

1 State of Arkansas  
2 91st General Assembly  
3 Regular Session, 2017  
4  
5 By: Senator Files  
6

# A Bill

SENATE BILL 605

## For An Act To Be Entitled

8 AN ACT CONCERNING THE DISTRIBUTION OF HIGHWAY REVENUE  
9 INTEREST INCOME; TO PROVIDE FUNDS FOR REGIONAL  
10 INTERMODAL FACILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION-RELATED  
11 RESEARCH; TO CREATE THE FUTURE TRANSPORTATION  
12 RESEARCH FUND; AND TO CREATE THE TRANSPORTATION  
13 RESEARCH GRANT PROGRAM; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.  
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## Subtitle

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16 CONCERNING THE DISTRIBUTION OF HIGHWAY  
17 REVENUE INTEREST INCOME; AND TO PROVIDE  
18 FUNDS FOR REGIONAL INTERMODAL FACILITIES  
19 AND TRANSPORTATION-RELATED RESEARCH.  
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23 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:  
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25 SECTION 1. Arkansas Code Title 14, Chapter 143, Subchapter 1, is  
26 amended to add an additional section to read as follows:

27 14-143-130. Funding for regional intermodal facilities.

28 (a) The Arkansas State Highway and Transportation Department shall  
29 distribute the first five hundred twenty-five thousand dollars (\$525,000) of  
30 interest income received under § 27-70-204 each year from the State Highway  
31 and Transportation Department Fund. The money shall be:

32 (1) Equally distributed to each authority;

33 (2) Deposited into a bank as the authority may direct under §  
34 14-143-124(a)(1); and

35 (3) Used for the purposes and the implementation of the powers  
36 authorized under this chapter.



1           (b) Moneys remaining in the bank designated by the authority under  
2 subdivision (a)(2) of this section shall carry forward and be made available  
3 for the purposes stated in subdivision (a)(3) of this section in the next  
4 fiscal year.

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6           SECTION 2. Arkansas Code Title 19, Chapter 5, Subchapter 12, is  
7 amended to add an additional section to read as follows:

8           19-5-1258. Future Transportation Research Fund.

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 miscellaneous  
11 fund to be known as the "Future Transportation Research Fund".

12           (b) The Future Transportation Research Fund shall consist of:

13                   (1) If available after the deposit of the funds required under §  
14 14-143-130, interest income received under § 27-70-204 up to a maximum amount  
15 of five hundred thousand dollars (\$500,000) each year from the State Highway  
16 and Transportation Department Fund; and

17                   (2) Any other revenues authorized by law.

18           (c) The Future Transportation Research Fund shall be used by the  
19 Arkansas State Highway and Transportation Department for distributing grants  
20 under the Transportation-Related Research Grant Program, § 27-65-145.

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22           SECTION 3. Arkansas Code Title 27, Chapter 65, Subchapter 1, is  
23 amended to add an additional section to read as follows:

24           27-65-145. Transportation Related Research Grant Program.

25           (a) As used in this section, "transportation-related research" means  
26 the systematic investigation into and study of materials and sources in order  
27 to establish facts and reach new conclusions to provide resