall report to the Secretary of the Department of Public Safety.

(2) The Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of Arkansas State Police shall be of good moral character and a resident and a qualified elector of the State of Arkansas.

(3) In addition to all other qualifications contained in this section, the Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of Arkansas State Police, at the time of appointment to the position of Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of Arkansas State Police, shall either:

(A) Be a college graduate with at least a bachelor's

1 degree in criminology, business administration, or a related field;

2 (B) Have graduated from a standard high school or  
3 vocational school and have eight (8) years' previous experience in law  
4 enforcement or a related field with considerable supervisory and  
5 administrative experience; or

6 (C) Have at least ten (10) years' experience in law  
7 enforcement.

8 (b) The Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of Arkansas State Police  
9 shall determine the number of other officers and patrol personnel to be  
10 employed by the ~~Department~~ Division of Arkansas State Police, and they shall  
11 be paid salaries according to rank, not exceeding the salaries provided.

12 (c) The Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of Arkansas State Police  
13 shall promulgate such rules as are necessary for the efficient operation of  
14 the ~~Department~~ Division of Arkansas State Police and for the enforcement of  
15 such duties as are prescribed in this chapter.

16 (d) The Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of Arkansas State Police  
17 shall keep the books and records of the ~~Department~~ Division of Arkansas State  
18 Police, which shall be audited as the books and accounts of other state  
19 departments.

20 (e) An annual report to the ~~Governor~~ secretary and a biannual report  
21 to the General Assembly showing the activities, number of arrests, amounts  
22 collected by the ~~Department~~ Division of Arkansas State Police, and  
23 disposition of all cases shall be made by the Director of the ~~Department~~  
24 Division of Arkansas State Police.

25 (f)(1) The Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of Arkansas State  
26 Police shall have supervision and control for the purpose of discipline and  
27 proper management of all the members and employees of the ~~Department~~ Division  
28 of Arkansas State Police.

29 (2)(A) The Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of Arkansas State  
30 Police may designate that some or all employees of the ~~Department~~ Division of  
31 Arkansas State Police be trained pursuant to a memorandum of understanding  
32 between the State of Arkansas and the United States Department of Justice or  
33 the United States Department of Homeland Security concerning the enforcement  
34 of federal immigration laws on federal and interstate highways in the State  
35 of Arkansas.

36 (B) The amount spent for training employees of the

1 ~~Department~~ Division of Arkansas State Police under the memorandum of  
2 understanding between the State of Arkansas and the United States Department  
3 of Justice or the United States Department of Homeland Security shall be paid  
4 in accordance with the provisions of § 12-8-118.

5 (3)(A) Upon request of the Director of State Highways and  
6 Transportation, the Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of Arkansas State  
7 Police may designate certified law enforcement officers from the Arkansas  
8 Highway Police Division of the Arkansas Department of Transportation to be  
9 trained under the terms of the memorandum of understanding described in  
10 subdivision (f)(2) of this section.

11 (B) The amount spent for training certified law  
12 enforcement officers from the Arkansas Highway Police Division of the  
13 Arkansas Department of Transportation shall be paid by the Arkansas  
14 Department of Transportation.

15 (g) The Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of Arkansas State Police  
16 may establish such divisions within the ranks of the ~~Department~~ Division of  
17 Arkansas State Police as he or she may deem necessary and proper.

18 (h) Whenever in the Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of Arkansas  
19 State Police's discretion the action is necessary for the efficient operation  
20 of the ~~Department~~ Division of Arkansas State Police, the Director of the  
21 ~~Department~~ Division of Arkansas State Police may:

22 (1) Transfer, assign, and reassign from one division to another  
23 division any member of the ~~Department~~ Division of Arkansas State Police or  
24 other employee of the ~~Department~~ Division of Arkansas State Police; or

25 (2)(A) Subject to the approval of the commission, promote or  
26 demote in rank any member of the ~~Department~~ Division of Arkansas State  
27 Police.

28 (B) However, any demotion pursuant to subdivision  
29 (h)(2)(A) of this section shall be for nondisciplinary reasons.

30 (i) Due to the exacting and special duties of the Director of the  
31 ~~Department~~ Division of Arkansas State Police, he or she may draw an expense  
32 allowance in an amount not to exceed six hundred dollars (\$600) per month.

33 (j)(1) Subject to the provisions of subsection (f) of this section,  
34 the Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of Arkansas State Police may  
35 negotiate the terms of a memorandum of understanding between the State of  
36 Arkansas and the United States Department of Justice or the United States

1 Department of Homeland Security concerning the enforcement of federal  
2 immigration laws.

3 (2)(A) The memorandum of understanding described in subdivision  
4 (j)(1) of this section must be signed on behalf of the State of Arkansas by  
5 the Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of Arkansas State Police, the  
6 Governor, and the Director of the Division of Law Enforcement Standards and  
7 Training.

8 (B) Prior to the signing provided for by subdivision  
9 (j)(2)(A) of this section, the memorandum of understanding shall be reviewed  
10 by the Legislative Council.

11 (k) The Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of Arkansas State Police  
12 shall implement or assist other entities to develop and implement a public  
13 service campaign concerning racial profiling and may utilize brochures,  
14 flyers, or public service announcements.

15

16 SECTION 5761. Arkansas Code § 12-8-105 is amended to read as follows:

17 12-8-105. Officers and members – Oath.

18 (a) Before entering upon their duties, all members and officers of the  
19 ~~Department~~ Division of Arkansas State Police shall take the oath as now  
20 provided by law for public officials.

21 (b) The Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of Arkansas State Police  
22 shall take the additional oath that he or she will not be either directly or  
23 indirectly interested in any purchase made by or for the ~~department~~ division.

24 (c) Any violation of oath shall constitute perjury and upon conviction  
25 shall be punished accordingly.

26 (d) The oath provided for in this section shall be filed in duplicate,  
27 the original filed with the ~~department~~ division and a copy with the Secretary  
28 of the Arkansas State Police Commission.

29

30 SECTION 5762. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 12-8-  
31 106(a)(1), concerning the duties, powers, and restrictions of the Department  
32 of Arkansas State Police, is amended to read as follows:

33 (a)(1) It shall be the duty of the ~~Department~~ Division of Arkansas  
34 State Police to:

35

36 SECTION 5763. Arkansas Code § 12-8-106(a)(2), concerning the duties,

1 powers, and restrictions of the Department of Arkansas State Police, is  
2 amended to read as follows:

3 (2) The Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of Arkansas State  
4 Police may promulgate necessary rules and regulations to carry out the  
5 purpose and intent of subdivision (a)(1)(B) of this section.

6  
7 SECTION 5764. Arkansas Code § 12-8-106(b) and (c), concerning the  
8 duties, powers, and restrictions of the Department of Arkansas State Police,  
9 are amended to read as follows:

10 (b) The ~~department~~ Division of Arkansas State Police shall be  
11 conservators of the peace and as such shall have the powers possessed by  
12 police officers in cities and county sheriffs in counties, except that the  
13 department may exercise such powers anywhere in this state.

14 (c) The ~~department~~ Division of Arkansas State Police shall have the  
15 authority to establish a Crimes Against Children Division, either through  
16 transfer or by contract, to conduct child abuse investigations, to administer  
17 the Child Abuse Hotline, and, when consistent with regulations promulgated by  
18 the department, to provide training and technical assistance to local law  
19 enforcement in conducting child abuse investigations.

20  
21 SECTION 5765. Arkansas Code § 12-8-106(e)-(g), concerning the duties,  
22 powers, and restrictions of the Department of Arkansas State Police, are  
23 amended to read as follows:

24 (e) However, this chapter shall not be construed so as to take away  
25 any authority of the regularly constituted peace officers in the state, but  
26 the ~~department~~ Division of Arkansas State Police shall cooperate with them in  
27 the enforcement of the criminal laws of the state and assist such officers  
28 either in the enforcement of the law or apprehension of criminals.

29 (f) Nothing in this chapter shall be construed as to authorize any  
30 officer of the ~~department~~ Division of Arkansas State Police to serve writs  
31 unless they are specifically directed to the ~~department~~ Division of Arkansas  
32 State Police, or an officer thereof, by the issuing authority.

33 (g) No officer or member of the ~~department~~ Division of Arkansas State  
34 Police shall ever be used in performing police duties on private property in  
35 connection with any strike, lockout, or other industrial disturbance.

36

1 SECTION 5766. Arkansas Code § 12-8-107 is amended to read as follows:

2 12-8-107. Arrests and detentions.

3 (a) If any officer of the ~~Department~~ Division of Arkansas State Police  
4 delivers an arrested person to a county jail for detention, it shall be the  
5 duty of the jailer to receive the prisoner.

6 (b) The ~~department~~ division officer may notify the county sheriff or  
7 prosecuting officer of the county in which the crime was committed of the  
8 arrest and detention of the prisoner and make such lawful disposition of the  
9 prisoner as the ~~department~~ division officer is directed to do by the county  
10 sheriff or prosecuting officer.

11  
12 SECTION 5767. Arkansas Code § 12-8-108 is amended to read as follows:

13 12-8-108. Security of Governor, capitol building, etc.

14 (a) The ~~Department~~ Division of Arkansas State Police shall be  
15 responsible for the safety and security of the:

- 16 (1) Governor and his or her family;  
17 (2) Lieutenant Governor and his or her family;  
18 (3) Governor's Mansion and mansion grounds; and  
19 (4) State Capitol Building and grounds.

20 (b) The ~~department~~ division is authorized to assign officers of the  
21 ~~department~~ division in such numbers and to such locations as is necessary to  
22 carry out the responsibility imposed on the ~~department~~ division by this  
23 section.

24 (c) Data, records, surveillance footage, security procedures,  
25 emergency plans, and other information compiled or possessed by the  
26 ~~department~~ division concerning the Governor's Mansion and mansion grounds are  
27 confidential and not subject to disclosure under the Freedom of Information  
28 Act of 1967, § 25-19-101 et seq.

29  
30 SECTION 5768. Arkansas Code § 12-8-109 is amended to read as follows:

31 12-8-109. Police protection for statewide functions.

32 (a) The ~~Department~~ Division of Arkansas State Police shall provide  
33 police protection, commensurate with the available personnel and resources of  
34 the ~~department~~ division which are not required for other activities,  
35 benefiting any statewide function or similar activities sponsored or  
36 conducted by:

- 1 (1) A state agency, board, or commission;  
2 (2) A state-supported college or university;  
3 (3) A private nonprofit association or organization on public  
4 property; or  
5 (4) Statewide athletic events under the auspices of the public  
6 schools.

7 (b) For the purposes of this section, the statewide functions for  
8 which the ~~department~~ division may provide police protection at the Arkansas  
9 State Fair and Livestock Showgrounds shall include the annual Arkansas State  
10 Fair and Livestock Show held at the showgrounds, and statewide athletic  
11 contests in which the public schools of this state participate which are held  
12 at the showgrounds.

13  
14 SECTION 5769. Arkansas Code § 12-8-110 is amended to read as follows:  
15 12-8-110. Deputizing citizens in emergency.

16 Any ~~Department~~ Division of Arkansas State Police officer shall have the  
17 authority in case of emergency to call upon and deputize any reputable  
18 citizen of the state for assistance whenever it is deemed necessary for the  
19 proper enforcement of the law.

20

21 SECTION 5770. Arkansas Code § 12-8-111 is amended to read as follows:  
22 12-8-111. Cooperation among agencies.

23 (a) It shall be the duty of the ~~Department~~ Division of Arkansas State  
24 Police and its officers to cooperate with other law enforcement agencies of  
25 this state in the investigation and apprehension of criminals and the  
26 prevention of crime within the state and to use every means at their disposal  
27 in disseminating information that will more effectively expedite the  
28 detection of crime and the apprehension and conviction of criminals and  
29 promote the highest possible degree of efficiency in the enforcement of the  
30 criminal and traffic laws of the state.

31 (b) The law enforcement agencies of the state shall furnish to the  
32 ~~department~~ division such information as they may have or shall hereafter  
33 acquire upon request of the Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of Arkansas  
34 State Police relating to crime and criminals and otherwise cooperate with the  
35 ~~department~~ division in the enforcement of the criminal and traffic laws of  
36 this state.

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SECTION 5771. Arkansas Code § 12-8-112 is amended to read as follows:

12-8-112. Headquarters – Bureau of Identification and Information.

(a) The ~~Department~~ Division of Arkansas State Police shall maintain headquarters and an Identification Bureau which shall be located at the State Capitol or elsewhere in ~~the City of Little Rock~~ Pulaski County.

(b) The ~~department~~ division may establish district headquarters in other parts of the state if it is found to be necessary for the better enforcement of the provisions of this chapter. The Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of Arkansas State Police shall have the authority to assign the personnel for the district headquarters when designated.

SECTION 5772. Arkansas Code § 12-8-113 is amended to read as follows:

12-8-113. Drug Abuse Enforcement Unit – Hot line.

(a) The Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of Arkansas State Police is directed to establish a Drug Abuse Enforcement Unit and assign sufficient supervisory, clerical, and enforcement personnel to carry out the duties and responsibilities of that unit as defined by the Uniform Controlled Substances Act, § 5-64-101 et seq.

(b)(1) The unit shall operate a “drug abuse hot line” to allow citizens to use a toll-free in-watts telephone line to report to the ~~Department~~ Division of Arkansas State Police information regarding possible violations of the Uniform Controlled Substances Act, § 5-64-101 et seq., and other provisions of Arkansas law relating to unlawful use of drugs.

(2) The ~~department~~ division shall encourage citizen involvement in combating drug-related crimes by publicizing the existence of the drug abuse hot line.

SECTION 5773. Arkansas Code § 12-8-114(a) and (b), concerning legal counsel and advisors for the Arkansas State Police Commission and the Department of Arkansas State Police, are amended to read as follows:

(a) The Attorney General shall be the legal representative and advisor of the Arkansas State Police Commission, the ~~Department~~ Division of Arkansas State Police, and the Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of Arkansas State Police.

(b) However, the director, with the approval of the Attorney General

1 and Governor, may employ other counsel when in the Attorney General's and  
2 Governor's judgment it is necessary for the proper enforcement of the  
3 provisions of this chapter and the efficient operation of the ~~department~~  
4 division.

5  
6 SECTION 5774. Arkansas Code § 12-8-115 is amended to read as follows:

7 12-8-115. Physicians and surgeons.

8 (a) The Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of Arkansas State Police  
9 may designate one (1) physician and surgeon in each district of the state who  
10 shall be the physician and surgeon of the ~~Department~~ Division of Arkansas  
11 State Police within and for the district.

12 (b)(1) The physician and surgeon shall conduct the physical  
13 examinations required by this chapter and give medical treatment to any  
14 member or officer of the ~~department~~ division for injuries received while in  
15 the performance of official duty.

16 (2) The physician and surgeon shall be given honorary  
17 commissions by the director and shall serve without pay.

18  
19 SECTION 5775. Arkansas Code § 12-8-116 is amended to read as follows:

20 12-8-116. Motor vehicles.

21 (a)(1) All automobiles, motorcycles, or other vehicles of any nature  
22 owned, used, and operated by the ~~Department~~ Division of Arkansas State Police  
23 shall be exempt from the payment of any licenses, fees, and charges required  
24 by the laws of this state for the operation of the vehicles upon the public  
25 highways of this state.

26 (2) The Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of Arkansas State  
27 Police and the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and  
28 Administration shall adopt identification tags or other insignia which shall  
29 be attached to the vehicles by the officers, members, and employees of the  
30 ~~Department of Arkansas State Police~~ division, for which tag or insignia no  
31 charge shall be made or collected.

32 (b) The ~~Department of Arkansas State Police~~ division is granted  
33 authority to purchase used vehicles for use in confidential assignments and  
34 drug investigations.

35  
36 SECTION 5776. Arkansas Code § 12-8-118 is amended to read as follows:

1 12-8-118. Payment of salaries and expenses.

2 The salaries and expenses provided for in this chapter shall be paid by  
3 warrant upon a voucher properly drawn by the Director of the ~~Department~~  
4 Division of Arkansas State Police and paid out of any funds now available for  
5 the payment of salaries and expenses of the ~~Department~~ Division of Arkansas  
6 State Police from the ~~Department~~ Division of Arkansas State Police Fund or  
7 any other fund as provided by law.

8  
9 SECTION 5777. Arkansas Code § 12-8-119(a), concerning the police  
10 training school, is amended to read as follows:

11 (a) The Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of Arkansas State Police  
12 may establish, maintain, and conduct a police training school and may admit  
13 to the training school police officers and judicial officers of the various  
14 political subdivisions of the State of Arkansas.

15  
16 SECTION 5778. Arkansas Code § 12-8-120 is amended to read as follows:  
17 12-8-120. Background investigations.

18 (a) The ~~Department~~ Division of Arkansas State Police is authorized to  
19 charge a fee, not to exceed twenty dollars (\$20.00), for each background  
20 investigation requested of and conducted by the ~~department~~ division.

21 (b) The background investigation fee shall be collected by the  
22 ~~department~~ division and deposited into the State Treasury as special revenue  
23 to the credit of the ~~Department~~ Division of Arkansas State Police Fund.

24  
25 SECTION 5779. Arkansas Code § 12-8-121 is amended to read as follows:  
26 12-8-121. Use of state uniform, patch, or logo prohibited.

27 (a) It shall be prohibited for any law enforcement agency, private  
28 security firm, corporation, partnership, or individual to wear a uniform in  
29 the same design and specific color scheme as the ~~Department~~ Division of  
30 Arkansas State Police.

31 (b) No law enforcement agency, private security firm, corporation,  
32 partnership, or individual may use the Arkansas State Police uniform or  
33 patch, nor may the Arkansas State Police logo or the terms "Arkansas State  
34 Police", "Arkansas State Trooper", or "Arkansas State Troopers" be used or  
35 otherwise displayed for the endorsement of any product, business, or purpose  
36 without the express written permission of the Director of the ~~Department~~

1 Division of Arkansas State Police.

2 (c) Nothing in this section shall prohibit uniforms or commercial  
3 concerns from reproducing these items for ~~department~~ division use, nor the  
4 public display of the uniform, patch, or logo when it relates to official  
5 governmental business.

6  
7 SECTION 5780. Arkansas Code § 12-8-125(a), concerning the Small  
8 Municipality Law Enforcement Vehicle Grant Program, is amended to read as  
9 follows:

10 (a) There is created the "Small Municipality Law Enforcement Vehicle  
11 Grant Program", to be administered by the ~~Department~~ Division of Arkansas  
12 State Police with funding from the General Improvement Fund or its successor  
13 fund or fund accounts.

14  
15 SECTION 5781. Arkansas Code § 12-8-125(c)(1), concerning the Small  
16 Municipality Law Enforcement Vehicle Grant Program, is amended to read as  
17 follows:

18 (c)(1) The ~~Department of Arkansas State Police~~ division shall  
19 promulgate rules necessary for the implementation of the program.

20  
21 SECTION 5782. Arkansas Code § 12-8-125(e), concerning the Small  
22 Municipality Law Enforcement Vehicle Grant Program, is amended to read as  
23 follows:

24 (e) If the ~~Department~~ Division of Arkansas State Police awards a grant  
25 to a city of the second class or incorporated town under this section, the  
26 ~~Department of Arkansas State Police~~ division shall pay the grant funds for  
27 the purchase of a used vehicle directly to the Marketing and Redistribution  
28 Section within the Office of State Procurement ~~of the Department of Finance~~  
29 ~~and Administration~~.

30  
31 SECTION 5783. Arkansas Code § 12-8-201(a)-(c), concerning the  
32 selection of the members of the police force, are amended to read as follows:

33 (a) The Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of Arkansas State Police  
34 shall appoint all members of the police force, subject to approval of the  
35 Arkansas State Police Commission, and the director shall select the clerical  
36 and stenographic force of the ~~Department~~ Division of Arkansas State Police.

1 (b) The commission shall promulgate rules and regulations setting  
2 forth the minimum qualifications for employment as a ~~department~~ division  
3 police officer and prescribing the manner of examination of applicants for  
4 the position.

5 (c) The director shall receive all applications for positions as  
6 ~~department~~ division officers and submit them to the commission for  
7 examination as to the physical fitness and mental qualifications of the  
8 applicants and for such other examinations as provided for by the  
9 commission's rules and regulations.

10  
11 SECTION 5784. Arkansas Code § 12-8-201(e)(2), concerning the selection  
12 of the members of the police force, is amended to read as follows:

13 (2) From this list, the director shall make the final selection  
14 for the appointments, and any vacancy occurring in the ~~department~~ division  
15 shall be filled from this list.

16  
17 SECTION 5785. Arkansas Code § 12-8-203(a), concerning the probationary  
18 period of a parole officer, is amended to read as follows:

19 (a)(1) Each person who is selected as a police officer of the  
20 ~~Department~~ Division of Arkansas State Police shall be a probationer for a  
21 period of eighteen (18) months from his or her date of hire.

22 (2) A probationer may be discharged by the Director of the  
23 ~~Department~~ Division of Arkansas State Police with the approval of the  
24 Arkansas State Police Commission with or without cause.

25  
26 SECTION 5786. Arkansas Code § 12-8-204 is amended to read as follows:

27 12-8-204. Tenure – Removal, suspension, or discharge.

28 (a) The members of the ~~Department~~ Division of Arkansas State Police  
29 shall hold their offices until and unless removed for cause.

30 (b) Should the Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of Arkansas State  
31 Police deem it necessary to remove, suspend, discharge, demote, or transfer  
32 for disciplinary reasons any ~~department~~ division officer, the director shall  
33 do so by written notice.

34 (c)(1) Any ~~department~~ division officer so removed, suspended,  
35 discharged, demoted, or transferred shall have the right of appeal to the  
36 Arkansas State Police Commission, provided that notice of the appeal shall be

1 lodged with the commission within ten (10) days after notice to the officer  
2 of his or her discharge, removal, suspension, demotion, or disciplinary  
3 transfer.

4 (2) When so filed, the appeal shall be heard and determined by  
5 the commission within a reasonable time from the date the appeal is filed  
6 with the commission.

7 (d)(1) Provided the appeal is perfected within thirty (30) days from  
8 the date of the final order made by the commission, an appeal may be taken to  
9 the Pulaski County Circuit Court from any order of the commission  
10 discharging, removing, suspending, demoting, or transferring for disciplinary  
11 reasons any member of the ~~department~~ division force.

12 (2) The appeal shall be heard by the court without the  
13 introduction of any further testimony.

14  
15 SECTION 5787. Arkansas Code § 12-8-213 is amended to read as follows:  
16 12-8-213. Equipment and uniforms.

17 (a) Such motorcycles, automobiles, and other vehicles, equipment, and  
18 supplies as may be necessary for the proper and efficient operation of the  
19 ~~Department~~ Division of Arkansas State Police and as may be necessary for the  
20 proper enforcement of this chapter shall be furnished to the officers and  
21 patrol personnel by the ~~department~~ division.

22 (b) The officers and patrol personnel shall wear and display upon  
23 their person a metal badge or other insignia as the ~~director of the~~  
24 ~~department~~ Director of the Division of Arkansas State Police shall require,  
25 bearing the words "Arkansas State Police".

26 (c) All such patrol personnel and officers shall wear such uniforms at  
27 such times and places as shall be designated and required by the ~~Director of~~  
28 ~~the Department of Arkansas State Police~~ director.

29  
30 SECTION 5788. Arkansas Code § 12-8-215(a) and (b), concerning  
31 additional salary payments by the Department of Arkansas State Police, is  
32 amended to read as follows:

33 (a) In the event that sufficient revenues in the judgment of the  
34 Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of Arkansas State Police exist, the  
35 ~~Department~~ Division of Arkansas State Police is authorized to make additional  
36 salary payments from such funds to those employees who have attained law

1 enforcement certification above the basic certificate level, as defined by  
2 the Arkansas Commission on Law Enforcement Standards and Training.

3 (b) It is the intent of this section that such payment shall be  
4 optional, at the discretion of the director, dependent on sufficient  
5 revenues, and shall not be implemented using funds specifically set aside for  
6 other programs within the ~~department~~ division.

7  
8 SECTION 5789. Arkansas Code § 12-8-215(c)(2)(A), concerning additional  
9 salary payments by the Department of Arkansas State Police, is amended to  
10 read as follows:

11 (A) Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of Arkansas State  
12 Police;

13  
14 SECTION 5790. Arkansas Code § 12-8-301 is amended to read as follows:  
15 12-8-301. Title.

16 This subchapter shall be known and may be cited as the "~~Department~~  
17 Division of Arkansas State Police Communications Equipment Leasing Act".

18  
19 SECTION 5791. Arkansas Code § 12-8-303(1), concerning the definition  
20 of "acquire" under the Department of Arkansas State Police Communications  
21 Equipment Leasing Act, is amended to read as follows:

22 (1) "Acquire" means to acquire by lease, lease-purchase, or  
23 otherwise, construct, repair, alter, install, restore, or place on any land  
24 or in any building or motor vehicle any communications equipment by  
25 negotiation or bidding upon such terms and conditions as are determined by  
26 the Arkansas State Police Commission to be in the best interests of the  
27 ~~Department~~ Division of Arkansas State Police and that will most effectively  
28 serve the purposes of this subchapter;

29  
30 SECTION 5792. Arkansas Code § 12-8-303(5) and (6), concerning the  
31 definition of "department" and "director" under the Department of Arkansas  
32 State Police Communications Equipment Leasing Act, are repealed.

33 (5) ~~"Department" means the Department of Arkansas State Police,~~  
34 ~~created by § 12-8-101, and any successor agency;~~

35 (6) ~~"Director" means the Director of the Department of Arkansas~~  
36 ~~State Police;~~

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SECTION 5793. Arkansas Code § 12-8-303(8), concerning the definition of "lease payments" under the Department of Arkansas State Police Communications Equipment Leasing Act, is amended to read as follows:

(8) "Lease payments" means payments to be made by the ~~department~~ division from pledged revenues or other legally available sources to pay costs of communications equipment; and

SECTION 5794. Arkansas Code § 12-8-305(a)(1)(A), concerning additional powers of the Arkansas State Police Commission, is amended to read as follows:

(1)(A) Acquire, construct, repair, renovate, alter, maintain, and equip communications equipment for use by the ~~Department~~ Division of Arkansas State Police.

SECTION 5795. Arkansas Code § 12-8-305(a)(2), concerning additional powers of the Arkansas State Police Commission, is amended to read as follows:

(2) Contract for the lease, lease-purchase, or purchase of the communications equipment on such terms and conditions as are specified by this subchapter and approved by the Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of Arkansas State Police with the consent of the commission;

SECTION 5796. Arkansas Code § 12-8-305(a)(12), concerning additional powers of the Arkansas State Police Commission, is amended to read as follows:

(12) Arrange for the use of such communications equipment by any federal, state, or local governmental agency or any other person, from time to time, as any of such communications equipment is not needed by the ~~department~~ division and collect fees and charges, as the commission determines to be reasonable, in connection with the use of any communications equipment by any other person;

SECTION 5797. Arkansas Code § 12-8-305(b), concerning additional powers of the Arkansas State Police Commission, is amended to read as follows:

1 (b) All the powers, purposes, and authorities set forth in subsection  
2 (a) of this section, except those relating to the contracting for the lease,  
3 purchase, or lease-purchase of the communications equipment, may be carried  
4 out by the ~~department~~ division.

5  
6 SECTION 5798. Arkansas Code § 12-8-403(a)(1), concerning inquiry to  
7 determine abuse by the Director of the Department of Arkansas State Police is  
8 amended to read as follows:

9 (a)(1) Upon the request of the prosecuting attorney of any judicial  
10 district in which an affected municipality is located, the Director of the  
11 ~~Department~~ Division of Arkansas State Police is authorized to investigate and  
12 determine whether any municipality is abusing police power.

13  
14 SECTION 5799. Arkansas Code § 12-8-403(a)(2)(B), concerning inquiry to  
15 determine abuse by the Director of the Department of Arkansas State Police is  
16 amended to read as follows:

17 (B) The records may be over a reasonable period of time as  
18 requested by the ~~Department~~ Division of Arkansas State Police, but in no  
19 event shall there be less than ninety (90) days worth of documentation.

20  
21 SECTION 5800. Arkansas Code § 12-8-404(a)(1), concerning sanctions by  
22 the Director of the Department of Arkansas State Police, is amended to read  
23 as follows:

24 (a)(1) Upon the completion of an inquiry, the Director of the  
25 ~~Department~~ Division of Arkansas State Police shall forward all information to  
26 the prosecuting attorney of the affected municipality, who will make the  
27 determination as to whether the municipality has abused its police power.

28  
29 SECTION 5801. Arkansas Code § 12-8-601 is amended to read as follows:  
30 12-8-601. Title.

31 This subchapter shall be known and may be cited as the "~~Department~~  
32 Division of Arkansas State Police Headquarters Facilities and Equipment  
33 Financing Act".

34  
35 SECTION 5802. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 12-8-  
36 602(1)(B)-(6), concerning the legislative findings concerning the Department

1 of Arkansas State Police Headquarters Facilities and Equipment Financing Act,  
2 are amended to read as follows:

3 (1) The ~~Department~~ Division of Arkansas State Police is faced  
4 daily with:

5 (A) Maintaining the most efficient and secure methods of  
6 transmitting and processing information between officers in the field and  
7 headquarters;

8 (B) The need to maintain and develop the most efficient  
9 means of allocating ~~department~~ division personnel and other resources,  
10 particularly in emergency circumstances; and

11 (C) The need to design, construct, and maintain facilities  
12 from which the ~~department's~~ division's personnel and resources may be  
13 stationed and deployed;

14 (2) There is a need to continuously improve, upgrade, expand,  
15 and maintain the ~~department's~~ division's headquarters facilities and  
16 communication and information technology systems and equipment to support the  
17 police force and its mission to protect and serve the citizens of the state;

18 (3) A designated method of financing is necessary to enable the  
19 ~~department~~ division to obtain and maintain communication and information  
20 technology equipment and headquarters facilities;

21 (4) The use of tax-exempt revenue bonds to finance communication  
22 and information technology equipment and headquarters facilities has proven  
23 to be an economical and cost-efficient method for financing equipment and  
24 facilities for the ~~department~~ division;

25 (5) Certain driver license fees have been pledged and utilized  
26 by the ~~department~~ Department of Arkansas State Police or Division of Arkansas  
27 State Police since 1997 to finance equipment and facilities for the  
28 department or division;

29 (6) These driver license fees should continue to be designated  
30 as a source of funding to be utilized and pledged by the ~~department~~ division  
31 to finance or purchase communication and information technology equipment and  
32 headquarters facilities;

33

34 SECTION 5803. Arkansas Code § 12-8-603(1)(A), concerning the  
35 definition of "acquire" under the Department of Arkansas State Police  
36 Headquarters Facilities and Equipment Financing Act, is amended to read as

1 follows:

2 (A) Are determined by the Arkansas State Police Commission  
3 to be in the best interests of the ~~Department~~ Division of Arkansas State  
4 Police; and

5

6 SECTION 5804. Arkansas Code § 12-8-603(6), concerning the definition  
7 of "headquarters facility" under the Department of Arkansas State Police  
8 Headquarters Facilities and Equipment Financing Act, is amended to read as  
9 follows:

10 (6) "Headquarters facility" means part or all of one (1) or more  
11 items or properties used by the ~~department~~ division to accomplish or  
12 facilitate its purposes, including without limitation:

13 (A) Land, buildings, fixtures, infrastructure,  
14 improvements, furniture, equipment, software, and personal property necessary  
15 or convenient to the land, buildings, fixtures, infrastructure, improvements,  
16 furniture, equipment, and software; and

17 (B) Engineering, design, construction, or architectural  
18 plans related to a property used by the ~~department~~ division;

19

20 SECTION 5805. Arkansas Code § 12-8-604(2), concerning the pledge of  
21 revenues under the Department of Arkansas State Police Headquarters  
22 Facilities and Equipment Financing Act, is amended to read as follows:

23 (2) Used by the ~~Department~~ Division of Arkansas State Police as  
24 provided in this subchapter.

25

26 SECTION 5806. Arkansas Code § 12-8-605(2), concerning the powers of  
27 the Arkansas State Police Commission, is amended to read as follows:

28 (2) Contract to acquire headquarters facilities and  
29 communication and information technology equipment on the terms and  
30 conditions specified by this subchapter and approved by the Director of the  
31 ~~Department~~ Division of Arkansas State Police with the consent of the  
32 commission;

33

34 SECTION 5807. Arkansas Code § 12-8-606 is amended to read as follows:  
35 12-8-606. Use of pledged revenues.

36 (a)(1) The debt service payments and other costs relating to a

1 headquarters facility or communication and information technology equipment  
2 shall be secured by a lien on and pledge of the pledged revenues.

3 (2) To the extent that pledged revenues are not required to make  
4 debt service payments, the pledged revenues shall be released to the  
5 ~~Department~~ Division of Arkansas State Police to provide operating funds as  
6 described in this section.

7 (b)(1) All pledged revenues are cash funds restricted in their use and  
8 dedicated and to be used solely as provided in this subchapter.

9 (2) When pledged revenues are received by the Commissioner of  
10 Motor Vehicles, the Office of Motor Vehicle, the ~~Department~~ Division of  
11 Arkansas State Police, the Arkansas State Police Commission, the Department  
12 of Finance and Administration, or any other state agency, the pledged  
13 revenues shall be deposited as cash funds into a bank selected by the  
14 ~~Department~~ Division of Arkansas State Police to the credit of the ~~Department~~  
15 Division of Arkansas State Police Financing Fund.

16 (c)(1) On the date that the Arkansas Development Finance Authority  
17 issues bonds under this subchapter and the Arkansas Development Finance  
18 Authority Act, § 15-5-101 et seq., §§ 15-5-201 – 15-5-211, 15-5-213, and 15-  
19 5-301 – 15-5-316, any revenues in the ~~Department~~ Division of Arkansas State  
20 Police Financing Fund shall be pledged revenues.

21 (2) Debt service payments shall be paid from the ~~Department~~  
22 Division of Arkansas State Police Financing Fund as stated in the financing  
23 documents.

24 (3)(A) If all debt service payments have been properly made on  
25 the last day of each fiscal quarter, the pledged revenues remaining in the  
26 ~~Department~~ Division of Arkansas State Police Financing Fund shall be  
27 withdrawn from the ~~Department~~ Division of Arkansas State Police Financing  
28 Fund and deposited into the State Treasury as special revenues to the credit  
29 of the ~~Department~~ Division of Arkansas State Police Fund.

30 (B) However, if any debt service payments remain to be  
31 paid under this subchapter, all moneys in the ~~Department~~ Division of Arkansas  
32 State Police Financing Fund shall continue to be pledged to the debt service  
33 payments and other costs in connection with the bonds and the maintenance of  
34 reserves, notwithstanding the right of the ~~Department~~ Division of Arkansas  
35 State Police to withdraw funds on the last day of each fiscal quarter if debt  
36 service payments are current.

1 (d) If any debt service payments remain to be made, the General  
2 Assembly may modify or change the pledged revenues only if there are always  
3 maintained in effect and made available for the payment of debt service  
4 payments sources of revenue comparable in amount and time of receipt that  
5 produce revenues sufficient to provide for and secure debt service payments  
6 when due.

7  
8 SECTION 5808. Arkansas Code § 12-8-607 is amended to read as follows:

9 12-8-607. ~~Department~~ Division of Arkansas State Police Financing Fund.

10 (a) There is created the ~~Department~~ Division of Arkansas State Police  
11 Financing Fund.

12 (b) The fund is a cash fund of the ~~Department~~ Division of Arkansas  
13 State Police and shall be used as provided in this subchapter.

14  
15 SECTION 5809. Arkansas Code § 12-9-102(1)(B), concerning the  
16 definition of "law enforcement agency" under the laws governing the  
17 Commission on Law Enforcement Standards, is amended to read as follows:

18 (B) The ~~Arkansas Commission on~~ Division of Law Enforcement  
19 Standards and Training and the Black River Technical College Law Enforcement  
20 Training Academy as designated under § 12-9-210; and

21  
22 SECTION 5810. Arkansas Code § 12-9-103(b)(1)(A), concerning the  
23 creation, members, meetings, and director of the Arkansas Commission on Law  
24 Enforcement Standards and Training, is amended to read as follows:

25 (b)(1)(A) Two (2) members of the commission shall be chiefs of police  
26 of municipalities in Arkansas, two (2) members of the commission shall be  
27 county sheriffs of counties in this state, one (1) member shall be an officer  
28 of the ~~Department~~ Division of Arkansas State Police, two (2) members shall be  
29 appointed to represent the public, one (1) member shall be an educator in the  
30 field of criminal justice, and one (1) member shall represent the Arkansas  
31 Municipal Police Association.

32  
33 SECTION 5811. Arkansas Code § 12-9-103(g), concerning the creation,  
34 members, meetings, and director of the Arkansas Commission on Law Enforcement  
35 Standards and Training, is amended to read as follows:

36 (g)(1) Upon recommendation of the commission, the Governor shall

1 appoint the Director of the Division of Law Enforcement Standards and  
2 Training, who shall perform such duties as may be directed by the commission  
3 and who shall serve at the pleasure of the Governor.

4 (2) The director shall report to the Secretary of the Department  
5 of Public Safety.

6  
7 SECTION 5812. Arkansas Code § 12-9-105 is amended to read as follows:  
8 12-9-105. Employees.

9 The ~~Arkansas Commission on~~ Division of Law Enforcement Standards and  
10 Training may employ such employees as are necessary to efficiently and  
11 effectively carry out this subchapter and as may be authorized by  
12 appropriations of the General Assembly.

13  
14 SECTION 5813. Arkansas Code § 12-9-107 is amended to read as follows:  
15 12-9-107. Training programs.

16 (a)(1) For the purpose of this subchapter, the ~~Arkansas Commission on~~  
17 Division of Law Enforcement Standards and Training may cooperate with  
18 federal, state, and local law enforcement agencies in establishing and  
19 conducting instruction and training programs for law enforcement officers of  
20 this state, its counties, and municipalities.

21 (2) Cooperation under subdivision (a)(1) of this section may  
22 include without limitation the use of any training facility, equipment, or  
23 personnel to conduct training or provide services for any law enforcement or  
24 public safety purpose.

25 (b) The ~~commission~~ division shall establish and maintain police  
26 training programs through such agencies and institutions as the ~~commission~~  
27 division may deem appropriate to carry out the intent of this subchapter.

28 (c) The ~~commission~~ division shall work with each state agency and  
29 political subdivision that adheres to the selection and training standards  
30 established by the ~~commission~~ division to provide allowable tuition, living,  
31 and training expenses incurred by the officers in attendance at approved  
32 training programs.

33 (d)(1) It is the intent of this subchapter that the expenses of  
34 attending the approved training programs established under subsection (c) of  
35 this section shall be furnished by the state through the ~~Arkansas Law~~  
36 ~~Enforcement Training Academy~~ division or any other manner that may be

1 prescribed by the ~~commission~~ division, and no cost or charge shall be made to  
2 any local political subdivision for the actual cost of the training.

3 (2) The state shall not be liable for the travel cost or any  
4 salary in connection with attending any training program.

5 (3) The ~~commission~~ division may accept reimbursement from any  
6 public or private entity for the use of its training facilities, equipment,  
7 or personnel during the providing of services.

8 (e) The expenses of attending training provided pursuant to a  
9 memorandum of understanding between the State of Arkansas and the United  
10 States Department of Justice or the United States Department of Homeland  
11 Security shall be paid in accordance with the provisions of § 12-8-104.

12 (f) The ~~commission~~ division shall administer the training and  
13 certification program for court security officers under the Arkansas Court  
14 Security Act, § 16-10-1001 et seq.

15 (g)(1) Persons such as doctors, nurses, firefighters, first  
16 responders, or other medical personnel, persons engaged in homeland security,  
17 or persons otherwise engaged in assisting in the protection of public welfare  
18 and safety who are not law enforcement personnel may attend training or  
19 receive instruction at the invitation of the ~~commission~~ division.

20 (2) The ~~commission~~ division may assess a fee on a person invited  
21 to attend training or receive instruction under this subsection to reimburse  
22 the ~~commission~~ division for costs associated with the training or instruction  
23 under this subsection.

24  
25 SECTION 5814. Arkansas Code § 12-9-110(a), concerning the training of  
26 civilians to file parking violations and traffic accident reports, is amended  
27 to read as follows:

28 (a) The Arkansas Commission on Law Enforcement Standards and Training  
29 shall by regulation establish the qualifications including minimum training  
30 standards for persons performing law enforcement-related duties pursuant to  
31 this section within cities of the first class and within other areas of the  
32 State of Arkansas for cadets that are appointed by the Director of the  
33 ~~Department~~ Division of Arkansas State Police.

34  
35 SECTION 5815. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 12-9-  
36 110(b), concerning the training of civilians to file parking violations and

1 traffic accident reports, is amended to read as follows:

2 (b) Municipal police departments of cities of the first class and the  
3 ~~Department~~ Division of Arkansas State Police may employ persons who do not  
4 meet certification requirements prescribed by the commission, and the persons  
5 may:

6  
7 SECTION 5816. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 12-9-  
8 110(d)(2), concerning the training of civilians to file parking violations  
9 and traffic accident reports, is amended to read as follows:

10 (2) However, the ~~department~~ division and cities of the first  
11 class may establish more stringent training requirements.

12

13 SECTION 5817. Arkansas Code § 12-9-111(a), concerning uniforms, is  
14 amended to read as follows:

15 (a) The Arkansas Commission on Law Enforcement Standards and Training  
16 is exempt from § 19-6-109(c) for the purpose of buying uniforms for students  
17 and law enforcement officers employed by the ~~commission~~ Division of Law  
18 Enforcement Standards and Training.

19

20 SECTION 5818. Arkansas Code § 12-9-115 is amended to read as follows:

21 12-9-115. Training for constables.

22 After consultation with the Arkansas Constable Association, the  
23 ~~Arkansas Commission on~~ Division of Law Enforcement Standards and Training  
24 shall develop and certify a training course of one hundred ten (110) hours to  
25 one hundred sixty (160) hours for constables in accordance with § 14-14-1314.

26

27 SECTION 5819. Arkansas Code § 12-9-117 is amended to read as follows:

28 12-9-117. Award of pistol upon retirement or death of a certified law  
29 enforcement officer employed by the ~~commission~~ division.

30 (a) When a certified law enforcement officer employed by the ~~Arkansas~~  
31 ~~Commission on~~ Division of Law Enforcement Standards and Training or a state-  
32 funded law enforcement training academy retires from service or dies while  
33 still employed with the ~~commission~~ division or the state-funded law  
34 enforcement training academy, in recognition of and appreciation for the  
35 service of the retiring or deceased certified law enforcement officer, the  
36 ~~commission~~ division or the state-funded law enforcement training academy may

1 award the pistol carried by the certified law enforcement officer at the time  
2 of his or her death or retirement from service to:

3 (1) The certified law enforcement officer; or

4 (2) The certified law enforcement officer's spouse if the spouse  
5 is eligible under applicable state and federal laws to possess a firearm.

6 (b)(1) A certified law enforcement officer employed by the ~~commission~~  
7 division or a state-funded law enforcement training academy may retain his or  
8 her pistol he or she carried at the time of his or her retirement from  
9 service.

10 (2) If the certified law enforcement officer dies while he or  
11 she is employed by the ~~commission~~ division or a state-funded law enforcement  
12 training academy, his or her spouse may receive or retain the pistol carried  
13 by the certified law enforcement officer at the time of his or her death, if  
14 the spouse is eligible under applicable state and federal laws to possess a  
15 firearm.

16  
17 SECTION 5820. Arkansas Code § 12-9-119(e), concerning behavioral  
18 health crisis intervention training, is amended to read as follows:

19 (e) All training required under this section and the curriculum for  
20 the training shall be developed by the Division of Law Enforcement Standards  
21 and Training, ~~commission~~ in collaboration with the Criminal Justice  
22 Institute.

23  
24 SECTION 5821. Arkansas Code § 12-9-121(a) and (b), concerning an  
25 additional salary payment by the Arkansas Commission on Law Enforcement  
26 Standards and Training, are amended to read as follows:

27 (a)(1) The ~~Arkansas Commission on~~ Division of Law Enforcement  
28 Standards and Training may make additional salary payments from available  
29 funds to employees of the ~~commission~~ division who have attained law  
30 enforcement certification above the basic certificate level, as defined by  
31 the ~~commission~~ Division of Law Enforcement Standards and Training.

32 (2) The award of an additional salary payment under this section  
33 is contingent upon the:

34 (A) Existence of sufficient funding independent of funding  
35 specifically set aside for other programs within the ~~commission~~ division; and

36 (B) Discretion of the Director of the Division of Law

1 Enforcement Standards and Training in coordination with the Secretary of the  
2 Department of Public Safety.

3 (b)(1) Eligible employees of the ~~commission~~ division may be paid up to  
4 the following annual amounts for the respective certifications:

5 (A) General certificate – three hundred dollars (\$300);

6 (B) Intermediate certificate – six hundred dollars (\$600);

7 (C) Advanced certificate – nine hundred dollars (\$900);

8 and

9 (D) Senior certificate – one thousand two hundred dollars  
10 (\$1,200).

11 (2) Payment of the additional salary amounts may be made  
12 monthly, quarterly, semiannually, or annually depending upon the availability  
13 of funding and is restricted to full-time law enforcement officers employed  
14 by the ~~commission~~ division.

15

16 SECTION 5822. Arkansas Code § 12-9-202 is amended to read as follows:

17 12-9-202. Location of academy.

18 The Arkansas Law Enforcement Training Academy shall be located at a  
19 place which, in the opinion of the Director of the ~~Arkansas Commission on~~  
20 Division of Law Enforcement Standards and Training, will serve the best  
21 interests of the state in the carrying out of the intent and purposes of this  
22 subchapter.

23

24 SECTION 5823. Arkansas Code § 12-9-203(a), concerning the disposition  
25 and acceptance of gifts and grants, is amended to read as follows:

26 (a) The ~~Arkansas Commission on~~ Division of Law Enforcement Standards  
27 and Training may accept gifts, grants, donations, equipment and materials,  
28 and bequests of money or gratuities donated by private persons or  
29 corporations.

30

31 SECTION 5824. Arkansas Code § 12-9-204(a)(1) and (2), concerning the  
32 law enforcement powers of the Arkansas Commission on Law Enforcement  
33 Standards and Training, are amended to read as follows:

34 (1) The Director of the Division of Law Enforcement Standards  
35 and Training;

36 (2) Employees of the ~~commission~~ Division of Law Enforcement

1 Standards and Training appointed by the Director of the Division of Law  
2 Enforcement Standards and Training as law enforcement officers;

3  
4 SECTION 5825. Arkansas Code § 12-9-204(c), concerning the law  
5 enforcement powers of the Arkansas Commission on Law Enforcement Standards  
6 and Training, is amended to read as follows:

7 (c) The personnel described in subsection (a) of this section shall:

8 (1) Be credited with service toward maintaining and increasing  
9 certification levels for time employed at the ~~commission~~ Arkansas Commission  
10 on Law Enforcement Standards and Training or the division and the Black River  
11 Technical College Law Enforcement Training Academy; and

12 (2) Receive credit for years of law enforcement service for time  
13 employed at the ~~commission~~ or the division, the Arkansas Police Corps  
14 Training Program at the University of Arkansas at Little Rock, or the Black  
15 River Technical College Law Enforcement Training Academy upon employment as  
16 law enforcement officers elsewhere in the State of Arkansas.

17  
18 SECTION 5826. Arkansas Code § 12-9-210 is amended to read as follows:  
19 12-9-210. Designated law enforcement agencies.

20 ~~The Arkansas Commission on~~ Division of Law Enforcement Standards and  
21 Training and the Black River Technical College Law Enforcement Training  
22 Academy are designated as law enforcement agencies.

23  
24 SECTION 5827. Arkansas Code § 12-9-211(b)(2), concerning the ability  
25 of private college or university law enforcement officers to attend the  
26 Arkansas Law Enforcement Training Academy, is amended to read as follows:

27 (2) Reimburse the ~~Arkansas Commission on~~ Division of Law  
28 Enforcement Standards and Training for any cost associated with the private  
29 college or university law enforcement officer's training or instruction at  
30 the academy.

31  
32 SECTION 5828. Arkansas Code § 12-9-602(a)(1), concerning the response  
33 by the law enforcement officer and the duty of the Arkansas Commission on Law  
34 Enforcement Standards and Training, for a notice of employment, appointment,  
35 or separation, is amended to read as follows:

36 (a)(1)(A) An employing agency shall immediately notify the ~~Arkansas~~

1 ~~Commission on~~ Division of Law Enforcement Standards and Training in writing,  
2 on a form adopted by the ~~commission~~ division, of the employment or  
3 appointment, or separation from employment or appointment, of any law  
4 enforcement officer.

5 (B) The employing agency must maintain the original form  
6 and submit, or electronically transmit, a copy of the form to the ~~commission~~  
7 division.

8  
9 SECTION 5829. Arkansas Code § 12-9-602(b)(1)(A) and (B), concerning  
10 the response by the law enforcement officer and the duty of the Arkansas  
11 Commission on Law Enforcement Standards and Training, for a notice of  
12 employment, appointment, or separation, are amended to read as follows:

13 (b)(1)(A) In a case of separation from employment or appointment, the  
14 employing agency shall execute and maintain an affidavit-of-separation form  
15 adopted by the ~~commission~~ division, setting forth in detail the facts and  
16 reasons for such separation.

17 (B) A copy of the affidavit-of-separation form must be  
18 submitted, or electronically transmitted, to the ~~commission~~ division.

19  
20 SECTION 5830. Arkansas Code § 12-9-602(b)(3), concerning the response  
21 by the law enforcement officer and the duty of the Commission on Law  
22 Enforcement Standards and Training, for a notice of employment, appointment,  
23 or separation, is amended to read as follows:

24 (3) Any law enforcement officer who has separated from  
25 employment or appointment must be permitted to respond to the separation, in  
26 writing, to the ~~commission~~ division, setting forth the facts and reasons for  
27 the separation as he or she understands them.

28  
29 SECTION 5831. Arkansas Code § 12-9-602(c), concerning the response by  
30 the law enforcement officer and the duty of the Commission on Law Enforcement  
31 Standards and Training, for a notice of employment, appointment, or  
32 separation, is amended to read as follows:

33 (c)(1) Before employing or appointing a law enforcement officer, a  
34 subsequent employing agency must contact the ~~commission~~ division to inquire  
35 as to the facts and reasons a law enforcement officer became separated from  
36 any previous employing agency.

1           (2) The ~~commission~~ division shall, upon request and without  
2 prejudice, provide to the subsequent employing agency all information that is  
3 required under subsections (a) and (b) of this section and that is in its  
4 possession.

5  
6           SECTION 5832. Arkansas Code § 12-9-602(e), concerning the response by  
7 the law enforcement officer and the duty of the Commission on Law Enforcement  
8 Standards and Training, for a notice of employment, appointment, or  
9 separation, is amended to read as follows:

10           (e)(1) The ~~commission, its members,~~ division and its employees who  
11 disclose information pursuant to this section are immune from civil liability  
12 for such disclosure or its consequences.

13           (2) The ~~commission, its members,~~ division and its employees  
14 shall not be civilly liable for:

- 15                   (A) Disclosure of information under this subchapter; or  
16                   (B) Performing any other duties under this subchapter.

17  
18           SECTION 5833. Arkansas Code § 12-10-203 is amended to read as follows:  
19           12-10-203. Policy committee.

20           (a) A seven-member policy committee composed of two (2)  
21 representatives each from the Arkansas Sheriffs' Association, the Arkansas  
22 Chiefs of Police Association, and the Arkansas Law Enforcement Officers  
23 Association and one (1) representative from the ~~Department~~ Division of  
24 Arkansas State Police will be responsible for policy making and for policing  
25 a statewide communication system.

26           (b) Members of the policy committee will be appointed by the  
27 presidents of the respective law enforcement associations and the Director of  
28 the ~~Department~~ Division of Arkansas State Police.

29  
30           SECTION 5834. Arkansas Code § 12-10-318(c)(1)(D), concerning the  
31 imposition and liability for emergency telephone service charges and the  
32 establishment of the Arkansas Emergency Telephone Services Board, is amended  
33 to read as follows:

34           (D) The Director of the ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of  
35 Emergency Management or the director's designee;

36

1 SECTION 5835. Arkansas Code § 12-10-318(c)(2)(B)(i)(b), concerning the  
2 imposition and liability for emergency telephone service charges and the  
3 establishment of the Arkansas Emergency Telephone Services Board, is amended  
4 to read as follows:

5 (b) Each state fiscal year, two hundred  
6 thousand dollars (\$200,000) of the total monthly revenues collected and  
7 remitted under subdivision (c)(2)(B)(i)(a) of this section shall be  
8 transferred and deposited to the credit of the books of the Treasurer of  
9 State and the Auditor of State for the Miscellaneous Agencies Fund Account  
10 for the ~~Arkansas Commission on~~ Division of Law Enforcement Standards and  
11 Training, to be used exclusively for training and all related costs under §  
12 12-10-325;

13  
14 SECTION 5836. Arkansas Code § 12-10-325(a)(1) and (2), concerning  
15 training standards, are amended to read as follows:

16 (a)(1) A public safety agency, a public safety answering point, a  
17 dispatch center, or a 911 public safety communications center may provide  
18 training opportunities for 911 public safety communications center personnel  
19 through the ~~Arkansas Commission on~~ Division of Law Enforcement Standards and  
20 Training ~~and the Arkansas Law Enforcement Training Academy.~~

21 (2) The ~~Arkansas Law Enforcement Training Academy~~ division shall  
22 develop training standards for dispatchers, supervisors, and instructors in  
23 Arkansas in consultation with the Association of Public-Safety-Communications  
24 Officials-International, Inc., and submit the training standards to the  
25 Arkansas Commission on Law Enforcement Standards and Training for approval.

26  
27 SECTION 5837. Arkansas Code § 12-10-325(b), concerning training  
28 standards for 911 public safety communications center personnel, is amended  
29 to read as follows:

30 (b)(1) A private safety agency may attend training or receive  
31 instruction at the invitation of the ~~commission~~ division.

32 (2) The ~~commission~~ division may assess a fee on a private safety  
33 agency invited to attend training or receive instruction under this  
34 subsection to reimburse the ~~commission~~ division for costs associated with the  
35 training or instruction.

36

1 SECTION 5838. Arkansas Code § 12-12-103(c)(1)(B), concerning pawnshop  
2 records and penalties, is amended to read as follows:

3 (B) The Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of Arkansas  
4 State Police, a member of the ~~Department~~ Division of Arkansas State Police, a  
5 county sheriff or deputy of the county, or a police officer of the  
6 municipality in which the pawnshop or pawnbroker is located shall have access  
7 to the records at any reasonable time.

8  
9 SECTION 5839. Arkansas Code § 12-12-105(d), concerning controlled  
10 substance laboratory seizure reports, is amended to read as follows:

11 (d)(1) The ~~Executive~~ Director of the State Crime Laboratory shall  
12 catalogue the number of controlled substance laboratories reported to the  
13 State Crime Laboratory through evidence submission.

14 (2) For each reported controlled substance laboratory, the  
15 ~~Executive~~ Director of the State Crime Laboratory shall record the:

16 (A) Judicial district where the laboratory was located;

17 (B) Date of seizure of the laboratory; and

18 (C) Name of the seizing law enforcement agency.

19  
20 SECTION 5840. Arkansas Code § 12-12-201 is amended to read as follows:  
21 12-12-201. Creation – Director.

22 (a) There is created the Arkansas Crime Information Center, under the  
23 supervision of the Supervisory Board for the Arkansas Crime Information  
24 Center established by this subchapter.

25 (b) This center shall consist of ~~a director~~ the Director of the  
26 Arkansas Crime Information Center and such other staff of the Department of  
27 Public Safety under the general supervision of the director as may be  
28 necessary to administer the services of this subchapter, subject to the  
29 approval of funds authorized by the General Assembly.

30 (c) The board shall name the director in consultation with the  
31 Secretary of the Department of Public Safety.

32  
33 SECTION 5841. Arkansas Code § 12-12-202(b)(9), concerning members and  
34 meetings of the Supervisory Board for the Arkansas Crime Information Center,  
35 is amended to read as follows:

36 (9) The Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of Correction or his

1 or her designated agent;

2

3 SECTION 5842. Arkansas Code § 12-12-202(b)(12), concerning members and  
4 meetings of the Supervisory Board for the Arkansas Crime Information Center,  
5 is amended to read as follows:

6 (12) The Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of Arkansas State  
7 Police or his or her designated agent; and

8

9 SECTION 5843. Arkansas Code § 12-12-304 is amended to read as follows:

10 12-12-304. ~~Executive director~~ Director of the State Crime Laboratory.

11 (a)(1) The State Crime Laboratory shall be headed by ~~an executive a~~  
12 director who shall be appointed by the Governor and who shall serve at the  
13 pleasure of the Governor.

14 (2) The director shall report to the Secretary of the Department  
15 of Public Safety.

16 (b) The ~~Executive~~ Director of the State Crime Laboratory may delegate  
17 specific duties to competent and qualified associates, assistants, and  
18 deputies who may act for the ~~executive~~ director within the scope of the  
19 authority granted him or her, subject, however, to such rules and regulations  
20 as may be prescribed by the State Crime Laboratory Board.

21 (c) The board shall prescribe the duties, responsibilities,  
22 compensation, and qualifications for the ~~executive~~ director.

23

24 SECTION 5844. Arkansas Code § 12-12-305(a), concerning the functions,  
25 housing, and equipment of the State Crime Laboratory, is amended to read as  
26 follows:

27 (a) There shall be established under the supervision of the ~~Executive~~  
28 Director of the State Crime Laboratory a central office and laboratory  
29 facility sufficient and adequate to house the various functions of the State  
30 Crime Laboratory as set out in this subchapter and as may be necessary and  
31 proper for the laboratory to perform in carrying out its official duties and  
32 functions as provided by law.

33

34 SECTION 5845. Arkansas Code § 12-12-306 is amended to read as follows:  
35 12-12-306. State Medical Examiner.

36 (a) The ~~Executive~~ Director of the State Crime Laboratory shall appoint

1 and employ a State Medical Examiner with the approval of the State Crime  
2 Laboratory Board and in consultation with the Secretary of the Department of  
3 Public Safety.

4 (b) The ~~executive~~ director may remove the examiner only for cause and  
5 with the approval of the board.

6  
7 SECTION 5846. Arkansas Code § 12-12-309(a), concerning utilization of  
8 outside personnel by the Director of the State Crime Laboratory, is amended  
9 to read as follows:

10 (a) The State Crime Laboratory Board may authorize the ~~Executive~~  
11 Director of the State Crime Laboratory to contract with a medical school in  
12 this state accredited by an accrediting agency recognized by the United  
13 States Department of Education or approved by the Arkansas Higher Education  
14 Coordinating Board to seek accreditation by an accrediting agency recognized  
15 by the United States Department of Education, or with other persons or  
16 institutions, to obtain services with which to perform the duties set forth  
17 in this subchapter.

18  
19 SECTION 5847. Arkansas Code § 12-12-311(b) and (c), concerning  
20 cooperation with the staff of the State Crime Laboratory, are amended to read  
21 as follows:

22 (b) Any physician or other person in attendance or present at the  
23 death of a person or any hospital, if death occurs therein and results from  
24 such conditions and circumstances as set out in § 12-12-315 shall promptly  
25 notify the chief law enforcement official of the county or municipality which  
26 shall have jurisdiction and the laboratory of the death and shall assist in  
27 making available dead bodies and related evidence as may be requested by the  
28 ~~Executive~~ Director of the State Crime Laboratory or his or her staff or by  
29 the law enforcement agency conducting the investigation.

30 (c) Any physician, surgeon, dentist, hospital, or other supplier of  
31 healthcare services shall cooperate and make available to the ~~executive~~  
32 director or his or her staff the records, reports, charts, specimens, or x-  
33 rays of the deceased as may be requested where death occurs and an  
34 investigation is being conducted under the provisions of this subchapter.

35  
36 SECTION 5848. Arkansas Code § 12-12-313(a), concerning records as

1 evidence and analyst's testimony, is amended to read as follows:

2 (a) The records and reports of autopsies, evidence analyses, drug  
3 analyses, and any investigations made by the State Crime Laboratory under the  
4 authority of this subchapter shall be received as competent evidence as to  
5 the matters contained therein in the courts of this state subject to the  
6 applicable rules of criminal procedure or civil procedure when duly attested  
7 to by the ~~Executive~~ Director of the State Crime Laboratory or his or her  
8 assistants, associates, or deputies.

9

10 SECTION 5849. Arkansas Code § 12-12-316(c), concerning the  
11 transportation of corpses by the State Crime Laboratory, is amended to read  
12 as follows:

13 (c) The laboratory shall provide transportation or shall bear the cost  
14 of transportation at the option of the ~~Executive~~ Director of the State Crime  
15 Laboratory, but in no case shall the cost of transportation of dead bodies  
16 subject to the provisions of this subchapter be borne by the laboratory  
17 without the prior approval and authorization of the ~~executive~~ director or his  
18 or her staff.

19

20 SECTION 5850. Arkansas Code § 12-12-318(a)(2)(A), concerning the  
21 authorization and restrictions on examinations, investigations, and  
22 postmortem examinations, is amended to read as follows:

23 (2)(A) The laboratory shall make examinations, investigations,  
24 or perform postmortem examinations to determine the cause of death as the  
25 ~~Executive~~ Director of the State Crime Laboratory or his or her staff deems  
26 necessary or as may be requested by the:

27 (i) County coroner of the county in which death  
28 occurs or is discovered;

29 (ii) Prosecuting attorney of the jurisdiction in  
30 which death occurs or is discovered;

31 (iii) County sheriff of the county in which death  
32 occurs or is discovered;

33 (iv) Chief of police of the city in which death  
34 occurs or is discovered;

35 (v) Board of Corrections or its designee, or the  
36 Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of Correction or his or her designee if

1 the person was in the care, custody, or control of the ~~Department~~ Division of  
2 Correction at the time of death; or

3 (vi) Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of Arkansas  
4 State Police or his or her designee.

5  
6 SECTION 5851. Arkansas Code § 12-12-318(d) and (e), concerning the  
7 authorization and restrictions on examinations, investigations, and  
8 postmortem examinations, are amended to read as follows:

9 (d) The ~~executive director~~ Director of the State Crime Laboratory and  
10 his or her staff shall not, as a part of their official duties, perform any  
11 postmortem examination at the request of any private citizen or any public  
12 official other than those enumerated in this section.

13 (e) The provisions of this section shall supersede any and all other  
14 laws relating to the power and authority of the ~~executive director~~ Director  
15 of the State Crime Laboratory or his or her staff, including the examiner, to  
16 conduct examinations, investigations, or postmortem examinations.

17  
18 SECTION 5852. Arkansas Code § 12-12-318(f)(1) and (2), concerning the  
19 authorization and restrictions on examinations, investigations, and  
20 postmortem examinations, are amended to read as follows:

21 (f)(1) The ~~executive director~~ Director of the State Crime Laboratory  
22 shall have the final authority on any ruling of manner of death which may  
23 become a matter of dispute between those persons authorized by this section  
24 to request a post-mortem examination as described in § 12-12-315 and the  
25 examiner or his or her associates.

26 (2) The ~~executive director~~ Director of the State Crime  
27 Laboratory shall use any and all material accumulated by the laboratory,  
28 interview all parties necessary, and consult with any medical authority  
29 necessary for him or her to make his or her decision as to the manner of  
30 death, and his or her ruling shall be final and binding as that ruling  
31 affects any documents generated and signed by any employee of the laboratory  
32 relating to manner of death.

33  
34 SECTION 5853. Arkansas Code § 12-12-319(b), concerning embalming a  
35 corpse subject to examination, investigation, or autopsy, is amended to read  
36 as follows:

1 (b) When a body subject to examination by the examiner or his or her  
2 associates has been embalmed without authorization by or prior notice to the  
3 examiner or his or her associates, assistants, or deputies as provided for in  
4 this subchapter, the ~~Executive~~ Director of the State Crime Laboratory may, at  
5 his or her discretion, require an order from the circuit court of the  
6 jurisdiction in which death occurred before proceeding with his or her duties  
7 and responsibilities under this subchapter.

8  
9 SECTION 5854. Arkansas Code § 12-12-322(a)(5), concerning hazardous  
10 duty pay, is amended to read as follows:

11 (5) Payment will be controlled by the ~~Executive~~ Director of the  
12 State Crime Laboratory.

13  
14 SECTION 5855. Arkansas Code § 12-12-324(c), concerning testing by the  
15 State Crime Laboratory, is amended to read as follows:

16 (c) A law enforcement agency in this state may request the assistance  
17 of the ~~Department~~ Division of Arkansas State Police in tracing a firearm.

18  
19 SECTION 5856. Arkansas Code § 12-12-326(a)(3)(A)(ii), concerning the  
20 definition of "police officer" under the laws regarding autopsies and line-  
21 of-duty-death, is amended to read as follows:

22 (ii) The ~~Department~~ Division of Arkansas State  
23 Police; or

24  
25 SECTION 5857. Arkansas Code § 12-12-1010(a)(2)(A), concerning  
26 dissemination of criminal history information for other purposes, is amended  
27 to read as follows:

28 (A) Persons performing research related to the  
29 administration of criminal justice, subject to conditions approved by the  
30 central repository or the Identification Bureau of the ~~Department~~ Division of  
31 Arkansas State Police to assure the security of the information and the  
32 privacy of individuals to whom the criminal history information relates; and  
33

34 SECTION 5858. Arkansas Code § 12-12-1507 is amended to read as  
35 follows:

36 12-12-1507. Administration.

1 (a)(1) Release of criminal history information under this subchapter  
2 shall be made only by the Identification Bureau of the ~~Department~~ Division of  
3 Arkansas State Police and the Arkansas Crime Information Center as authorized  
4 by law.

5 (2) The ~~Department~~ Division of Arkansas State Police and the  
6 center may adopt rules and regulations consistent with the provisions and  
7 intent of this subchapter.

8 (b) The ~~department~~ division and the center may contract with the  
9 Information Network of Arkansas under the Information Network of Arkansas  
10 Act, § 25-27-101 et seq., or any other qualified third-party vendor in the  
11 establishment of the gateway or means of electronically processing  
12 transactions under this subchapter.

13 (c)(1) The ~~department~~ division shall not process a request for a  
14 Federal Bureau of Investigation background check unless a corresponding state  
15 background check through the Identification Bureau of the ~~Department~~ Division  
16 of Arkansas State Police has also been properly requested pursuant to this  
17 subchapter.

18 (2) The requirements of subdivision (c)(1) of this section may  
19 be waived upon written authorization of the Director of the ~~Department~~  
20 Division of Arkansas State Police.

21 (d) The ~~Department~~ Division of Arkansas State Police Automated  
22 Fingerprint Identification System may access and use the National Fingerprint  
23 File and Interstate Identification Index as provided by the Federal Bureau of  
24 Investigation when the Arkansas Code authorizes a fingerprint-based Federal  
25 Bureau of Investigation check for a noncriminal justice purpose and a  
26 positive identification based on fingerprints is made.

27  
28 SECTION 5859. Arkansas Code § 12-13-102(2), concerning the definition  
29 of "director" under the Fire Prevention Act, is repealed.

30 ~~(2) "Director" means the Director of the Department of Arkansas~~  
31 ~~State Police;~~

32  
33 SECTION 5860. Arkansas Code § 12-13-102(5), concerning the definition  
34 of "officer" under the Fire Prevention Act, is amended to read as follows:

35 (5) "Officer" means an officer of the ~~Department~~ Division of  
36 Arkansas State Police whom the ~~director~~ Director of the Division of Arkansas

1 State Police may appoint or designate to execute the powers and perform the  
2 duties specified in this subchapter and also includes all peace officers as  
3 defined in subdivision (7) of this section;

4  
5 SECTION 5861. Arkansas Code § 12-13-104 is amended to read as follows:  
6 12-13-104. Administration and enforcement.

7 (a) The administration and enforcement of this subchapter are vested  
8 in the ~~Department~~ Division of Arkansas State Police.

9 (b) The Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of Arkansas State Police  
10 is empowered to create and maintain a State Fire Marshal Enforcement Section  
11 in the ~~Department~~ Division of Arkansas State Police and to appoint such  
12 personnel with such duties, powers, and titles as he or she may deem  
13 necessary for the proper administration and enforcement of this subchapter.

14  
15 SECTION 5862. Arkansas Code § 12-13-106 is amended to read as follows:  
16 12-13-106. Section personnel.

17 The members or heads of the State Fire Marshal Enforcement Section  
18 shall be appointed and serve in the same manner as provided by law for the  
19 operation of other divisions of the ~~Department~~ Division of Arkansas State  
20 Police.

21  
22 SECTION 5863. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 12-13-  
23 107(a) concerning the duties of the Director of the Department of Arkansas  
24 State Police, is amended to read as follows:

25 (a) It shall be the duty of the Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of  
26 Arkansas State Police and his or her officers and deputies to enforce all  
27 laws and ordinances with regard to the following:

28  
29 SECTION 5864. Arkansas Code § 12-13-108 is amended to read as follows:  
30 12-13-108. Ex officio deputies.

31 All mayors, members of fire departments, and peace officers shall be ex  
32 officio deputies to the Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of Arkansas State  
33 Police. They shall be subject to the duties and obligations imposed by this  
34 subchapter in fire prevention and in the investigation of the cause, origin,  
35 and circumstances of fires within their jurisdiction.

36

1 SECTION 5865. Arkansas Code § 12-13-109 is amended to read as follows:  
2 12-13-109. Fire drills.

3 It shall be the duty of the Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of  
4 Arkansas State Police, his or her officers, and deputies to require teachers  
5 of public and private schools and all educational institutions to have one  
6 (1) fire drill each month and to keep all doors and exits unlocked during  
7 school hours.

8

9 SECTION 5866. Arkansas Code § 12-13-110(a)(1), concerning the  
10 inspection of buildings by the Director of the Department of Arkansas State  
11 police and his or her officers or deputies, is amended to read as follows:

12 (a)(1) Upon complaint of any person or on their own motion, the  
13 Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of Arkansas State Police and his or her  
14 officers or deputies may inspect all buildings and premises within their  
15 jurisdiction and issue an order for the compliance with the director's  
16 regulations.

17

18 SECTION 5867. Arkansas Code § 12-13-111(a)(1), concerning the  
19 investigation of fires by the deputies of the Director of the Department of  
20 Arkansas State Police, is amended to read as follows:

21 (a)(1) The deputies to the Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of  
22 Arkansas State Police shall investigate each fire causing loss of life or  
23 damage to property within their jurisdiction to determine if the fire was  
24 caused by negligence or design.

25

26 SECTION 5868. Arkansas Code § 12-13-112(a), concerning inquires by the  
27 Director of the Department of Arkansas State Police, is amended to read as  
28 follows:

29 (a) When the Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of Arkansas State  
30 Police or any officer or deputy has reason to believe that a crime or other  
31 offense has been committed in connection with any fire, the director or his  
32 or her deputy may conduct an inquiry in relation thereto.

33

34 SECTION 5869. Arkansas Code § 12-13-114(a)(1), concerning civil  
35 actions regarding the Director of the Department of Arkansas State Police, is  
36 amended to read as follows:

1 (a)(1) No act taken by the Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of  
2 Arkansas State Police shall affect the rights of any policy holder or of any  
3 insurance company with regard to a loss by reason of any fire which the  
4 director has investigated.

5  
6 SECTION 5870. Arkansas Code § 12-13-115 is amended to read as follows:  
7 12-13-115. Annual report to Governor.

8 Annually on or before July 1, the Director of the ~~Department~~ Division  
9 of Arkansas State Police shall transmit to the Governor a full report of his  
10 or her proceedings under this subchapter, including statistics and  
11 recommendations he or she may deem advisable.

12  
13 SECTION 5871. Arkansas Code § 12-15-202(a)(7), concerning eligibility  
14 to carry a concealed handgun, is amended to read as follows:

15 (7) Has fingerprint impressions on file with the ~~Department~~  
16 Division of Arkansas State Police Automated Fingerprint Identification  
17 System.

18  
19 SECTION 5872. Arkansas Code § 12-15-202(b)(2)(B), concerning  
20 eligibility to carry a concealed handgun, is amended to read as follows:

21 (B) The Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of Arkansas  
22 State Police shall keep a record of all retired ~~department~~ Department of  
23 State Police or Division of State Police officers authorized to carry a  
24 concealed handgun in the state and shall revoke any authorization for good  
25 cause shown.

26  
27 SECTION 5873. Arkansas Code § 12-18-301(b), concerning the creation of  
28 the Child Abuse Hotline, is amended to read as follows:

29 (b) The Child Abuse Hotline is a unit established within the  
30 Department of Human Services and the ~~Department~~ Division of Arkansas State  
31 Police, or their designee, with the purpose of receiving and recording  
32 notifications and reports under this chapter.

33  
34 SECTION 5874. Arkansas Code § 12-18-1202 is amended to read as  
35 follows:

36 12-18-1202. Training regarding sexually exploited children.

1 The Arkansas Juvenile Officers Association, ~~Arkansas Law Enforcement~~  
2 ~~Training Academy~~ the Division of Law Enforcement Standards and Training, or  
3 the Prosecutor Coordinator may provide training to intake officers, law  
4 enforcement, prosecutors, and any other appropriate staff concerning how to  
5 identify a sexually exploited child and how to obtain appropriate services  
6 for a sexually exploited child.

7  
8 SECTION 5875. Arkansas Code § 12-75-109 is amended to read as follows:

9 12-75-109. ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of Emergency Management –  
10 Establishment – Personnel.

11 (a) The ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of Emergency Management is  
12 established as a public safety agency of the State of Arkansas.

13 (b)(1) The ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of Emergency Management shall  
14 have a ~~director~~ Director of the Division of Emergency Management who is  
15 appointed by the Governor, with the advice and consent of the Senate, and who  
16 shall serve at the pleasure of the Governor.

17 (2) The director shall report to the Secretary of the Department  
18 of Public Safety.

19 (c)(1) The ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of Emergency Management shall  
20 have such professional, technical, secretarial, and clerical employees and  
21 may make such expenditures within its appropriations or from any federal or  
22 other funds made available to it from any source whatsoever for the purpose  
23 of emergency services, as may be necessary to carry out the purposes of this  
24 chapter.

25 (2) All such employees shall be in job positions as approved by  
26 the secretary and the Office of Personnel Management ~~of the Division of~~  
27 ~~Management Services of the Department of Finance and Administration.~~

28 (d)(1) There is created within the ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of  
29 Emergency Management an emergency reserve cadre to be composed of trained and  
30 available specialists to assist regular employees during declared disaster  
31 response and recovery operations.

32 (2) The ~~Director of the Arkansas Department of Emergency~~  
33 ~~Management~~ director shall establish training and professional standards  
34 required to supplement state personnel based on state and federal disaster  
35 recovery program needs and shall establish a list of persons with those  
36 qualifications and make available to emergency reserve cadre personnel such

1 additional training and education opportunities as may be needed to maintain  
2 currency and proficiency in the needed skills.

3 (3)(A) Emergency reserve cadre personnel shall be reimbursed at  
4 the current state classified entry level salary rate for the position they  
5 are temporarily employed to fill and meet such additional training,  
6 experience, and qualifications as established by the director for the grade  
7 level of the position for which they are employed.

8 (B) Emergency reserve cadre personnel shall:

9 (i) Be paid from disaster management funds or  
10 administrative funds, or both;

11 (ii) Be limited to salary, logistical, and travel  
12 expenses only; and

13 (iii) Not accrue ordinary leave, sick leave, or  
14 other employee benefits except for workers' compensation eligibility for  
15 injuries or death suffered in the line of duty.

16 (4)(A) Emergency reserve cadre personnel may be called to active  
17 duty upon declaration of a disaster emergency as stipulated in this chapter  
18 or the Disaster Relief Act of 1974, Pub. L. No. 93-288, or both, or by  
19 executive order of the Governor upon recommendation by the director for due  
20 cause or pending emergency needs or for disaster-related assistance to the  
21 ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of Emergency Management as determined by the  
22 director and shall remain on active duty no longer than the maximum allowed  
23 by the Office of Personnel Management ~~of the Division of Management Services~~  
24 ~~of the Department of Finance and Administration~~ for part-time employment  
25 status.

26 (B) Based on the size, impact, and magnitude of the  
27 disaster event, the director shall determine the minimum number of emergency  
28 reserve cadre personnel required to effectively supplement regular state  
29 emergency management personnel.

30 (5) While in service described in subdivision (d)(4)(A) of this  
31 section, the emergency reserve cadre personnel have the same immunities as  
32 regular state employees for good faith performance of their designated and  
33 assigned official duties under state sovereignty laws and practices.

34  
35 SECTION 5876. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 12-75-  
36 110(a), concerning the state emergency operations plan and the Arkansas

1 Department of Emergency Management, is amended to read as follows:

2 (a) The ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of Emergency Management shall  
3 coordinate and maintain a state emergency operations plan and keep it  
4 current, which plan may include:

5

6 SECTION 5877. Arkansas Code § 12-75-110(b) and (c), concerning the  
7 state emergency operations plan and the Arkansas Department of Emergency  
8 Management, are amended to read as follows:

9 (b)(1) In preparing and revising the state emergency operations plan,  
10 the ~~department~~ division shall seek the advice and assistance of state  
11 agencies, local government, business, labor, industry, agriculture, civic,  
12 and volunteer organizations, and community leaders.

13 (2) In advising local and jurisdictional agencies, the  
14 ~~department~~ division shall encourage them also to seek advice from the  
15 entities listed in subdivision (b)(1) of this section.

16 (c) The state emergency operations plan or any part of the state  
17 emergency operations plan may be incorporated in rules of the ~~department~~  
18 division or executive orders that have the force and effect of law.

19

20 SECTION 5878. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 12-75-  
21 111(a), concerning the powers and duties of the Arkansas Department of  
22 Emergency Management, is amended to read as follows:

23 (a) The ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of Emergency Management shall,  
24 with the assistance and cooperation of other state and local government  
25 agencies:

26

27 SECTION 5879. Arkansas Code § 12-75-111(b), concerning the powers and  
28 duties of the Arkansas Department of Emergency Management, is amended to read  
29 as follows:

30 (b)(1) The ~~department~~ division shall take an integral part in the  
31 development and revision of local and interjurisdictional emergency  
32 operations plans prepared under § 12-75-118.

33 (2)(A) To meet the requirements of subdivision (b)(1) of this  
34 section, the ~~department~~ division shall employ or otherwise secure the  
35 services of professional and technical personnel capable of providing expert  
36 assistance to political subdivisions, their local offices of emergency

1 management, interjurisdictional planning, and interjurisdictional offices of  
2 emergency management.

3 (B) Personnel described in subdivision (b)(2)(A) of this  
4 section shall consult with political subdivisions, local offices of emergency  
5 management, and interjurisdictional offices of emergency management on a  
6 regularly scheduled basis and shall make field examinations of the area,  
7 circumstances, and conditions to which particular local and  
8 interjurisdictional emergency operations plans are intended to apply and may  
9 suggest or require revisions.

10

11 SECTION 5880. Arkansas Code § 12-75-112 is amended to read as follows:  
12 12-75-112. Communications networks.

13 (a) The ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of Emergency Management shall  
14 operate and maintain information systems which will make available both voice  
15 and data links with federal agencies, other states, and state agencies as are  
16 assigned an emergency management role in the state emergency operations plan  
17 and local offices of emergency management.

18 (b) In addition to the minimum requirements of subsection (a) of this  
19 section, additional information systems networks may be established as deemed  
20 necessary by the Director of the ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of Emergency  
21 Management.

22

23 SECTION 5881. Arkansas Code § 12-75-113(a), concerning emergency  
24 response vehicles, is amended to read as follows:

25 (a) Due to the time-critical nature of response to the scene of a  
26 disaster or major emergency occurrence, the Director of the ~~Arkansas~~  
27 ~~Department~~ Division of Emergency Management may designate appropriate  
28 vehicles as requested in the staffing patterns of the state offices of  
29 emergency management and local offices of emergency management and designate  
30 other state agency vehicles with an emergency management response requirement  
31 as emergency response vehicles.

32

33 SECTION 5882. Arkansas Code § 12-75-114(c)(8), concerning disaster  
34 emergency responsibilities of the Governor, is amended to read as follows:

35 (8) Expenditures from the emergency response fund shall be made  
36 by executive order of the Governor, upon recommendation and verification by

1 the Director of the ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of Emergency Management, and  
2 may only be made to defray immediate costs associated with response  
3 activities by emergency forces of state and local governments and private  
4 nonprofit forces duly registered in accordance with § 12-75-129.

5  
6 SECTION 5883. Arkansas Code § 12-75-115(a)(3), concerning disaster  
7 prevention, is amended to read as follows:

8 (3) Studies under subdivision (a)(2) of this section shall be  
9 furnished to the Governor and the ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of Emergency  
10 Management as soon as possible after completion and shall concentrate on  
11 means of reducing or avoiding damage caused by possible disasters or the  
12 consequences of possible disasters.

13  
14 SECTION 5884. Arkansas Code § 12-75-115(b)(1), concerning disaster  
15 prevention, is amended to read as follows:

16 (b)(1) If the ~~department~~ division believes, on the basis of the  
17 studies or other competent evidence, that an area is susceptible to a  
18 disaster of catastrophic proportions without adequate warning, that existing  
19 building standards and land use control in that area are inadequate and could  
20 add substantially to the magnitude of the disaster, and that changes in  
21 zoning regulations, other land use regulations, or building requirements are  
22 essential in order to further the purposes of this section, it shall specify  
23 the essential changes to the Governor.

24  
25 SECTION 5885. Arkansas Code § 12-75-116(a)(2), concerning liaison  
26 officers and state and local governmental entities, is amended to read as  
27 follows:

28 (2) In furtherance of the policy described in subdivision (a)(1)  
29 of this section, the head of each state department, commission, agency, or  
30 institution with an emergency management role or responsibility shall appoint  
31 a member or members of his or her staff as agency emergency management  
32 liaison officer or officers to act on his or her behalf in ensuring the  
33 agency's capability to fulfill its role in emergency management activities  
34 and shall ensure that the ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of Emergency  
35 Management is notified of any change in the appointment.

36

1 SECTION 5886. Arkansas Code § 12-75-116(b)(1) and (2), concerning  
2 liaison officers and state and local governmental entities, are amended to  
3 read as follows:

4 (1) Maintain close and continuous liaison with the ~~department~~  
5 division, as applicable;

6 (2) Prepare agency annexes to the state and, as applicable,  
7 local emergency operations plans which are compatible with this chapter and  
8 with guidance provided by the ~~department~~ division;

9  
10 SECTION 5887. Arkansas Code § 12-75-116(b)(5), concerning liaison  
11 officers and state and local governmental entities, is amended to read as  
12 follows:

13 (5) Ensure that the agency can respond promptly and  
14 cooperatively with other agencies in any disaster or major emergency  
15 situation under the overall management of the ~~department~~ division;

16  
17 SECTION 5888. Arkansas Code § 12-75-116(c), concerning liaison  
18 officers and state and local governmental entities, are amended to read as  
19 follows:

20 (c) As conditions or situations may require or dictate, the Director  
21 of the ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of Emergency Management may request a  
22 state department, agency, or institution not currently participating in the  
23 emergency management liaison officer program to appoint an officer in  
24 accordance with this section.

25  
26 SECTION 5889. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 12-75-  
27 117(a)(2), concerning interjurisdictional disaster planning and service areas,  
28 is amended to read as follows:

29 (2) A finding of the Governor pursuant to this subsection shall  
30 be based on an assessment conducted by the Director of the ~~Arkansas~~  
31 ~~Department~~ Division of Emergency Management using one (1) or more factors  
32 related to the difficulty of maintaining an efficient, effective, and  
33 economical system for disaster and emergency preparedness, mitigation,  
34 response, and recovery such as:

35  
36 SECTION 5890. Arkansas Code § 12-75-118(a)(1), concerning local and

1 interjurisdictional offices of emergency management services, is amended to  
2 read as follows:

3 (a)(1) Each political subdivision within this state shall be within  
4 the jurisdiction of and served by the ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of  
5 Emergency Management and by a local office of emergency management or  
6 interjurisdictional office of emergency management.

7

8 SECTION 5891. Arkansas Code § 12-75-118(c), concerning local and  
9 interjurisdictional offices of emergency management services, is amended to  
10 read as follows:

11 (c)(1) The Governor shall determine if additional municipal local  
12 offices of emergency management or interjurisdictional offices of emergency  
13 management are required based on an assessment conducted by the Director of  
14 the ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of Emergency Management using one (1) or  
15 more of the factors enumerated in § 12-75-117(a).

16 (2) The ~~department~~ division shall publish and keep current a  
17 list of municipalities required to have local offices of emergency management  
18 or interjurisdictional offices of emergency management under this subsection.  
19

20 SECTION 5892. Arkansas Code § 12-75-118(f)(2), concerning local and  
21 interjurisdictional offices of emergency management services, is amended to  
22 read as follows:

23 (2) The chief executive of a political subdivision shall notify  
24 the ~~department~~ division of the manner in which the political subdivision is  
25 providing or securing disaster planning and emergency management, provide a  
26 staffing pattern for the local office of emergency management, identify the  
27 person who heads the local office of emergency management, and furnish  
28 additional information relating thereto as the ~~department~~ division requires.  
29

30 SECTION 5893. Arkansas Code § 12-75-118(g)(2)(B), concerning local and  
31 interjurisdictional offices of emergency management services, is amended to  
32 read as follows:

33 (B) The emergency operations plan shall then be submitted  
34 to the ~~department~~ division for approval prior to implementation.

35

36 SECTION 5894. Arkansas Code § 12-75-118(j)(1), concerning local and

1 interjurisdictional offices of emergency management services, is amended to  
2 read as follows:

3 (j)(1) Local offices of emergency management shall operate and  
4 maintain as a minimum an information systems link with the ~~department~~  
5 division.

6  
7 SECTION 5895. Arkansas Code § 12-75-119(a)(2)(C), concerning a  
8 statewide mutual aid system, is amended to read as follows:

9 (C) The chief executive officer of the governing body  
10 shall provide a copy of the resolution to the ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of  
11 Emergency Management within ten (10) days of the enactment of the resolution.  
12

13 SECTION 5896. Arkansas Code § 12-75-119(c)(3), concerning a statewide  
14 mutual aid system, is amended to read as follows:

15 (3)(A) A request for assistance is not required to be reported  
16 to the ~~department~~ division in advance of or concurrent with the request.

17 (B) However, a request for assistance shall be reported to  
18 the ~~department~~ division in writing as soon as practical.  
19

20 SECTION 5897. Arkansas Code § 12-75-119(d)(3)(A), concerning a  
21 statewide mutual aid system, is amended to read as follows:

22 (3)(A) An emergency responder from a participating emergency  
23 jurisdiction responding to a request for assistance from another  
24 participating emergency jurisdiction shall remain under the command control  
25 of his or her home jurisdiction, including use of medical protocols, standard  
26 operating procedures, and other protocols and procedures identified by the  
27 ~~department~~ division.  
28

29 SECTION 5898. Arkansas Code § 12-75-119(f)(1)(B) and (C), concerning a  
30 statewide mutual aid system, are amended to read as follows:

31 (B) A request for reimbursement shall be made in  
32 accordance with procedures developed by the Arkansas Homeland Security  
33 Advisory Group and adopted by the ~~department~~ division as a rule under the  
34 Arkansas Administrative Procedure Act, § 25-15-201 et seq.

35 (C) The ~~department~~ division shall not provide  
36 reimbursement for expenses associated with training exercises except in

1 accordance with applicable rules.

2

3 SECTION 5899. Arkansas Code § 12-75-126(b), concerning public safety  
4 officers, is amended to read as follows:

5 (b) The Director of the ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of Emergency  
6 Management and persons he or she may designate from the state and local  
7 offices of emergency management staffing patterns shall be sworn public  
8 safety officers as defined and limited by this chapter.

9

10 SECTION 5900. Arkansas Code § 12-75-126(d)(1)(A), concerning public  
11 safety officers, is amended to read as follows:

12 (d)(1)(A) The director may determine what constitutes ~~an Arkansas~~  
13 ~~Department~~ the Division of Emergency Management uniform for ~~department~~  
14 division personnel.

15

16 SECTION 5901. Arkansas Code § 12-75-126(d)(2), concerning public  
17 safety officers, is amended to read as follows:

18 (2) The uniform may include a badge or identification card, or  
19 both, of appropriate design and dimensions to identify local office of  
20 emergency management personnel as bona fide emergency management workers  
21 within their jurisdiction and ~~department~~ division personnel as bona fide  
22 emergency workers for the state.

23

24 SECTION 5902. Arkansas Code § 12-75-126(e), concerning public safety  
25 officers, is amended to read as follows:

26 (e) Any person issued or provided a badge, identification, or uniform  
27 described in subsection (d) of this section shall wear, carry, or display it  
28 at such times and places as shall be designated or required by the chief  
29 executive of the local jurisdiction for local office of emergency management  
30 personnel and by the director for ~~department~~ division personnel.

31

32 SECTION 5903. Arkansas Code § 12-75-129(a)(1)(B)(ii)(b), concerning  
33 workers' compensation benefits for emergency responders, is amended to read  
34 as follows:

35 (b) ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of Emergency  
36 Management; or

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SECTION 5904. Arkansas Code § 12-75-129(f), concerning workers' compensation benefits for emergency responders, is amended to read as follows:

(f) An emergency responder shall be deemed duly registered and qualified when he or she is a member of and has on file in either a local office of emergency management or in the ~~Arkansas Department of Emergency Management~~ division the following information:

- (1) Name and address;
- (2) Date enrolled; and
- (3) Class of service assigned.

SECTION 5905. Arkansas Code § 12-75-131(a)(1), concerning disaster relief pay from the Arkansas Department of Emergency Management, is amended to read as follows:

(a)(1) The ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of Emergency Management is authorized to provide special compensation to certain employees for each full pay period of eighty (80) hours worked in a job which requires the provision of on-site emergency disaster relief services in cases of wartime, human-made, or natural disasters.

SECTION 5906. Arkansas Code § 12-75-131(a)(3)(B), concerning disaster relief pay from the Arkansas Department of Emergency Management, is amended to read as follows:

(B) Payment will be controlled through personnel actions by the Director of the ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of Emergency Management.

SECTION 5907. Arkansas Code § 12-75-132(a)-(c), concerning the creation of the Arkansas Homeland Security Advisory Group, are amended to read as follows:

(a) There is created an advisory body to the ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of Emergency Management, to be known as the "Arkansas Homeland Security Advisory Group".

(b) The advisory group shall consist of representatives of federal, state, and local agencies and professional associations as determined by the Director of the ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of Emergency Management. The

1 advisory group shall include, at a minimum, representatives of the following:

- 2 (1) ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of Emergency Management;
- 3 (2) The Arkansas Ambulance Association;
- 4 (3) Arkansas Association of Chiefs of Police;
- 5 (4) Arkansas Association of Fire Chiefs;
- 6 (5) Arkansas Citizen Corps Point of Contact;
- 7 (6) ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of Environmental Quality;
- 8 (7) Department of Health;
- 9 (8) Arkansas Emergency Management Association, Inc.;
- 10 (9) Arkansas Highway Police Division of the Arkansas Department
- 11 of Transportation;
- 12 (10) ~~Arkansas Livestock and Poultry Commission~~ Department of
- 13 Agriculture;
- 14 (11) Arkansas Municipal League;
- 15 (12) National Guard;
- 16 (13) 61st Civil Support Team of the Arkansas National Guard;
- 17 (14) Arkansas Sheriffs' Association;
- 18 (15) ~~Department~~ Division of Arkansas State Police;
- 19 (16) ~~State Plant Board~~;
- 20 ~~(16)~~ County Judges Association of Arkansas;
- 21 ~~(18)~~(17) Centers for Disease Control and Prevention;
- 22 ~~(19)~~(18) ~~Department~~ Division of Information Systems;
- 23 ~~(20)~~(19) Federal Bureau of Investigation;
- 24 ~~(21)~~(20) Health Resources and Services Administration of the
- 25 United States Department of Health and Human Services;
- 26 ~~(22)~~(21) United States Secret Service;
- 27 ~~(23)~~(22) United States Attorney for the Eastern District of
- 28 Arkansas; and
- 29 ~~(24)~~(23) United States Attorney for the Western District of
- 30 Arkansas.

31 (c) A representative of the ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of Emergency  
32 Management shall serve as chair of the advisory group.

33  
34 SECTION 5908. Arkansas Code § 12-75-132(f)(3), concerning the creation  
35 of the Arkansas Homeland Security Advisory Group, is amended to read as  
36 follows:

1 (3) The advisory group shall submit the report annually to the  
2 Director of the ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of Emergency Management and to  
3 the House Committee on State Agencies and Governmental Affairs and the Senate  
4 Committee on State Agencies and Governmental Affairs.

5  
6 SECTION 5909. Arkansas Code § 12-78-105(a), concerning implementation  
7 and equipment purchases by the Arkansas Department of Emergency Management,  
8 is amended to read as follows:

9 (a)(1) From funds appropriated therefor, the ~~Arkansas Department~~  
10 Division of Emergency Management shall provide to eligible local offices of  
11 emergency management and key state agencies assigned an emergency role under  
12 the State of Arkansas Emergency Operations Plan matching grants not to exceed  
13 fifty percent (50%) of the cost of the acquisition of the emergency warning  
14 and communications equipment.

15 (2) The grant shall be awarded only for the acquisition of  
16 equipment for which the Director of the ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of  
17 Emergency Management has granted specific approval.

18  
19 SECTION 5910. Arkansas Code § 12-79-103(1), concerning definitions  
20 regarding the Arkansas Hazardous and Toxic Materials Emergency Notification  
21 Act, is repealed.

22 ~~(1) "Director" means the Director of the Arkansas Department of~~  
23 ~~Emergency Management established under the Arkansas Emergency Services Act of~~  
24 ~~1973, § 12-75-101 et seq.;~~

25  
26 SECTION 5911. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 12-79-  
27 104(a), concerning the HAZMAT incident or accident reporting system, is  
28 amended to read as follows:

29 (a) The Director of the ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of Emergency  
30 Management shall:

31  
32 SECTION 5912. Arkansas Code § 12-82-104(a)(1)(A), concerning the  
33 creation of the State Emergency Response Commission, is amended to read as  
34 follows:

35 (A) The ~~directors~~ executive head of the Department of  
36 Health, the ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of Environmental Quality, the

1 ~~Department~~ Division of Arkansas State Police, the ~~Arkansas Department~~  
2 Division of Emergency Management, the ~~Department~~ Division of Labor, the  
3 Arkansas Fire Training Academy, and the Arkansas Department of  
4 Transportation, and the Adjutant General, or their designated  
5 representatives;

6  
7 SECTION 5913. Arkansas Code § 12-83-102(1) and (2), concerning the  
8 policy and purpose of the Emergency Volunteer Reserve Cadre, are amended to  
9 read as follows:

10 (1) To establish within the ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of  
11 Emergency Management an Emergency Volunteer Reserve Cadre of persons trained  
12 and experienced in certain functions related to disaster response and  
13 recovery operations;

14 (2) To provide authority to the Director of the ~~Arkansas~~  
15 ~~Department~~ Division of Emergency Management to call the emergency volunteer  
16 reserve personnel into active service upon declaration of a state of disaster  
17 emergency by the Governor or the President of the United States or when, in  
18 the opinion of the director, a pending natural, technological, or national  
19 emergency may require the immediate services of the personnel;

20

21 SECTION 5914. Arkansas Code § 12-83-104(a)(1), concerning recruitment,  
22 service, deployment, and discharge by the Arkansas Department of Emergency  
23 Management, is amended to read as follows:

24 (a)(1) The ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of Emergency Management shall  
25 establish a system to recruit personnel with special skills or experience  
26 related to emergency response and recovery operations and provide initial  
27 familiarization training and periodic proficiency training as necessary for  
28 members of the Emergency Volunteer Reserve Cadre to ensure their readiness  
29 for immediate deployment for response and recovery activities.

30

31 SECTION 5915. Arkansas Code § 12-83-104(b), concerning recruitment,  
32 service, deployment, and discharge by the Arkansas Department of Emergency  
33 Management, is amended to read as follows:

34 (b) The ~~department~~ division shall establish an administrative  
35 management system to recruit and maintain qualified personnel and establish a  
36 fiscal management system to ensure prompt and reasonable reimbursement of

1 authorized expenses.

2

3 SECTION 5916. Arkansas Code § 12-83-104(e), concerning recruitment,  
4 service, deployment, and discharge by the Arkansas Department of Emergency  
5 Management, is amended to read as follows:

6 (e) When called into active service by the Director of the ~~Arkansas~~  
7 ~~Department~~ Division of Emergency Management, members of the cadre shall be  
8 under the operational and administrative management of the ~~department~~  
9 division and such employees of that office who may be designated to supervise  
10 their duties.

11

12 SECTION 5917. Arkansas Code § 12-83-105(a)(1), concerning  
13 reimbursement of the Emergency Volunteer Reserve Cadre by the Arkansas  
14 Department of Emergency Management, is amended to read as follows:

15 (a)(1) Any persons seeking enrollment into the Emergency Volunteer  
16 Reserve Cadre shall be notified that no salary, retainer, emoluments, or  
17 other monetary reimbursement shall be made for their services, except  
18 reimbursement for food, lodging, and travel utilizing a privately owned  
19 vehicle when so authorized by the Director of the ~~Arkansas Department~~  
20 Division of Emergency Management.

21

22 SECTION 5918. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 12-86-204,  
23 concerning the policies of the Arkansas Department of Emergency Management,  
24 is amended to read as follows:

25 The Director of the ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of Emergency  
26 Management shall coordinate efforts with other state agencies and appropriate  
27 organizations to:

28

29 SECTION 5919. Arkansas Code § 12-88-103(2)(C)(ii), concerning the  
30 definition of "declared state disaster or emergency" under the Business Rapid  
31 Response to State Disasters Facilitation Act, is amended to read as follows:

32 (ii) That the Director of the ~~Arkansas Department~~  
33 Division of Emergency Management designates as a disaster or emergency upon  
34 request of and notification by a registered business;

35

36 SECTION 5920. Arkansas Code § 14-14-1310(c)(3)(A), concerning the

1 filling of vacancies in elective offices, is amended to read as follows:

2 (3)(A) The county judge and the sheriff shall file the executive  
3 order and the resolution with policy statement under subdivisions (c)(1) and  
4 (2) of this section with the county clerk, and a file-marked copy shall be  
5 provided to the Director of the ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of Emergency  
6 Management no later than sixty (60) days from the beginning of the elected  
7 term of office.

8

9 SECTION 5921. Arkansas Code § 14-14-1314(a)(1)(A)(ii), concerning  
10 constable training and uniform requirements, is amended to read as follows:

11 (ii) Each year after completing the certification  
12 course required under subdivision (a)(1)(A)(i) of this section, he or she  
13 shall satisfactorily complete sixteen (16) hours of training ~~provided~~  
14 certified by the Arkansas Commission on Law Enforcement Standards and  
15 Training.

16

17 SECTION 5922. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 14-15-  
18 308(a), concerning training and instruction for medicolegal death  
19 investigators, coroners, and deputy coroners, is amended to read as follows:

20 (a) The ~~Arkansas Commission on~~ Division of Law Enforcement Standards  
21 and Training, in coordination with the Department of Health, shall establish  
22 a training curriculum for medicolegal death investigators, coroners, and  
23 deputy coroners in Arkansas that consists of no less than sixteen (16) hours  
24 nor more than forty (40) hours of instruction, including without limitation  
25 courses on:

26

27 SECTION 5923. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 14-15-  
28 308(b), concerning training and instruction for medicolegal death  
29 investigators, coroners, and deputy coroners, is amended to read as follows:

30 (b) The ~~commission~~ division shall:

31

32 SECTION 5924. Arkansas Code § 14-15-308(b)(2)(B), concerning training  
33 and instruction for medicolegal death investigators, coroners, and deputy  
34 coroners, is amended to read as follows:

35 (B) The ~~commission~~ division may receive funding for  
36 coroner training through grants-in-aid, donations, and the County Coroners

1 Continuing Education Fund.

2

3 SECTION 5925. Arkansas Code § 15-45-211(b), concerning state parks as  
4 bird sanctuaries, is amended to read as follows:

5 (b) It shall be unlawful for any person to trap, hunt, shoot, or  
6 attempt to shoot or molest in any manner any bird or wild fowl or to rob  
7 birds' nests or wild fowl's nests in these areas. However, if starlings or  
8 similar birds are found to be congregating in such numbers in a particular  
9 locality as in the opinion of the Department of Health constitutes a nuisance  
10 or a menace to health or property, then officials of the ~~Department of Health~~  
11 department, after giving three (3) days' notice of the time and place of the  
12 meeting, shall meet with representatives of the Audubon Society, bird club,  
13 garden club, or humane society, or with as many of those clubs as are found  
14 to exist in the state, to discuss possible solutions to the problem. If, as a  
15 result of the meeting, no satisfactory alternative is found to abate the  
16 nuisance, then the birds may be destroyed in such numbers and in such manner  
17 as is deemed advisable by the ~~Department of Health~~ department under the  
18 supervision of the Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of Arkansas State  
19 Police.

20

21 SECTION 5926. Arkansas Code § 16-90-706(a)(4), concerning the  
22 logistical support and powers of the Crime Victims Reparations Board, is  
23 amended to read as follows:

24 (4)(A) The board shall be provided such office, support staff,  
25 and secretarial services as necessary by the ~~office of the Attorney General~~  
26 Department of Public Safety.

27 (B) The support staff and secretarial services described  
28 in subdivision (a)(4)(A) of this section may also be assigned by the ~~Attorney~~  
29 General Secretary of the Department of Public Safety to engage in additional  
30 ~~legal~~ work in other areas that do not involve crime victims reparations.

31

32 SECTION 5927. Arkansas Code § 16-90-707(a), concerning the annual  
33 report by the Crime Victims Reparations Board, is amended to read as follows:

34 (a) The Crime Victims Reparations Board shall prepare and transmit  
35 annually a report of its activities to the ~~Governor~~ Secretary of the  
36 Department of Public Safety.

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SECTION 5928. Arkansas Code § 16-90-715 is amended to read as follows:

16-90-715. Action by state against convicted person for recovery of reparations.

(a)(1) Whenever any person is convicted of a crime and an order for the payment of reparations is or has been made under this subchapter for a personal injury or death resulting from the act or omission constituting the crime for which conviction was had, the ~~Attorney General~~ Secretary of the Department of Public Safety may institute a civil action against the convicted person for the recovery of all or any part of the reparations paid.

(2)(A) The suit shall be instituted in the circuit court having jurisdiction in the county in which the person resides or is found or in Pulaski County.

(B) The circuit court shall have jurisdiction to hear, determine, and render judgment in the action.

(3)(A) Any amount recovered under this subsection shall be credited to the Crime Victims Reparations Revolving Fund.

(B) If an amount greater than that paid pursuant to the order for payment of reparations is recovered and collected in the action, the Crime Victims Reparations Board shall pay the balance to the claimant.

(b) The board shall provide the ~~Attorney General~~ secretary with such information, data, and reports as he or she may require to institute actions in accordance with this section.

(c) The secretary may request the assistance of the Attorney General in instituting a civil action against the convicted person for the recovery of all or any part of the reparations paid.

SECTION 5929. Arkansas Code § 17-39-102(1), concerning the definition of "intern" under the Polygraph Examiners Licensing Act, is amended to read as follows:

(1) "Intern" means a person who holds a valid intern polygraph examiner license issued by the Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of Arkansas State Police;

SECTION 5930. Arkansas Code § 17-39-103(b), concerning penalties regarding licensed polygraph examiner, is amended to read as follows:

1 (b) It is unlawful for a person to conduct a polygraph examination in  
2 the State of Arkansas unless that person holds a valid license as a polygraph  
3 examiner or intern that is issued by the Director of the ~~Department~~ Division  
4 of Arkansas State Police.

5  
6 SECTION 5931. Arkansas Code § 17-39-104(a), concerning an injunction  
7 for the violation of the Polygraph Examiners Licensing Act, is amended to  
8 read as follows:

9 (a) If a person violates this subchapter or subchapter 2, the Director  
10 of the ~~Department~~ Division of Arkansas State Police, through the Attorney  
11 General, may apply in any circuit court of competent jurisdiction for an  
12 order enjoining the violation or for an order enforcing compliance with this  
13 subchapter or subchapter 2.

14  
15 SECTION 5932. Arkansas Code § 17-39-106(a), concerning the powers and  
16 duties of the Director of the Department of Arkansas State Police under the  
17 Polygraph Examiners Licensing Act, is amended to read as follows:

18 (a) The Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of Arkansas State Police  
19 may perform the functions and duties enumerated in this subchapter or  
20 subchapter 2 with respect to the licensing of polygraph examiners and interns  
21 and perform all other acts incidental and necessary to the proper performance  
22 of the functions and duties as prescribed in this subchapter or subchapter 2.

23  
24 SECTION 5933. Arkansas Code § 17-39-110 is amended to read as follows:

25 17-39-110. Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of Arkansas State  
26 Police – Designee.

27 The Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of Arkansas State Police may  
28 designate a person on his or her staff to administer and carry out the  
29 provisions of this subchapter or subchapter 2.

30  
31 SECTION 5934. Arkansas Code § 17-39-201 is amended to read as follows:

32 17-39-201. License required.

33 It is unlawful for a person, including a city, county, or state  
34 employee, to administer polygraph examinations or hold himself or herself out  
35 as a polygraph examiner or intern without a polygraph examiner license or  
36 intern polygraph examiner license approved and issued by the Director of the

1 ~~Department~~ Division of Arkansas State Police.

2  
3 SECTION 5935. Arkansas Code § 17-39-202(4), concerning qualifications  
4 for a polygraph examiner license or an intern polygraph examiner license, is  
5 amended to read as follows:

6 (4) Is a graduate of a polygraph examiners course approved by  
7 the Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of Arkansas State Police and has  
8 satisfactorily completed an internship of not less than six (6) months;

9  
10 SECTION 5936. Arkansas Code § 17-39-203 is amended to read as follows:  
11 17-39-203. Initial polygraph examiner license or intern polygraph  
12 examiner license application.

13 (a) An application for an initial polygraph examiner license or intern  
14 polygraph examiner license shall be made to the Director of the ~~Department~~  
15 Division of Arkansas State Police on forms prescribed by the director and  
16 shall be accompanied by the required fee as set out in § 17-39-207.

17 (b) The burden is on the applicant to provide sufficient information  
18 to bring himself or herself within the licensing standards and allow the  
19 director to determine if the applicant is qualified to hold a license under  
20 this subchapter and subchapter 1.

21  
22 SECTION 5937. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 17-39-  
23 204(a), concerning a polygraph examiner license, is amended to read as  
24 follows:

25 (a) In addition to other application requirements, a polygraph  
26 examiner licensee or an intern polygraph examiner licensee who does not  
27 maintain a place of business in Arkansas shall file with the Director of the  
28 ~~Department~~ Division of Arkansas State Police an irrevocable consent that:

29  
30 SECTION 5938. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 17-39-205,  
31 concerning a polygraph examiner license in another state or territory, is  
32 amended to read as follows:

33 An applicant who is a polygraph examiner licensed under the laws of  
34 another state or territory of the United States may be issued a two-year  
35 license by the Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of Arkansas State Police  
36 upon the production of satisfactory proof that the applicant:

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SECTION 5939. Arkansas Code § 17-39-206(a)(1), concerning intern polygraph examiner license, is amended to read as follows:

(a)(1) The Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of Arkansas State Police shall issue an intern polygraph examiner license to an applicant, provided that he or she submits a properly completed application, meets the licensing requirements, and pays the required fee under § 17-39-207.

SECTION 5940. Arkansas Code § 17-39-208 is amended to read as follows:  
17-39-208. Display of license and signature.

A polygraph examiner license, an intern polygraph examiner license, or the photo identification card issued by the Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of Arkansas State Police shall be prominently displayed at the place of business of the licensee or worn on his or her person.

SECTION 5941. Arkansas Code § 17-39-209 is amended to read as follows:  
17-39-209. Notification of address change.

Notice in writing shall be given to the Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of Arkansas State Police by the polygraph examiner licensee or the intern of any change of principal business location, telephone number, or email address within thirty (30) days of the time he or she changes location, telephone number, or email address.

SECTION 5942. Arkansas Code § 17-39-210(a), concerning expiration and renewal of polygraph examiner license, is amended to read as follows:

(a) Each polygraph examiner license shall be issued for the term of two (2) years and, unless suspended or revoked, may be renewed with documentation prescribed by the Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of Arkansas State Police.

SECTION 5943. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 17-39-211, concerning grounds for denial, suspension, or revocation of intern polygraph examiner license, is amended to read as follows:

The Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of Arkansas State Police may deny, suspend, or revoke a polygraph examiner license or an intern polygraph examiner license on any one (1) or more of the following grounds:

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SECTION 5944. Arkansas Code § 17-39-212(a), concerning criminal background checks in regards to a polygraph examiner license, is amended to read as follows:

(a) Each first-time applicant and applicant for license renewal shall be required to apply to the Identification Bureau of the ~~Department~~ Division of Arkansas State Police for a state and national criminal background check to be conducted by the Identification Bureau of the ~~Department~~ Division of Arkansas State Police and the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

SECTION 5945. Arkansas Code § 17-39-212(c), concerning criminal background checks in regards to a polygraph examiner license, is amended to read as follows:

(c) The applicant shall sign a release of information to the Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of Arkansas State Police and shall be responsible for the payment of any fee associated with the state and national criminal background check.

SECTION 5946. Arkansas Code § 17-39-213(a)(1)(A), concerning the proceedings regarding denial, suspension, or revocation of polygraph examiner license, is amended to read as follows:

(a)(1)(A) When the Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of Arkansas State Police seeks to deny an application or suspend or revoke a license issued under this subchapter or subchapter 1, the director shall notify the applicant or licensee in person or by certified mail, return receipt requested, at the last address supplied to the director by the applicant or licensee.

SECTION 5947. Arkansas Code § 17-39-214(a), concerning an appeal of a denial, suspension, or revocation of a polygraph examiner license, is amended to read as follows:

(a) An applicant or licensee dissatisfied with the action of the Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of Arkansas State Police in denying, suspending, or revoking a license may appeal the decision of the director under the Arkansas Administrative Procedure Act, § 25-15-201 et seq.

1 SECTION 5948. Arkansas Code § 17-39-215 is amended to read as follows:  
2 17-39-215. Rules.

3 The Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of Arkansas State Police may  
4 promulgate rules to permit the efficient administration of this subchapter or  
5 subchapter 1.

6  
7 SECTION 5949. Arkansas Code § 17-39-303 is amended to read as follows:  
8 17-39-303. Applicant burden of proof.

9 An applicant who seeks licensure under this subchapter as a certified  
10 voice stress analysis examiner has the burden to provide sufficient  
11 information to bring himself or herself within the licensing standards that  
12 would allow the Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of Arkansas State Police  
13 to determine if the applicant is qualified to hold the license.

14  
15 SECTION 5950. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 17-39-304,  
16 concerning application for license, proof, and fee for a certified voice  
17 stress analysis examiner, is amended to read as follows:

18 A person who desires to be licensed as a certified voice stress  
19 analysis examiner and conduct voice stress analysis examinations within this  
20 state shall apply for licensure to the Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of  
21 Arkansas State Police and shall submit with the application documentation  
22 that the applicant:

23  
24 SECTION 5951. Arkansas Code § 17-39-304(7), concerning application for  
25 license, proof, and fee for a certified voice stress analysis examiner, is  
26 amended to read as follows:

27 (7) Has successfully completed a course of training that has  
28 been approved by the Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of Arkansas State  
29 Police offering a certification in the operation of the voice stress analysis  
30 machine and submits a copy of the certification with the application; and

31  
32 SECTION 5952. Arkansas Code § 17-39-305(b)(1), concerning fees for a  
33 certified voice stress analysis examiner license, is amended to read as  
34 follows:

35 (b)(1) All fees received by the Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of  
36 Arkansas State Police under this subchapter are nonrefundable and shall be

1 deposited into the State Treasury as special revenues to the credit of the  
2 ~~Department~~ Division of Arkansas State Police Fund.

3  
4 SECTION 5953. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 17-39-306,  
5 concerning grounds for denying, suspending, or revoking a voice stress  
6 analysis examiner license, is amended to read as follows:

7 The Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of Arkansas State Police may  
8 deny, suspend, or revoke a license of a certified voice stress analysis  
9 examiner on one (1) or more of the following grounds:

10  
11 SECTION 5954. Arkansas Code § 17-39-307 is amended to read as follows:  
12 17-39-307. Rules.

13 The Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of Arkansas State Police may  
14 promulgate rules to permit the efficient administration of this subchapter.

15  
16 SECTION 5955. Arkansas Code § 17-39-309(a), concerning a criminal  
17 background check for an applicant for renewal as a certified voice stress  
18 analysis examiner, is amended to read as follows:

19 (a)(1) Each first-time applicant and each applicant for renewal of  
20 licensure as a certified voice stress analysis examiner shall apply to the  
21 ~~Department~~ Division of Arkansas State Police for a state and national  
22 criminal background check to be conducted by the ~~department~~ division and the  
23 Federal Bureau of Investigation.

24 (2) Criminal history records from the Arkansas Crime Information  
25 Center shall be available to the Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of  
26 Arkansas State Police for the review of an applicant's qualifications.

27  
28 SECTION 5956. Arkansas Code § 17-39-309(d), concerning a criminal  
29 background check for an applicant for renewal as a certified voice stress  
30 analysis examiner, is amended to read as follows:

31 (d) Upon completion of the state and national criminal background  
32 check, the ~~department~~ division shall forward to the director all releasable  
33 information obtained concerning the applicant.

34  
35 SECTION 5957. Arkansas Code § 17-39-311(a), concerning an injunction  
36 for violation of the subchapter, is amended to read as follows:

1 (a) If a person violates this subchapter, the Director of the  
2 ~~Department~~ Division of Arkansas State Police, through the Attorney General,  
3 may apply in the circuit court having jurisdiction for an order enjoining the  
4 violation or for an order enforcing compliance with this subchapter.

5  
6 SECTION 5958. Arkansas Code § 17-39-313(a), concerning the  
7 administration and the powers and duties of the Department of Arkansas State  
8 Police, is amended to read as follows:

9 (a) The Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of Arkansas State Police  
10 may perform the functions and duties enumerated within this subchapter with  
11 respect to the licensing of certified voice stress analysis examiners and  
12 perform all other acts incidental and necessary to the proper performance of  
13 the functions and duties as prescribed in this subchapter.

14  
15 SECTION 5959. Arkansas Code § 17-40-102(8)(B), concerning the  
16 definition of "assistant training administrator" under the Private Security  
17 Agency, Private Investigator, and School Security Licensing and Credentialing  
18 Act, is amended to read as follows:

19 (B) The assistant training administrator shall certify to  
20 the Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of Arkansas State Police that the  
21 required training has been completed;

22  
23 SECTION 5960. Arkansas Code § 17-40-102(14), concerning the definition  
24 of "credential" under the Private Security Agency, Private Investigator, and  
25 School Security Licensing and Credentialing Act, is amended to read as  
26 follows:

27 (14) "Credential" means an authorization granted by the  
28 ~~Department~~ Division of Arkansas State Police to an individual to perform the  
29 duties of a private investigator, alarm systems monitor, alarm systems  
30 apprentice, alarm systems technician, alarms systems agent, private security  
31 officer, commissioned security officer, commissioned school security officer,  
32 assistant training administrator, training administrator, training  
33 instructor, manager, or branch office manager;

34  
35 SECTION 5961. Arkansas Code § 17-40-103(b), concerning persons exempt  
36 under the Private Security Agency, Private Investigator, and School Security

1 Licensing and Credentialing Act, is amended to read as follows:

2 (b)(1) If the security department of a private business or school  
3 hires or employs an individual in the capacity of a commissioned security  
4 officer or commissioned school security officer, the security department of  
5 the private business or school is not required to make application to the  
6 ~~Department~~ Division of Arkansas State Police for any license under this  
7 chapter.

8 (2) However, the private business or school is required to be  
9 recognized by the Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of Arkansas State  
10 Police as a private business or school for the purpose of employing the  
11 commissioned security officer or commissioned school security officer.

12

13 SECTION 5962. Arkansas Code § 17-40-105 is amended to read as follows:  
14 17-40-105. Notice of violation.

15 The Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of Arkansas State Police shall  
16 not deny, suspend, revoke, or fine any person required to be licensed,  
17 credentialed, or commissioned under this chapter unless the person has been  
18 notified of the alleged violation of this chapter within three hundred sixty-  
19 five (365) days after the occurrence of the alleged violation.

20

21 SECTION 5963. Arkansas Code § 17-40-106(a), concerning exclusive  
22 regulation and authority of a political subdivision, is amended to read as  
23 follows:

24 (a) The regulation of investigation, security, and alarm systems  
25 companies is exclusive to the Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of Arkansas  
26 State Police.

27

28 SECTION 5964. Arkansas Code § 17-40-204 is amended to read as follows:  
29 17-40-204. Administration.

30 (a) The Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of Arkansas State Police  
31 shall perform such duties as may be prescribed by the director and shall have  
32 no financial, personal, or business interests in an entity licensed under  
33 this chapter.

34 (b) All legal processes and all documents required by law shall be  
35 served upon the director or his or her designee or filed within the  
36 ~~Department~~ Division of Arkansas State Police.

1  
2 SECTION 5965. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 17-40-  
3 207(a), concerning the powers and duties of the Director of the Department of  
4 Arkansas State Police, is amended to read as follows:

5 (a) The Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of Arkansas State Police  
6 shall have the following powers and duties:

7  
8 SECTION 5966. Arkansas Code § 17-40-208(a), concerning the  
9 establishment of minimum training requirements for personnel by the Director  
10 of the Department of Arkansas State Police, is amended to read as follows:

11 (a) The Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of Arkansas State Police  
12 shall establish minimum training requirements under this chapter for a  
13 private security officer, a commissioned security officer, and a commissioned  
14 school security officer.

15  
16 SECTION 5967. Arkansas Code § 17-40-209(b) and (c), concerning the  
17 fees and disposition of funds for investigating and credentialing private  
18 investigators or licensing private security agencies, are amended to read as  
19 follows:

20 (b) To assure that the intent is carried out, the expenditure for  
21 personal services and operating expenses associated with investigating and  
22 licensing, credentialing, or commissioning of individuals and agencies  
23 required to be licensed, credentialed, or commissioned under this chapter  
24 shall be limited in the aggregate to the amount deposited into the State  
25 Treasury to the credit of the ~~Department~~ Division of Arkansas State Police  
26 Fund from license, credential, and commission fees of the individuals and  
27 agencies.

28 (c) In order to provide sufficient revenues to carry out the duties  
29 and functions prescribed by this chapter, the Director of the ~~Department~~  
30 Division of Arkansas State Police shall levy fees for licenses, credentials,  
31 and commissions as authorized by this chapter as determined by the director.

32  
33 SECTION 5968. Arkansas Code § 17-40-209(e)(1), concerning the fees and  
34 disposition of funds for investigating and credentialing private  
35 investigators or licensing private security agencies, is amended to read as  
36 follows:

1 (e)(1) All funds received by the director shall be deposited into the  
2 State Treasury as special revenues to the credit of the ~~Department~~ Division  
3 of Arkansas State Police Fund.

4  
5 SECTION 5969. Arkansas Code § 17-40-301(g), concerning unlawful acts  
6 regarding private investigators, is amended to read as follows:

7 (g) A person shall not program an automatic dialing device to call a  
8 law enforcement agency, fire department, emergency health service, or a  
9 state, city, or county agency without the prior approval of the Director of  
10 the ~~Department~~ Division of Arkansas State Police.

11  
12 SECTION 5970. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 17-40-  
13 302(a), concerning fees for private investigators, is amended to read as  
14 follows:

15 (a) The Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of Arkansas State Police  
16 may assess fees under this chapter as follows:

17  
18 SECTION 5971. Arkansas Code § 17-40-306(a)(4), concerning license,  
19 credential, and applicant qualifications for a private investigator, is  
20 amended to read as follows:

21 (4) Be in compliance with any other reasonable qualifications  
22 that the Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of Arkansas State Police may set  
23 by rule;

24  
25 SECTION 5972. Arkansas Code § 17-40-306(d)(1)(B), concerning license,  
26 credential, and applicant qualifications for a private investigator, is  
27 amended to read as follows:

28 (B) A Class A misdemeanor involving theft, sexual  
29 offenses, violence, an element of dishonesty, or a crime against a person as  
30 determined by the ~~Department of Arkansas State Police~~ division under  
31 subsection (e) of this section; or

32  
33 SECTION 5973. Arkansas Code § 17-40-306(e), concerning license,  
34 credential, and applicant qualifications for a private investigator, is  
35 amended to read as follows:

36 (e) The ~~department~~ Department of Arkansas State Police or the Division

1 of Arkansas State Police shall promulgate rules within ninety (90) days of  
2 May 23, 2016, that determine the offenses under subdivision (d)(1)(B) of this  
3 section that constitute a Class A misdemeanor involving theft, sexual  
4 offenses, violence, an element of dishonesty, or a crime against a person.  
5

6 SECTION 5974. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 17-40-  
7 307(a), concerning a license, credential, application, and examination for a  
8 private investigator, is amended to read as follows:

9 (a) An application for a license or credential under this chapter  
10 shall be in the form prescribed by the Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of  
11 Arkansas State Police and shall include:  
12

13 SECTION 5975. Arkansas Code § 17-40-307(e)(1)(A), concerning a  
14 license, credential, application, and examination for a private investigator,  
15 is amended to read as follows:

16 (e)(1)(A) Each first-time applicant and applicant for license or  
17 credential renewal shall apply to the ~~Department~~ Division of Arkansas State  
18 Police for a state and national criminal background check to be conducted by  
19 the ~~department~~ division and the Federal Bureau of Investigation.  
20

21 SECTION 5976. Arkansas Code § 17-40-307(e)(4), concerning a license,  
22 credential, application, and examination for a private investigator, is  
23 amended to read as follows:

24 (4) Upon completion of the state and national criminal  
25 background check, the ~~department~~ division shall forward to the director all  
26 releasable information obtained concerning the applicant.  
27

28 SECTION 5977. Arkansas Code § 17-40-308(a), concerning a license or  
29 credential, and insurance prerequisite for a private investigator, is amended  
30 to read as follows:

31 (a) A Class B, Class C, or Class G license shall not be issued to an  
32 applicant under this chapter unless the applicant files with the Director of  
33 the ~~Department~~ Division of Arkansas State Police proof of a policy of  
34 continuing public liability insurance in a sum not less than five hundred  
35 thousand dollars (\$500,000), conditioned to compensate any person for  
36 damages, including, but not limited to, bodily injury caused by wrongful acts

1 of the principal or its servants, officers, agents, and employees in the  
2 conduct of any business licensed by this chapter.

3  
4 SECTION 5978. Arkansas Code § 17-40-310 is amended to read as follows:

5 17-40-310. License and credential – Form.

6 A license or credential when issued shall be in the form prescribed by  
7 the Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of Arkansas State Police and shall  
8 include the:

9 (1) Name of the licensee or credential holder;

10 (2) Name under which the licensee or credential holder is to  
11 operate; and

12 (3) License or credential number and date of expiration.  
13

14 SECTION 5979. Arkansas Code § 17-40-312 is amended to read as follows:

15 17-40-312. License and credential – Termination.

16 The Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of Arkansas State Police shall  
17 prescribe by rule the procedure under which a license or credential issued  
18 under this chapter may be terminated by the licensee or credential holder.  
19

20 SECTION 5980. Arkansas Code § 17-40-313(a)(2), concerning the  
21 expiration and renewal of a license, is amended to read as follows:

22 (2) To renew an unexpired license or credential, the licensee or  
23 the credential holder shall apply for renewal on a form prescribed by the  
24 Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of Arkansas State Police and pay the  
25 renewal fee prescribed by this chapter.  
26

27 SECTION 5981. Arkansas Code § 17-40-314(b)(2), concerning managers of  
28 the business of each licensee, is amended to read as follows:

29 (2) Made a satisfactory showing to the Director of the  
30 ~~Department~~ Division of Arkansas State Police that the person has the  
31 qualifications prescribed by this chapter.  
32

33 SECTION 5982. Arkansas Code § 17-40-315(a), concerning the duties of  
34 licensee or credential holders, is amended to read as follows:

35 (a) Each licensee or credential holder shall maintain a record  
36 containing the information relative to his or her employees as may be

1 prescribed by the Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of Arkansas State  
2 Police.

3  
4 SECTION 5983. Arkansas Code § 17-40-316(a), concerning the change of  
5 address, telephone number, email address, name, or officers, or partners for  
6 licenses and credentials, is amended to read as follows:

7 (a) A licensee or credential holder shall notify the Director of the  
8 ~~Department~~ Division of Arkansas State Police within fourteen (14) days after  
9 a change of the licensee's or credential holder's name, address, telephone  
10 number, email address, or officer or partner.

11  
12 SECTION 5984. Arkansas Code § 17-40-317 is amended to read as follows:

13 17-40-317. Licensees and credential holders – Windup period.

14 When the individual on the basis of whose qualifications a license or  
15 credential under this chapter has been obtained ceases to be connected with  
16 the business for which a license or credential under this chapter is  
17 required, the business may be carried on for a temporary period under such  
18 terms and conditions as the Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of Arkansas  
19 State Police shall provide by rule.

20  
21 SECTION 5985. Arkansas Code § 17-40-318 is amended to read as follows:

22 17-40-318. Training requirements for alarm systems company.

23 The Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of Arkansas State Police shall  
24 promulgate rules regarding the training requirements for alarm systems  
25 companies, alarm systems apprentices, alarm systems monitors, alarm systems  
26 technicians, and alarm systems agents.

27  
28 SECTION 5986. Arkansas Code § 17-40-325(a), concerning a license or  
29 credential application, is amended to read as follows:

30 (a) A person who is employed as a private investigator, a manager, a  
31 private security officer, an alarm systems technician, an alarm systems  
32 monitor, an alarm systems apprentice, or an alarm systems agent and who is  
33 required to be licensed or credentialed under this chapter shall submit a  
34 properly completed application for the license or credential to the Director  
35 of the ~~Department~~ Division of Arkansas State Police within fourteen (14)  
36 calendar days after the commencement of employment.

1  
2 SECTION 5987. Arkansas Code § 17-40-329(a)(1), concerning issuance of  
3 a credential photo identification card, transfer and fee, and cancellation,  
4 is amended to read as follows:

5 (a)(1) A credential photo identification card of a size, a design, and  
6 content as may be determined by the Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of  
7 Arkansas State Police shall be issued by the ~~Department~~ Division of Arkansas  
8 State Police under this chapter.

9  
10 SECTION 5988. Arkansas Code § 17-40-330 is amended to read as follows:  
11 17-40-330. Authority to issue commission to carry a firearm.

12 The Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of Arkansas State Police may  
13 determine the qualifications for and issue an authorization to carry a  
14 firearm in the form of a commission to a qualified security officer or  
15 qualified school security officer that shall be held during the course of his  
16 or her employment.

17  
18 SECTION 5989. Arkansas Code § 17-40-337(a)(4), concerning the  
19 commission and applicant qualifications for a commissioned security officer  
20 or a commissioned school security officer, is amended to read as follows:

21 (4) Does not meet the qualifications for a commission as  
22 determined by the Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of Arkansas State  
23 Police;

24  
25 SECTION 5990. Arkansas Code § 17-40-337(a)(6)(A), concerning the  
26 commission and applicant qualifications for a commissioned security officer  
27 or a commissioned school security officer, is amended to read as follows:

28 (6)(A) Has not successfully completed a state and national  
29 criminal background check to be conducted by the ~~Department~~ Division of  
30 Arkansas State Police and the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

31  
32 SECTION 5991. Arkansas Code § 17-40-339(a), concerning notice to law  
33 enforcement regarding commissioned security officers, is amended to read as  
34 follows:

35 (a) The Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of Arkansas State Police  
36 shall notify the sheriff of the county and the chief of police of the city,

1 if applicable, in which the applicant resides of the application for a  
2 commission to be a commissioned security officer or a commissioned school  
3 security officer.

4  
5 SECTION 5992. Arkansas Code § 17-40-340 is amended to read as follows:  
6 17-40-340. Commission – Issuance of identification card.

7 Each commission as a commissioned security officer or a commissioned  
8 school security officer issued under this chapter shall be in the form of a  
9 commission photo identification card designed by the Director of the  
10 ~~Department~~ Division of Arkansas State Police that shall identify:

- 11 (1) The commission holder;  
12 (2) The security department of a private business or school by  
13 whom the commission holder is employed;  
14 (3) A photograph of the credential holder; and  
15 (4) A credential number and date of expiration.

16  
17 SECTION 5993. Arkansas Code § 17-40-342 is amended to read as follows:  
18 17-40-342. Commission – Termination.

19 If the holder of a commission terminates his or her employment with the  
20 licensee or the security department of a private business or school, he or  
21 she shall return the commission photo identification card to the Director of  
22 the ~~Department~~ Division of Arkansas State Police within seven (7) days of the  
23 date of termination of the employment.

24  
25 SECTION 5994. Arkansas Code § 17-40-344 is amended to read as follows:  
26 17-40-344. Commission – Denial, suspension, or revocation.

27 The Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of Arkansas State Police may  
28 deny, suspend, or revoke a commission as a commissioned school security  
29 officer or a commission as a commissioned security officer if the applicant  
30 for a commission or the commission holder is indicted or arrested for one (1)  
31 of the following offenses or a comparable offense in another state:

- 32 (1) A felony;  
33 (2) A Class A misdemeanor;  
34 (3) A crime involving an act of violence;  
35 (4) A crime involving the use of a firearm;  
36 (5) A crime involving the use of alcohol or drugs while in

1 possession of a firearm;

2 (6) A crime that results in the person's disqualifying himself  
3 or herself from legally possessing a firearm under state or federal law; or

4 (7) A crime involving moral turpitude.

5

6 SECTION 5995. Arkansas Code § 17-40-349(a), concerning the suspension  
7 of a license, credential, or commission for nonpayment of child support, is  
8 amended to read as follows:

9 (a) The Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of Arkansas State Police  
10 shall suspend a license, credential, or commission issued under this chapter  
11 if the ~~Department~~ Division of Arkansas State Police is notified by the Office  
12 of Child Support Enforcement that the licensee, credential holder, or  
13 commission holder has not paid his or her required child support.

14

15 SECTION 5996. Arkansas Code § 17-40-349(c)(2), concerning the  
16 suspension of a license, credential, or commission for nonpayment of child  
17 support, is amended to read as follows:

18 (2) Notification from the office to the ~~department~~ division.

19

20 SECTION 5997. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 17-40-  
21 350(a), concerning grounds for disciplinary action by the Director of the  
22 Department of Arkansas State Police, is amended to read as follows:

23 (a) The Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of Arkansas State Police  
24 may suspend or revoke a license, credential, or commission or issue a fine in  
25 an amount not to exceed one thousand dollars (\$1,000) for each violation of  
26 this chapter, or both, or the director may deny an application for a license,  
27 credential, or commission, or renewal thereof, on proof that the applicant,  
28 licensee, commission holder, or credential holder:

29

30 SECTION 5998. Arkansas Code § 17-40-351(a), concerning the procedure  
31 for denial of a license, credential, or commission, is amended to read as  
32 follows:

33 (a) The Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of Arkansas State Police  
34 may deny the issuance of a license, credential, or commission under this  
35 chapter.

36

1 SECTION 5999. Arkansas Code § 17-40-352(a), concerning the record of  
2 denial, revocation, or suspension of a license, credential, or commission, is  
3 amended to read as follows:

4 (a) In the event that the Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of  
5 Arkansas State Police denies the application or suspends or revokes a  
6 license, credential, or commission, or if a fine is imposed, the director's  
7 decision shall be in writing.

8  
9 SECTION 6000. Arkansas Code § 17-40-353(1), concerning reciprocity for  
10 a private investigator licensed or credentialed by another state, is amended  
11 to read as follows:

12 (1) The other state or territory grants similar reciprocity to  
13 credential holders of this state that coincides with the records on private  
14 investigator credential reciprocity maintained by the ~~Department~~ Division of  
15 Arkansas State Police;

16  
17 SECTION 6001. Arkansas Code § 17-40-353(4), concerning reciprocity for  
18 a private investigator licensed or credentialed by another state, is amended  
19 to read as follows:

20 (4) The applicant meets other reasonable qualifications as may  
21 be adopted by the Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of Arkansas State  
22 Police.

23  
24 SECTION 6002. Arkansas Code § 17-40-354 is amended to read as follows:  
25 17-40-354. Fingerprint cards.

26 (a) The Identification Bureau of the ~~Department~~ Division of Arkansas  
27 State Police and the Federal Bureau of Investigation may retain the  
28 fingerprints collected for each individual who is fingerprinted under this  
29 chapter.

30 (b) The Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of Arkansas State Police  
31 may enroll a person issued a license, credential, or commission under this  
32 chapter in a program that electronically notifies law enforcement if the  
33 person has been arrested.

34  
35 SECTION 6003. Arkansas Code § 19-6-404 is amended to read as follows:  
36 19-6-404. ~~Department~~ Division of Arkansas State Police Fund.

1 The ~~Department~~ Division of Arkansas State Police Fund shall consist of:

2 (1) Those special revenues as specified in § 19-6-301(1), (5),  
3 (7), (8), (38)-(40), (94), (150), (168), (175), (184)-(186), (190), (218)-  
4 (220), (222), (226), (227), (234), and (252);

5 (2) Moneys transferred or deposited from the State  
6 Administration of Justice Fund;

7 (3) Those general revenues as may be provided by law, there to  
8 be used for the maintenance, operation, and improvement of the ~~Department~~  
9 Division of Arkansas State Police in carrying out the functions, powers, and  
10 duties as stated in § 12-8-106 or other duties imposed by law upon the  
11 department;

12 (4) Any revenues credited to the ~~Department~~ Division of Arkansas  
13 State Police Fund under the ~~Department~~ Division of Arkansas State Police  
14 Headquarters Facilities and Equipment Financing Act, § 12-8-601 et seq.; and

15 (5) Federal reimbursements received for eligible expenditures by  
16 the various programs of the ~~department~~ division made payable from the  
17 ~~Department~~ Division of Arkansas State Police Fund.

18

19 SECTION 6004. Arkansas Code § 19-11-605 is amended to read as follows:

20 19-11-605. Authority to transfer excess military property to state  
21 and local agencies – Service charge.

22 The Law Enforcement Support Office of the Department of ~~Career~~  
23 ~~Education~~ Public Safety may:

24 (1) Cooperate with the federal government under 10 U.S.C. §  
25 2576a in the transfer of excess military property to state and local law  
26 enforcement agencies:

27 (A) Whose primary function is the enforcement of  
28 applicable federal, state, and local laws; and

29 (B) Whose compensated law enforcement officers have powers  
30 of arrest and apprehension, including without limitation counter-drug and  
31 counter-terrorism activities;

32 (2) Take any action necessary to the proper administration of  
33 the acquisition and the distribution of excess military properties to  
34 eligible claimants in this state, with distribution to be in accordance with  
35 the appropriate controlling federal statutes;

36 (3) Establish service charges in an amount necessary to cover

1 the expenses of the Department of ~~Career Education~~ Public Safety incurred in  
2 administering this section; and

3 (4) Take action as necessary to collect service charges and,  
4 from any state moneys over which the department has control, withhold funds  
5 necessary to pay an amount owing by a state or local law enforcement agency.  
6

7 SECTION 6005. Arkansas Code § 20-22-203 is amended to read as follows:  
8 20-22-203. Staff, offices, and supplies provided.

9 The ~~State Fire Marshal's Office~~ Department of Public Safety shall  
10 provide staff, office space and supplies, and other assistance as may be  
11 necessary for the day-to-day operation of the State Fire Prevention  
12 Commission and its activities.  
13

14 SECTION 6006. Arkansas Code § 20-22-204 is amended to read as follows:  
15 20-22-204. Powers and duties.

16 (a) The State Fire Prevention Commission may:

17 (1)(A) Obtain all necessary information from fire departments,  
18 police or sheriffs' departments, the ~~Department~~ Division of Arkansas State  
19 Police, other state agencies, clinics, insurance companies, or any other  
20 person with regard to fire, its causes, and its methods of prevention.

21 (B)(i) Notwithstanding any provision of law to the  
22 contrary, information furnished under this subsection shall be confidential  
23 and maintained as such if so requested by the persons providing the  
24 information.

25 (ii) Nothing in this subsection shall prohibit the  
26 use of confidential information to prepare statistics or other general data  
27 when it is presented so as to prevent identification of the source of  
28 information; and

29 (2) Receive and expend funds obtained from the federal  
30 government or other sources by means of contracts, grants, awards, gifts, and  
31 other devices in support of fire-prevention-related scientific and technical  
32 programs, studies, or other operations beneficial to the state.

33 (b) The ~~commission~~ State Fire Prevention Commission shall have the  
34 following duties and responsibilities:

35 (1) Develop a plan for statewide fire prevention, including  
36 plans for urban and rural fire prevention;

1 (2) Develop and maintain a fire prevention database upon which  
2 decisions concerning fire prevention and policy may intelligently be made;

3 (3) Identify state needs relative to fire prevention, including  
4 specific needs of urban and rural areas;

5 (4) Recommend actions to meet identified state needs relative to  
6 fire prevention;

7 (5) Monitor and review the effectiveness of existing and  
8 proposed fire prevention programs;

9 (6) Maintain an awareness of fire prevention research and  
10 development of importance to the state in order to promote information  
11 exchange and coordination of efforts;

12 (7) Recommend legislative and executive action to encourage  
13 development of fire prevention resources and the efficient utilization of the  
14 resources;

15 (8) Administer a public fire prevention awareness program to  
16 inform the public of the importance and methods of fire prevention;

17 (9) Advise the General Assembly, the Governor, the State Fire  
18 Marshal, the Arkansas Forestry Commission, the Director of the Arkansas Fire  
19 Training Academy, the Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of Arkansas State  
20 Police, and the Insurance Commissioner on fire prevention and program matters  
21 of importance to each;

22 (10) Advise on the delegation of responsibilities to state  
23 agencies responsible for fire prevention and policy and recommend resolution  
24 of conflicts between the various agencies on fire prevention matters;

25 (11) Develop an annual report on the activities of the State  
26 Fire Prevention Commission and transmit the report to the ~~Governor~~ Secretary  
27 of the Department of Public Safety and the General Assembly on or before  
28 November 30 annually; and

29 (12) Coordinate activities with the Federal Emergency Management  
30 Agency and any of the other federal or state agencies involved with fire  
31 prevention matters.

32  
33 SECTION 6007. Arkansas Code § 20-22-701(5), concerning the definition  
34 of "license" under the laws governing fireworks, is amended to read as  
35 follows:

36 (5) "License" means the written authority of the Director of the

1 ~~Department~~ Division of Arkansas State Police issued under the authority of  
2 this subchapter to a distributor, jobber, wholesaler, manufacturer, importer,  
3 or retailer for a fee as provided in § 20-22-707;

4  
5 SECTION 6008. Arkansas Code § 20-22-701(7), concerning the definition  
6 of "permit" under the laws governing fireworks, is amended to read as  
7 follows:

8 (7) "Permit" means the written authority of the Director of the  
9 ~~Department~~ Division of Arkansas State Police issued for a public fireworks  
10 display under the authority of this subchapter;

11  
12 SECTION 6009. Arkansas Code § 20-22-702(a), concerning exceptions for  
13 public displays of fireworks, is amended to read as follows:

14 (a) Nothing in this subchapter shall be construed as applying to the  
15 shipping, sale, possession, and use of fireworks for public displays by  
16 holders of a permit for a public display to be conducted in accordance with  
17 the rules and regulations promulgated by the Director of the ~~Department~~  
18 Division of Arkansas State Police. Such items of fireworks which are to be  
19 used for public display only and which are otherwise prohibited for sale and  
20 use within the state shall include display shells designed to be fired from  
21 mortars and display set pieces of fireworks classified by the regulations of  
22 the United States Surface Transportation Board as Class B special fireworks  
23 and shall not include such items of commercial fireworks as cherry bombs,  
24 tubular salutes, repeating bombs, aerial bombs, and torpedoes.

25  
26 SECTION 6010. Arkansas Code § 20-22-702(d)(1), concerning exceptions  
27 for public displays of fireworks, is amended to read as follows:

28 (d)(1) The ~~Department~~ Division of Arkansas State Police may charge a  
29 fee not to exceed fifty dollars (\$50.00) for each permit issued under this  
30 section.

31  
32 SECTION 6011. Arkansas Code § 20-22-702(d)(3), concerning exceptions  
33 for public displays of fireworks, is amended to read as follows:

34 (3) All permit fees shall be remitted to the ~~department~~ division  
35 and shall be deposited into the State Treasury as special revenues to the  
36 credit of the ~~Department~~ Division of Arkansas State Police Fund.

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SECTION 6012. Arkansas Code § 20-22-703(a)(1)(D), concerning exceptions regarding fireworks law, is amended to read as follows:

(D) Transportation, sale, or use of permissible fireworks as defined in § 20-22-708 or special fireworks as defined in § 20-22-701 solely for agricultural or industrial purposes, provided that the purchaser first secures a written permit to purchase and use the fireworks for agricultural or industrial purposes from the Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of Arkansas State Police.

SECTION 6013. Arkansas Code § 20-22-707(a)(1)(A), concerning application and issuance of license for manufacturer, importer, distributor, jobber, retailer, or shooter of fireworks, is amended to read as follows:

(a)(1)(A) To be licensed as a manufacturer, importer, distributor, jobber, retailer, retailer all-year, or shooter of fireworks, a first-time applicant shall submit to the Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of Arkansas State Police an application on a form provided by the director setting forth the information that the director determines necessary to ensure public health, safety, and welfare.

SECTION 6014. Arkansas Code § 20-22-707(a)(2)(A), concerning the application and issuance of a license for a manufacturer, importer, distributor, jobber, retailer, or shooter of fireworks, is amended to read as follows:

(2)(A) A retailer may purchase a license from its vendor if the vendor is a licensed importer, distributor, or jobber or from the State Fire Marshal Enforcement Section of the ~~Department~~ Division of Arkansas State Police. The retailers' licenses shall be made available by the ~~Department~~ Division of Arkansas State Police to the vendor in books of twenty (20) licenses to a book.

SECTION 6015. Arkansas Code § 20-22-707(c), concerning application and issuance of license for manufacturer, importer, distributor, jobber, retailer, or shooter of fireworks, is amended to read as follows:

(c) All funds collected under this subchapter by the director, including license fees and penalties, shall be deposited into the State

1 Treasury to the credit of the ~~Department~~ Division of Arkansas State Police  
2 Fund.

3

4 SECTION 6016. Arkansas Code § 20-22-707(h), concerning the application  
5 and issuance of a license for a manufacturer, importer, distributor, jobber,  
6 retailer, or shooter of fireworks, is amended to read as follows:

7 (h) The director may revoke or deny an application for any license or  
8 permit at any time for violating any provision of this subchapter or for  
9 falsifying any information provided to the ~~department~~ division as part of an  
10 application for a license or permit.

11

12 SECTION 6017. Arkansas Code § 20-22-710(e), concerning the location  
13 and display of fireworks, is amended to read as follows:

14 (e) All licensees under this subchapter shall have a fire extinguisher  
15 of a type approved by the Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of Arkansas  
16 State Police in an area readily accessible to any point of storage or sale of  
17 fireworks. In lieu of such an extinguisher, retailers may maintain a common  
18 type of water hose, charged and connected to a water system, which is readily  
19 available to any area where fireworks are stored or sold.

20

21 SECTION 6018. Arkansas Code § 20-22-714(a), concerning the seizure of  
22 contraband fireworks, is amended to read as follows:

23 (a) The Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of Arkansas State Police  
24 shall seize as contraband any fireworks other than Class C common fireworks  
25 defined in § 20-22-708 or special fireworks for public displays as provided  
26 in § 20-22-702 or for agricultural or industrial purposes as provided in §  
27 20-22-703, which are sold, displayed, used, or possessed in violation of this  
28 subchapter.

29

30 SECTION 6019. Arkansas Code § 20-22-715(a), concerning a notice of  
31 violation and hearing, is amended to read as follows:

32 (a) With reference to the administrative and civil penalties imposed  
33 by this subchapter, the Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of Arkansas State  
34 Police shall notify the person accused of a violation, setting a time and  
35 place for hearing to be held by the director or his or her designated agent.

36

1 SECTION 6020. Arkansas Code § 20-22-803(a)(3), concerning the creation  
2 and membership of the Arkansas Fire Protection Services Board, is amended to  
3 read as follows:

4 (3) The Director of the Arkansas Fire Training Academy, the  
5 Director of the ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of Emergency Management or his  
6 or her designee, and the State Fire Marshal or his or her designee shall be  
7 ex officio members.

8  
9 SECTION 6021. Arkansas Code § 20-22-804(A)(5), concerning the powers  
10 and duties of the Arkansas Fire Protection Services Board, is amended to read  
11 as follows:

12 (5) Serve in an advisory capacity to the Director of the  
13 ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of Emergency Management with respect to the  
14 operation of fire services and the matters concerning certification and  
15 standards related to fire services in the state;

16  
17 SECTION 6022. Arkansas Code § 20-22-805 is amended to read as follows:

18 20-22-805. Office of Fire Protection Services – Creation.

19 (a) There is created the Office of Fire Protection Services which  
20 shall be under the supervision and direction of the Director of the ~~Arkansas~~  
21 ~~Department~~ Division of Emergency Management.

22 (b) The Director of the Office of Fire Protection Services, who shall  
23 be employed by the Director of the ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of Emergency  
24 Management, in consultation with the Secretary of the Department of Public  
25 Safety, shall have the responsibility to carry out the administrative  
26 functions and directives of the Arkansas Fire Protection Services Board.

27 ~~(c) The Director of the Office of Fire Protection Services may employ~~  
28 ~~personnel as may be authorized by law to carry out the duties of the office.~~

29  
30 SECTION 6023. Arkansas Code § 20-64-1003(d), concerning the functions,  
31 powers, and duties of the Arkansas Alcohol and Drug Abuse Coordinating  
32 Council, is amended to read as follows:

33 (d) The council shall develop training and education programs for  
34 criminal justice personnel in drug-related matters in conjunction with the  
35 ~~Arkansas Commission on~~ Division of Law Enforcement Standards and Training.

36

1 SECTION 6024. Arkansas Code § 22-3-304(a), concerning the enforcement  
2 of the subchapter by the Director of the Department of Arkansas State Police,  
3 is amended to read as follows:

4 (a) In order that the provisions of this subchapter might be enforced,  
5 the Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of Arkansas State Police may assign  
6 one (1) state police officer or more to the State Capitol and its grounds,  
7 which may include assignments for sessions of the General Assembly, and the  
8 Secretary of State is directed to assign one (1) State Capitol Police officer  
9 or more. It shall be the responsibility of the Secretary of State to assure  
10 that at least one (1) certified law enforcement officer is on duty on the  
11 State Capitol grounds twenty-four (24) hours per day, seven (7) days per  
12 week.  
13

14 SECTION 6025. Arkansas Code § 22-8-210 is amended to read as follows:

15 22-8-210. Motor vehicle renovation.

16 (a) Funds deposited into the Motor Vehicle Acquisition Revolving Fund  
17 created by § 19-5-1002(a) and § 22-8-206(b), which may be made available for  
18 the purchase of motor vehicles for the ~~Department~~ Division of Arkansas State  
19 Police, may in addition be made available and used for expenses associated  
20 with the renovation of state police motor vehicles.

21 (b) If the Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of Arkansas State  
22 Police determines the cost associated with renovating or repairing state  
23 police motor vehicles is economically beneficial, he or she shall contract  
24 with a qualified vendor and, when invoiced, shall submit said invoice to the  
25 Chief Fiscal Officer of the State, who shall direct payment from moneys set  
26 aside in the fund for the ~~department~~ division.  
27

28 SECTION 6026. Arkansas Code § 24-6-201(6) and (7), concerning the  
29 definition of "department" and "director" under the laws governing the State  
30 Police Retirement System, are repealed.

31 ~~(6) "Department" means the Department of Arkansas State Police;~~

32 ~~(7) "Director" means the Director of the Department of Arkansas~~  
33 ~~State Police;~~  
34

35 SECTION 6027. Arkansas Code § 24-6-201(8), concerning the definition  
36 of "final average compensation" under the laws governing the State Police

1 Retirement System, is amended to read as follows:

2 (8)(A) "Final average compensation" for contributory service  
3 means the average of the annual salaries paid a member for the three (3)  
4 years of credited service rendered by the member immediately preceding his or  
5 her last termination of employment with the ~~department~~ Division of Arkansas  
6 State Police, but the final average compensation shall not exceed that of the  
7 highest permanent rank.

8 (B)(i) "Final average compensation" for Tier I  
9 noncontributory service means the average of the highest annual compensation  
10 paid a member during any period of sixty (60) calendar months of credited  
11 service with the ~~Department of Arkansas State Police~~ division.

12 (ii) Should a member have less than sixty (60)  
13 calendar months of credited service, "final average compensation" means the  
14 monthly average paid to the member during his or her total years of credited  
15 service;

16

17 SECTION 6028. Arkansas Code § 24-6-201(16), concerning the definition  
18 of "retirement" under the laws governing the State Police Retirement System,  
19 is amended to read as follows:

20 (16) "Retirement" means a member's withdrawal from the employ of  
21 the ~~department~~ division with a pension payable from funds of the system;

22

23 SECTION 6029. Arkansas Code § 24-6-201(18) and (19), concerning the  
24 definitions of "service" and "state police officer" under the laws governing  
25 the State Police Retirement System, are amended to read as follows:

26 (18) "Service" means service rendered to the ~~department~~ division  
27 by a state police officer and shall include previous service, if any,  
28 rendered as an Arkansas state ranger, state police officer with the  
29 Department of Arkansas State Police, or state police officer with the  
30 Division of Arkansas State Police;

31 (19)(A) "State police officer" means any employee of the  
32 ~~Department of Arkansas State Police~~ division or its predecessor entities who  
33 holds the rank of state trooper or higher rank, and it shall include the  
34 ~~director~~ Director of the Division of Arkansas State Police.

35 (B) The term "state police officer" shall not include any  
36 civilian employee of the ~~department~~ division, nor shall it include any person

1 who is temporarily employed as a state trooper for an emergency.

2 (C) In any case of doubt as to who is a "state police  
3 officer", the board shall decide the question;

4  
5 SECTION 6030. Arkansas Code § 24-6-207(a), concerning membership in  
6 the State Police Retirement System, is amended to read as follows:

7 (a) The Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of Arkansas State Police  
8 and all other state police officers ~~who were state police officers March 19,~~  
9 ~~1951, and who continued as state police officers on or after March 19, 1951,~~  
10 shall become members of the State Police Retirement System.

11  
12 SECTION 6031. Arkansas Code § 24-6-207(c), concerning membership in  
13 the State Police Retirement System, is amended to read as follows:

14 (c) None of the other employees of the ~~Department~~ Division of Arkansas  
15 State Police shall be eligible to membership in the system, and the  
16 conferring of rank upon any such employee shall not, in itself, constitute  
17 eligibility to membership in the system.

18  
19 SECTION 6032. Arkansas Code § 24-6-207, concerning membership in the  
20 State Police Retirement System, is amended to add an additional subsection to  
21 read as follows:

22 (d) Any state police officer, upon appointment as Secretary of the  
23 Department of Public Safety, shall be eligible to continue his or her  
24 membership in the State Police Retirement System.

25  
26 SECTION 6033. Arkansas Code § 24-6-405(a), concerning eligibility for  
27 benefits and disability retirement from the State Police Retirement System,  
28 is amended to read as follows:

29 (a)(1)(A) Upon application filed with the Board of Trustees of the  
30 State Police Retirement System by a member or by the Director of the  
31 ~~Department~~ Division of Arkansas State Police on behalf of a member, a member  
32 who is in the employ of the ~~Department~~ Division of Arkansas State Police, who  
33 has five (5) or more years of actual service, and who becomes totally and  
34 permanently incapacitated for duty in the employ of the ~~department~~ division  
35 by reason of personal injury or disease may be retired by the Board of  
36 Trustees of the State Police Retirement System, but only after a medical

1 examination of the member.

2 (B) This examination shall be made by or under the  
3 direction of a board of medical professionals as defined in the rules of the  
4 Board of Trustees of the State Police Retirement System, using the active  
5 duty criteria supplied by the ~~department~~ division in determining the extent  
6 of the disability.

7 (2) The five (5) years of service requirement contained in this  
8 subsection shall not apply to a member whom the Board of Trustees of the  
9 State Police Retirement System finds to be in receipt of workers'  
10 compensation for his or her disability arising solely and exclusively out of  
11 and in the course of his or her employment with the ~~department~~ division.  
12

13 SECTION 6034. Arkansas Code § 24-6-405(c)(4), concerning eligibility  
14 for benefits and disability retirement from the State Police Retirement  
15 System, is amended to read as follows:

16 (4) If, upon the medical examination of the retirant, the  
17 medical professionals designated by the Board of Trustees of the State Police  
18 Retirement System report to the Board of Trustees of the State Police  
19 Retirement System that the retirant is physically capable of performing the  
20 duties of the rank held by him or her at the time of his or her retirement,  
21 the retirant shall be returned to the employ of the ~~department~~ division, and  
22 his or her disability pension shall be terminated.  
23

24 SECTION 6035. Arkansas Code § 24-6-405(d), concerning eligibility for  
25 benefits and disability retirement from the State Police Retirement System,  
26 is amended to read as follows:

27 (d)(1) Upon a disability retirant's return to the employ of the  
28 ~~department~~ division as provided in subsection (c) of this section, his or her  
29 service at the time of his or her retirement shall be restored to his or her  
30 credit.

31 (2) He or she shall be given service credit for the period he or  
32 she was receiving a disability pension if within that period he or she was in  
33 receipt of workers' compensation on account of his or her ~~department~~ division  
34 employment.  
35

36 SECTION 6036. Arkansas Code § 25-17-304(a), concerning the appointment

1 and removal of institutional law enforcement officers, is amended to read as  
2 follows:

3 (a) The executive heads of each of the educational, charitable,  
4 correctional, penal, and other institutions owned and operated by the State  
5 of Arkansas, including the ~~executive head~~ Secretary of the Department of  
6 Parks, Heritage, and Tourism and the executive head of the Arkansas Forestry  
7 Commission, are authorized to designate and appoint one (1) or more of the  
8 employees of the institutions and department, respectively, as an  
9 institutional law enforcement officer or officers for the institution or at a  
10 state park, or any separate portion of the institution or park, who shall  
11 exercise law enforcement officer authority under the laws of this state.

12

13 SECTION 6037. Arkansas Code § 25-17-304(e)(3)(D), concerning the  
14 appointment and removal of institutional law enforcement officers, is amended  
15 to read as follows:

16 (D) The ~~Arkansas Commission on~~ Division of Law Enforcement  
17 Standards and Training shall be notified of any change in an institutional  
18 law enforcement officer's status.

19

20 SECTION 6038. Arkansas Code § 27-16-508(b), concerning the Office of  
21 Driver Services fee for reinstatement, is amended to read as follows:

22 (b) The revenues derived from this fee shall be deposited into the  
23 State Treasury as special revenues to the credit of the ~~Department~~ Division  
24 of Arkansas State Police Fund.

25

26 SECTION 6039. Arkansas Code § 27-16-808(b)(2), concerning  
27 reinstatement charge for a suspended license, is amended to read as follows:

28 (2) Seventy-five percent (75%) to the State Treasury as special  
29 revenues to the credit of the ~~Department~~ Division of Arkansas State Police  
30 Fund.

31

32 SECTION 6040. Arkansas Code § 27-23-108(a)(1)(B), concerning  
33 commercial driver license qualification standards, is amended to read as  
34 follows:

35 (B)(i) The tests shall be prescribed by the ~~Department~~  
36 Division of Arkansas State Police and shall be conducted by the ~~Department of~~

1 ~~Arkansas State Police~~ division or by a third-party tester designated by the  
2 ~~Department of Arkansas State Police~~ division under regulations promulgated as  
3 provided in this section.

4 (ii) The knowledge test administered by the  
5 ~~Department of Arkansas State Police~~ division shall be given in electronic  
6 format.

7 (iii) The result of a test administered by the  
8 ~~Department of Arkansas State Police~~ division or by a third-party tester shall  
9 be transmitted electronically to the Department of Finance and  
10 Administration.

11  
12 SECTION 6041. Arkansas Code § 27-23-108(a)(2), concerning commercial  
13 driver license qualification standards, is amended to read as follows:

14 (2) The ~~Department of Arkansas State Police~~ division shall, by  
15 rules, authorize a person, including an agency of this state, an employer, a  
16 private driver training facility, another private institution, or a  
17 department, agency, or instrumentality of local government, to administer the  
18 skills test specified by this section pursuant to the requirements of 49  
19 C.F.R. § 383.75, as in effect on January 1, 2013. These third-party testing  
20 regulations shall provide at a minimum that:

21 (A) A skills test given by a third-party tester is the  
22 same as a test that would otherwise be given by the ~~Department of Arkansas~~  
23 ~~State Police~~ division using:

24 (i) The same version of the skills test;

25 (ii) The same written instructions for test  
26 applicants; and

27 (iii) The same scoring sheets as those prescribed in  
28 49 C.F.R. part 383, subparts G and H, as in effect on January 1, 2013;

29 (B) A third-party skills test examiner shall meet the  
30 requirements of 49 C.F.R. § 384.228, as in effect on January 1, 2013;

31 (C) The third-party tester shall enter into an agreement  
32 with the ~~Department of Arkansas State Police~~ division that demonstrates  
33 compliance with all of the requirements of 49 C.F.R. § 383.75, as in effect  
34 on January 1, 2013;

35 (D) The ~~Department of Arkansas State Police~~ division shall  
36 designate and provide to any third-party testers the evidence to be used to

1 indicate to the Department of Finance and Administration that an applicant  
2 had successfully passed the skills test;

3 (E) The eligibility to become a third-party tester shall  
4 be open to qualified persons under the regulations at least two (2) times  
5 annually, provided there are sufficient numbers of qualified applicants to  
6 conduct classes;

7 (F) The third-party tester shall pay a third-party testing  
8 administration fee as may be determined by the Director of the ~~Department~~  
9 Division of Arkansas State Police to recover the costs of administering the  
10 testing program and examination distribution expenses;

11 (G) The ~~Department of Arkansas State Police~~ division shall  
12 issue each third-party skills test examiner a skills testing certificate upon  
13 successful completion of a formal skills test examiner training course  
14 pursuant to 49 C.F.R. § 384.228, as in effect on January 1, 2013; and

15 (H) The ~~Department of Arkansas State Police~~ division shall  
16 audit and monitor third-party testers and third-party skills test examiners  
17 pursuant to the requirements of 49 C.F.R. § 384.229, as in effect on January  
18 1, 2013.

19

20 SECTION 6042. Arkansas Code § 27-23-108(a)(3)(B)(i), concerning  
21 commercial driver license qualification standards, is amended to read as  
22 follows:

23 (B)(i) A new third-party tester applicant shall certify to  
24 the ~~Department of Arkansas State Police~~ division the number of tests it  
25 anticipates conducting in its first year of testing and shall obtain and  
26 maintain a bond based upon the number of tests it anticipates conducting that  
27 corresponds to the amount provided in subdivision (a)(3)(A) of this section  
28 for tests in the preceding calendar year.

29

30 SECTION 6043. Arkansas Code § 27-23-108(a)(3)(D), concerning  
31 commercial driver license qualification standards, is amended to read as  
32 follows:

33 (D) In the event that a third-party tester or one of its  
34 examiners is involved in fraudulent activities related to conducting skills  
35 testing that require a driver to be retested, the third party tester's bond  
36 is liable to the ~~Department of Arkansas State Police~~ division for payment of

1 its actual costs to retest the driver.

2

3 SECTION 6044. Arkansas Code § 27-23-108(b)(1), concerning commercial  
4 driver license qualification standards, is amended to read as follows:

5 (1) The ~~Department of Arkansas State Police~~ division may waive  
6 the skills test specified in this section for a commercial driver license  
7 applicant who meets the requirements of 49 C.F.R., § 383.77, as in effect on  
8 January 1, 2013.

9

10 SECTION 6045. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 27-23-  
11 108(b)(2)(B), concerning commercial driver license qualification standards,  
12 is amended to read as follows:

13 (B) The ~~Department of Arkansas State Police~~ division shall  
14 waive the skills test specified in this section for any commercial driver  
15 license applicant who:

16

17 SECTION 6046. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 27-23-  
18 108(b)(2)(C), concerning commercial driver license qualification standards,  
19 is amended to read as follows:

20 (C) The ~~Department of Arkansas State Police~~ division  
21 shall:

22

23 SECTION 6047. Arkansas Code § 27-23-108(e)(1)(A), concerning  
24 commercial driver license qualification standards, is amended to read as  
25 follows:

26 (A) Completes a human trafficking prevention course  
27 administered by the ~~Department of Arkansas State Police~~ division or by a  
28 third party approved by the ~~Department of Arkansas State Police~~ division to  
29 present a human trafficking prevention course under regulations promulgated  
30 as provided in this section; or

31

32 SECTION 6048. Arkansas Code § 27-37-701(2), concerning the definition  
33 of "seat belt" under the motor vehicle laws, is amended to read as follows:

34 (2) "Seat belt" means any passenger restraint system as defined  
35 by the ~~Department~~ Division of Arkansas State Police, except that, until such  
36 time as the ~~department~~ division has promulgated regulations defining "seat

1 belt”, the term means any passenger restraint system which meets the federal  
2 requirements contained in 49 C.F.R. § 571.208.

3  
4 SECTION 6049. Arkansas Code § 27-53-210(a) and (b), concerning the  
5 fees for copies made by the Department of Arkansas State Police, are amended  
6 to read as follows:

7 (a) Except as provided under § 27-53-202(b)(2)(B), photostatic or  
8 written copies of reports and records may be obtained from the Director of  
9 the ~~Department~~ Division of Arkansas State Police, or from his or her duly  
10 designated assistants, by any person who makes a written request for them to  
11 the ~~department~~ Division of Arkansas State Police.

12 (b)(1) In order to partially reimburse the ~~Department of Arkansas~~  
13 ~~State Police~~ division for the cost of making photostatic or written copies of  
14 motor vehicle accident reports and copies of records of traffic violations,  
15 there shall be charged a fee of ten dollars (\$10.00) for each copy of a basic  
16 accident report and a fee of one dollar fifty cents (\$1.50) per page for each  
17 copy of a supplemental report.

18 (2) All funds collected under this subsection shall immediately  
19 be paid over by the ~~Department of Arkansas State Police~~ division to the  
20 Treasurer of State and shall be credited by him or her as a special revenue  
21 to the ~~Department~~ Division of Arkansas State Police Fund.

22  
23 SECTION 6050. Arkansas Code § 27-67-222(a), concerning the state  
24 police officer highway dedication program, is amended to read as follows:

25 (a)(1) “State police officer” means any employee of the ~~Department~~  
26 Division of Arkansas State Police who holds the rank of state trooper or  
27 higher rank, including the Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of Arkansas  
28 State Police.

29 (2) The term “state police officer” does not include any:

30 (A) Civilian employee of the ~~department~~ division; or

31 (B) Person who is temporarily employed as a state trooper  
32 during an emergency.

33  
34 SECTION 6051. Arkansas Code Title 25, Chapter 43, is amended to add an  
35 additional subchapter to read as follows:

36 Subchapter 15 – Department of Transformation and Shared Services

1  
2 25-43-1501. Department of Transformation and Shared Services.

3 There is created the Department of Transformation and Shared Services  
4 as a cabinet-level department.

5  
6 25-43-1502. State entities transferred to Department of Transformation  
7 and Shared Services.

8 (a) The administrative functions of the following state entities are  
9 transferred to the Department of Transformation and Shared Services by a  
10 cabinet-level department transfer:

11 (1) The Arkansas Geographic Information Systems Board, created  
12 under § 15-21-503;

13 (2) The Arkansas Geographic Information Systems Office, created  
14 under § 15-21-502;

15 (3) The Building Authority Division, created under § 22-2-104;

16 (4) The Data and Transparency Panel, created under § 25-4-127;

17 (5) The Department of Information Systems, created under § 25-4-  
18 104, now to be known as the Division of Information Systems;

19 (6) The Employee Benefits Division, created under § 25-43-1505;

20 (7) The Office of Personnel Management, created under § 25-43-  
21 1504;

22 (8) The Office of State Procurement, created under § 19-11-215;

23 (9) The State and Public School Life and Health Insurance Board,  
24 created under 21-5-402; and

25 (10) The State Technology Council, created under § 25-33-101.

26 (b) Unless otherwise provided by law, a cabinet-level department  
27 transfer under subsection (a) of this section includes all state entities  
28 under a state entity transferred to the Department of Transformation and  
29 Shared Services under subsection (a) of this section, including without  
30 limitation a division, office, program, or other unit of a state entity  
31 transferred to the Department of Transformation and Shared Services under  
32 subsection (a) of this section.

33 (c) Unless otherwise provided by law, a state entity whose  
34 administrative functions have been transferred to the Department of  
35 Transformation and Shared Services under subsection (a) of this section shall  
36 otherwise continue to exercise the duties of the state entity under the

1 administration of the cabinet-level Department of Transformation and Shared  
2 Services in the same manner as before the creation of the cabinet-level  
3 department.

4  
5 25-43-1503. Secretary of the Department of Transformation and Shared  
6 Services.

7 (a) The executive head of the Department of Transformation and Shared  
8 Services shall be the Secretary of the Department of Transformation and  
9 Shared Services.

10 (b) The secretary shall be appointed by the Governor, subject to  
11 confirmation by the Senate, and shall serve at the pleasure of the Governor.

12 (c) Each division of the department shall be under the direction,  
13 control, and supervision of the secretary.

14 (d) The secretary may delegate his or her functions, powers, and  
15 duties to various divisions or employees of the department as he or she shall  
16 deem desirable and necessary for the effective and efficient operation of the  
17 department.

18 (e) The secretary may, unless otherwise provided by law:

19 (1) Hire department personnel;

20 (2) Perform or assign duties assigned to the department; and

21 (3) Serve as the director, or the administrative or executive  
22 head, of any state entity under the administrative control of the department  
23 if the secretary also meets all statutory requirements for the position.

24  
25 25-43-1504. Office of Personnel Management – State Personnel  
26 Administrator.

27 (a) There is created within the Department of Transformation and  
28 Shared Services the Office of Personnel Management.

29 (b)(1)(A) The Director of the Office of Personnel Management shall be  
30 known as the "State Personnel Administrator".

31 (B) The State Personnel Administrator shall be employed by the  
32 Secretary of the Department of Transformation and Shared Services with the  
33 advice and consent of the Governor.

34 (2) The Office of Personnel Management shall be under the  
35 overall direction, control, and supervision of the Secretary of the  
36 Department of Transformation and Shared Services.

1  
2 25-43-1505. Employee Benefits Division.

3 There is created within the Department of Transformation and Shared  
4 Services the Employee Benefits Division.

5  
6 SECTION 6052. Arkansas Code § 1-4-133(b), concerning the display of  
7 the national motto, is amended to read as follows:

8 (b) The copies or posters authorized under this section shall either  
9 be donated or shall be purchased solely with funds made available through  
10 voluntary contributions to the local school boards or the Building Authority  
11 Division ~~of the Department of Finance and Administration.~~

12  
13 SECTION 6053. Arkansas Code § 6-20-1407(e), concerning the approval of  
14 school facility building plans, is amended to read as follows:

15 (e)(1) For new public school facilities, a copy of final construction  
16 documents shall be submitted to the Design Review Section of the Building  
17 Authority Division ~~of the Department of Finance and Administration~~ for review  
18 in regard to compliance with the Arkansas-adopted Americans with Disabilities  
19 Act Accessibility Guidelines.

20 (2) All review comments received from the Building Authority  
21 Division ~~of the Department of Finance and Administration~~ shall be in writing.

22 (3) Corrected construction documents shall be received and  
23 approved by the Building Authority Division ~~of the Department of Finance and~~  
24 ~~Administration.~~

25 (4) No new public school facilities project shall be released  
26 for bidding or construction until the requirements of this subsection are  
27 met.

28  
29 SECTION 6054. Arkansas Code § 6-21-109(a), concerning the rules  
30 governing public works projects, is amended to read as follows:

31 (a) The Commission for Arkansas Public School Academic Facilities and  
32 Transportation, after consulting with the Building Authority Division ~~of the~~  
33 ~~Department of Finance and Administration~~ and any other entities, shall  
34 establish rules applicable to public educational entities for all public  
35 works projects when the public educational entity uses its own employees or  
36 acts as a general contractor.

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SECTION 6055. Arkansas Code § 6-62-302(b), concerning authorization for university building construction and purchases, is amended to read as follows:

(b) No board of trustees of such public institutions of higher education shall be required to obtain any prior review, consultation, approval, assistance, or advice from the Building Authority Division ~~of the Department of Finance and Administration~~ for projects undertaken based on the foregoing powers and authority. Provided, however, nothing in this subsection shall prevent any board of trustees of such public institutions of higher education from entering into an agreement with the division to provide review, consultation, approval, assistance, or advice for such projects. However, public institutions of higher education exempt from project review, consultation, approval, assistance, or advice of the division shall remain subject to other laws governing public works, including without limitation § 19-4-1401 et seq. and § 22-9-101 et seq.

SECTION 6056. Arkansas Code § 6-62-606(b), concerning an exemption from compliance with review by the Building Authority Division of the Department of Finance and Administration, is amended to read as follows:

(b) In proceeding under this subchapter, it shall not be necessary for the board to comply with any other laws relating to the procurement, disposal, or leasing of property, including without limitation laws concerning the appointment of appraisers in connection therewith, laws restricting the obligation of funds for construction, and laws dealing with the improvement of historic structures, except that the transfer and the lease agreement shall be subject to the review and approval of the Building Authority Division ~~of the Department of Finance and Administration~~.

SECTION 6057. Arkansas Code § 6-62-611(a)(2), concerning agreements for the transfer and lease of property, instruments of conveyance, and title insurance, is amended to read as follows:

(2) The agreement may provide that the owner will make improvements or additions to the property subject to the inspection and approval of all improvements and additions to the property by the Building Authority Division ~~of the Department of Finance and Administration~~.

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SECTION 6058. Arkansas Code § 6-63-602(a), concerning the administration of the higher education catastrophic leave bank program, is amended to read as follows:

(a)(1) The Department of ~~Finance and Administration~~ Transformation and Shared Services shall have administrative responsibility for developing, implementing, and maintaining a catastrophic leave bank program for nonfaculty benefits-eligible, full-time employees of the state institutions of higher education.

(2) Each state institution of higher education may participate in the catastrophic leave bank authorized by this section and administered by the Office of Personnel Management ~~of the Division of Management Services of the Department of Finance and Administration~~, or the institution may establish a catastrophic leave bank for its employees.

SECTION 6059. Arkansas Code § 6-63-602(f), concerning the administration of the higher education catastrophic leave bank program, is amended to read as follows:

(f) The ~~Director of the Department of Finance and Administration~~ Secretary of the Department of Transformation and Shared Services or his or her designee shall promulgate necessary rules and regulations as deemed necessary to carry out the provisions of this section.

SECTION 6060. Arkansas Code § 7-9-124(b), concerning the creation of the Voter Registration Signature Imaging System Fund, is amended to read as follows:

(b) The ~~Department~~ Division of Information Systems shall cooperate with and assist the Secretary of State in determining the computer equipment and software needed in the office of the Secretary of State for the voter registration signature imaging system.

SECTION 6061. Arkansas Code § 10-3-601 is amended to read as follows:

10-3-601. Intent.

It is the intent of this subchapter to establish procedures whereby the types of contracts to be let for legislative printing or duplicating requirements may be determined after study and review of the printing or

1 duplicating needs of the General Assembly. Adequate specifications and  
2 safeguards may be established for such contracts in order that the State  
3 Procurement Director ~~of the Office of State Procurement of the Department of~~  
4 ~~Finance and Administration~~ might be advised thereof in the letting of  
5 contracts for legislative printing or duplicating requirements.

6  
7 SECTION 6062. Arkansas Code § 10-3-1704(c), concerning the members and  
8 duties of the Joint Committee on Advanced Communications and Information  
9 Technology, is amended to read as follows:

10 (c) The Joint Committee on Advanced Communications and Information  
11 Technology shall exercise appropriate legislative oversight of the operations  
12 of the ~~Department~~ Division of Information Systems.

13  
14 SECTION 6063. Arkansas Code § 10-3-1705 is amended to read as follows:

15 10-3-1705. Duties of joint standing committee.

16 Bills pertaining to the ~~Department~~ Division of Information Systems,  
17 advanced communications and information technology, telemedicine, distance  
18 learning, or public information access shall be referred to the Joint  
19 Committee on Advanced Communications and Information Technology or the  
20 Committee on Advanced Communications and Information Technology, as  
21 appropriate.

22  
23 SECTION 6064. Arkansas Code § 10-3-1707(c), concerning interim  
24 committee meetings, expenses, and staff of the Joint Committee on Advanced  
25 Communications and Information Technology, is amended to read as follows:

26 (c) All other appropriate state agencies, including, but not limited  
27 to, the ~~Department~~ Division of Information Systems, the Arkansas Economic  
28 Development Commission, and public colleges and universities in the State of  
29 Arkansas, shall be available to assist the Joint Committee on Advanced  
30 Communications and Information Technology on advanced communications and  
31 information technology matters as may be requested by the Joint Committee on  
32 Advanced Communications and Information Technology.

33  
34 SECTION 6065. Arkansas Code § 10-4-424(c), concerning the audit of  
35 information systems operations, is amended to read as follows:

36 (c) The ~~Department~~ Division of Information Systems, its successor

1 agency, or other entities of the state or political subdivisions of the state  
2 that provide Internet, network, or other computer services or information to  
3 an entity of the state or a political subdivision of the state shall provide  
4 access to all data, support, or other necessary information services to  
5 Arkansas Legislative Audit in connection with their functions at no cost to  
6 Arkansas Legislative Audit.

7  
8 SECTION 6066. Arkansas Code § 13-4-203(b)(5), concerning the Records  
9 Retention Committee, is amended to read as follows:

10 (5) The ~~Department~~ Division of Information Systems;

11  
12 SECTION 6067. Arkansas Code § 15-21-205(a), concerning the duties and  
13 appointment of the State Surveyor, is amended to read as follows:

14 (a) The Arkansas Geographic Information Systems Board shall employ, in  
15 consultation with the Secretary of the Department of Transformation and  
16 Shared Services, a State Surveyor to be the head of the Division of Land  
17 Surveys of the Arkansas Geographic Information Systems Office.

18  
19 SECTION 6068. Arkansas Code § 15-21-205(b)(2), concerning the  
20 appointment of the State Surveyor, is amended to read as follows:

21 (2) Be appointed by and serve at the pleasure of the ~~Arkansas~~  
22 ~~Geographic Information Systems Office after the Arkansas Geographic~~  
23 ~~Information Systems Office consults~~ Secretary of the Department of  
24 Transformation and Shared Services after consultation with the State Board of  
25 Licensure for Professional Engineers and Professional Surveyors and the  
26 Arkansas Society of Professional Surveyors;

27  
28 SECTION 6069. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 15-21-206,  
29 concerning the powers and duties of the State Surveyor, is amended to read as  
30 follows:

31 The State Surveyor, acting under the supervision and direction of the  
32 Arkansas Geographic Information Systems Office and the Secretary of the  
33 Department of Transformation and Shared Services, shall have the following  
34 authority and responsibility:

35  
36 SECTION 6070. Arkansas Code § 15-21-206(13), concerning the powers and

1 duties of the State Surveyor, is amended to read as follows:

2 (13) To employ, in consultation with the Secretary of the  
3 Department of Transformation and Shared Services, such surveyors and other  
4 professional and nonprofessional assistants and to take other reasonable  
5 action as deemed necessary to carry out the purposes of this subchapter.  
6

7 SECTION 6071. Arkansas Code § 15-21-207 is amended to read as follows:  
8 15-21-207. Surveyors generally.

9 (a) Every employee of the Division of Land Surveys of the Arkansas  
10 Geographic Information Systems Office, Department of Transformation and  
11 Shared Services, who performs any work required by law to be done by a  
12 registered professional surveyor shall be a registered surveyor.

13 (b) Neither the State Surveyor nor any employee of the department  
14 performing work on behalf of the division shall engage in private land  
15 surveying or consultation while so employed by the ~~division~~ department.

16 (c) The State Surveyor and employees of the department performing work  
17 on behalf of the division shall cooperate with and assist county surveyors in  
18 performing their duties as prescribed by law and shall cooperate with and  
19 assist other surveyors in locating or establishing section corner markers and  
20 other land description markers and monuments.

21 (d) In performing the duties and responsibilities provided for in this  
22 subchapter, the State Surveyor and employees ~~of the office of State Surveyor~~  
23 of the Division of Land Surveys of the Arkansas Geographic Information  
24 Systems Office and the Department of Transformation and Shared Services may  
25 solicit the advice and assistance of the county surveyor in each county and  
26 other surveyors in the county.

27 (e) If there are no registered professional surveyors in a particular  
28 county, the department on behalf of the division may employ qualified  
29 registered professional surveyors from other areas of the state to assist the  
30 division in carrying out its duties and responsibilities under this  
31 subchapter.  
32

33 SECTION 6072. Arkansas Code § 15-21-208 is amended to read as follows:  
34 15-21-208. Right to enter private property.

35 (a) The State Surveyor or any employee of the Department of  
36 Transformation and Shared Services or of the Division of Land Surveys of the

1 Arkansas Geographic Information Systems Office shall have the right to enter  
2 upon private property for the purpose of making surveys or searching for,  
3 locating, relocating, or remonumenting land monuments, levelling stations, or  
4 section corners.

5 (b) Employees of the department or division shall be immune from  
6 arrest for trespass in performing their duties as prescribed in this  
7 subchapter and under the direction of a registered professional land surveyor  
8 but shall always, when practical, announce and identify themselves and their  
9 intentions before entering upon private property.

10

11 SECTION 6073. Arkansas Code § 15-21-502(10), concerning the definition  
12 of "State Chief Technology Officer" under the laws governing the Arkansas  
13 Geographic Information Systems Board, is amended to read as follows:

14 (10) "State Chief Technology Officer" means the Director of the  
15 ~~Department~~ Division of Information Systems;

16

17 SECTION 6074. Arkansas Code § 15-21-503(c)(2)(C), concerning the  
18 creation and powers of the Arkansas Geographic Information Systems Board, is  
19 amended to read as follows:

20 (C) The State Geographic Information Officer shall report  
21 ~~directly to the Governor~~ to the Secretary of the Department of Transformation  
22 and Shared Services.

23

24 SECTION 6075. Arkansas Code § 15-21-503(d)(1) and (2), concerning the  
25 creation and powers of the Arkansas Geographic Information Systems Board, are  
26 amended to read as follows:

27 (d)(1) The State Geographic Information Officer shall administer daily  
28 operations of the Arkansas Geographic Information Systems Office with  
29 direction from the board and the secretary.

30

31 (2) This may include liaison between the board, the Governor,  
32 the secretary, the State Chief Technology Officer, and public or private  
33 sector entities involved in spatial data and land records modernization,  
34 project management in the preparation of the strategic planning documents  
35 related to spatial data and land records modernization, developing policy and  
36 procedures for land records modernization, and developing policy and  
procedures for the activities of the board.

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SECTION 6076. Arkansas Code § 15-55-213 is amended to read as follows:  
15-55-213. Access to information.

The Arkansas Geological Survey and the ~~Department~~ Division of Information Systems shall grant access to and provide information determined by the ~~Office of the~~ Commissioner of State Lands to be necessary to successfully accomplish its mission.

SECTION 6077. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 17-105-121(a), concerning the uniform classification plan and physician assistant employment, is amended to read as follows:

(a) The Office of Personnel Management ~~of the Division of Management Services of the Department of Finance and Administration~~ shall establish and maintain a position classification of physician assistant. The initial position classification shall mirror the Veterans Health Administration Directive 10-95-020 of March 3, 1995, and the United States Department of Veterans Affairs regulation as embodied in:

SECTION 6078. Arkansas Code § 18-44-503(b), concerning public buildings and improvements, is amended to read as follows:

(b) All persons, firms, associations, and corporations who have valid claims against the bond may bring an action on the bond against the corporate surety, provided that no action shall be brought on the bond after twelve (12) months from the date on which the Building Authority Division ~~of the Department of Finance and Administration~~ or institutions exempt from construction review and approval by the division approve final payment on the state contract, nor shall any action be brought outside the State of Arkansas.

SECTION 6079. Arkansas Code § 19-1-205 is amended to read as follows:  
19-1-205. Office.

The Building Authority Division ~~of the Department of Finance and Administration~~ shall assign to the Department of Finance and Administration and divisions of the department suitable office space with the necessary conveniences for the transaction of the department's business and the safekeeping of the department's records.

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SECTION 6080. Arkansas Code § 19-4-522(c)(1), concerning the maintenance and general operations under the state accounting and budgetary procedures, is amended to read as follows:

(1) In the event the amount of any of the budget classifications of maintenance and general operation in an agency's appropriation act are found by the administrative head of the agency to be inadequate, then the agency head may request, upon forms provided for such purpose by the Chief Fiscal Officer of the State, a modification of the amounts of the budget classification. In that event, he or she shall set out on the forms the particular classifications for which he or she is requesting an increase or decrease, the amounts thereof, and his or her reasons therefor. In no event shall the total amount of the budget exceed either the amount of the appropriation or the amount of the funds available, nor shall any transfer be made from the capital outlay or data processing subclassification unless specific authority for such transfers is provided by law, except for transfers from capital outlay to data processing when determined by the ~~Department~~ Division of Information Systems that data processing services for a state agency can be performed on a more cost-efficient basis by the ~~Department~~ Division of Information Systems than through the purchase of data processing equipment by that state agency;

SECTION 6081. Arkansas Code § 19-4-522(d)(5), concerning the maintenance and general operations under the state accounting and budgetary procedures, is amended to read as follows:

(5) Data Processing. This subclassification includes purchase of data processing services from the ~~Department~~ Division of Information Systems, or others, and other expenses that are not necessarily classified elsewhere in this section by virtue of the appropriation based upon budgets presented for consideration.

SECTION 6082. Arkansas Code § 19-4-702(e)(2)(A), concerning the time limits for presenting vouchers, is amended to read as follows:

(2)(A) All state agencies may carry over from the first fiscal year of any biennium to the second fiscal year of the biennium any unexpended maintenance and operation appropriations and funds, as defined under § 19-4-

1 522, to the extent necessary to pay for renovation and minor and major  
2 repairs under the jurisdiction of the Building Authority Division ~~of the~~  
3 ~~Department of Finance and Administration~~ which were under contract at least  
4 ninety (90) days prior to the end of the first fiscal year but which will not  
5 be completed until after the end of the first fiscal year and are  
6 substantiated by written contracts.

7  
8 SECTION 6083. Arkansas Code § 19-4-1405(c)(2)(A), concerning bidding  
9 procedures, is amended to read as follows:

10 (2)(A) The bonds shall be both for the completion of the  
11 construction free of all liens and encumbrances, in an amount fixed by the  
12 Building Authority Division ~~of the Department of Finance and Administration,~~  
13 and for the protection of the state agency and its members against all  
14 liability for injury to persons or damage to, or loss of, property arising,  
15 or claimed to have arisen, in the course of the work project, within limits  
16 fixed by the division.

17  
18 SECTION 6084. Arkansas Code § 19-4-1411(a)(1)(B), concerning the  
19 processing of payments, is amended to read as follows:

20 (B) A state agency or institution of higher education  
21 exempt from review and approval by the Building Authority Division ~~of the~~  
22 ~~Department of Finance and Administration~~ – five (5) working days, including  
23 preparation of a voucher and submission for payment; and

24  
25 SECTION 6085. Arkansas Code § 19-4-1413(a)(2)(B), concerning projects  
26 constructed with private funds, is amended to read as follows:

27 (B) The Chief Fiscal Officer of the State may forward a  
28 copy of this statement to the Building Authority Division ~~of the Department~~  
29 ~~of Finance and Administration, the Secretary of the Department of~~  
30 Transformation and Shared Services, and the Governor for information; and

31  
32 SECTION 6086. Arkansas Code § 19-4-1415(b)(1), concerning projects  
33 exceeding five million dollars (\$5,000,000), is amended to read as follows:

34 (b)(1) No contract for projects between the state agency and the  
35 construction manager, general contractor, architect, or engineer shall be  
36 entered into without first obtaining approval of the Building Authority

1 Division ~~of the Department of Finance and Administration~~ and review by the  
2 Legislative Council.

3  
4 SECTION 6087. Arkansas Code § 19-4-1602(c), concerning payroll  
5 deductions, is amended to read as follows:

6 (c) Deductions authorized by this section shall be made in compliance  
7 with rules, regulations, and procedures established by the ~~Chief Fiscal~~  
8 ~~Officer of the State~~ Secretary of the Department of Transformation and Shared  
9 Services.

10  
11 SECTION 6088. Arkansas Code § 19-4-1603 is amended to read as follows:  
12 19-4-1603. Procedures for position control.

13 (a) The ~~Chief Fiscal Officer of the State~~ Secretary of the Department  
14 of Transformation and Shared Services shall establish procedures for  
15 exercising position control applicable to those state agencies subject to the  
16 provisions of the Uniform Classification and Compensation Act, § 21-5-201 et  
17 seq.

18 (b) Exercising position control shall be interpreted as follows:

19 (1) The ~~Chief Fiscal Officer of the State~~ Secretary of the  
20 Department of Transformation and Shared Services shall assign a position  
21 control number to each line-item position authorized for the applicable  
22 agencies;

23 (2) The ~~Chief Fiscal Officer of the State~~ Secretary of the  
24 Department of Transformation and Shared Services shall establish reporting  
25 procedures so that agencies shall provide complete reports to the Department  
26 of Finance and Administration on the use of all authorized positions; and

27 (3) The ~~Chief Fiscal Officer of the State~~ Secretary of the  
28 Department of Transformation and Shared Services may restrict an agency's use  
29 of authorized positions only after finding that the agency is in financial  
30 difficulty and after invoking the fiscal controls provided in § 19-4-701 et  
31 seq. and § 19-4-1201 et seq.

32  
33 SECTION 6089. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 19-4-  
34 1604(a), concerning salary from two agencies, is amended to read as follows:

35 (a) Except as provided in subsections (b) and (c) of this section, no  
36 person drawing a salary or other compensation from one state agency shall be

1 paid salary or compensation, other than actual expenses, from any other state  
2 agency except upon written certification to and approval by the ~~Chief Fiscal~~  
3 ~~Officer of the State~~ Secretary of the Department of Transformation and Shared  
4 Services and by the head of each state agency, stating that:

5  
6 SECTION 6090. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 19-4-  
7 1604(c), concerning salary from two agencies, is amended to read as follows:

8 (c) A person drawing a salary or other compensation from a state  
9 agency or institution of higher education shall not be paid a salary or  
10 compensation from another institution of higher education except upon the  
11 written certification to and approval by the Director of the ~~Department~~  
12 Division of Higher Education that the:

13  
14 SECTION 6091. Arkansas Code § 19-4-1606(a), concerning the review of  
15 payroll required under the Uniform Classification and Compensation Act, is  
16 amended to read as follows:

17 (a) The Department of ~~Finance and Administration~~ Transformation and  
18 Shared Services shall review the payroll of state agencies covered by the  
19 provisions of the Uniform Classification and Compensation Act, § 21-5-201 et  
20 seq., with respect to the salaries of all employees of affected state  
21 agencies. This review shall determine the correctness of each payroll with  
22 respect to each position to assure compliance with the compensation plan and  
23 to assure that no position is being paid, during any payroll period, an  
24 amount greater than authorized in the compensation plan or the amount  
25 authorized for the position in the appropriation act applicable to the  
26 agency.

27  
28 SECTION 6092. Arkansas Code § 19-4-1607(a)(3), concerning monthly,  
29 biweekly, weekly, and hourly salaries, is amended to read as follows:

30 (3) For complying with federal requirements, upon approval of  
31 the Secretary of the Department of Transformation and Shared Services in  
32 consultation with the Chief Fiscal Officer of the State, the maximum annual  
33 salaries may be converted to hourly rates of pay for positions established on  
34 the basis of twelve (12) months or less if authorized by law.

35  
36 SECTION 6093. Arkansas Code § 19-4-1610(c)(2)(B), concerning the

1 prohibition of retroactive pay, is amended to read as follows:

2 (B) Upon the consent of the Secretary of the Department of  
3 Transformation and Shared Services in consultation with the Chief Fiscal  
4 Officer of the State.

5

6 SECTION 6094. Arkansas Code § 19-4-1612(b)(2)(A), concerning overtime  
7 pay, is amended to read as follows:

8 (2)(A) The ~~Chief Fiscal Officer of the State~~ Secretary of the  
9 Department of Transformation and Shared Services will specify those specific  
10 employees or groups of employees other than employees of the Arkansas  
11 Department of Transportation eligible to receive overtime compensation, the  
12 circumstances under which overtime pay is to be allowed, and other matters  
13 the ~~Chief Fiscal Officer of the State~~ Secretary of the Department of  
14 Transformation and Shared Services finds appropriate and necessary to comply  
15 with the federal Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938 as regards the payment of  
16 overtime compensation.

17

18 SECTION 6095. Arkansas Code § 19-4-1612(c), concerning overtime pay,  
19 is amended to read as follows:

20 (c) The rules authorized by this section shall not go into effect  
21 until the ~~Chief Fiscal Officer of the State~~ Secretary of the Department of  
22 Transformation and Shared Services, or the Arkansas Department of  
23 Transportation as to its employees, has sought the advice of the Legislative  
24 Council.

25

26 SECTION 6096. Arkansas Code § 19-5-1046(a)(2), concerning the Building  
27 Authority Division Maintenance Fund, is amended to read as follows:

28 (2) The fund shall be used for the maintenance, operation, and  
29 improvement of lands, buildings, and facilities that may be acquired by the  
30 Building Authority Division ~~of the Department of Finance and Administration~~.

31

32 SECTION 6097. Arkansas Code § 19-5-1052(b), concerning the Justice  
33 Building Fund, is amended to read as follows:

34 (b) The Justice Building Fund shall consist of all moneys transferred  
35 or deposited from the State Administration of Justice Fund, there to be used  
36 exclusively by the Building Authority Division ~~of the Department of Finance~~

1 ~~and Administration~~ for the maintenance of the Arkansas Justice Building.

2  
3 SECTION 6098. Arkansas Code § 19-5-1055 is amended to read as follows:

4 19-5-1055. ~~Department~~ Division of Information Systems Revolving Fund.

5 (a) There is established on the books of the Treasurer of State, the  
6 Auditor of State, and the Chief Fiscal Officer of the State a fund to be  
7 known as the "~~Department~~ Division of Information Systems Revolving Fund".

8 (b)(1) The fund shall consist of nonrevenue receipts derived from  
9 services provided to various agencies of the federal, state, city, and county  
10 governments, and any other moneys which may be provided by law.

11 (2) The fund shall be used for the maintenance, operation, and  
12 improvement of the ~~Department~~ Division of Information Systems as set out in  
13 the Arkansas Information Systems Act of 1997, § 25-4-101 et seq.

14  
15 SECTION 6099. Arkansas Code § 19-5-1056(b)(1), concerning the  
16 Information Technology Reserve Fund, is amended to read as follows:

17 (b)(1) The Information Technology Reserve Fund shall consist of those  
18 funds transferred from the ~~Department~~ Division of Information Systems  
19 Revolving Fund in an amount up to the authorized reserve for equipment  
20 acquisition as certified by the Chief Fiscal Officer of the State within  
21 thirty (30) days following the closing of each fiscal year, any loans which  
22 may be received from the Budget Stabilization Trust Fund, and any other  
23 moneys which may be provided by law.

24  
25 SECTION 6100. Arkansas Code § 19-5-1087(a), concerning the Justice  
26 Building Construction Fund, is amended to read as follows:

27 (a) There is created in accordance with §§ 19-4-801 – 19-4-803, 19-4-  
28 805, 19-4-806, and the Revenue Classification Law, § 19-6-101 et seq., a cash  
29 fund entitled the "Justice Building Construction Fund", which shall be  
30 maintained in such depository bank or banks as may, from time to time, be  
31 designated by the Building Authority Division ~~of the Department of Finance~~  
32 ~~and Administration~~.

33  
34 SECTION 6101. Arkansas Code § 19-5-1206(b)(2), concerning the Building  
35 Authority Division Real Estate Fund, is amended to read as follows:

36 (2) The Building Authority Division Real Estate Fund shall be

1 used to acquire either by deed or by lease, to own or operate, to maintain,  
2 to repair, to renovate, to develop, or to construct real properties,  
3 including any necessary demolition and site improvements, for use by state  
4 agencies, as defined in § 22-2-102, for capital improvement needs under the  
5 jurisdiction of the Building Authority Division ~~of the Department of Finance~~  
6 ~~and Administration.~~

7  
8 SECTION 6102. Arkansas Code § 19-11-203(14)(Y), concerning the  
9 definition of "exempt commodities and services" under the state procurement  
10 laws, is amended to read as follows:

11 (Y) Capital improvements valued at less than twenty  
12 thousand dollars (\$20,000), subject to minimum standards and criteria of the  
13 Building Authority Division ~~of the Department of Finance and Administration;~~  
14

15 SECTION 6103. Arkansas Code § 19-11-203(27)(B), concerning the  
16 definition of "services" under the state procurement laws, is amended to read  
17 as follows:

18 (B) "Services" shall not include employment agreements,  
19 collective bargaining agreements, exempt commodities and services, or  
20 architectural or engineering contracts requiring approval of the Building  
21 Authority Division ~~of the Department of Finance and Administration~~ or higher  
22 ~~education~~ Division of Higher Education;

23  
24 SECTION 6104. Arkansas Code § 19-11-215 is amended to read as follows:  
25 19-11-215. Office of State Procurement.

26 (a) There is created within the Department of ~~Finance and~~  
27 ~~Administration~~ an Transformation and Shared Services the Office of State  
28 Procurement to be administered by the State Procurement Director.

29 (b)(1) The ~~office~~ Office of State Procurement shall be subject to the  
30 supervision and management of the ~~Director of the Department of Finance and~~  
31 ~~Administration~~ Secretary of the Department of Transformation and Shared  
32 Services.

33 (2) The rules and regulations authorized in this subchapter  
34 shall be approved by the ~~Director of the Department of Finance and~~  
35 ~~Administration~~ secretary prior to the filing of the rules and regulations in  
36 accordance with the Arkansas Administrative Procedure Act, § 25-15-201 et

1 seq.

2

3 SECTION 6105. Arkansas Code § 19-11-216(a)(2), concerning the State  
4 Procurement Director, is amended to read as follows:

5 (2) The State Procurement Director shall be appointed by the  
6 ~~Director of the Department of Finance and Administration~~ Secretary of the  
7 Department of Transformation and Shared Services.

8

9 SECTION 6106. Arkansas Code § 19-11-217(b)(1), concerning the powers  
10 and duties of the State Procurement Director, is amended to read as follows:

11 (b)(1) Except as otherwise provided in this subchapter and upon the  
12 approval of the ~~Director of the Department of Finance and Administration~~  
13 Secretary of the Department of Transformation and Shared Services, the State  
14 Procurement Director shall have the authority and responsibility to  
15 promulgate ~~regulations~~ rules consistent with this subchapter.

16

17 SECTION 6107. Arkansas Code § 19-11-218 is amended to read as follows:

18 19-11-218. Assistants and designees.

19 Subject to the provisions of the Uniform Classification and  
20 Compensation Act, § 21-5-201 et seq., and the approval of the Secretary of  
21 the Department of Transformation and Shared Services, the State Procurement  
22 Director may:

23 (1) Employ and supervise such assistants and other persons as  
24 may be necessary;

25 (2) Fix their compensation as provided by law; and

26 (3) Delegate authority to such designees or to any state agency  
27 as the director may deem appropriate, within the limitations of state law and  
28 the state procurement regulations.

29

30 SECTION 6108. Arkansas Code § 19-11-220(a)(37), concerning agency  
31 procurement officials, is amended to read as follows:

32 (37) ~~Department~~ Division of Higher Education.

33

34 SECTION 6109. Arkansas Code § 19-11-220(b)(2), concerning agency  
35 procurement officials, is amended to read as follows:

36 (2)(A) Approval by the Office of State Procurement of contracts

1 administered by the official shall not be required, unless a determination  
2 has been made by the ~~Director of the Department of Finance and Administration~~  
3 Secretary of the Department of Transformation and Shared Services that  
4 administrative procedures and controls are not adequate.

5 (B)(i) Such a determination shall result in notification  
6 by the ~~Director of the Department of Finance and Administration~~ secretary of  
7 the specific deficiencies and the reasons therefor.

8 (ii) After the notification, approval of contracts  
9 by the Office of State Procurement shall be required until the ~~Director of~~  
10 ~~the Department of Finance and Administration~~ secretary determines that the  
11 deficiencies have been corrected.

12  
13 SECTION 6110. Arkansas Code § 19-11-226(b)(3), concerning  
14 recommendations to the State Procurement Director, is amended to read as  
15 follows:

16 (3) The ~~Director of the Department of Finance and Administration~~  
17 Secretary of the Department of Transformation and Shared Services may make  
18 recommendations to the State Procurement Director.

19  
20 SECTION 6111. Arkansas Code § 19-11-227 is amended to read as follows:  
21 19-11-227. Statistical data.

22 The State Procurement Director and the Secretary of the Department of  
23 Transformation and Shared Services shall cooperate with the Office of Budget  
24 of the Department of Finance and Administration and the Office of Accounting  
25 of the Department of Finance and Administration in the preparation of  
26 statistical data concerning the procurement and disposition of all  
27 commodities and services, unless otherwise provided in this subchapter.

28  
29 SECTION 6112. Arkansas Code § 19-11-235(b)(2), concerning the  
30 responsibility of bidders and offerors, is amended to read as follows:

31 (2) This section is not intended to prohibit the office from  
32 disclosing such information to the Governor, the Attorney General, or the  
33 ~~Director of the Department of Finance and Administration~~ Secretary of the  
34 Department of Transformation and Shared Services when any of those officers  
35 deems it necessary.

36

1 SECTION 6113. Arkansas Code § 19-11-602(a), concerning a purchase for  
2 schools and school districts, is amended to read as follows:

3 (a) The ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of Emergency Management is  
4 authorized to purchase surplus commodities, materials, supplies, equipment,  
5 and other property from the federal government through any of its agencies  
6 for tax-supported schools and for school districts in Arkansas. The  
7 ~~department~~ division is authorized to cooperate with the State Procurement  
8 Director in the purchase of school items.

9  
10 SECTION 6114. Arkansas Code § 19-11-801(a)(1), concerning the use of  
11 procurement procedures for legal, architectural, engineering, construction  
12 management, and land surveying professional consultant services, is amended  
13 to read as follows:

14 (1) State agencies not exempt from review and approval of the  
15 Building Authority Division ~~of the Department of Finance and Administration~~  
16 shall follow procedures established by the division for the procurement of  
17 architectural, engineering, land surveying, and construction management  
18 services; and

19  
20 SECTION 6115. Arkansas Code § 19-11-902(b)(6)(B), concerning the  
21 definition of "services" under the procurement rules for work center products  
22 and services, is amended to read as follows:

23 (B) "Services" shall not include employment agreements,  
24 collective bargaining agreements, or architectural or engineering contracts  
25 requiring approval of the Building Authority Division ~~of the Department of~~  
26 ~~Finance and Administration;~~

27  
28 SECTION 6116. Arkansas Code § 19-11-1001(3)(D)(i), concerning the  
29 definition of "design professional contract" under professional and  
30 consultant services contracts, is amended to read as follows:

31 (D)(i) A state agency shall follow applicable Building  
32 Authority Division ~~of the Department of Finance and Administration~~  
33 guidelines, procedures, and rules for the selection and award of contracts.  
34

35 SECTION 6117. Arkansas Code § 19-11-1011(a)(1), concerning the review  
36 requirement for professional consultant services contracts, is amended to

1 read as follows:

2 (a)(1) Every contract for professional consultant services covered by  
3 this subchapter that is executed using the professional and consultant  
4 service contract form approved by the State Procurement Director shall be  
5 filed with the Office of State Procurement ~~of the Department of Finance and~~  
6 ~~Administration.~~

7

8 SECTION 6118. Arkansas Code § 20-8-404 is amended to read as follows:  
9 20-8-404. Rules.

10 The ~~Department~~ Division of Information Systems, Department of Finance  
11 and Administration, Department of Health, Department of Human Services, State  
12 Insurance Department, and all other appropriate departments, agencies,  
13 subcontractors, and officers shall promulgate rules to implement this  
14 subchapter.

15

16 SECTION 6119. Arkansas Code § 21-1-103(d), concerning the state  
17 employee service recognition program, is amended to read as follows:

18 (d) The ~~Chief Fiscal Officer of the State~~ Secretary of the Department  
19 of Transformation and Shared Services shall promulgate reasonable rules and  
20 regulations as he or she deems necessary in carrying out the provisions of  
21 this service recognition program.

22

23 SECTION 6120. Arkansas Code § 21-1-105(e), concerning state employee  
24 benefit programs, is amended to read as follows:

25 (e) The Office of Personnel Management and the Employee Benefits  
26 Division ~~of the Department of Finance and Administration~~ shall assist each  
27 state agency, board, commission, and institution of higher education in  
28 developing an employee benefits program and employee benefits statement.

29

30 SECTION 6121. Arkansas Code § 21-1-604(f)(3), concerning civil  
31 liability for violations of the Arkansas Whistle-Blower Act, is amended to  
32 read as follows:

33 (3) The ~~Director of the Department of Finance and Administration~~  
34 Secretary of the Department of Transformation and Shared Services shall adopt  
35 voluntary mediation application and request forms.

36

1 SECTION 6122. Arkansas Code § 21-1-704(c)(2)(A)(ii), concerning  
2 nonbinding mediation, is amended to read as follows:

3 (ii) The mediator shall report within ten (10)  
4 business days of the nonbinding mediation his or her suggested resolution to  
5 the ~~Director of the Department of Finance and Administration~~ Secretary of the  
6 Department of Transformation and Shared Services.

7  
8 SECTION 6123. Arkansas Code § 21-4-214(a)(1), concerning the  
9 catastrophic leave program, is amended to read as follows:

10 (a)(1) The ~~Department of Finance and Administration~~ Department of  
11 Transformation and Shared Services shall have administrative responsibility  
12 for developing, implementing, and maintaining the statewide catastrophic  
13 leave bank program.

14  
15 SECTION 6124. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 21-4-  
16 214(g), concerning the catastrophic leave program, is amended to read as  
17 follows:

18 (g) The ~~Director of the Department of Finance and Administration~~  
19 Secretary of the Department of Transformation and Shared Services, or the  
20 ~~director's~~ secretary's designee, shall establish policies and procedures:

21  
22 SECTION 6125. Arkansas Code § 21-5-211(c)(1)(A), concerning salary  
23 adjustments and the implementation procedure for grade changes, is amended to  
24 read as follows:

25 (A) The Chief Fiscal Officer of the State and the  
26 Secretary of the Department of Transformation and Shared Services ~~determines~~  
27 determine that sufficient general revenues become available; and

28  
29 SECTION 6126. Arkansas Code § 21-5-211(d), concerning salary  
30 adjustments and the implementation procedure for grade changes, is amended to  
31 read as follows:

32 (d)(1) If the Chief Fiscal Officer of the State and the Secretary of  
33 the Department of Transformation and Shared Services ~~determines~~ determine  
34 that general revenue funds are insufficient to implement the salary increases  
35 authorized in this subchapter or by any other law that affects salary  
36 increases for state employees, the Chief Fiscal Officer of the State and the

1 Secretary of the Department of Transformation and Shared Services upon  
2 approval by the Governor may reduce the percentage of all authorized salary  
3 increases for all state employees covered by this subchapter without regard  
4 to whether or not the employees are compensated from general or special  
5 revenues, federal funds, or trust funds.

6 (2) However, if sufficient general revenues should then become  
7 available at any time during the year to provide the maximum additional  
8 salary increases for all state employees without regard to the source of  
9 revenues, salary increases for state employees provided for in this  
10 subchapter or by any other law may be fully implemented by the Chief Fiscal  
11 Officer of the State and the Secretary of the Department of Transformation  
12 and Shared Services.

13 (3) Any salary adjustments made by the Chief Fiscal Officer of  
14 the State and the Secretary of the Department of Transformation and Shared  
15 Services in accordance with this subsection shall be reported to the  
16 Legislative Council or, if the General Assembly is in session, the Joint  
17 Budget Committee.

18  
19 SECTION 6127. Arkansas Code § 21-5-214(c)(1) and (2), concerning new  
20 appointments and other compensation plan provisions, are amended to read as  
21 follows:

22 (c)(1) A state agency may request a special rate of pay for a specific  
23 classification or position due to prevailing market rates of pay up to the  
24 midpoint pay level of the appropriate grade of a classification on the  
25 appropriate pay table for the assigned grade with the written approval of the  
26 ~~Chief Fiscal Officer of the State~~ Secretary of the Department of  
27 Transformation and Shared Services.

28 (2) A state agency may request a special rate of pay for a  
29 specific classification or position due to prevailing market rates of pay up  
30 to the maximum pay level for the assigned grade only with the approval of the  
31 ~~Chief Fiscal Officer of the State~~ Secretary of the Department of  
32 Transformation and Shared Services after review by the Legislative Council  
33 or, if the General Assembly is in session, the Joint Budget Committee.

34  
35 SECTION 6128. Arkansas Code § 21-5-214(f)(1)(A), concerning new  
36 appointments and other compensation plan provisions, is amended to read as

1 follows:

2 (f)(1)(A) An employee who is promoted ~~on or after July 1, 2017,~~ shall  
3 receive a salary increase up to ten percent (10%).  
4

5 SECTION 6129. Arkansas Code § 21-5-214(i), concerning new appointments  
6 and other compensation plan provisions, is amended to read as follows:

7 (i) An employee ~~who is~~ whose salary would be above the maximum salary  
8 level of the new grade after being placed in a lower-graded position on the  
9 same pay table because the original position has expired due to lack of  
10 funding, program changes, reorganization, or withdrawal of federal grant  
11 funds may continue to be paid at the same rate as the employee was being paid  
12 in the higher-graded position upon approval of the Office of Personnel  
13 Management after seeking the review of the Legislative Council or, if the  
14 General Assembly is in session, the Joint Budget Committee.  
15

16 SECTION 6130. Arkansas Code § 21-5-214(n), concerning new appointments  
17 and other compensation plan provisions, is amended to read as follows:

18 (n) The ~~Chief Fiscal Officer of the State~~ Secretary of the Department  
19 of Transformation and Shared Services or the Governor may suspend  
20 discretionary special salary actions.  
21

22 SECTION 6131. Arkansas Code § 21-5-220(c)(3)(B) and (C), concerning  
23 shift differentials, are amended to read as follows:

24 (B) The shift schedule, job classifications, positions,  
25 and the percentage of shift differential for which the job titles will be  
26 eligible shall be submitted to the Office of Personnel Management for  
27 approval by the ~~Chief Fiscal Officer of the State~~ Secretary of the Department  
28 of Transformation and Shared Services.

29 (C) Subsequent changes to the shift schedule, job  
30 classifications, positions, and shift differential percentages shall be  
31 submitted to the Office of Personnel Management and receive prior approval by  
32 the ~~Chief Fiscal Officer of the State~~ Secretary of the Department of  
33 Transformation and Shared Services.  
34

35 SECTION 6132. Arkansas Code § 21-5-221(c)(2)(B) and (C), concerning  
36 compensation differentials, are amended to read as follows:

1 (B) The positions shall be certified by the state agency  
2 director as having been assigned to a work environment that poses an  
3 increased risk of personal injury and shall be submitted as part of the plan  
4 for payment of hazardous duty differential to the Office of Personnel  
5 Management for approval by the Secretary of the Department of Transformation  
6 and Shared Services in consultation with the Chief Fiscal Officer of the  
7 State after review and approval of the Legislative Council or, if the  
8 General Assembly is in session, the Joint Budget Committee.

9 (C) Subsequent changes to the facility or unit, location,  
10 and eligible positions or classifications within the facility or unit on file  
11 with the Office of Personnel Management shall receive prior approval by the  
12 ~~Chief Fiscal Officer of the State~~ Secretary of the Department of  
13 Transformation and Shared Services after review and approval by the  
14 Legislative Council or, if the General Assembly is in session, the Joint  
15 Budget Committee.

16  
17 SECTION 6133. Arkansas Code § 21-5-221(d), concerning compensation  
18 differentials, is amended to read as follows:

19 (d) It is the intent of this subsection that hazardous duty  
20 compensation shall be at the discretion of the ~~Chief Fiscal Officer of the~~  
21 ~~State~~ Secretary of the Department of Transformation and Shared Services and  
22 the director of the state agency and shall not be implemented using funds  
23 specifically set aside for other programs within the state agency.

24  
25 SECTION 6134. Arkansas Code § 21-5-222(a)(1)(D) and (E), concerning  
26 salary administration grids, are amended to read as follows:

27 (D) Salary administration grid has been submitted to the  
28 Office of Personnel Management for approval by the ~~Chief Fiscal Officer of~~  
29 ~~the State~~ Secretary of the Department of Transformation and Shared Services  
30 up to the midpoint pay level; and

31 (E)(i) Salary administration grid has been submitted to  
32 the Office of Personnel Management for approval by the ~~Chief Fiscal Officer~~  
33 ~~of the State~~ Secretary of the Department of Transformation and Shared  
34 Services above the midpoint pay level.

35 (ii) The ~~Chief Fiscal Officer of the State~~ Secretary  
36 of the Department of Transformation and Shared Services shall not approve the

1 salary administration grid in this subdivision (a)(1)(E) until the salary  
2 administration grid has been reviewed by the Legislative Council or, if the  
3 General Assembly is in session, the Joint Budget Committee.

4  
5 SECTION 6135. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 21-5-  
6 223(a)(1), concerning severance pay, is amended to read as follows:

7 (a)(1) If the agency director determines that it is necessary to  
8 implement the state workforce reduction policy due to state agency  
9 organization structure change, budgetary reductions, abolishment of positions  
10 or duties, loss of functional responsibility by the state agency, or the loss  
11 of federal funding, grants, or other special funds, the agency director, upon  
12 approval by the ~~Chief Fiscal Officer of the State~~ Secretary of the Department  
13 of Transformation and Shared Services, may authorize the payment of funds on  
14 a regular payroll schedule as severance pay to full-time, part-time, and job  
15 sharing classified and nonclassified employees in regular positions affected  
16 by the workforce reduction on the basis of the following pro rata lump sum  
17 for completed years of service, including any formally implemented  
18 probationary period:

19  
20 SECTION 6136. Arkansas Code § 21-5-402(a)(1)(I), concerning the  
21 creation and members of the State and Public School Life and Health Insurance  
22 Board, is amended to read as follows:

23 (I) The ~~Executive~~ Director of the Arkansas State Board of  
24 Pharmacy or his or her state employee pharmacist designee;

25  
26 SECTION 6137. Arkansas Code § 21-5-403 is amended to read as follows:

27 21-5-403. Policy-making body only – Reports.

28 (a) The State and Public School Life and Health Insurance Board is a  
29 policy-making body only.

30 (b) The ~~Executive~~ Director of the Employee Benefits Division ~~of the~~  
31 ~~Department of Finance and Administration~~ and the board shall report upon  
32 request to the House Committee on Insurance and Commerce and the Senate  
33 Committee on Insurance and Commerce regarding the State and Public School  
34 Life and Health Insurance Program.

35  
36 SECTION 6138. Arkansas Code § 21-5-404(12)(B)(i)(a)(1), concerning the

1 powers, functions, and duties of the State and Public School Life and Health  
2 Insurance Board, is amended to read as follows:

3 (1) The ~~Executive~~ Director of the  
4 Arkansas State Board of Pharmacy or his or her pharmacist designee;

5  
6 SECTION 6139. Arkansas Code § 21-5-405(a)(1), concerning the  
7 additional duties of the State and Public School Life and Health Insurance  
8 Board, is amended to read as follows:

9 (a)(1) The State and Public School Life and Health Insurance Board and  
10 the ~~Executive~~ Director of the Employee Benefits Division ~~of the Department of~~  
11 ~~Finance and Administration~~ shall take a risk management approach in designing  
12 the State and Public School Life and Health Insurance Program.

13  
14 SECTION 6140. Arkansas Code § 21-5-405(b)(4)(B)(ii), concerning the  
15 additional duties of the State and Public School Life and Health Insurance  
16 Board, is amended to read as follows:

17 (ii) Agree to rules of program participation as  
18 stated in the policies adopted by the board and as defined in the regulations  
19 and procedures issued by the ~~Executive~~ Director of the Employee Benefits  
20 Division ~~of the Department of Finance and Administration~~, including without  
21 limitation timely eligibility reporting, prepayment of insurance premiums,  
22 actuarial adjustment for new enrollees, and any other requirements deemed  
23 necessary by the board;

24  
25 SECTION 6141. Arkansas Code § 21-5-406 is amended to read as follows:  
26 21-5-406. ~~Executive director~~ Director – Staff.

27 (a)(1) The State and Public School Life and Health Insurance Board  
28 shall choose the ~~Executive~~ Director of the Employee Benefits Division ~~of the~~  
29 ~~Department of Finance and Administration~~ with the approval of the ~~Director of~~  
30 ~~the Department of Finance and Administration~~ Secretary of the Department of  
31 Transformation and Shared Services.

32 (2)(A) The ~~Executive Director of the Employee Benefits Division~~  
33 ~~of the Department of Finance and Administration~~ director shall be employed by  
34 and serve at the pleasure of the ~~Director of the Department of Finance and~~  
35 ~~Administration~~ secretary, and shall perform all duties in consultation with  
36 the secretary.

1 (B) However, the board may recommend the removal of the  
2 ~~Executive Director of the Employee Benefits Division of the Department of~~  
3 ~~Finance and Administration~~ director, but removal is subject to the approval  
4 of the ~~Director of the Department of Finance and Administration~~ secretary.

5 (3) The ~~Executive Director of the Employee Benefits Division of~~  
6 ~~the Department of Finance and Administration~~ director shall employ staff  
7 adequate to manage the State and Public School Life and Health Insurance  
8 Program within the funds appropriated for the program within the Department  
9 of ~~Finance and Administration~~ Transformation and Shared Services.

10 (b) The ~~Executive Director of the Employee Benefits Division of the~~  
11 ~~Department of Finance and Administration~~ director shall establish internal  
12 controls for the fiscal management of the program.

13 (c)(1) The ~~Executive Director of the Employee Benefits Division of the~~  
14 ~~Department of Finance and Administration~~ director and his or her staff shall  
15 be located in the Employee Benefits Division of the ~~Department of Finance and~~  
16 ~~Administration~~.

17 (2) Funds collected from employers, participating employees,  
18 retirees, and any other sources for the program, including plan options  
19 offered under the program, shall be used solely to pay medical claims, drug  
20 claims, premiums, benefits, and direct administrative expenses of the  
21 program.

22 (d) The ~~Executive Director of the Employee Benefits Division of the~~  
23 ~~Department of Finance and Administration~~ director shall administer this  
24 subchapter and the rules and orders of the division and the board.

25 (e)(1) The ~~Executive Director of the Employee Benefits Division of the~~  
26 ~~Department of Finance and Administration~~ director may require all  
27 participating entities to appoint health insurance representatives who shall  
28 adhere to the policies adopted by the board and the rules and procedures  
29 issued by the ~~Executive Director of the Employee Benefits Division of the~~  
30 ~~Department of Finance and Administration~~ director in managing the enrollment  
31 and premium payment processes of the state agency or school district.

32 (2) The ~~Executive Director of the Employee Benefits Division of~~  
33 ~~the Department of Finance and Administration~~ director may request the removal  
34 of a health insurance representative to ensure necessary internal controls.

35 (3)(A) The ~~Executive Director of the Employee Benefits Division~~  
36 ~~of the Department of Finance and Administration~~ director has the authority to

1 supervise the implementation and day-to-day management of the program and  
2 other employee benefits, plans, and individual and group policies made  
3 available to participants, if applicable.

4 (B) The authority granted under subdivision (e)(3)(A) of  
5 this section includes without limitation supervising:

6 (i) Life insurance coverage;  
7 (ii) Accident coverage;  
8 (iii) Dental coverage;  
9 (iv) Disability benefit programs;  
10 (v) Optional retirement programs;  
11 (vi) Deferred compensation;  
12 (vii) Cafeteria plans; and  
13 (viii) Such other benefit plans, benefit programs,  
14 and individual and group benefit coverage that are offered from time to time  
15 to state employees, state employee retirees, public school employees, and  
16 public school employee retirees.

17 (C) The authority granted under subdivision (e)(3)(A) of  
18 this section does not include supervising the State Employees Benefit  
19 Corporation benefit plan in effect on July 1, 1995.

20 (D) In addition, the ~~Executive Director of the Employee~~  
21 ~~Benefits Division of the Department of Finance and Administration~~ director  
22 and the board may utilize the services of healthcare consultants and  
23 actuaries if necessary as provided for through the appropriation of the  
24 division.

25 (E) The Arkansas State Police Employee Health Plan is  
26 exempt from any mandatory participation required by this section.

27  
28 SECTION 6142. Arkansas Code § 21-5-411(a)(2)(A)(ii), concerning  
29 eligibility of certain retired employs to participate in the State and Public  
30 School Life and Health Insurance Program, is amended to read as follows:

31 (ii) The election to enroll in the program shall be  
32 made within thirty (30) days of the state employee retiree's or public school  
33 employee retiree's becoming an active retiree and shall be made in writing to  
34 the Employee Benefits Division ~~of the Department of Finance and~~  
35 ~~Administration~~ on forms required by the division.

36

1 SECTION 6143. Arkansas Code § 21-5-412(b)(2)(B)(i), concerning  
2 eligibility of certain elected officials to participate in the State and  
3 Public School Life and Health Insurance Program, is amended to read as  
4 follows:

5 (B)(i) An elected official qualifying for continuation of  
6 participation in the program under this subsection shall be considered an  
7 eligible inactive retiree and shall have thirty-one (31) days from the  
8 effective date of termination to elect to continue program participation by  
9 notifying the Employee Benefits Division ~~of the Department of Finance and~~  
10 ~~Administration~~ in writing on forms required by the division.

11  
12 SECTION 6144. Arkansas Code § 21-5-414(a), concerning partial state  
13 contribution of employees' premiums, is amended to read as follows:

14 (a) The Department of ~~Finance and Administration~~ Transformation and  
15 Shared Services shall seek the advice of the Legislative Council and the  
16 House Committee on Insurance and Commerce and the Senate Committee on  
17 Insurance and Commerce before additional state contributions can be made to  
18 the State and Public School Life and Health Insurance Program on behalf of  
19 state employees.

20  
21 SECTION 6145. Arkansas Code § 21-5-415(a)(1), concerning nonpayment of  
22 premiums and failure to file reports by an agency or a school district, is  
23 amended to read as follows:

24 (a)(1) If any participating state agency or school district does not  
25 remit insurance premiums and required monthly reports to the Employee  
26 Benefits Division ~~of the Department of Finance and Administration~~ by the last  
27 calendar day of each billing month, the division shall impose a penalty of  
28 two dollars (\$2.00) per insured member or one hundred dollars (\$100),  
29 whichever is greater.

30  
31 SECTION 6146. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 21-5-  
32 415(b)(1), concerning nonpayment of premiums and failure to file reports by  
33 an agency or a school district, is amended to read as follows:

34 (b)(1) If a participating entity or participating institution fails to  
35 follow established policy and procedures set by the ~~Executive~~ Director of the  
36 Employee Benefits Division ~~of the Department of Finance and Administration~~,

1 including without limitation notifying the division of an insured's leave  
2 without pay, family medical leave, or military leave status or if any  
3 participating entity or participating institution provides incorrect benefit  
4 information or processes unauthorized benefit changes, including system  
5 entries that result in unreimbursed expenses to the State Employees Benefit  
6 Trust Fund or Public School Insurance Trust Fund, the division may:

7  
8 SECTION 6147. Arkansas Code § 21-5-416(2), concerning annual  
9 performance audits, is amended to read as follows:

10 (2) Employee Benefits Division ~~of the Department of Finance and~~  
11 ~~Administration.~~

12  
13 SECTION 6148. Arkansas Code § 21-5-417 is amended to read as follows:  
14 21-5-417. State contribution for employee receiving workers'  
15 compensation.

16 Notwithstanding any other provisions of the law, a state agency shall  
17 remit the employer's contribution for a state employee participating in the  
18 State and Public School Life and Health Insurance Program to the Employee  
19 Benefits Division ~~of the Department of Finance and Administration~~ when the  
20 state employee is:

21 (1) In a leave-without-pay status because of a work-related  
22 injury; and

23 (2) Receiving benefits from workers' compensation.

24  
25 SECTION 6149. Arkansas Code § 21-5-1101(a)(1), concerning the merit  
26 increase pay system, is amended to read as follows:

27 (a)(1) The ~~Department of Finance and Administration~~ Department of  
28 Transformation and Shared Services is authorized to develop and establish a  
29 merit increase pay system in accordance with the performance evaluation  
30 process under § 21-5-1001 et seq. for employees of all state agencies,  
31 boards, and commissions covered by the Uniform Classification and  
32 Compensation Act, § 21-5-201 et seq.

33  
34 SECTION 6150. Arkansas Code § 21-5-1202(b), concerning emergency  
35 activities and compensation of employees of state agencies and state-  
36 supported institutions of higher education, is amended to read as follows:

1 (b) ~~The Department of Finance and Administration~~ Department of  
2 Transformation and Shared Services shall establish appropriate procedures for  
3 the administration of this section.

4  
5 SECTION 6151. Arkansas Code § 21-11-104(a), concerning rules and  
6 procedures for submission of suggestions to the Employee Suggestion System,  
7 is amended to read as follows:

8 (a) ~~The Director of the Department of Finance and Administration~~  
9 Secretary of the Department of Transformation and Shared Services, or his or  
10 her designee, is directed to develop and adopt rules and regulations in  
11 accordance with this chapter for the administration of the Employee  
12 Suggestion System.

13  
14 SECTION 6152. Arkansas Code § 21-11-105(a)(2), concerning the creation  
15 of the Suggestion Award Board, is amended to read as follows:

16 (2) The membership of the board shall consist of the ~~Director of~~  
17 ~~the Department of Finance and Administration~~ Secretary of the Department of  
18 Transformation and Shared Services, the ~~Personnel Director~~ State Personnel  
19 Administrator, who shall serve as chair, and the cochairs of the Legislative  
20 Council.

21  
22 SECTION 6153. Arkansas Code § 21-11-109(a), concerning funding and  
23 appropriations, is amended to read as follows:

24 (a) No agency, board, or commission shall receive additional  
25 appropriations or funds to carry out this chapter except the Office of  
26 Personnel Management ~~of the Division of Management Services of the Department~~  
27 ~~of Finance and Administration~~, which shall be allocated funds and  
28 appropriations to administer it.

29  
30 SECTION 6154. Arkansas Code § 22-2-102(2), concerning the definition  
31 of "minimum standards and criteria" under the Building Authority Division  
32 Act, is amended to read as follows:

33 (2) "Minimum standards and criteria" and other like phrases mean  
34 those standards and criteria relating to construction, design, maintenance,  
35 and leasing of state agencies' capital improvements as adopted by the  
36 Building Authority Division ~~of the Department of Finance and Administration~~

1 after appropriate public hearings and notice to the public and interested  
2 persons and organizations;

3  
4 SECTION 6155. Arkansas Code § 22-2-104 is amended to read as follows:

5 22-2-104. Creation of Building Authority Division.

6 ~~(a) The Building Authority Division of the Department of Finance and~~  
7 ~~Administration is created~~ There is created within the Department of  
8 Transformation and Shared Services the Building Authority Division.

9 (b) The division shall carry out the duties and responsibilities set  
10 out in § 22-2-108 under the policies, guidelines, standards, and procedures  
11 established by the Department of ~~Finance and Administration~~ Transformation  
12 and Shared Services.

13  
14 SECTION 6156. Arkansas Code § 22-2-105 is amended to read as follows:

15 22-2-105. ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of ~~Finance and~~  
16 ~~Administration~~ Transformation and Shared Services – Duties.

17 (a) The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of ~~Finance and~~  
18 ~~Administration~~ Transformation and Shared Services may hire sufficient staff  
19 as authorized by legislation to perform the duties of the Building Authority  
20 Division ~~of the Department of Finance and Administration~~. Personnel employed  
21 by the ~~director~~ secretary shall be compensated according to the Uniform  
22 Classification and Compensation Act, § 21-5-201 et seq., for similar duties  
23 and responsibilities.

24 (b) The ~~director~~ secretary shall be responsible for administering the  
25 rules, regulations, and policies adopted by the Department of ~~Finance and~~  
26 ~~Administration~~ Transformation and Shared Services pursuant to the provisions  
27 of this chapter.

28 (c) The ~~director~~ secretary shall be the disbursing agent for the  
29 division and shall pay any and all accounts. The disbursing agent shall  
30 furnish and keep in effect a bond to the state with a corporate surety  
31 thereon which, together with any other bonds furnished by him or her, shall  
32 total in final sum not less than fifty thousand dollars (\$50,000) and is  
33 conditioned that he or she will faithfully perform his or her duties and  
34 properly handle all funds received and disbursed by him or her and account  
35 for those funds. The bond so furnished shall be filed in the office of the  
36 Auditor of State. The premium on the bond shall be a proper charge against

1 funds of the division.

2

3 SECTION 6157. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 22-2-  
4 107(a), concerning the creation of Building Authority Division sections, is  
5 amended to read as follows:

6 (a) There are created within the Building Authority Division ~~of the~~  
7 ~~Department of Finance and Administration~~ the following sections which shall  
8 have the duties and responsibilities designated by the ~~Director~~ Secretary of  
9 the Department of ~~Finance and Administration~~ Transformation and Shared  
10 Services and which may include, in relation to other provisions of this  
11 chapter, the duties and responsibilities respectively designated in this  
12 section:

13

14 SECTION 6158. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 22-2-108 is  
15 amended to read as follows:

16 As may be provided, allowed, or limited by the provisions of this  
17 chapter, the ~~Director of the Department of Finance and Administration~~  
18 Secretary of the Department of Transformation and Shared Services may  
19 establish policies, guidelines, standards, and procedures which shall guide  
20 and govern the Building Authority Division ~~of the Department of Finance and~~  
21 ~~Administration~~ with regard to the following responsibilities, duties, powers,  
22 and activities:

23

24 SECTION 6159. Arkansas Code § 22-2-109(a)(2), concerning the  
25 acquisition of additional sites, is amended to read as follows:

26 (2) In the alternative, a site may be obtained by the Building  
27 Authority Division ~~of the Department of Finance and Administration~~ by gift,  
28 purchase, or, within Pulaski County, Arkansas, by condemnation under the  
29 power of eminent domain.

30

31 SECTION 6160. Arkansas Code § 22-2-110 is amended to read as follows:  
32 22-2-110. Schedule of supervision generally.

33 The powers, authorities, and responsibilities of the ~~Director of the~~  
34 ~~Department of Finance and Administration~~ Secretary of the Department of  
35 Transformation and Shared Services relating to the acquisition of properties  
36 and to the supervision of all capital improvements, as defined in § 22-2-102,

1 shall be in accordance with the schedules of supervision as provided in §§  
2 22-2-111 – 22-2-113.

3

4 SECTION 6161. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 22-2-111,  
5 concerning the schedule of supervision for type 1 undesignated funds, is  
6 amended to read as follows:

7 From the funds appropriated by the General Assembly to the Building  
8 Authority Division ~~of the Department of Finance and Administration~~ not  
9 designated to be spent for a particular public building or capital  
10 improvement for a particular state agency, the division shall:

11

12 SECTION 6162. Arkansas Code § 22-2-112(a) and (b), concerning the  
13 schedule of supervision for type 2 designated funds, are amended to read as  
14 follows:

15 (a) From the funds appropriated by the General Assembly to the  
16 Building Authority Division ~~of the Department of Finance and Administration~~  
17 for the construction or purchase of a particular building or capital  
18 improvement which is specifically designated to be purchased, constructed, or  
19 improved for a particular state agency, the division shall carry out the  
20 powers, authorities, and responsibilities in respect to that construction or  
21 purchase as designated in § 22-2-111.

22 (b) The division shall review and approve architectural and  
23 engineering design plans and construction plans to ensure compliance with  
24 minimum design and construction standards and criteria promulgated by the  
25 ~~Director of the Department of Finance and Administration~~ Secretary of the  
26 Department of Transformation and Shared Services pursuant to this chapter.

27

28 SECTION 6163. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 22-2-  
29 113(a), concerning the schedule of supervision for type three contracts, is  
30 amended to read as follows:

31 (a) In all other cases, within or without Pulaski County, Arkansas,  
32 when the construction of public buildings or capital improvements is  
33 undertaken or is presently being undertaken or is authorized but not  
34 presently under contract by or for a state agency, then the Building  
35 Authority Division ~~of the Department of Finance and Administration~~ shall  
36 serve in a technical advisory capacity to advise an agency in relation to

1 that agency's capital improvement and to perform review and approval duties,  
2 specifically including, but not limited to, the provision and performance of  
3 the following services and duties:

4  
5 SECTION 6164. Arkansas Code § 22-2-113(a)(2), concerning the schedule  
6 of supervision for type three cases when constructing public buildings or  
7 capital improvements, is amended to read as follows:

8 (2) Assist the agency in reviewing architectural proposals and  
9 advising the agency in the selection of persons to perform architectural and  
10 engineering services, but the agency shall have the responsibility of  
11 selecting those persons. However, nothing in this subdivision (a)(2) shall  
12 affect the power and responsibility of the ~~division~~ Building Authority  
13 Division to review and approve architectural and engineering design plans and  
14 to negotiate contracts for architects' and engineers' services as otherwise  
15 provided in this section;

16  
17 SECTION 6165. Arkansas Code § 22-2-113(a)(3), concerning the schedule  
18 of supervision for type three contracts, is amended to read as follows:

19 (3) Review and approve architectural and engineering plans and  
20 designs to ensure compliance with minimum design and construction standards  
21 and criteria promulgated by the ~~Director of the Department of Finance and~~  
22 ~~Administration~~ Secretary of the Department of Transformation and Shared  
23 Services pursuant to this chapter;

24  
25 SECTION 6166. Arkansas Code § 22-2-113(a)(6), concerning the schedule  
26 of supervision for type three cases when constructing public buildings or  
27 capital improvements, is amended to read as follows:

28 (6) Advise and assist the agency in the selection of persons to  
29 perform construction services, but the agency shall have the responsibility  
30 of selecting the persons to perform the services. However, nothing in this  
31 subdivision (a)(6) shall affect the powers and responsibilities of the  
32 ~~division~~ Building Authority Division consistent with subdivisions (a)(7) and  
33 (8) of this section;

34  
35 SECTION 6167. Arkansas Code § 22-2-113(a)(7)(A), concerning the  
36 schedule of supervision and type three designated funds and all other cases

1 regarding the construction of public buildings or capital improvements, is  
2 amended to read as follows:

3 (7)(A) Review and approve construction plans to ensure  
4 compliance with minimum construction standards and criteria promulgated by  
5 the ~~director~~ secretary as provided in this chapter.

6  
7 SECTION 6168. Arkansas Code § 22-2-113(a)(7)(B)(ii), concerning the  
8 schedule of supervision for type three cases when constructing public  
9 buildings or capital improvements, is amended to read as follows:

10 (ii) The State Parks, Recreation, and Travel  
11 Commission shall ensure that an unpaved trail project created under this  
12 subdivision (a)(7) meets the standards for observation by registered  
13 professionals as established by the ~~division~~ Building Authority Division;

14  
15 SECTION 6169. Arkansas Code § 22-2-113(a)(9) and (10), concerning the  
16 schedule of supervision and type three designated funds and all other cases  
17 regarding the construction of public buildings or capital improvements, are  
18 amended to read as follows:

19 (9) Assist and advise the state agency as to the operation,  
20 management, and maintenance of the capital improvement. However, the  
21 operation, management, and maintenance shall be in accordance with minimum  
22 standards as promulgated by the ~~director~~ secretary; and

23 (10) Otherwise take such action as may be necessary to carry out  
24 the policies, standards, criteria, and other rules and regulations as may be  
25 adopted or promulgated by the ~~director~~ secretary to implement the provisions  
26 of this chapter.

27  
28 SECTION 6170. Arkansas Code § 22-2-113(b), concerning the schedule of  
29 supervision for type three cases when constructing public buildings or  
30 capital improvements, is amended to read as follows:

31 (b)(1) The boards of trustees of the University of Arkansas, Arkansas  
32 State University, University of Central Arkansas, Henderson State University,  
33 Arkansas Tech University, and Southern Arkansas University, respectively, are  
34 exempt from review, consultation, assistance, advice, and approval by the  
35 ~~division~~ Building Authority Division for those items listed in subsection (a)  
36 of this section. Upon approval of the ~~Department~~ Division of Higher

1 Education, the governing boards of all other public institutions of higher  
2 education shall be exempt from review and approval by the ~~division~~ Building  
3 Authority Division for those items listed in subsection (a) of this section.  
4 However, prior to granting such approval, the ~~Department~~ Division of Higher  
5 Education shall have reviewed and approved policies and procedures adopted by  
6 the governing board with respect to bidding and construction of capital  
7 improvement projects. Nothing in this subdivision (b)(1) shall prevent any of  
8 the foregoing institutions exempt from review and approval of the ~~division~~  
9 Building Authority Division from entering into an agreement with the ~~division~~  
10 Building Authority Division to provide reviews and approval of all items  
11 listed in subsection (a) of this section.

12 (2) However, any of the foregoing boards which are exempt as set  
13 forth in subdivision (b)(1) of this section and which do not enter into an  
14 agreement with the ~~division~~ Building Authority Division shall adopt policies  
15 and procedures involving the bidding and awarding of capital improvement  
16 contracts and shall furnish such policies and procedures to the ~~Department~~  
17 Division of Higher Education for its review and advice. It is the intention  
18 of this section that any and all adopted policies and procedures pertaining  
19 to the bidding and awarding of capital improvement contracts from public  
20 funds as stated herein shall provide a uniformity among the foregoing  
21 institutions with respect to the policies and procedures to be followed.

22  
23 SECTION 6171. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 22-2-  
24 114(a), concerning leasing responsibilities of the Building Authority  
25 Division, is amended to read as follows:

26 (a) It is the intent of the General Assembly that state agencies be  
27 housed, whenever possible, in public buildings as soon as space and  
28 facilities in public buildings are available and that the acquisition and  
29 granting of leasehold interests in land be regulated and supervised by the  
30 Building Authority Division ~~of the Department of Finance and Administration~~.  
31 The division and all other state agencies are authorized and directed to  
32 implement that intent as follows:

33  
34 SECTION 6172. Arkansas Code § 22-2-114(a)(2), concerning leasing  
35 responsibilities of the Building Authority Division, is amended to read as  
36 follows:

1 (2) All state agencies and component parts thereof, when  
2 requested by the division, shall execute and enter into leases with the  
3 division for the leasing or renting of space and facilities in any public  
4 buildings. The leases may be upon such conditions, for such terms, for such  
5 rentals, and may contain such other provisions that the Department of ~~Finance~~  
6 ~~and Administration~~ Transformation and Shared Services and the state agency  
7 involved determine to be appropriate and in the best interests of all  
8 concerned;

9  
10 SECTION 6173. Arkansas Code § 22-2-114(a)(3) and (4), concerning  
11 leasing responsibilities of the Building Authority Division, are amended to  
12 read as follows:

13 (3) Any state agency or component part thereof needing new or  
14 additional space shall notify the division, and the division shall prepare a  
15 lease for the space based upon the standards and criteria as adopted by the  
16 ~~Director of the Department of Finance and Administration~~ Secretary of the  
17 Department of Transformation and Shared Services. If space is available in a  
18 public building, the lease will be negotiated for placement in the public  
19 building;

20 (4) If the Real Estate Services Section of the Building  
21 Authority Division ~~of the Department of Finance and Administration~~ determines  
22 that adequate space is not available in public buildings, the Real Estate  
23 Services Section shall act as provided in subdivision (a)(1) of this section  
24 to obtain adequate space from a privately owned facility;

25  
26 SECTION 6174. Arkansas Code § 22-2-114(a)(5)(A)(i), concerning leasing  
27 responsibilities of the Building Authority Division, is amended to read as  
28 follows:

29 (5)(A)(i) The ~~director~~ secretary shall adopt standards and  
30 criteria for the leasing and utilization of space and the allocation of space  
31 to state agencies.

32  
33 SECTION 6175. Arkansas Code § 22-2-114(a)(6), concerning leasing  
34 responsibilities of the Building Authority Division, is amended to read as  
35 follows:

36 (6) Leases as to office space, buildings, structures, parking

1 lots, and grounds from private individuals, firms, and corporations by state  
2 agencies and component parts thereof shall be on a standard lease form  
3 approved by the ~~director~~ secretary. The standard lease form shall contain all  
4 terms and conditions deemed necessary based on the type and purpose of the  
5 leased property. The ~~director~~ secretary also shall adopt a standard lease  
6 form to be used by state agencies when subleasing from the division. Both  
7 standard lease forms shall be approved as to the legality of form and content  
8 by the Attorney General before becoming a requirement; and

9  
10 SECTION 6176. Arkansas Code § 22-2-115(a), concerning lease-purchase  
11 agreements, is amended to read as follows:

12 (a) For the express purpose of providing adequate office facilities,  
13 the ~~Director of the Department of Finance and Administration~~ Secretary of the  
14 Department of Transformation and Shared Services, acting as the primary  
15 lessor, may enter into lease-purchase agreements to obtain facilities for  
16 state agencies. Each lease-purchase agreement shall contain a provision  
17 whereby the agreement shall be cancelled at the close of each fiscal  
18 biennium, if necessary, if funds for the payment of the rent under the lease-  
19 purchase agreement will not be available.

20  
21 SECTION 6177. Arkansas Code § 22-2-115(b)(1), concerning lease-  
22 purchase agreements, is amended to read as follows:

23 (b)(1) The ~~director~~ secretary shall make the final determination  
24 regarding the location or construction of facilities with the advice and  
25 consent of the appropriate state agency.

26  
27 SECTION 6178. Arkansas Code § 22-2-116(a), concerning maintenance  
28 responsibilities of the Building Authority Division, is amended to read as  
29 follows:

30 (a) The Building Authority Division ~~of the Department of Finance and~~  
31 ~~Administration~~ shall provide for the management, maintenance, and operation  
32 of public buildings as may be required by the provisions and implementation  
33 of this chapter, or as may otherwise be required by law.

34  
35 SECTION 6179. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 22-2-  
36 117(a), concerning maintenance responsibilities of the Building Authority

1 Division for the Capitol Zoning District, is amended to read as follows:

2 (a) As to all presently existing public buildings and capital  
3 improvements within the Capitol Zoning District, as zoned by § 22-3-302(a),  
4 any person or entity responsible for the custody, management, maintenance,  
5 repair, operation, or landscaping of such public buildings and capital  
6 improvements and their grounds shall be accountable to the Building Authority  
7 Division ~~of the Department of Finance and Administration~~ as follows:

8

9 SECTION 6180. Arkansas Code § 22-2-118 is amended to read as follows:  
10 22-2-118. Plans, specifications, and estimates of costs.

11 The Building Authority Division ~~of the Department of Finance and~~  
12 ~~Administration~~ is authorized to employ, except as limited by § 22-2-108(9),  
13 such persons as may be necessary to prepare plans, specifications, and  
14 estimates of costs for capital improvements which, under the provisions of  
15 this chapter, are the responsibility of the division.

16

17 SECTION 6181. Arkansas Code § 22-2-120 is amended to read as follows:  
18 22-2-120. Exemption from statutes concerning Capitol Zoning District.

19 (a) The construction, acquisition, management, maintenance, or  
20 operation of capital improvements and public buildings by the Building  
21 Authority Division ~~of the Department of Finance and Administration~~ under this  
22 chapter is declared to be exempt from the operation and implementation of the  
23 provisions of §§ 22-3-301 – 22-3-311.

24 (b) The ~~Director of the Department of Finance and Administration~~  
25 Secretary of the Department of Transformation and Shared Services shall  
26 endeavor to cooperate with the Capitol Zoning District Commission so as to  
27 establish coordinated physical development in the State Capitol area and to  
28 promote the uniform and appropriate regulation and development of the State  
29 Capitol area.

30

31 SECTION 6182. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 22-2-  
32 121(a), concerning the real estate compilation, is amended to read as  
33 follows:

34 (a) The Building Authority Division ~~of the Department of Finance and~~  
35 ~~Administration~~ shall:

36

1 SECTION 6183. Arkansas Code § 22-3-313 is amended to read as follows:

2 ~~22-3-313. Capitol Zoning District Commission Powers.~~

3 ~~(a) Effective July 1, 1997, the Director of the Department of Finance~~  
4 ~~and Administration, as Chief Fiscal Officer of the State, shall transfer all~~  
5 ~~authority and responsibility of the Arkansas Building Authority and the~~  
6 ~~Director of the Arkansas Building Authority with respect to the Capitol~~  
7 ~~Zoning District Commission to the Capitol Zoning District Commission and to~~  
8 ~~the Director of the Capitol Zoning District Commission.~~

9 ~~(b) The commission and its staff shall be a separate and distinct~~  
10 ~~agency of government.~~

11  
12 SECTION 6184. Arkansas Code § 22-3-401(a), concerning the purpose of  
13 traffic control and parking regulations on the State Capitol grounds, is  
14 amended to read as follows:

15 (a) The purpose of this subchapter is to establish a system of traffic  
16 control and parking regulations governing the drives and parking areas on the  
17 State Capitol grounds and other drives and parking areas in the custody of or  
18 leased by the Secretary of State or the Building Authority Division ~~of the~~  
19 ~~Department of Finance and Administration.~~

20  
21 SECTION 6185. Arkansas Code § 22-3-405(b)(2) and (3), concerning the  
22 creation and members of the Capitol Parking Control Committee, are amended to  
23 read as follows:

24 (2) ~~The Director of the Department of Finance and Administration~~  
25 Secretary of the Department of Transformation and Shared Services or his or  
26 her designee; and

27 (3) A state employee designated by the Secretary of State who is  
28 employed on the State Capitol grounds in a position of administrator or  
29 higher by an agency or office other than that of the Secretary of State or of  
30 the Building Authority Division ~~of the Department of Finance and~~  
31 ~~Administration.~~

32  
33 SECTION 6186. Arkansas Code § 22-3-405(c), concerning the creation and  
34 members of the Capitol Parking Control Committee, are amended to read as  
35 follows:

36 (c) The Secretary of State shall be the chair of the committee, and

1 the ~~Director of the Department of Finance and Administration~~ Secretary of the  
2 Department of Transformation and Shared Services or his or her designee shall  
3 serve as secretary of the committee.

4  
5 SECTION 6187. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 22-3-406,  
6 concerning the powers and duties of the Capitol Parking Control Committee, is  
7 amended to read as follows:

8 Upon the passage of this subchapter, the Capitol Parking Control  
9 Committee shall proceed to study the traffic conditions on the drives of the  
10 State Capitol grounds and shall make a study of the existing and anticipated  
11 needs for parking space on the State Capitol grounds and other parking lots  
12 and drives leased by or in the custody of the Secretary of State or the  
13 Building Authority Division ~~of the Department of Finance and Administration~~.  
14 Upon completion of the study, the committee shall establish rules and  
15 regulations and shall amend or change them from time to time as deemed  
16 necessary in the following manner:

17  
18 SECTION 6188. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 22-3-905,  
19 concerning the duties and powers of the Building Authority Division, is  
20 amended to read as follows:

21 It shall be the function, power, and duty of the Building Authority  
22 Division ~~of the Department of Finance and Administration~~ to:

23  
24 SECTION 6189. Arkansas Code § 22-3-906 is amended to read as follows:

25 22-3-906. ~~Director of the Department of Finance and Administration~~  
26 Secretary of the Department of Transformation and Shared Services.

27 (a) The ~~Director of the Department of Finance and Administration~~  
28 Secretary of the Department of Transformation and Shared Services shall be  
29 the custodian of all property held in the name of the Building Authority  
30 Division ~~of the Department of Finance and Administration~~, shall be its  
31 disbursing agent and executive officer, and shall administer the provisions  
32 of this subchapter and the rules, regulations, and orders established  
33 thereunder.

34 (b) The ~~director~~ Secretary of the Department of Transformation and  
35 Shared Services shall employ such assistants and other personnel as are, in  
36 his or her opinion, necessary to properly administer the provisions of this

1 subchapter.

2 (c)(1) The ~~director~~ Secretary of the Department of Transformation and  
3 Shared Services shall furnish bond to the state, with a corporate surety  
4 thereon, in the penal sum of twenty-five thousand dollars (\$25,000),  
5 conditioned that he or she will faithfully perform his or her duties and  
6 properly account for all funds received and disbursed by him or her.

7 (2) An additional disbursing agent's bond shall not be required  
8 of the ~~director~~ Secretary of the Department of Transformation and Shared  
9 Services, and the bond so furnished shall be filed in the office of the  
10 Secretary of State, and an executed counterpart thereof shall be filed with  
11 the Auditor of State.

12 (3) The premium on the bond shall be a proper charge against the  
13 funds under the control of the ~~director~~ Secretary of the Department of  
14 Transformation and Shared Services.

15

16 SECTION 6190. Arkansas Code § 22-3-907 is amended to read as follows:

17 22-3-907. Financing authority of Building Authority Division ~~of the~~  
18 ~~Department of Finance and Administration~~.

19 The Building Authority Division ~~of the Department of Finance and~~  
20 ~~Administration~~ is authorized and empowered to enter into the necessary  
21 contracts for the borrowing of all funds that it determines will be required  
22 in connection with the financing of the Arkansas Justice Building or the  
23 construction of extensions, additions, or improvements thereto. The cost of  
24 construction may include architectural, engineering, legal, and other similar  
25 expenses.

26

27 SECTION 6191. Arkansas Code § 22-3-916 is amended to read as follows:

28 22-3-916. Audit of accounts – Reports.

29 The agency of the state authorized by law to audit the records and  
30 accounts of the various state agencies is authorized and directed to audit  
31 the records and accounts of the Building Authority Division ~~of the Department~~  
32 ~~of Finance and Administration~~ and to furnish a copy of the report thereof to  
33 the division and to the trustee for the bondholders.

34

35 SECTION 6192. Arkansas Code § 22-3-917(a)(1), concerning the  
36 employment of an architect and fees, is amended to read as follows:

1 (a)(1) The Building Authority Division ~~of the Department of Finance~~  
2 ~~and Administration~~ may employ an architect to prepare plans, specifications,  
3 and estimates of cost for the construction of the Arkansas Justice Building  
4 and to supervise and inspect the construction.

5  
6 SECTION 6193. Arkansas Code § 22-3-918(a)(1), concerning the notice  
7 for bids for construction and execution of contracts, is amended to read as  
8 follows:

9 (a)(1) After the Building Authority Division ~~of the Department of~~  
10 ~~Finance and Administration~~ has approved the plans and specifications prepared  
11 by the architect, it shall proceed to advertise for bids for the construction  
12 of the Arkansas Justice Building.

13  
14 SECTION 6194. Arkansas Code § 22-3-918(d), concerning the notice for  
15 bids for construction and execution of contracts, is amended to read as  
16 follows:

17 (d) The ~~Director of the Department of Finance and Administration~~  
18 Secretary of the Department of Transformation and Shared Services shall  
19 execute all contracts awarded by the division.

20  
21 SECTION 6195. Arkansas Code § 22-3-1101(a)(1), concerning the  
22 acquisition of facilities by the state for holding the Arkansas State Fair  
23 and Livestock Show, is amended to read as follows:

24 (a)(1) The Building Authority Division ~~of the Department of Finance~~  
25 ~~and Administration~~ may enter into an agreement with the Arkansas Livestock  
26 Show Association and make such contracts as are necessary for the purpose of  
27 purchasing the permanent site of the association and for the purchase or  
28 construction of buildings and facilities for the holding of the Arkansas  
29 State Fair and Livestock Show.

30  
31 SECTION 6196. Arkansas Code § 22-3-1102(a), concerning the power of  
32 eminent domain, is amended to read as follows:

33 (a) From and after the passage and approval of this section, the  
34 Building Authority Division ~~of the Department of Finance and Administration~~  
35 may acquire by eminent domain any real property, including the improvements  
36 and fixtures on the property that it may deem necessary to provide a

1 permanent site and show facilities for a state fair and livestock show and  
2 for aid to the livestock industry.

3  
4 SECTION 6197. Arkansas Code § 22-3-1206(a), concerning the filing of a  
5 financial statement prior to a plan of proposed construction work and review,  
6 is amended to read as follows:

7 (a) Before certificates of indebtedness as authorized by this  
8 subchapter may be issued by the Building Authority Division ~~of the Department~~  
9 ~~of Finance and Administration~~ and purchased by the State Board of Finance,  
10 the division shall develop a plan for all proposed construction work to be  
11 performed, the location at which the work is to be performed, and the  
12 proposed use of the improvements to be carried out under the construction,  
13 together with the estimated cost thereof, and shall file a copy thereof with  
14 the Legislative Council, the Governor, and the Chief Fiscal Officer of the  
15 State at least sixty (60) days prior to the issuance of the certificates of  
16 indebtedness.

17  
18 SECTION 6198. Arkansas Code § 22-3-1207(a)(1), concerning the issuance  
19 and purchase of a certificate of indebtedness authorized, is amended to read  
20 as follows:

21 (a)(1) For the purpose of providing funds for the construction of  
22 buildings as authorized in this subchapter, the Director of the Building  
23 Authority Division ~~of the Department of Finance and Administration~~, with the  
24 approval of the Governor and the Secretary of the Department of  
25 Transformation and Shared Services, is authorized and empowered to issue, and  
26 the State Board of Finance is authorized and empowered to purchase, division  
27 certificates of indebtedness of a total principal amount not to exceed  
28 twenty-five million dollars (\$25,000,000).

29  
30 SECTION 6199. Arkansas Code § 22-3-1208(a)(1), concerning the terms  
31 and execution of certificates of indebtedness, is amended to read as follows:

32 (a)(1) The certificates of indebtedness shall be in such form and  
33 denomination, and shall have such dates and maturities, and may be issued in  
34 such series, as the Building Authority Division ~~of the Department of Finance~~  
35 ~~and Administration~~ shall determine.

36

1 SECTION 6200. Arkansas Code § 22-3-1208(d), concerning the terms and  
2 execution of certificates of indebtedness, is amended to read as follows:

3 (d) The certificates of indebtedness shall be executed on behalf of  
4 the division by the ~~Director of the Department of Finance and Administration~~  
5 Secretary of the Department of Transformation and Shared Services.

6  
7 SECTION 6201. Arkansas Code § 22-3-1209(a), concerning the pledge of  
8 revenues and restrictions on a certificate of indebtedness, is amended to  
9 read as follows:

10 (a) The certificates shall be the obligations of the Building  
11 Authority Division ~~of the Department of Finance and Administration~~, and the  
12 nontax revenues available to the division under the provisions of § 22-3-  
13 1210, as distinguished from any tax moneys which may be made available for  
14 the operation of the division, are pledged to secure the payment of the  
15 certificates.

16  
17 SECTION 6202. Arkansas Code § 22-3-1210(c)(1)(B), concerning the  
18 Public Facilities Debt Service Fund and certificates of indebtedness, is  
19 amended to read as follows:

20 (B) Commencing on the first day of the month next  
21 succeeding the issuance of certificates of indebtedness under this  
22 subchapter, but not before July 1, 1983, and so long as any certificates are  
23 outstanding under this subchapter, the pledged revenues, except as provided  
24 herein, shall be deposited into the State Treasury as and when received by  
25 the Department of Correction, by the Building Authority Division ~~of the~~  
26 ~~Department of Finance and Administration~~, by state-supported institutions of  
27 higher education, or by any other state agency, as the case may be, to the  
28 credit of a fund to be designated the "Public Facilities Debt Service Fund".

29  
30 SECTION 6203. Arkansas Code § 22-3-1212(c), concerning retirement and  
31 funds used for the purchase of certificates of indebtedness, is amended to  
32 read as follows:

33 (c) The certificates of indebtedness which have been paid and  
34 cancelled by the Treasurer of State shall be delivered to the Building  
35 Authority Division ~~of the Department of Finance and Administration~~.

36

1 SECTION 6204. Arkansas Code § 22-3-1213(a), concerning the alternative  
2 method of payment for a certificate of indebtedness, is amended to read as  
3 follows:

4 (a) In the event it shall be determined that the procedure set forth  
5 in § 22-3-1212 for the retirement of the certificates is unconstitutional or  
6 invalid for any reason, the Building Authority Division ~~of the Department of~~  
7 ~~Finance and Administration~~ is authorized and directed to establish an account  
8 in its name in a bank to be approved by the State Board of Finance and to  
9 deposit therein so much of the first moneys received by it each year under  
10 the provisions of § 22-3-1210 as shall be required to meet the next ensuing  
11 principal and interest maturities of its outstanding certificates, together  
12 with such additional amounts as may be necessary to pay any certificates  
13 which it shall determine to retire in advance of maturity.

14  
15 SECTION 6205. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 22-3-1216,  
16 concerning covenants and authorizing resolutions as an enforceable contracts,  
17 is amended to read as follows:

18 Any authorizing resolution shall, together with this subchapter,  
19 constitute a contract between the Building Authority Division ~~of the~~  
20 ~~Department of Finance and Administration~~, and the State Board of Finance, and  
21 the Treasurer of State, which contract and all covenants, agreements, and  
22 obligations therein shall be promptly performed in strict compliance with its  
23 terms and provisions, and the covenants, agreements, and obligations of the  
24 division may be enforced by mandamus or other appropriate proceeding at law  
25 or in equity. In this regard, the division is expressly authorized to include  
26 in any authorizing resolution all or part of the following covenants:

27  
28 SECTION 6206. Arkansas Code § 22-3-1217 is amended to read as follows:  
29 22-3-1217. Disposition of revenues from agricultural and livestock  
30 activities of correctional facility.

31 (a)(1) Prior to the issuance of certificates of indebtedness as  
32 authorized by this subchapter, all moneys collected by the ~~Department~~  
33 Division of Correction from the sale or disposition of farm products,  
34 livestock, or other products produced in connection with agricultural and  
35 livestock activities at institutions under the control of the Board of  
36 Corrections, from the rental of farm properties under the control of the

1 board, and from payments from agencies of the state or federal government in  
2 connection with the farm operations of the ~~department~~ Division of Correction  
3 shall be deposited into the State Treasury as special revenues for credit to  
4 the ~~Department~~ Division of Correction Farm Fund, as authorized by law, to be  
5 used for the maintenance, operation, and improvement of the agriculture and  
6 farm programs of the ~~department~~ Division of Correction.

7 (2) Moneys which the ~~department~~ Division of Correction shall  
8 determine not to be necessary in defraying expenses of operating the  
9 agriculture programs of the ~~department~~ Division of Correction and which are  
10 profit or surplus from the operation of the agriculture programs shall, upon  
11 certification by the board to the Chief Fiscal Officer of the State, be  
12 transferred by the Chief Fiscal Officer of the State from the ~~Department~~  
13 Division of Correction Farm Fund to the ~~Department~~ Division of Correction  
14 Inmate Care and Custody Fund Account within the State General Government  
15 Fund, to be used to supplement general revenues provided for the maintenance,  
16 operation, and improvement of the ~~department~~ Division of Correction, as  
17 provided by law.

18 (b)(1) Commencing the first day of the month next succeeding the  
19 issuance of any certificates of indebtedness as authorized by this  
20 subchapter, the moneys described in this section shall be pledged revenues,  
21 as stated in § 22-3-1210, and shall be deposited into the Public Facilities  
22 Debt Service Fund as established in § 22-3-1210.

23 (2) Any surplus prison farm moneys in the Public Facilities Debt  
24 Service Fund, as defined in the authorizing resolution, shall be transferred  
25 to the ~~Department~~ Division of Correction Farm Fund, upon certification by the  
26 Building Authority Division ~~of the Department of Finance and Administration~~  
27 to the Chief Fiscal Officer of the State, to the Treasurer of State, and to  
28 the Auditor of State, to be used for the maintenance, operation, and  
29 improvement of the agriculture and farm programs of the ~~Department~~ Division  
30 of Correction, as provided by law.

31 (3) Such moneys deposited into the ~~Department~~ Division of  
32 Correction Farm Fund which the ~~department~~ Division of Correction shall  
33 determine not to be necessary in defraying expenses of operating the  
34 agriculture and farm programs of the ~~department~~ Division of Correction shall  
35 be, upon certification thereof by the board to the Chief Fiscal Officer of  
36 the State, transferred by the Chief Fiscal Officer of the State from the

1 ~~Department~~ Division of Correction Farm Fund to the ~~Department~~ Division of  
2 Correction Inmate Care and Custody Fund Account within the State General  
3 Government Fund to be used to supplement general revenues provided for the  
4 maintenance, operation, and improvement of the ~~Department~~ Division of  
5 Correction, as provided by law.

6

7 SECTION 6207. Arkansas Code § 22-3-1219(a), concerning the notice for  
8 bids for construction and the employment of architects and other  
9 professionals, is amended to read as follows:

10 (a) The Building Authority Division ~~of the Department of Finance and~~  
11 ~~Administration~~ is authorized to employ architects to prepare plans,  
12 specifications, and estimates of costs for the construction of any and all  
13 facilities authorized by the provisions of this subchapter and to supervise  
14 and inspect the construction.

15

16 SECTION 6208. Arkansas Code § 22-3-1311 is amended to read as follows:  
17 22-3-1311. Termination of contracts with sighted vendors.

18 On state property where vending facilities are being operated by those  
19 other than the blind, when the present contract or agreement expires or is  
20 terminated for any reason or when a change in the present vending facility is  
21 imminent, the future planned vending facility for such state property shall  
22 be covered by this subchapter, and state agency administrators shall contact  
23 the licensing agency to assure preference for the blind. Provided, however,  
24 leases executed under § 22-2-114 prior to June 1, 1999, shall not be  
25 considered a contract or agreement within this subchapter if the property is  
26 owned by the Building Authority Division ~~of the Department of Finance and~~  
27 ~~Administration~~.

28

29 SECTION 6209. Arkansas Code § 22-3-1403(4), concerning the definition  
30 of "construct" under the State Agencies Facilities Acquisition Act of 1991 ,  
31 is amended to read as follows:

32 (4) "Construct" means to acquire, construct, reconstruct,  
33 remodel, install, and equip any lands, buildings, structures, improvements,  
34 or other property, real, personal, or mixed, useful in connection therewith  
35 and to make other necessary expenditures in connection therewith by such  
36 methods and in such manner as the Building Authority Division ~~of the~~

1 ~~Department of Finance and Administration~~ shall determine to be necessary or  
2 desirable to accomplish the powers, purposes, and authority set forth in this  
3 subchapter.

4  
5 SECTION 6210. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 22-3-1404,  
6 concerning the powers of the Building Authority Division under the State  
7 Agencies Facilities Acquisition Act of 1991, is amended to read as follows:

8 In addition to the purposes, powers, and authority set forth elsewhere  
9 in this subchapter or in other laws, the Building Authority Division ~~of the~~  
10 ~~Department of Finance and Administration~~ may:

11  
12 SECTION 6211. Arkansas Code § 22-3-1404(8), concerning the powers of  
13 the Building Authority Division under the State Agencies Facilities  
14 Acquisition Act of 1991, is amended to read as follows:

15 (8) Take such other actions not inconsistent with law as may be  
16 necessary or desirable to carry out the powers, purposes, and authority as  
17 set forth in this section in accordance with the policies promulgated by the  
18 ~~Director of the Department of Finance and Administration~~ Secretary of the  
19 Department of Transformation and Shared Services.

20  
21 SECTION 6212. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 22-3-1405,  
22 concerning the duties of the Building Authority Division under the State  
23 Agencies Facilities Acquisition Act of 1991, is amended to read as follows:

24 In addition to the purposes, powers, and authority set forth elsewhere  
25 in this subchapter or in other laws, in connection with the construction and  
26 equipping of buildings and facilities in Little Rock, Arkansas, to house  
27 state agencies, the Building Authority Division ~~of the Department of Finance~~  
28 ~~and Administration~~ may:

29  
30 SECTION 6213. Arkansas Code § 22-3-1405(4), concerning the duties of  
31 the Building Authority Division under the State Agencies Facilities  
32 Acquisition Act of 1991, is amended to read as follows:

33 (4) Take such other actions not inconsistent with law as may be  
34 necessary or desirable to carry out the powers, purposes, and authority set  
35 forth herein, in accordance with the policies promulgated by the ~~Director of~~  
36 ~~the Department of Finance and Administration~~ Secretary of the Department of

1 Transformation and Shared Services as authorized by law.

2

3 SECTION 6214. Arkansas Code § 22-3-1407(a) and (b), concerning revenue  
4 bonds, are amended to read as follows:

5 (a) Pursuant to the intention of the General Assembly expressed in §  
6 15-5-303, the Arkansas Development Finance Authority, in cooperation with the  
7 Building Authority Division ~~of the Department of Finance and Administration~~,  
8 is hereby authorized and empowered to issue revenue bonds at one (1) time or  
9 from time to time, and to use the proceeds thereof for defraying the costs of  
10 accomplishing all or part of the powers, purposes, and authorities set forth  
11 in this subchapter and all expenses incidental thereto, including, without  
12 limitation, expenses for the operation and maintenance of such facilities  
13 pending completion of the construction, repair, remodeling, or renovation,  
14 paying the expenses of authorizing and issuing the bonds, establishing a debt  
15 service reserve to secure the payment of the bonds, if the Arkansas  
16 Development Finance Authority deems such desirable, and making provision for  
17 the payment of debt service on the bonds, including fees of trustees and  
18 paying agents, until revenues for the payment thereof are available.

19 (b) The bonds outstanding under this subchapter may be in such  
20 principal amount as the Arkansas Development Finance Authority and the  
21 Building Authority Division ~~of the Department of Finance and Administration~~  
22 shall determine to be necessary for the accomplishment of the purposes of  
23 this subchapter.

24

25 SECTION 6215. Arkansas Code § 22-3-1410 is amended to read as follows:

26 22-3-1410. Contract between Arkansas Development Finance Authority and  
27 holders and owners of bonds.

28 (a) Any authorizing resolution and trust indenture shall, together  
29 with this subchapter, constitute a contract between the Arkansas Development  
30 Finance Authority and the holders and registered owners of the bonds, which  
31 contract, and all covenants, agreements, and obligations therein, shall be  
32 promptly performed in strict compliance with the terms and provisions of such  
33 contract, and the covenants, agreements, and obligations of the Building  
34 Authority Division ~~of the Department of Finance and Administration~~ may be  
35 enforced by mandamus or other appropriate proceedings at law or in equity.

36 (b) In this regard, in addition to other provisions referred to in

1 this subchapter, the Building Authority Division ~~of the Department of Finance~~  
2 ~~and Administration~~ is hereby expressly authorized to include in any  
3 authorizing resolution or trust indenture assurance that, to the fullest  
4 extent possible, it will always charge, impose, and collect sufficient  
5 rentals and other revenue to meet, as due, all debt service requirements,  
6 maintain reserves at proper levels, and otherwise comply with any provisions  
7 of authorizing resolutions or trust indentures concerning revenues and bonds.

8  
9 SECTION 6216. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 22-3-  
10 1415(a), concerning the supervision and management of buildings and  
11 facilities, is amended to read as follows:

12 (a) The Building Authority Division ~~of the Department of Finance and~~  
13 ~~Administration~~ may supervise and manage buildings and other facilities  
14 constructed pursuant to the authority granted in this subchapter and to  
15 manage, maintain, and repair those buildings and facilities to provide rental  
16 space to be made available for the housing of state agencies, departments,  
17 boards, commissions, and institutions, or other tenants at such rental rates  
18 as deemed necessary:

19  
20 SECTION 6217. Arkansas Code § 22-3-1501 is amended to read as follows:  
21 22-3-1501. Intent.

22 The Building Authority Division ~~of the Department of Finance and~~  
23 ~~Administration~~ shall provide adequate facilities for those agencies located  
24 in the Capitol Mall area. The services provided by these agencies are varied.  
25 Parking spaces for these tenants have not kept up with current growth,  
26 thereby diminishing effective services provided by these agencies. The public  
27 access to the Capitol Mall area has been diminished by the lack of adequate  
28 parking. The construction of a parking deck facility, surface parking, and  
29 street improvements will help to alleviate such diminished services and lack  
30 of access.

31  
32 SECTION 6218. Arkansas Code § 22-3-1502(a)(1), concerning the Building  
33 Authority Division's authority to build and maintain parking facilities, is  
34 amended to read as follows:

35 (a)(1) Any other provision of law to the contrary notwithstanding, the  
36 Building Authority Division ~~of the Department of Finance and Administration~~

1 is hereby authorized to construct, manage, and maintain parking deck  
2 facilities, surface parking, and street improvements, called in this  
3 subchapter the "parking facilities", in the area described in § 22-3-302(a).  
4

5 SECTION 6219. Arkansas Code § 22-3-1503 is amended to read as follows:

6 22-3-1503. Parking regulation.

7 The Building Authority Division ~~of the Department of Finance and~~  
8 ~~Administration~~ shall develop parking regulations which will maintain  
9 equitable parking among the state agency tenants in the area described in §  
10 22-3-1501 and for the public and may establish reasonable rental or other  
11 charges for parking therein. The State Capitol Police shall provide the  
12 necessary traffic patrols and policing of the parking facility.  
13

14 SECTION 6220. Arkansas Code § 22-3-1504 is amended to read as follows:

15 22-3-1504. Utility easement.

16 The Building Authority Division ~~of the Department of Finance and~~  
17 ~~Administration~~, on behalf of the State of Arkansas, is hereby granted an  
18 easement or license over the State Capitol Building, the various buildings on  
19 the State Capitol grounds, and the State Capitol grounds for the purpose of  
20 installing or relocating utilities, connecting the facility to an existing  
21 structure, and such other purposes as are necessary and consistent with this  
22 project as authorized by this subchapter.  
23

24 SECTION 6221. Arkansas Code § 22-3-1505(a)(1), concerning funding for  
25 the Building Authority Division, is amended to read as follows:

26 (a)(1) The Building Authority Division ~~of the Department of Finance~~  
27 ~~and Administration~~ is authorized and empowered to obtain the necessary funds  
28 for accomplishing its powers, purposes, and authority from any source or  
29 sources necessary and consistent with this subchapter, including without  
30 limitation contracting with the Arkansas Development Finance Authority to  
31 provide for the issuance of bonds by the Arkansas Development Finance  
32 Authority in accordance with the State Agencies Facilities Acquisition Act of  
33 1991, § 22-3-1401 et seq.  
34

35 SECTION 6222. Arkansas Code § 22-3-1506 is amended to read as follows:

36 22-3-1506. Exceptions.

1 The provisions of § 22-3-301 et seq., pertaining to the Capitol Zoning  
2 District Commission, § 22-3-401 et seq., pertaining to the Capitol Parking  
3 Control Committee, § 22-3-501 et seq., pertaining to the Capitol Arts and  
4 Grounds Commission, and § 22-3-202, pertaining to the Secretary of State, or  
5 any other provision of law inconsistent with the intent of this subchapter  
6 shall not be applicable to the Building Authority Division ~~of the Department~~  
7 ~~of Finance and Administration~~ in connection with the parking facilities  
8 contemplated by this subchapter, and no filings, consents, or approvals shall  
9 be required from any agency of the state prior to the construction,  
10 renovation, or repair of parking facilities or concerning the operations  
11 thereof.

12  
13 SECTION 6223. Arkansas Code § 22-3-1901 is amended to read as follows:

14 22-3-1901. Sustainable Building Design Program for State Agencies.

15 There is created the Sustainable Building Design Program for State  
16 Agencies to be administered by the Building Authority Division ~~of the~~  
17 ~~Department of Finance and Administration~~.

18  
19 SECTION 6224. Arkansas Code § 22-3-1903(a), concerning loans under the  
20 Sustainable Building Design Program for State Agencies, is amended to read as  
21 follows:

22 (a) Under the Sustainable Building Design Program for State Agencies,  
23 the Building Authority Division ~~of the Department of Finance and~~  
24 ~~Administration~~ may authorize money to be loaned from the Sustainable Building  
25 Design Revolving Loan Fund to a state agency, board, or commission.

26  
27 SECTION 6225. Arkansas Code § 22-3-1904(a)(1), concerning the loan  
28 approval process, is amended to read as follows:

29 (1) Apply on a form approved by the Building Authority Division  
30 ~~of the Department of Finance and Administration~~; and

31  
32 SECTION 6226. Arkansas Code § 22-6-601(a)(1)(A), concerning the sale  
33 procedure for lands of state institutions, is amended to read as follows:

34 (a)(1)(A) The several state boards or commissions having supervision  
35 of the affairs of the charitable, penal, correctional, educational, and other  
36 institutions of the State of Arkansas and all other state boards and

1 commissions, except the State Highway Commission, the Arkansas State Game and  
2 Fish Commission, the Arkansas Natural Heritage Commission, the State Parks,  
3 Recreation, and Travel Commission, the ~~Department~~ Division of Higher  
4 Education, and institutions of higher education, and the executive heads of  
5 all state offices, departments, divisions, and agencies, all referred to  
6 separately as "state agency", may sell or purchase, for cash in hand and upon  
7 compliance with the provisions of this section, the lands, in whole or in  
8 part, belonging to or under the supervision or control of the respective  
9 state agency or belonging to the state and held for the use or benefit of the  
10 state agency.

11  
12 SECTION 6227. Arkansas Code § 22-6-601(a)(2)(D), concerning the sale  
13 procedure for lands of state institutions, is amended to read as follows:

14 (D) The exchange of state lands for other lands which are  
15 suitable for state purposes if the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of  
16 Finance and Administration has made a recommendation to the Governor that the  
17 exchange be made and if the Governor has approved the exchange.

18  
19 SECTION 6228. Arkansas Code § 22-6-601(b), concerning the procedure  
20 for the sale of state lands, is amended to read as follows:

21 (b)(1) State agencies may transfer lands in whole or in part to the  
22 Building Authority Division ~~of the Department of Finance and Administration~~  
23 for the use of that agency or other state agencies.

24 (2) In the event that the ~~division~~ Building Authority Division  
25 shall sell the lands at a later date, the provisions of this section shall  
26 apply, and the proceeds of the sale, less any expenses and liquidated  
27 damages, shall be deposited into the State Treasury as a nonrevenue receipt  
28 to the credit of the fund from which the agency that transferred the land to  
29 the ~~division~~ Building Authority Division is operated.

30  
31 SECTION 6229. Arkansas Code § 22-6-601(c)(1), concerning the procedure  
32 for the sale of state lands, is amended to read as follows:

33 (c)(1) In the event that a state agency elects to sell certain of its  
34 lands or to purchase lands, the agency shall certify to the ~~division~~ Building  
35 Authority Division its proposal for any sale or purchase.

36

1 SECTION 6230. Arkansas Code § 22-6-601(c)(2)(A), concerning the sale  
2 procedure of state lands, is amended to read as follows:

3 (2)(A) The state agency proposing the sale or purchase of land  
4 shall obtain the services of a qualified appraiser to appraise the lands so  
5 proposed to be sold or purchased, with notice to the ~~Director of the~~  
6 ~~Department of Finance and Administration~~ Secretary of the Department of  
7 Transformation and Shared Services.

8  
9 SECTION 6231. Arkansas Code § 22-6-601(d), concerning the procedure  
10 for the sale of state lands, is amended to read as follows:

11 (d)(1) The ~~Director of the Department of Finance and Administration~~  
12 Secretary of the Department of Transformation and Shared Services shall  
13 furnish to the Governor:

14 (A) The appraisal;  
15 (B) The agency proposal to sell or purchase; and  
16 (C) The ~~division's~~ Building Authority Division's  
17 recommendations.

18 (2) The Governor, if he or she approves the proposed sale or  
19 purchase, shall endorse his or her approval of the proposal and transmit a  
20 copy of the proposal to the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance  
21 and Administration and the Secretary of the Department of Transformation and  
22 Shared Services.

23  
24 SECTION 6232. Arkansas Code § 22-6-601(e)(1), concerning the procedure  
25 for the sale of state lands, is amended to read as follows:

26 (e)(1) The ~~division~~ Building Authority Division shall give notice of  
27 the terms of the sale by publication in one (1) newspaper regularly published  
28 in Little Rock, Arkansas, and having a general circulation in the State of  
29 Arkansas, by four (4) weekly insertions therein.

30  
31 SECTION 6233. Arkansas Code § 22-6-601(f), concerning the procedure  
32 for the sale of state lands, is amended to read as follows:

33 (f) The notice shall specify a time and place, which time shall be not  
34 less than thirty (30) days from and after the date of the first insertion of  
35 the notice, for the receipt by the ~~division~~ Building Authority Division of  
36 sealed bids for the purchase of the lands.

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SECTION 6234. Arkansas Code § 22-6-601(g)(4), concerning the procedure for the sale of state lands, is amended to read as follows:

(4) The ~~division~~ Building Authority Division, at the time and place specified in the notice, or by announcement then and there, or at some other time or place, shall open the bids which have been received and proceed to accept the highest bid properly accompanied by a cashier's check for the lands in whole or in part as offered for such sale.

SECTION 6235. Arkansas Code § 22-9-101(c)(2)(B), concerning the requirement of observation by registered professionals, is amended to read as follows:

(B) The State Parks, Recreation, and Travel Commission shall ensure that an unpaved trail project created under this subdivision (c)(2) meets the standards for observation by registered professionals as established by the Building Authority Division ~~of the Department of Finance and Administration~~.

SECTION 6236. Arkansas Code § 22-9-201(c)(3), concerning the applicability of §§ 22-9-202 – 22-9-204, is amended to read as follows:

(3) "Emergency contracting procedures" means the acquisition of services and materials for capital improvements, including without limitation acquisitions funded in whole or in part with insurance proceeds, that are in accordance with the minimum standards and criteria of the Building Authority Division ~~of the Department of Finance and Administration~~.

SECTION 6237. Arkansas Code § 22-9-201(c)(5), concerning the applicability of §§ 22-9-202 – 22-9-204, is amended to read as follows:

(5) The ~~Director of the Department of Finance and Administration~~ Secretary of the Department of Transformation and Shared Services or a designee may make or authorize others to make emergency contracting procedures as defined in subdivision (c)(3) of this section and in accordance with the minimum standards and criteria of the division.

SECTION 6238. Arkansas Code § 22-9-203(a)(1), concerning the award procedure for public improvements, is amended to read as follows:

1 (1) The state or any agency of the state shall have first  
2 published notice of its intention to receive bids one (1) time each week for  
3 not less than two (2) consecutive weeks for projects more than the amount of  
4 fifty thousand dollars (\$50,000) and published notice of its intention to  
5 receive bids one (1) time each week for not less than one (1) week for  
6 projects more than the quote bid limit, as provided under the minimum  
7 standards and criteria of the Building Authority Division ~~of the Department~~  
8 ~~of Finance and Administration~~, but less than or equal to fifty thousand  
9 dollars (\$50,000) in a newspaper of general circulation published in the  
10 county in which the proposed improvements are to be made or in a trade  
11 journal reaching the construction industry; and  
12

13 SECTION 6239. Arkansas Code § 22-9-204(c)(2), concerning the penalty  
14 for subcontracts exceeding fifty thousand dollars (\$50,000), is amended to  
15 read as follows:

16 (2) In the event that one (1) or more of the subcontractors  
17 named by the prime contractor in his or her successful bid thereafter refuses  
18 to perform his or her contract or offered contract, the prime contractor may  
19 substitute another subcontractor licensed by the board after having obtained  
20 prior approval from the architect or engineer and the owner. Additional  
21 approval must be obtained from the Building Authority Division ~~of the~~  
22 ~~Department of Finance and Administration~~ for capital improvement projects  
23 under its jurisdiction.  
24

25 SECTION 6240. Arkansas Code § 22-9-208(a)(3), concerning renovation of  
26 historic sites, is amended to read as follows:

27 (3) The procedures provided in subdivision (a)(2) of this  
28 section should be applicable for specific projects only after review and  
29 approval by the Chief Fiscal Officer of the State, the Building Authority  
30 Division ~~of the Department of Finance and Administration~~, the Secretary of  
31 the Department of Transformation and Shared Services, and the Legislative  
32 Council. Provided, however, projects undertaken by public institutions of  
33 higher education exempt from review and approval of the division shall not  
34 require review and approval by the ~~Director of the Department of Finance and~~  
35 ~~Administration~~ secretary.  
36

1 SECTION 6241. Arkansas Code § 22-9-209(d)(2), concerning the  
2 advertising of contracts, renovation of historic sites is amended to read as  
3 follows:

4 (2) Provided further, nothing in this section shall prevent an  
5 institution of higher education exempt from review and approval of the  
6 Building Authority Division ~~of the Department of Finance and Administration~~  
7 from entering into an agreement with the division to provide such advice.

8  
9 SECTION 6242. Arkansas Code § 22-9-213 is amended to read as follows:  
10 22-9-213. Exemption of state projects from local regulation.

11 Public works construction projects conducted by the Building Authority  
12 Division ~~of the Department of Finance and Administration~~ or other state  
13 agencies are exempt from permit fees or inspection requirements of county or  
14 municipal ordinances.

15  
16 SECTION 6243. Arkansas Code § 22-9-403(b)(2), concerning the  
17 limitation of an action and the statutory liability as an integral part of a  
18 bond, is amended to read as follows:

19 (2) However, with respect to public works contracts where final  
20 approval for payment is given by the Building Authority Division ~~of the~~  
21 ~~Department of Finance and Administration~~ or by an institution of higher  
22 education exempt from construction review and approval by the division, all  
23 persons, firms, associations, and corporations having valid claims against  
24 the bond may bring an action on the bond against the corporate surety,  
25 provided that no action shall be brought on the bond after twelve (12) months  
26 from the date on which the division or the public institution of higher  
27 education approves final payment on the state contract, nor shall any action  
28 be brought outside the State of Arkansas in accordance with § 18-44-503.

29  
30 SECTION 6244. Arkansas Code § 22-10-201(a)(1), concerning the  
31 designation and duties of a responsible public entity, is amended to read as  
32 follows:

33 (1) Seek the advice and consent of the ~~Arkansas Economic~~  
34 ~~Development Commission~~ Building Authority Division and the Arkansas  
35 Development Finance Authority; and

36

1 SECTION 6245. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 22-10-  
2 501(a), concerning review and approval of a proposed qualifying project, is  
3 amended to read as follows:

4 (a) The ~~Arkansas Economic Development Commission~~ Building Authority  
5 Division shall:

6  
7 SECTION 6246. Arkansas Code § 22-10-501(b)(1)(B)(i), concerning review  
8 and approval of a proposed qualifying project, is amended to read as follows:

9 (B)(i) Submit the proposed interim agreement or  
10 comprehensive agreement to the ~~Chief Fiscal Officer of the State~~ Secretary of  
11 the Department of Transformation and Shared Services for approval.

12  
13 SECTION 6247. Arkansas Code § 22-10-502(a), concerning the duties of  
14 the Arkansas Economic Development Commission, is amended to read as follows:

15 (a) The Arkansas Economic Development Commission or the Building  
16 Authority Division shall promulgate certain rules regarding the definitions  
17 and guidelines related to the development of qualifying projects under this  
18 chapter within ninety (90) days of August 1, 2017.

19  
20 SECTION 6248. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 22-10-  
21 503(a), concerning the rules of the Arkansas Economic Development Commission,  
22 is amended to read as follows:

23 (a) The Arkansas Economic Development Commission or the Building  
24 Authority Division and the Arkansas Development Finance Authority shall  
25 jointly promulgate rules to administer this chapter, including without  
26 limitation rules regarding:

27  
28 SECTION 6249. Arkansas Code § 22-10-503(b), concerning the rules of  
29 the Arkansas Economic Development Commission, is amended to read as follows:

30 (b) The commission or division and the authority may jointly  
31 promulgate rules that establish procurement guidelines and requirements that  
32 vary depending on the type of qualifying project.

33  
34 SECTION 6250. Arkansas Code § 22-10-505(a), concerning monitoring and  
35 reporting audits, is amended to read as follows:

36 (a) An account related to the construction, operation, or maintenance

1 of a qualifying project authorized under this chapter shall be audited by the  
2 ~~Arkansas Economic Development Commission~~ Building Authority Division, the  
3 Arkansas Development Finance Authority, and the Chief Fiscal Officer of the  
4 State.

5

6 SECTION 6251. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 22-10-  
7 505(b), concerning monitoring and reporting audits, is amended to read as  
8 follows:

9 (b) The ~~Arkansas Economic Development Commission~~ Building Authority  
10 Division shall:

11

12 SECTION 6252. Arkansas Code § 23-17-409(b)(4), concerning the  
13 authorization of competing local exchange carriers, is amended to read as  
14 follows:

15 (4) This section does not prohibit a governmental entity from  
16 purchasing voice, data, broadband, video, or wireless telecommunications  
17 services, directly or indirectly, from a private provider through a contract  
18 administered and services managed by the ~~Department~~ Division of Information  
19 Systems under the Arkansas Information Systems Act of 1997, § 25-4-101 et  
20 seq.

21

22 SECTION 6253. Arkansas Code § 23-46-202(b), concerning offices for the  
23 State Bank Department, is amended to read as follows:

24 (b) The State Bank Department is authorized and empowered to obtain  
25 the necessary funds to accomplish the purposes stated in subsection (a) of  
26 this section from any source or sources necessary, including without  
27 limitation contracting with the Building Authority Division ~~of the Department~~  
28 ~~of Finance and Administration~~ or the Arkansas Development Finance Authority  
29 to provide for the issuance of bonds under the State Agencies Facilities  
30 Acquisition Act of 1991, § 22-3-1401 et seq., or the Arkansas Development  
31 Finance Authority Act, § 15-5-101 et seq., § 15-5-201 et seq., and § 15-5-301  
32 et seq.

33

34 SECTION 6254. Arkansas Code § 25-1-203(b)(2), concerning the  
35 distribution of other publications, is amended to read as follows:

36 (2) The ~~Department~~ Division of Information Systems shall assist

1 those state agencies requesting assistance in placing publications on the  
2 state agency's website.

3

4 SECTION 6255. Arkansas Code § 25-4-102(a)(2), concerning legislative  
5 findings and a declaration of intent in regard to the Department of  
6 Information Systems, is amended to read as follows:

7 (2) ~~Departmental resources~~ Resources of the Division of  
8 Information Systems are used unless an exception is authorized;

9

10 SECTION 6256. Arkansas Code § 25-4-102(a)(6), concerning legislative  
11 findings and a declaration of intent in regard to the Department of  
12 Information Systems, is amended to read as follows:

13 (6) The ~~Department~~ Division of Information Systems complies with  
14 applicable state and federal statutory and regulatory provisions.

15

16 SECTION 6257. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 25-4-  
17 102(b), concerning legislative findings and a declaration of intent in regard  
18 to the Department of Information Systems, is amended to read as follows:

19 (b) The General Assembly further declares its intent to create a state  
20 agency division to:

21

22 SECTION 6258. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 25-4-  
23 102(c), concerning legislative findings and a declaration of intent in regard  
24 to the Department of Information Systems, is amended to read as follows:

25 (c) It is also the intent of the General Assembly that the ~~department~~  
26 division achieve certain objectives that will better support information  
27 technology utilization by other state agencies. These objectives are to:

28

29 SECTION 6259. Arkansas Code § 25-4-102(d)(2), concerning legislative  
30 findings and a declaration of intent in regard to the Department of  
31 Information Systems, is amended to read as follows:

32 (2) The ~~department~~ division shall consider in the development of  
33 the ~~department~~ division plan and the Joint Committee on Advanced  
34 Communications and Information Technology shall emphasize in its  
35 recommendations and policies the availability in the private sector of  
36 information technology resources upon a competitive bid basis with a view to

1 assuring the state of the highest reasonable quality of resources at the  
2 lowest reasonable cost.

3

4 SECTION 6260. Arkansas Code § 25-4-102(e), concerning legislative  
5 findings and a declaration of intent in regards to the Department of  
6 Information Systems, is amended to read as follows:

7 (e)(1) In exercising its authority under § 25-4-105, the ~~department~~  
8 division shall competitively procure information technology except as  
9 provided in this subsection.

10 (2) The ~~department~~ division is not authorized by § 25-4-105 to  
11 provide information technology services, including telecommunications and  
12 broadband services, to the general public, other than nongovernmental first  
13 responder entities, in competition with private sector telecommunications and  
14 cable communications providers.

15 (3) Customers of the ~~department~~ division are not authorized to  
16 use information technology facilities and services provided by the ~~department~~  
17 division to provide telecommunications and broadband services to the general  
18 public in competition with private sector telecommunications and cable  
19 communications providers.

20

21 SECTION 6261. Arkansas Code § 25-4-103(2), concerning the definition  
22 of "Chief Technology Officer" under the Arkansas Information Systems Act of  
23 1997, is amended to read as follows:

24 (2) "Chief Technology Officer" means the Director of the  
25 ~~Department~~ Division of Information Systems;

26

27 SECTION 6262. Arkansas Code § 25-4-104 is amended to read as follows:  
28 25-4-104. ~~Department~~ Division of Information Systems.

29 (a) There is established within the ~~executive department of government~~  
30 Department of Transformation and Shared Services a ~~Department~~ the Division of  
31 Information Systems.

32 (b)(1) The ~~department~~ division shall be headed by a director to be  
33 appointed by the Governor, subject to confirmation by the Senate in the  
34 manner provided by law, and shall serve at the pleasure of the Governor.

35 (2) The ~~director~~ Director of the Division of Information Systems  
36 shall be a person who, by education and training, has technical knowledge and

1 management experience in information technology-related equipment, systems,  
2 and services.

3 (3) The director shall qualify by filing the oath of office  
4 required in the Arkansas Constitution with the Secretary of State.

5 (c) The director, in consultation with the Secretary of the Department  
6 of Transformation and Shared Services, may establish divisions and the  
7 organizational structure deemed necessary and appropriate for the efficient  
8 performance of the duties imposed under the provisions of this chapter,  
9 provided the organizational structure of the ~~department~~ division shall  
10 conform to the positions authorized and limitations provided therefor in the  
11 biennial appropriation of the ~~department~~ division.

12 (d) The director, in consultation with the secretary, shall appoint  
13 the deputy and division directors and the professional, technical, and  
14 clerical assistants and employees as necessary to perform the duties imposed  
15 by this chapter. All employees of the ~~department~~ division shall be employed  
16 by the department and serve at the pleasure of the ~~director~~ secretary.

17 (e) The director shall report to the ~~Governor~~ secretary any matters  
18 relating to abuses of this chapter.

19 (f) The director shall recommend statutory changes to the ~~Governor~~  
20 secretary.

21

22 SECTION 6263. Arkansas Code § 25-4-105(a)(1), concerning the powers  
23 and duties of the Department of Information Systems, is amended to read as  
24 follows:

25 (a)(1) The ~~Department~~ Division of Information Systems shall be vested  
26 with all the powers and duties necessary to administer the ~~department~~  
27 division and to enable it to carry out fully and effectively the regulations  
28 and laws relating to the ~~department~~ division.

29

30 SECTION 6264. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 25-4-  
31 105(a)(2), concerning the powers and duties of the Department of Information  
32 Systems, is amended to read as follows:

33 (2) The ~~department's~~ division's powers and duties relate to  
34 information technology and include without limitation:

35

36 SECTION 6265. Arkansas Code § 25-4-105(a)(2)(E)(ii), concerning the

1 powers and duties of the Department of Information Systems, is amended to  
2 read as follows:

3 (ii) The ~~department~~ division shall have the  
4 authority to adjust billing as necessary to effect compliance with applicable  
5 state and federal statutory and regulatory provisions.

6  
7 SECTION 6266. Arkansas Code § 25-4-105(a)(2)(G) and (H), concerning  
8 the powers and duties of the Department of Information Systems, are amended  
9 to read as follows:

10 (G) Promulgating rules that are necessary for efficient  
11 administration and enforcement of the powers, functions, and duties of the  
12 ~~department~~ division as provided in this chapter;

13 (H) Developing a ~~departmental~~ division plan to support the  
14 goals and objectives set forth for it in the state information technology  
15 plans and strategies;

16  
17 SECTION 6267. Arkansas Code § 25-4-105(a)(2)(Q), concerning the powers  
18 and duties of the Department of Information Systems, is amended to read as  
19 follows:

20 (Q) With respect to their technology functions and  
21 applications, all state departments, boards, commissions, and public  
22 institutions of higher education, consulting and cooperating with the  
23 ~~Department~~ Division of Information Systems in the formation and  
24 implementation of security policies for the state core information technology  
25 infrastructure;

26  
27 SECTION 6268. Arkansas Code § 25-4-106(a)(1), concerning the reporting  
28 requirements of the Director of the Department of Information Systems, is  
29 amended to read as follows:

30 (a)(1) The Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of Information Systems  
31 will report periodically to the Joint Committee on Advanced Communications  
32 and Information Technology regarding the status of the ~~Department~~ Division of  
33 Information Systems' information technology responsibilities in state  
34 government.

35 (2) The director may report any factors that are outside the  
36 scope of the ~~department~~ division but are deemed to inhibit or to promote the

1 ~~department's~~ division's responsibilities.

2  
3 SECTION 6269. Arkansas Code § 25-4-106(b)(2)(B), concerning the  
4 reporting requirements of the Director of the Department of Information  
5 Systems, is amended to read as follows:

6 (B) Provide a full report of all corresponding  
7 recommendations made by the ~~department~~ division to the requesting state  
8 agencies, boards, and commissions.

9  
10 SECTION 6270. Arkansas Code § 25-4-108(a), concerning working groups  
11 of the Department of Information Systems, is amended to read as follows:

12 (a) The Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of Information Systems may  
13 appoint working groups as necessary for specific purposes related to  
14 information technology coordination.

15  
16 SECTION 6271. Arkansas Code § 25-4-109(a) and (b), concerning the  
17 authorization of the Department of Informations Systems to establish,  
18 maintain, and operator information technology centers, are amended to read as  
19 follows:

20 (a) The ~~Department~~ Division of Information Systems is authorized to  
21 establish, maintain, and operate information technology centers and, in  
22 connection therewith, to rent, purchase, install, operate, and maintain  
23 information technology for state agencies as authorized in this chapter.

24 (b) The ~~department~~ division is authorized to enter into contracts or  
25 agreements with state agencies for the purpose of providing information  
26 technology.

27  
28 SECTION 6272. Arkansas Code § 25-4-109(e) and (f), concerning the  
29 authorization of the Department of Informations Systems to establish,  
30 maintain, and operator information technology centers, is amended to read as  
31 follows:

32 (e) The ~~department~~ division is authorized to enter into agreements and  
33 contracts with public utilities for telecommunications service.

34 (f) The information technology centers operated by the ~~department~~  
35 division shall be made available to all state agencies which fall within  
36 economical and feasible boundaries.

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SECTION 6273. Arkansas Code § 25-4-110(a), concerning information technology and a biennial information technology plan, is amended to read as follows:

(a) The ~~Department~~ Division of Information Systems shall submit status reports annually or when requested to the Joint Committee on Advanced Communications and Information Technology.

SECTION 6274. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 25-4-110(c), concerning information technology and a biennial information technology plan, is amended to read as follows:

(c) The ~~Department~~ Division of Information Systems shall distribute criteria, elements, form, and format for agency plans. Plans may include, but not be limited to, the following:

SECTION 6275. Arkansas Code § 25-4-110(d)(1) and (2), concerning information technology and a biennial information technology plan, are amended to read as follows:

(d)(1) Plans developed or updated shall be submitted to the ~~Department~~ Division of Information Systems.

(2) The ~~department~~ division may reject, require modification to, or approve plans as deemed appropriate.

SECTION 6276. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 25-4-111(b), concerning prerequisites to acquire information technology, is amended to read as follows:

(b) If an agency desires to acquire information technology not part of an information technology plan approved under § 25-4-110, the requesting agency shall submit a waiver request to the Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of Information Systems that includes:

SECTION 6277. Arkansas Code § 25-4-111(c), concerning prerequisites to acquire information technology, is amended to read as follows:

(c)(1) Upon evaluation of the waiver request, the ~~Director of the Department of Information Systems~~ director shall notify the agency in writing of his or her approval or rejection of the request and his or her reasons.

1           (2) ~~The Director of the Department of Information Systems~~  
2 director shall make his or her evaluation in a timely manner. If the ~~Director~~  
3 ~~of the Department of Information Systems~~ director requires more than thirty  
4 (30) days to complete the evaluation, he or she shall report in writing to  
5 the Governor and the Secretary of the Department of Transformation and Shared  
6 Services his or her reasons for the delay in completion.

7           (3) If the ~~Director of the Department of Information Systems~~  
8 director rejects a request for a waiver, a state agency shall not make any  
9 expenditure of public funds for the acquisition or expansion of information  
10 technology equipment or services.

11           (4) If the ~~Director of the Department of Information Systems~~  
12 director determines that the agency needs additional information technology  
13 resources, he or she may:

14                   (A) Authorize the agency to acquire the requested  
15 information technology in accordance with the state enterprise architecture;

16                   (B) Authorize acquisition of a modified information  
17 technology configuration;

18                   (C) Notify the agency of the availability of ~~Department~~  
19 Division of Information Systems facilities to provide the requested  
20 information technology; or

21                   (D) Recommend that the information technology be provided  
22 through the facilities of some other designated state agency.

23  
24           SECTION 6278. Arkansas Code § 25-4-112(b), concerning the application  
25 of the chapter to an educational institution, is amended to read as follows:

26           (b)(1) A state-supported institution of higher education, a post-  
27 secondary vocational-technical school, an area vocational school, or a public  
28 school district may request technical assistance regarding information  
29 technology from the ~~Department~~ Division of Information Systems.

30                   (2)(A) Assistance shall be provided by the ~~department~~ division  
31 free of charge within a reasonable period.

32                   (B) However, the requesting institution shall reimburse  
33 the ~~department~~ division for any actual expenses incurred while providing  
34 requested technical assistance.

35  
36           SECTION 6279. Arkansas Code § 25-4-114(b), concerning contracts and

1 agreements for information technology, is amended to read as follows:

2 (b) A state agency shall submit to the Director of the ~~Department~~  
3 Division of Information Systems for review and approval a request for the  
4 state agency to enter into a technology contract or agreement that is not in  
5 compliance with the state enterprise architecture.

6

7 SECTION 6280. Arkansas Code § 25-4-115 is amended to read as follows:

8 25-4-115. Professional services contracts between ~~department~~ division  
9 and outside vendors.

10 (a)(1) In the event that, due to unforeseen circumstances, the  
11 ~~Department~~ Division of Information Systems cannot provide sufficient  
12 information technology support to state agencies, the Director of the  
13 ~~Department~~ Division of Information Systems is authorized to enter into  
14 professional services contracts for the necessary information technology  
15 support.

16 (2) The ~~department~~ division may also consolidate information  
17 technology needs to satisfy agency requests.

18 (b)(1) The ~~department~~ division may utilize moneys appropriated for  
19 maintenance, operation, and payment of regular salaries of the ~~department~~  
20 division for the purchase of professional services upon approval thereof by  
21 the Chief Fiscal Officer of the State.

22 (2)(A) Provided, however, that before approving the use of  
23 moneys appropriated for payment of regular salaries of the ~~department~~  
24 division for obtaining professional services, the Chief Fiscal Officer of the  
25 State shall determine that resignations, vacancies in positions, or the  
26 inability to employ persons with technical skills to provide the services has  
27 necessitated that action.

28 (B) In addition, the Chief Fiscal Officer of the State  
29 shall obtain the advice of the Legislative Council before approving any  
30 transfer of regular salary appropriations to the maintenance and operation  
31 appropriation of the agency to be used for payment of professional services.

32

33 SECTION 6281. Arkansas Code § 25-4-116(a), concerning payments for  
34 information technology, is amended to read as follows:

35 (a) Before a state agency may enter into an agreement with the  
36 ~~Department~~ Division of Information Systems for purchase of information

1 technology, the agency shall certify that adequate appropriations and funds  
2 are available for purchasing information technology from the ~~department~~  
3 division.

4  
5 SECTION 6282. Arkansas Code § 25-4-116(b)(3), concerning payments for  
6 information technology, is amended to read as follows:

7 (3) The transfers authorized in this chapter shall be made from  
8 time to time within the amounts authorized in the procedures set forth in  
9 this chapter, upon payment for information technology purchased from the  
10 ~~department~~ division.

11  
12 SECTION 6283. Arkansas Code § 25-4-117 is amended to read as follows:

13 25-4-117. Delinquent accounts.

14 (a) For accounts that are thirty (30) days overdue and have no charges  
15 contested by the user, the ~~Department~~ Division of Information Systems may  
16 request the Chief Fiscal Officer of the State to transfer all or part of the  
17 overdue amount from the user's account to the ~~department's~~ division's  
18 revolving account. The Chief Fiscal Officer of the State shall transfer the  
19 amount within ten (10) working days.

20 (b) For accounts that are sixty (60) days overdue and have charges  
21 being contested by the user, the ~~department~~ division may request the Chief  
22 Fiscal Officer of the State to transfer all or part of the overdue amount  
23 from the user's account to the ~~department's~~ division's revolving account. If  
24 the resolution of contested charges favors the user, the user may request the  
25 Chief Fiscal Officer of the State to transfer all or part of the overdue  
26 amount from the ~~department's~~ division's revolving account to the user's  
27 account.

28 (c) The ~~department~~ division is authorized to discontinue information  
29 technology service to users who do not make a timely remittance of payment  
30 for services rendered and is specifically prohibited from providing services  
31 to state agencies lacking funds or sufficient appropriations to pay for the  
32 services.

33  
34 SECTION 6284. Arkansas Code § 25-4-119(a) and (b), concerning budget  
35 procedures for the Department of Information Systems, are amended to read as  
36 follows:

1 (a)(1) Prior to the commencement of budget hearings conducted by the  
2 Legislative Council, the Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of Information  
3 Systems shall prepare an operating budget indicating the amount of money  
4 which will be required to operate the ~~Department~~ Division of Information  
5 Systems each year of the succeeding biennium.

6 (2) The director shall also provide cost information to users of  
7 information technology centers, and those who require new or expanded  
8 information technology shall be provided cost estimates for inclusion in  
9 their budget requests.

10 (b)(1) When the General Assembly has completed the appropriation  
11 process, the director shall oversee budgetary planning for the ~~department~~  
12 division for each fiscal year of the biennium.

13 (2) The proposed annual operating budget shall be submitted to  
14 the ~~Governor~~ Secretary of the Department of Transformation and Shared  
15 Services for his or her approval prior to the beginning of each fiscal year.

16 (3)(A) During the course of the biennium, the director shall  
17 make certain that the expenditures of the ~~department~~ division do not exceed  
18 the income to be received by the ~~department~~ division for the current fiscal  
19 year.

20 (B) Subject to the written approval of the Chief Fiscal  
21 Officer of the State upon the written application of the ~~department~~ division  
22 and review by the Legislative Council, in order to effect compliance with  
23 state and federal statutory and regulatory provisions:

24 (i) The director shall adjust rates for services or  
25 issue billing adjustments as necessary; or

26 (ii) Funds sufficient to effect compliance shall be  
27 provided to the ~~department~~ division.

28 (4)(A) If rates charged to a customer are increased to ensure  
29 compliance with state and federal statutory and regulatory provisions under  
30 subdivision (b)(3) of this section, then the director shall promptly notify  
31 the Governor, the Joint Committee on Advanced Communications and Information  
32 Technology, and all state agencies and other customers before any changes  
33 shall be effected.

34 (B) Rates shall be reviewed by the ~~department~~ division on  
35 no less than an annual basis in order to ensure compliance with state and  
36 federal statutory and regulatory provisions.

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SECTION 6285. Arkansas Code § 25-4-120(c), concerning revisions to state agencies' budgets, purchasing, and personnel process, is amended to read as follows:

(c) The ~~Department~~ Division of Information Systems shall make recommendations regarding revisions to the state budget, purchasing, and personnel process related to information technology to the Legislative Council by March 1 of each even-numbered year.

SECTION 6286. Arkansas Code § 25-4-121 is amended to read as follows:

25-4-121. ~~Department~~ Division of Information Systems Revolving Fund.

(a) There is created and established on the books of the Treasurer of State, the Auditor of State, and the Department of Finance and Administration ~~and the Department~~ Division of Information Systems Revolving Fund.

(b) The fund shall consist of nonrevenue receipts derived from services provided to various agencies of the federal, state, city, and county governments, and any other moneys which may be provided by law for credit to the fund.

(c) All revenues received by the ~~Department~~ Division of Information Systems for providing information technology services shall be deposited in the State Treasury as nonrevenue receipts, there to be used for the maintenance, operation, and improvement of the ~~department~~ division.

(d) All revenues received from agencies or other governmental entities for information technology services provided by contracts between the ~~Department of Information Systems~~ division and outside vendors may be deposited in the State Treasury as refund to expenditures.

(e) Subject to the written approval of the Chief Fiscal Officer of the State upon written application of the ~~Department of Information Systems~~ division and review by the Legislative Council, the Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of Information Systems shall have the authority to transfer funds between the Information Technology Reserve Fund established by §§ 19-5-1056 and 25-4-123 and the ~~Department~~ Division of Information Systems Revolving Fund established under this section for cash management purposes.

SECTION 6287. Arkansas Code § 25-4-122(a), concerning a reserve of funds for equipment acquisition and loans by the Department of Information

1 Systems, is amended to read as follows:

2 (a)(1) The ~~Department~~ Division of Information Systems is authorized to  
3 accumulate a reserve for equipment acquisition in an amount not to exceed the  
4 ~~department's~~ division's depreciation expense per fiscal year.

5 (2)(A) In addition, the ~~department~~ division is authorized to  
6 obtain from the State Board of Finance loans from the Budget Stabilization  
7 Trust Fund to supplement the reserve if the reserve is insufficient to handle  
8 the total cost of required equipment acquisitions.

9 (B) These loans and the reserve for equipment acquisition  
10 shall be used exclusively for major equipment acquisitions or improvements of  
11 information technology required in order to fulfill the requirements for one  
12 (1) or more user agencies.

13 (C) The loans from the Budget Stabilization Trust Fund to  
14 the Information Technology Reserve Fund shall be repaid within five (5) years  
15 from revenues derived from charges to users, and the annual loan repayment  
16 amount shall be computed as a part of the total yearly expenses of the  
17 ~~department~~ division and shall be charged proportionately to users.

18

19 SECTION 6288. Arkansas Code § 25-4-122(b)(1)(A), concerning a reserve  
20 of funds for equipment acquisition and loans by the Department of Information  
21 Systems, is amended to read as follows:

22 (b)(1)(A) However, before the board approves any requests for loans by  
23 the ~~department~~ division authorized in subdivision (a)(2) of this section, the  
24 requests shall be submitted to the Governor for his or her approval after the  
25 Governor has first obtained the advice of the Legislative Council in regard  
26 thereto.

27

28 SECTION 6289. Arkansas Code § 25-4-122(b)(3), concerning a reserve of  
29 funds for equipment acquisition and loans by the Department of Information  
30 Systems, is amended to read as follows:

31 (3) After obtaining the Governor's approval in writing, the  
32 board shall also review and may approve the loans and establish terms of  
33 repayment and a rate of interest to be paid by the ~~Department~~ Division of  
34 Information Systems Revolving Fund to the Budget Stabilization Trust Fund.  
35 The rate shall be approximately equivalent to the rate of interest the board  
36 is receiving on other investments at the time of approving the loan request.

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SECTION 6290. Arkansas Code § 25-4-123(b), concerning the Information Technology Reserve Fund, is amended to read as follows:

(b) This fund shall consist of those funds transferred from the ~~Department~~ Division of Information Systems Revolving Fund in an amount up to the authorized reserve for equipment acquisition as certified by the Chief Fiscal Officer of the State within thirty (30) days following the closing of each fiscal year, any loans which may be received from the Budget Stabilization Trust Fund, and any other moneys which may be provided by law, there to be used exclusively for major equipment acquisitions or improvements as set out in § 25-4-122.

SECTION 6291. Arkansas Code § 25-4-124 is amended to read as follows:  
25-4-124. Yearly computation of expenses – Disposition of surplus funds.

(a) Within sixty (60) days following the final closing entries for the consolidated annual financial report for each fiscal year, the Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of Information Systems shall obtain from the Chief Fiscal Officer of the State the written approval of a plan that shall include a proposed methodology to make all appropriate adjustments to effect compliance with state and federal statutory and regulatory provisions for the fiscal year.

(b)(1) If the plan under subsection (a) of this section requires appropriate credits or debits to customer accounts to effect compliance with state and federal statutory and regulatory provisions, the ~~Department~~ Division of Information Systems shall make any adjustments within sixty (60) days after approval of the plan.

(2) In the event that a customer no longer uses the services of the ~~department~~ division, a fund transfer in the amount of that customer's credits under the plan described in subsection (a) of this section shall be made from the ~~Department~~ Division of Information Systems Revolving Fund to the customer's treasury fund, upon certification of the amount by the director to the Chief Fiscal Officer of the State and the Treasurer of State. In the event the customer does not have a treasury fund, a warrant shall be issued by the ~~department~~ division in payment of the customer's credit.

(c) In the event that the customer has an unpaid account balance due

1 the ~~department~~ division, the customer's credit shall be withheld until the  
2 account balance is satisfied.

3  
4 SECTION 6292. Arkansas Code § 25-4-125(a), concerning the State  
5 Broadband Manager, is amended to read as follows:

6 (a) The Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of Information Systems is  
7 designated the State Broadband Manager.

8  
9 SECTION 6293. Arkansas Code § 25-4-125(b)(1)(A), concerning the State  
10 Broadband Manager, is amended to read as follows:

11 (A) State agencies, boards, commissions, and  
12 constitutional officers, including without limitation the Governor,  
13 ~~Department~~ the Division of Education, ~~Department~~ the Division of Higher  
14 Education, and the Arkansas Department of Transportation;

15  
16 SECTION 6294. Arkansas Code § 25-4-126(a), concerning the Chief Data  
17 Officer and the Chief Privacy Officer, is amended to read as follows:

18 (a)(1) The Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of Information Systems  
19 shall select an individual to serve as the Chief Data Officer of the  
20 ~~Department~~ Division of Information Systems and the Chief Privacy Officer of  
21 the ~~Department~~ Division of Information Systems.

22 (2) The Chief Data Officer of the ~~Department~~ Division of  
23 Information Systems and the Chief Privacy Officer of the ~~Department~~ Division  
24 of Information Systems shall not be the same person.

25  
26 SECTION 6295. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 25-4-  
27 126(b), concerning the Chief Data Officer and Chief Privacy Officer, is  
28 amended to read as follows:

29 (b) The Chief Data Officer of the ~~Department~~ Division of Information  
30 Systems shall:

31  
32 SECTION 6296. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 25-4-  
33 126(c), concerning the Chief Data Officer and Chief Privacy Officer, is  
34 amended to read as follows:

35 (c) The Chief Privacy Officer of the ~~Department~~ Division of  
36 Information Systems shall:

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SECTION 6297. Arkansas Code § 25-4-127(a), concerning the creation and duties of the Data and Transparency Panel, is amended to read as follows:

(a) The Data and Transparency Panel is created within the ~~Department~~ Division of Information Systems.

SECTION 6298. Arkansas Code § 25-4-127(b)(3)-(5), concerning the creation and duties of the Data and Transparency Panel, are amended to read as follows:

(3) The secretaries, directors, or their designees, of the following ~~departments~~ entities:

- (A) The Arkansas Crime Information Center;
- (B) The ~~Department~~ Division of Arkansas State Police;
- (C) The ~~Department~~ Division of Career and Technical Education;
- (D) The ~~Department~~ Division of Community Correction;
- (E) The ~~Department~~ Division of Correction;
- (F) The ~~Department~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary Education;
- (G) The Department of Finance and Administration;
- (H) The Department of Health;
- (I) The ~~Department~~ Division of Higher Education;
- (J) The Department of Human Services;
- (K) The ~~Department~~ Division of Information Systems; and
- (L) The Department of Labor and Licensing;

(4)(A) The Chief Data Officer of the ~~Department~~ Division of Information Systems.

(B) The Chief Data Officer of the ~~Department~~ Division of Information Systems shall be the Chair of the Data and Transparency Panel.

(C) The members of the panel shall select a vice chair annually; and

(5) The Chief Privacy Officer of the ~~Department~~ Division of Information Systems.

SECTION 6299. Arkansas Code § 25-4-127(c)(5), concerning the creation and duties of the Data and Transparency Panel, are amended to read as

1 follows:

2 (5) Evaluate and identify data that may be provided to the  
3 public in accordance with data standards and specifications developed by the  
4 ~~Department~~ Division of Information Systems; and

5

6 SECTION 6300. Arkansas Code § 25-4-128(a), concerning the  
7 confidentiality of records of the Data and Transparency Panel, is amended to  
8 read as follows:

9 (a) All records, reports, and other information obtained by the Data  
10 and Transparency Panel shall be confidential unless approved for publication  
11 in accordance with data standards and specifications developed by the  
12 ~~Department~~ Division of Information Systems.

13

14 SECTION 6301. Arkansas Code § 25-8-103 is repealed.

15 ~~25-8-103. Office of Personnel Management State Personnel~~  
16 ~~Administrator.~~

17 ~~(a) There is created the Office of Personnel Management of the~~  
18 ~~Division of Management Services of the Department of Finance and~~  
19 ~~Administration.~~

20 ~~(b)(1) The Director of the Office of Personnel Management of the~~  
21 ~~Division of Management Services of the Department of Finance and~~  
22 ~~Administration shall be known as the State Personnel Administrator, and he or~~  
23 ~~she shall be employed by the Director of the Department of Finance and~~  
24 ~~Administration with the advice and consent of the Governor.~~

25 ~~(2) The Office of Personnel Management of the Division of~~  
26 ~~Management Services of the Department of Finance and Administration shall be~~  
27 ~~under the overall direction, control, and supervision of the Director of the~~  
28 ~~Department of Finance and Administration.~~

29

30 SECTION 6302. Arkansas Code § 25-8-107(c), concerning the Office of  
31 Child Support Enforcement, is amended to read as follows:

32 (c) The Department of Human Services and the ~~Department~~ Division of  
33 Information Systems shall grant access to and provide information determined  
34 by the Office of Child Support Enforcement to be necessary to successfully  
35 accomplish its mission.

36

1 SECTION 6303. Arkansas Code § 25-10-138 is amended to read as follows:  
2 25-10-138. Education requirements for certain Division of Youth  
3 Services employees.

4 (a) With the assistance of the Office of Personnel Management ~~of the~~  
5 ~~Division of Management Services of the Department of Finance and~~  
6 ~~Administration~~, the Division of Youth Services ~~of the Department of Human~~  
7 ~~Services~~ shall promulgate regulations to increase the education requirements  
8 for youth service workers and security officers employed by the ~~Division of~~  
9 ~~Youth Services~~ division. If the services are under contract with the ~~Division~~  
10 ~~of Youth Services~~ division, the employees of the contractor shall meet the  
11 education requirements promulgated by the ~~Division of Youth Services~~  
12 division.

13 (b) No regulation pertaining to education requirements for youth  
14 service workers or security officers promulgated hereafter by the ~~Division of~~  
15 ~~Youth Services~~ division shall be effective until reviewed by the Legislative  
16 Council, the House Committee on Aging, Children and Youth, Legislative and  
17 Military Affairs, and the Senate Interim Committee on Children and Youth or  
18 appropriate subcommittees thereof of the General Assembly.

19  
20 SECTION 6304. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 25-16-  
21 1006(a), concerning the administration and enforcement of rules of the Office  
22 of Personnel Management, is amended to read as follows:

23 (a) The Office of Personnel Management ~~of the Division of Management~~  
24 ~~Services of the Department of Finance and Administration~~ shall establish  
25 rules and forms for all state agencies that will enable each public official  
26 and each supervisory employee within a state agency to determine whether:  
27

28 SECTION 6305. Arkansas Code § 25-18-702(a)(1), concerning the  
29 standards and policies of the Director of the Department of Information  
30 Systems, is amended to read as follows:

31 (a)~~(1)~~ The Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of Information Systems  
32 shall establish standards and polices governing the use, management,  
33 retention, privacy, and security of electronic records of state agencies.  
34

35 SECTION 6306. Arkansas Code § 25-18-702(c), concerning the standards  
36 and policies of the Director of the Department of Information Systems, is

1 amended to read as follows:

2 (c) The Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of Information Systems  
3 shall make a monthly report to the Joint Committee on Advanced Communications  
4 and Information Technology regarding the status of the development of the  
5 standards and policies described in this section.

6

7 SECTION 6307. Arkansas Code § 25-18-703 is amended to read as follows:  
8 25-18-703. State agency standards and policies.

9 A state agency may use the standards and policies developed by the  
10 Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of Information Systems under § 25-18-702,  
11 or it may develop its own standards and policies consistent with the  
12 requirements established in § 25-18-702(b).

13

14 SECTION 6308. Arkansas Code § 25-26-204(a)(1), concerning procurement  
15 requirements, is amended to read as follows:

16 (a)(1) The technology access clause specified in § 25-26-203 shall be  
17 developed by the ~~Department~~ Division of Information Systems and shall require  
18 compliance with nonvisual access standards established by the ~~department~~  
19 division.

20

21 SECTION 6309. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 25-26-  
22 204(b), concerning procurement requirements, is amended to read as follows:

23 (b) The nonvisual access standards established by the ~~department~~  
24 division under subsection (a) of this section shall:

25

26 SECTION 6310. Arkansas Code § 25-27-103(a)(1), concerning the board of  
27 the Information Network of Arkansas, is amended to read as follows:

28 (1) The ~~Executive~~ Director of the Arkansas Economic Development  
29 Commission or his or her designee;

30

31 SECTION 6311. Arkansas Code § 25-27-103(a)(3) and (4), concerning the  
32 creation of the board of the Information Network of Arkansas, are amended to  
33 read as follows:

34 (3) The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and  
35 Administration, or ~~the director's~~ his or her designee;

36 (4) Two (2) members, or their designees, who are chief executive

1 officers of agencies of the executive branch other than the Department of  
2 Finance and Administration and the ~~Department~~ Division of Information  
3 Systems, shall be appointed by the Governor;

4  
5 SECTION 6312. Arkansas Code § 25-27-103(a)(8), concerning the board of  
6 the Information Network of Arkansas, is amended to read as follows:

7 (8) The Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of Information  
8 Systems, or the director's designee.

9  
10 SECTION 6313. Arkansas Code § 25-27-104(a)(1), concerning duties of  
11 the Information Network of Arkansas, is amended to read as follows:

12 (1) To develop and implement an electronic gateway system to  
13 provide electronic access to members of the public to public information and  
14 to develop, implement, and promote the use of electronic commerce and digital  
15 signature applications within the state in cooperation with the ~~Department~~  
16 Division of Information Systems;

17  
18 SECTION 6314. Arkansas Code § 25-27-104(a)(7), concerning duties of  
19 the Information Network of Arkansas, is amended to read as follows:

20 (7) To serve in an advisory capacity to the Department of  
21 Finance and Administration, the ~~Department~~ Division of Information Systems,  
22 and other state agencies regarding the dissemination to and collection of  
23 state data for the citizens and businesses of Arkansas;

24  
25 SECTION 6315. Arkansas Code § 25-27-104(b)(4), concerning duties of  
26 the Information Network of Arkansas, is amended to read as follows:

27 (4) The Information Network of Arkansas shall cooperate with the  
28 ~~Department of Information Systems~~ division to fulfill the purposes of the  
29 Arkansas Information Systems Act of 1997, § 25-4-101 et seq.

30  
31 SECTION 6316. Arkansas Code § 25-27-105(a)(1), concerning a contract  
32 with a network manager, is amended to read as follows:

33 (a)(1) The Information Network of Arkansas ~~shall~~ may contract with a  
34 network manager and shall use a competitive bid process after developing, in  
35 consultation with the ~~Department~~ Division of Information Systems, criteria  
36 and specifications for such a network manager and his or her duties.

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SECTION 6317. Arkansas Code § 25-27-105(c), concerning a contract with a network manager, is amended to read as follows:

(c) The ~~Department of Information Systems~~ division may provide to the Information Network of Arkansas such staff and other assistance under contract.

SECTION 6318. Arkansas Code § 25-32-117(b), concerning the creation and retention of electronic records and conversion of written records by governmental agencies, is amended to read as follows:

(b) Each state agency shall comply with applicable standards and policies adopted or established by the Department of ~~Finance and Administration~~ Transformation and Shared Services with advice and review from the ~~Department~~ Division of Information Systems to determine whether and the extent to which it will retain and convert written records to electronic records.

SECTION 6319. Arkansas Code § 25-32-118(a)(2), concerning acceptance and distribution of electronic records by governmental agencies, is amended to read as follows:

(2) For state agencies, the determinations shall be consistent with applicable standards and policies adopted or established by the Department of ~~Finance and Administration~~ Transformation and Shared Services with advice and review from the ~~Department~~ Division of Information Systems.

SECTION 6320. Arkansas Code § 25-33-101(a)(1) and (2), concerning the creation of the State Technology Council, are amended to read as follows:

(1) The Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of Information Systems or his or her designee who shall act as chair of the council;

(2) The ~~Director of the Department of Finance and Administration~~ Secretary of the Department of Transformation and Shared Services or his or her designee;

SECTION 6321. Arkansas Code § 25-34-104(a)(1), concerning agency policy, is amended to read as follows:

(a)(1) Each agency shall prepare and implement an agency-wide policy

1 for the management and sale of agency surplus computer equipment and  
2 electronics in accord with the Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of  
3 Information Systems policies for review and replacement of computer and  
4 electronic equipment.

5  
6 SECTION 6322. Arkansas Code § 25-34-104(b), concerning agency policy,  
7 is amended to read as follows:

8 (b) ~~Within sixty (60) days after August 12, 2005, the~~ The policy shall  
9 be presented to the Director of the ~~Department~~ Division of Information  
10 Systems and the Legislative Council for review.

11  
12 SECTION 6323. Arkansas Code § 27-14-1708(b)(1), concerning the  
13 temporary tag database, is amended to read as follows:

14 (b)(1) The vehicle temporary tag database shall be administered by the  
15 ~~division~~ Revenue Division of the Department of Finance and Administration  
16 with the assistance of the ~~Department~~ Division of Information Systems or  
17 other designated agent with whom the division may contract to supply  
18 technical database and data processing expertise.

19  
20 SECTION 6324. Arkansas Code § 27-14-1708(c), concerning the temporary  
21 tag database, is amended to read as follows:

22 (c) The ~~division~~ Revenue Division of the Department of Finance and  
23 Administration shall have the authority to enter into or to make agreements,  
24 arrangements, or declarations necessary to carry out the provisions of this  
25 section.

26  
27 SECTION 6325. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 27-14-  
28 1708(d)(1), concerning the temporary tag database, is amended to read as  
29 follows:

30 (d)(1) Upon request, the ~~division~~ Revenue Division of the Department  
31 of Finance and Administration may release information in the vehicle  
32 temporary tag database to:

33  
34 SECTION 6326. Arkansas Code § 27-14-1708(e), concerning the temporary  
35 tag database, is amended to read as follows:

36 (e) The ~~division~~ Revenue Division of the Department of Finance and

1 Administration or the reporting company shall not be liable for any damages  
2 to any property or person due to any act or omission in the reporting or  
3 keeping of any record or information contained in the vehicle temporary tag  
4 database or the issuing or renewing of any motor vehicle registration in  
5 accordance with the vehicle temporary tag database.

6  
7 SECTION 6327. Arkansas Code Title 25, Chapter 43, is amended to add an  
8 additional subchapter to read as follows:

9 Subchapter 16 – Department of Veterans Affairs

10  
11 25-43-1601. Department of Veterans Affairs – Creation.

12 There is created the Department of Veterans Affairs as a cabinet-level  
13 department.

14  
15 25-43-1602. State entities transferred to the Department of Veterans  
16 Affairs.

17 (a) The administrative functions of the following state entities are  
18 transferred to the Department of Veterans Affairs pursuant to a cabinet-level  
19 department transfer:

20 (1) The Arkansas Veterans' Child Welfare Service, created under  
21 § 20-81-101;

22 (2) The Arkansas Veterans' Commission, created under § 20-81-  
23 104;

24 (3) The county veterans' service officer programs, created under  
25 § 20-81-106;

26 (4) The Department of Veterans Affairs, created under § 20-81-  
27 102;

28 (5) The state veterans' cemetery system, created under § 20-81-  
29 112; and

30 (6) The veterans' homes, established under § 20-81-105.

31 (b) Unless otherwise provided by law, a cabinet-level department  
32 transfer under subsection (a) of this section includes all state entities  
33 under a state entity transferred to the Department of Veterans Affairs under  
34 subsection (a) of this section, including without limitation a division,  
35 office, program, or other unit of a state entity transferred to the  
36 Department of Veterans Affairs under subsection (a) of this section.

1 (c) Unless otherwise provided by law, a state entity whose  
2 administrative functions have been transferred to the Department of Veterans  
3 Affairs under subsection (a) of this section shall otherwise continue to  
4 exercise the duties of the state entity under the administration of the  
5 cabinet-level Department of Veterans Affairs in the same manner as before the  
6 creation of the cabinet-level department.

7  
8 25-43-1603. Powers and duties of the Department of Veterans Affairs.

9 (a) The Department of Veterans Affairs shall:

10 (1) Supervise the operation of the veterans' homes under § 20-  
11 81-105;

12 (2) Supervise the activities, training, and testing of the  
13 county veterans' service officers located throughout the State of Arkansas;  
14 and

15 (3) Perform all administrative functions for the state entities  
16 under the administration of the department.

17 (b) The department is authorized to develop and promulgate all rules  
18 necessary for the enforcement and implementation of the provisions of this  
19 act and all applicable federal rules and regulations.

20  
21 25-43-1604. Secretary of the Department of Veterans Affairs.

22 (a) The executive head of the Department of Veterans Affairs shall be  
23 the Secretary of the Department of Veterans Affairs.

24 (b) The secretary shall be appointed by the Governor, subject to  
25 confirmation by the Senate, and shall serve at the pleasure of the Governor.

26 (c) Each division of the department shall be under the direction,  
27 control, and supervision of the secretary.

28 (d) The secretary may delegate his or her functions, powers, and  
29 duties to various divisions or employees of the department as he or she shall  
30 deem desirable and necessary for the effective and efficient operation of the  
31 department.

32 (e) The secretary may, unless otherwise provided by law:

33 (1) Hire department personnel;

34 (2) Perform or assign duties assigned to the department; and

35 (3) Serve as the director, or the administrative or executive  
36 head of any state entity under the administrative control of the department

1 if the secretary also meets all statutory requirements for the position.

2 (f) The Governor may appoint a qualified Secretary of the Department  
3 of Veterans Affairs who has:

4 (1) Served in the United States Armed Forces during a period of  
5 conflict as defined by the United States Congress;

6 (2) Been honorably discharged from the United States Armed  
7 Forces; and

8 (3) Been a resident of the State of Arkansas for two (2) or more  
9 years preceding his or her appointment.

10 (g) The secretary shall promote and supervise the dissemination of  
11 available information concerning the rights of veterans and their dependents.

12 (h) The secretary may establish, maintain, and operate district  
13 offices within the State of Arkansas as may be necessary.

14 (i) The secretary may employ other employees, full-time or part-time,  
15 as may be determined necessary, within the limits of the funds appropriated  
16 for that purpose.

17 (j)(1) An employee under the supervision of the department shall not  
18 accept, receive, or charge any money, article, or thing of value for the  
19 performance of any service rendered to any veteran or his or her dependents  
20 at any time or in any manner.

21 (2) Any person who violates the provisions of this subsection is  
22 guilty of a misdemeanor and upon conviction shall be fined not less than  
23 fifty dollars (\$50.00) nor more than five hundred dollars (\$500) or  
24 imprisoned not less than thirty (30) days nor more than six (6) months, or  
25 both.

26  
27 25-43-1605. Veterans service officers.

28 (a) The Secretary of the Department of Veterans Affairs may employ  
29 veterans service officers, full-time or part-time, as may be determined  
30 necessary, within the limits of the funds appropriated for that purpose.

31 (b)(1) A veterans service officer shall have served in the United  
32 States Armed Forces and shall have been honorably discharged from the United  
33 States Armed Forces.

34 (2) All veterans service officers of the Department of Veterans  
35 Affairs shall have knowledge of all laws, both federal and state, relating to  
36 the rights and benefits of all veterans and their dependents and shall aid

1 and assist all veterans and their dependents in securing their rights and  
2 benefits.

3  
4 SECTION 6328. Arkansas Code § 11-15-105 is amended to read as follows:  
5 11-15-105. Verification of eligibility.

6 The Department of Veterans Affairs and the ~~Department~~ Division of  
7 Workforce Services shall assist a private employer or a local government  
8 employer in determining if an applicant or employee is a veteran, spouse of a  
9 disabled veteran, or surviving spouse of a veteran.

10  
11 SECTION 6329. Arkansas Code § 20-81-101(a), concerning the Arkansas  
12 Veterans' Child Welfare Service, is amended to read as follows:

13 (a)(1) There is established the Arkansas Veterans' Child Welfare  
14 Service.

15 (2) The Arkansas Veterans' Child Welfare Service shall be under  
16 the direction of a director to be named by the Governor upon written  
17 recommendation by the governing body of the ~~American Legion Department of~~  
18 ~~Arkansas~~ American Legion - Department of Arkansas Foundation, Inc.

19 (3) The Director of the Arkansas Veterans' Child Welfare Service  
20 shall serve at the pleasure of the Governor.

21 (4) The director shall report to the Secretary of the Department  
22 of Veterans Affairs.

23  
24 SECTION 6330. Arkansas Code § 20-81-102 is repealed.

25 ~~20-81-102. Department of Veterans Affairs - Creation - Powers and~~  
26 ~~duties.~~

27 ~~(a) There is created the Department of Veterans Affairs.~~

28 ~~(b) The department shall:~~

29 ~~(1) Supervise the operation of the Veterans' Home; and~~

30 ~~(2) Supervise the activities, training, and testing of the~~  
31 ~~County Veterans' Service officers located throughout the State of Arkansas.~~

32 ~~(c) The department is authorized to develop and promulgate all rules~~  
33 ~~and regulations necessary for the enforcement and implementation of the~~  
34 ~~provisions of this act and all applicable federal rules and regulations.~~

35  
36 SECTION 6331. Arkansas Code § 20-81-103 is repealed.

1           ~~20-81-103. Department of Veterans Affairs—Appointment of director—~~  
2 ~~Employees.~~

3           ~~(a) The Governor is authorized to appoint a qualified Director of the~~  
4 ~~Department of Veterans Affairs who shall have served in the United States~~  
5 ~~Armed Forces during armed conflict as set forth by the United States~~  
6 ~~Congress, who has been honorably discharged therefrom, and who shall have~~  
7 ~~been a resident of the State of Arkansas for two (2) years preceding his or~~  
8 ~~her appointment.~~

9           ~~(b) The director shall promote and supervise the dissemination of all~~  
10 ~~available information concerning the rights of all veterans and their~~  
11 ~~dependents.~~

12           ~~(c) The director may establish, maintain, and operate district offices~~  
13 ~~within the State of Arkansas as may be necessary.~~

14           ~~(d) The director is authorized to employ an assistant director and~~  
15 ~~such other employees, full-time or part-time, as may be determined necessary,~~  
16 ~~subject to approval of the Governor and within the limits of the funds~~  
17 ~~appropriated therefor.~~

18           ~~(e)(1) A veterans' claims specialist shall have served in the United~~  
19 ~~States Armed Forces and shall have been honorably discharged therefrom.~~

20           ~~(2) All veterans' claims specialists of the Department of~~  
21 ~~Veterans Affairs shall familiarize themselves with all laws, both federal and~~  
22 ~~state, relating to rights and benefits of all veterans and their dependents~~  
23 ~~and shall aid and assist all veterans and their dependents in securing their~~  
24 ~~rights and benefits.~~

25           ~~(f)(1) All employees under the supervision of the department shall not~~  
26 ~~for themselves accept, receive, or charge any money, article, or thing of~~  
27 ~~value for the performing of any service rendered to any veteran or his or her~~  
28 ~~dependents at any time or in any manner.~~

29           ~~(2) Any person who shall violate the provisions of this~~  
30 ~~subsection shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor and upon conviction shall~~  
31 ~~be fined not less than fifty dollars (\$50.00) nor more than five hundred~~  
32 ~~dollars (\$500), or imprisoned not less than thirty (30) days nor more than~~  
33 ~~six (6) months, or both.~~

34  
35           SECTION 6332. Arkansas Code § 20-81-104(a)(1), concerning the Arkansas  
36 Veterans' Commission, is amended to read as follows:

1 (1) Serve as the advisory body for the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the  
2 Department of Veterans Affairs;

3  
4 SECTION 6333. Arkansas Code § 20-81-104(c), concerning the Arkansas  
5 Veterans' Commission, is amended to read as follows:

6 (c) The Arkansas Veterans' Commission shall make recommendations to  
7 the ~~director~~ secretary for the operation and improvement of the efficiency of  
8 the ~~Veterans' Home~~ veterans' homes established under § 20-81-105 and a the  
9 state veterans' cemetery system established under § 20-81-112.

10  
11 SECTION 6334. Arkansas Code § 20-81-105 is amended to read as follows:  
12 20-81-105. Veterans' ~~Home~~ homes.

13 (a) The Department of Veterans Affairs is authorized to establish and  
14 maintain a one (1) or more Veterans' Home veterans' homes at a ~~location~~  
15 locations selected by the ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Veterans  
16 Affairs, after seeking advice from the Arkansas Veterans' Commission, ~~and the~~  
17 ~~Arkansas Veterans' Home Task Force [abolished]~~.

18 (b) The department is authorized to employ staff to operate ~~the home~~  
19 the veterans' homes as it deems appropriate and as authorized by biennial  
20 appropriation.

21 (c)(1) ~~The~~ Each veterans' home shall be operated under the supervision  
22 of the department.

23 (2) The ~~director~~ secretary shall be the administrative head of  
24 the ~~home~~ veterans' homes.

25 (3) The secretary may delegate the administration of each  
26 veterans' home to an employee of the Department of Veterans Affairs.

27 (d)(1) The department shall promulgate appropriate guidelines for  
28 determining eligibility of veterans for admission to ~~the~~ a veterans' home and  
29 the monetary charges to be made for veterans residing in ~~the~~ a veterans'  
30 home. All guidelines shall conform to the federal requirements to qualify ~~the~~  
31 ~~home~~ veterans' homes as a ~~nursing home~~ nursing homes for veterans and to  
32 render the ~~home~~ veterans' homes eligible to receive federal financial  
33 assistance.

34 (2)(A) Notwithstanding the provisions of § 20-8-101 et seq., the  
35 ~~home~~ veterans' homes may be used as a ~~nursing home~~ nursing homes for veterans  
36 without obtaining a certificate of need.

1 (B) Bed capacity shall not exceed ~~one hundred fifty (150)~~ two  
2 hundred twenty (220) beds.

3 (e) In the administration of the ~~home~~ veterans' homes, the ~~director~~  
4 secretary is authorized to do the following:

5 (1) Establish accounts to record the receipt and disbursement of  
6 funds from resident veterans to pay for a portion of their maintenance at ~~the~~  
7 ~~home~~ a veterans' home;

8 (2) Develop policies for determining charges to be made to  
9 resident veterans;

10 (3) Develop accounts and procedures pertaining to incompetent  
11 residents;

12 (4) Establish procedures and accounts for payment by ~~the home~~ a  
13 veteran's home to its residents for work performed at the veterans' home;

14 (5) Establish such other accounts as are necessary to the  
15 orderly administration of the ~~home~~ veterans' homes; and

16 (6) Establish policies necessary for the operation of the ~~home~~  
17 veterans' homes.

18 (f) At the end of each fiscal year, the ~~director~~ secretary shall  
19 certify to the Chief Fiscal Officer of the State the amount of nonrevenues to  
20 be retained in the Miscellaneous Agencies Fund Account. All other moneys  
21 shall be transferred to the General Revenue Allotment Reserve Fund according  
22 to existing laws.

23  
24 SECTION 6335. Arkansas Code § 20-81-107 is amended to read as follows:  
25 20-81-107. Gifts, volunteer services, etc.

26 (a) The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Veterans Affairs is  
27 authorized to arrange for and accept through such mutual arrangement as may  
28 be made the volunteer services, equipment, gifts, facilities, properties,  
29 supplies, and personnel of any state, county, and municipal offices and  
30 agencies and of veterans' fraternal, welfare, civic, and service  
31 organizations in the furtherance of the purposes of this act.

32 (b) The ~~director~~ secretary may accept on behalf of the Department of  
33 Veterans Affairs from any natural person or legal entity the donation of real  
34 property for use as a cemetery for the interment of Arkansas veterans of the  
35 United States Armed Forces and their immediate next of kin as defined by the  
36 department.

1 (c) The ~~director~~ secretary may accept on behalf of the department from  
2 any source the donation of gifts, grants, cash, bequeaths, real or personal  
3 property, and equipment for the establishment, construction, maintenance, and  
4 operations of any state-owned and ~~operated Veterans' Home~~ state-operated  
5 veterans' home.

6  
7 SECTION 6336. Arkansas Code § 20-81-108(b), concerning actions by  
8 municipal governing bodies, is amended to read as follows:

9 (b) All offices shall be under the supervision of the ~~Director~~  
10 Secretary of the Department of Veterans Affairs, and all work of the offices  
11 shall be coordinated with the department.

12  
13 SECTION 6337. Arkansas Code § 27-24-205 is amended to read as follows:  
14 27-24-205. Additional special license plates.

15 The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration  
16 shall examine the following factors to determine whether to create and issue  
17 additional special license plates under this subchapter:

18 (1) Whether an application for the creation of an additional  
19 special license plate under this subchapter has been filed by either:

20 (A) The Adjutant General ~~for~~ of the State of Arkansas for  
21 a special license plate related to members of the National Guard and reserve  
22 components of the armed forces; or

23 (B) The ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Veterans  
24 Affairs for a special license plate related to veterans or any other branch  
25 of the ~~armed forces of the~~ United States Armed Forces; and

26 (2) Whether there has been a recent armed conflict or war in  
27 which members of the United States Armed Forces, the National Guard, or the  
28 reserve components of the armed services have served.

29  
30 SECTION 6338. Arkansas Code § 27-24-209(c)(2)(A), concerning the  
31 redesign and simplification of military service and veterans' special license  
32 plates, is amended to read as follows:

33 (2)(A) The office is to seek the advice and input of the  
34 ~~Director~~ Secretary of the Department of Veterans Affairs and ~~The~~ the Adjutant  
35 General ~~for~~ of the State of Arkansas on the design of the branch decal.

36

1 SECTION 6339. Arkansas Code § 27-24-209(d)(3), concerning the redesign  
2 and simplification of military service and veterans' special license plates,  
3 is amended to read as follows:

4 (3) The office is to seek the advice and input of the ~~director~~  
5 secretary and ~~The~~ the Adjutant General ~~for~~ of the State of Arkansas on the  
6 design of the medal decal, which medal decals should be issued, and the  
7 *timing of the issuance of the medal decals.*

8  
9 SECTION 6340. Arkansas Code § 12-29-309 is amended to read as follows:  
10 12-29-309. *Riverside Vocational and Technical School – Facilities –*  
11 *Operations – Rules.*

12 (a)(1) ~~The Career Education and Workforce Development Board~~ Division  
13 of Correction and the Division of Community Correction shall locate  
14 facilities and operate vocational or technical education or training programs  
15 within the Riverside Vocational ~~and~~ Technical School.

16 (2) The operation of the school is subject to such special rules  
17 deemed appropriate for the operation of vocational or technical education or  
18 training programs at the correctional institutions under the control of the  
19 ~~Department~~ Division of Correction and the ~~Department~~ Division of Community  
20 Correction in accordance with agreements and rules mutually developed and  
21 agreed to by the ~~Career Education and Workforce Development Board and~~  
22 Department of Education and the Board of Corrections.

23 (b)(1) The school shall be entitled to all funds, rights, and  
24 privileges and shall be operated in the same manner as other area vocational  
25 and technical schools are operated in this state.

26 (2) However, the school shall be operated in accordance with the  
27 rules for the operation of vocational or technical education or training  
28 programs at facilities of the ~~Department~~ Division of Correction and the  
29 ~~Department~~ Division of Community Correction as provided in §§ 12-29-306 – 12-  
30 29-310.

31  
32 SECTION 6341. DO NOT CODIFY. Effect of transfer on retirement system  
33 membership and health insurance plan participation.

34 (a) As used in this section, "retirement system" means:

35 (1) The Arkansas Teacher Retirement System, established by the  
36 Arkansas Teacher Retirement System Act, § 24-7-201 et seq.;

1           (2) The Arkansas State Highway Employees' Retirement System,  
2 established by § 24-5-103;

3           (3) The Arkansas Public Employees' Retirement System,  
4 established by § 24-4-103;

5           (4) The State Police Retirement System, established by § 24-6-  
6 203;

7           (5) The Arkansas Judicial Retirement System, established by §  
8 24-8-201 et seq.;

9           (6) An alternate retirement plan for:

10           (A) A college, university, or the Department of Higher  
11 Education provided for under § 24-7-801 et seq.; and

12           (B) A vocational-technical school or the Department of  
13 Career Education provided for under § 24-7-901 et seq.;

14           (7) The Arkansas Local Police and Fire Retirement System  
15 provided for under § 24-10-101 et seq.; and

16           (8) A firemen's relief and pension fund or a policemen's pension  
17 and relief fund provided for under § 24-11-101 et seq.

18           (b) If this act results in an employee who is a current member of a  
19 retirement system prior to the effective date of this act being transferred  
20 to or affiliated with a cabinet-level department that is covered by a  
21 different retirement system than his or her previous state entity, the  
22 employee may, within one hundred eighty (180) days of the effective date of  
23 this act by written election and notice to the new employer and affected  
24 retirement system, make a one-time choice to:

25           (1) Remain in his or her same retirement system prior to the  
26 effective date of this act, under the same conditions then provided by law or  
27 as may later be provided by law; or

28           (2) Become a member of the retirement system of the cabinet-  
29 level department to which the employee is transferred to or affiliated with  
30 under this act, under the same conditions for a reciprocal member to be  
31 transferred as an active member to a reciprocal system as currently provided  
32 by law under the system to which the reciprocal member is transferred.

33           (c) If this act results in an employee being transferred to or  
34 affiliated with a cabinet-level department that is covered by a different  
35 health insurance plan than his or her previous state entity, the employee  
36 may, within one hundred eighty (180) days of the effective date of this act,

1 make a one-time choice between:

2 (1) Continuing to participate in his or her health insurance  
3 plan prior to the effective date of this act, under the same conditions then  
4 provided by law or as may later be provided by law; or

5 (2) Participating in the health insurance plan of the cabinet-  
6 level department to which the employee is transferred to or affiliated with  
7 under this act, under the same conditions then provided by law or as may  
8 later be provided by law.

9 (d)(1)(A) A retirement system may issue policies establishing the  
10 procedure for an employee to exercise benefit options under subsection (b) of  
11 this section.

12 (B) The State and Public School Life and Health Insurance  
13 Board may issue policies establishing the procedure for an employee to  
14 exercise benefit options under subsection (c) of this section.

15 (2) A policy under subdivision (d)(1) of this section is not a  
16 rule under the Arkansas Administrative Procedure Act, § 25-15-201 et seq.

17  
18 SECTION 6342. DO NOT CODIFY. Boards and commissions – Terms.

19 (a) Except as provided in this act, including without limitation this  
20 section, the members of a board, commission, committee, task force, or  
21 similar state entity subject to a cabinet-level department transfer under  
22 this act shall:

23 (1) Continue to be selected in the same manner as provided by  
24 Arkansas law; and

25 (2) Serve for the terms provided for under Arkansas law.

26 (b) To the extent that membership or service on a board, commission,  
27 committee, task force, or similar state entity relates to the holding of an  
28 office or title, the membership of the board, commission, committee, task  
29 force, or similar state entity at issue shall be revised to include the  
30 appropriate official under this act if:

31 (1) The name of the office or title is revised under this act;  
32 or

33 (2) The holder of the office or title changes by the operation  
34 of this act.

35 (c)(1)(A) Beginning July 1, 2019, the members of the council shall  
36 serve three-year terms.

1 (B) The terms of the members serving on the Health  
2 Information Exchange Council prior to August 1, 2019, shall expire on July 1,  
3 2019, and the Secretary of the Department of Health shall make appointments  
4 to begin on July 1, 2019.

5 (2)(A) The appointed members of the council beginning their  
6 appointments on July 1, 2019, shall draw lots for the staggering of terms so  
7 that:

8 (i) Five (5) members serve terms of one (1) year;

9 (ii) Six (6) members serve terms of two (2) years;

10 and

11 (iii) Six (6) members serve terms of three (3)  
12 years.

13 (B) Subsequent appointees to the council shall serve terms  
14 of three (3) years.

15 (3) A member may be re-appointed to serve on the council.

16 (4) In the event of a vacancy on the council, a person may be  
17 appointed to serve the remainder of the term.

18  
19 SECTION 6343. DO NOT CODIFY. CONSTRUCTION.

20 (a) Except as provided in subsection (b) of this section, to the  
21 extent that a conflict exists between an act of the regular session of the  
22 Ninety-Second General Assembly and this act:

23 (1) Section 1-2-107 shall not apply; and

24 (2) All of the enactments of each act shall be given effect  
25 except to the extent of irreconcilable conflicts, in which case the  
26 conflicting provision of this act shall prevail.

27 (b) This section shall not revive or re-enact any provision of the  
28 Arkansas Code that has been repealed by an act of the regular session of the  
29 Ninety-Second General Assembly, including without limitation this act.

30  
31 SECTION 6344. DO NOT CODIFY. Funding and classification of cabinet-  
32 level department secretaries.

33 (a) The secretary positions established by § 25-43-108(d)(1) shall be  
34 funded from:

35 (1) Existing resources; or

36 (2)(A) If the Chief Fiscal Officer of the State determines it is

1 necessary, the State Central Services Fund for the secretary of the:

2 (i) Department of Finance and Administration;

3 (ii) Department of Transformation and Shared

4 Services; and

5 (iii) Department of Inspector General

6 (B) Beginning in the 2020 - 2021 fiscal year, the General

7 Assembly shall determine and appropriate funding for the Secretary of the

8 Department of Transformation and Shared Services and the Secretary of the

9 Department of Inspector General.

10 (b) The Office of Personnel Management, as directed by the Governor,  
11 shall establish and submit the appropriate class code, grade, or line item  
12 maximum for each cabinet-level department secretary to the Legislative  
13 Council, or to the Joint Budget Committee if during a legislative session,  
14 for its review before July 1, 2019.

15  
16 SECTION 6345. DO NOT CODIFY. Transformation and Efficiencies Act  
17 transition team.

18 (a) The Governor may select up to twenty-five (25) state employees to  
19 form a transition team to assist in the implementation of the Transformation  
20 and Efficiencies Act of 2019.

21 (b) Upon selection by the Governor, each transition team member:

22 (1) May be temporarily reassigned job duties to assist the  
23 transition team;

24 (2) Shall continue to be paid from the employee's existing  
25 position and by the state entity employing the transition team member; and

26 (3) Is authorized to report to work at an alternate location to  
27 perform the duties of the transition team.

28 (c) Service on the transition team shall not affect the employee's  
29 time of service or any benefits the employee may receive, including without  
30 limitation health insurance benefits or retirement benefits.

31 (d) The Governor, or his designee, shall prescribe the duties of each  
32 transition team member.

33 (e)(1) The Transformation and Efficiencies Act transition team shall  
34 expire on July 31, 2019.

35 (2) The Governor may return members of the transition team to  
36 their existing positions before July 31, 2019.

1 (f)(1) The Governor or the Governor's designee shall submit and  
2 present a report to the House Committee on State Agencies and Governmental  
3 Affairs and the Senate Committee on State Agencies and Governmental committee  
4 by July 31, 2019.

5 (2) The report shall include a proposed timeline for the  
6 implementation of the Transformation and Efficiency Act of 2019 and a summary  
7 of any other work undertaken by the transition team.

8  
9 SECTION 6346. EMERGENCY CLAUSE.

10 (a) It is found and determined by the General Assembly of the State of  
11 Arkansas that the Transformation and Efficiencies Act of 2019 revises the  
12 duties of state entities, creates new departments of the state, and creates  
13 new positions in the state; that these revisions are extensive and will  
14 require new policies and procedures to be developed to implement the  
15 transition; that a team of existing state employees will be needed to assist  
16 in the implementation of the Transformation and Efficiencies Act of 2019;  
17 that this transition shall occur on July 1, 2019, and policies and procedures  
18 will be required to be developed before that date; that a new class code,  
19 grade, and line item maximum for each cabinet-level department secretary must  
20 be submitted prior to July 1, 2019 for legislative approval before the  
21 implementation of this act; and that the two uncodified sections of this act  
22 preceding the emergency clause titled "Funding and classification of cabinet-  
23 level department secretaries" and "Transformation and Efficiencies Act  
24 transition team" are immediately necessary because the transition to the new  
25 government structure will require the dedicated efforts of state employees  
26 currently performing other duties prior to the effective date of the  
27 remaining sections of the act on July 1, 2019. Therefore, an emergency is  
28 declared to exist, and the two uncodified sections of this act preceding the  
29 emergency clause titled "Funding and classification of cabinet-level  
30 department secretaries" and "Transformation and Efficiencies Act transition  
31 team" being immediately necessary for the preservation of the public peace,  
32 health, and safety shall become effective on:

33 (1) The date of its approval by the Governor;

34 (2) If the bill is neither approved nor vetoed by the Governor,  
35 the expiration of the period of time during which the Governor may veto the  
36 bill; or

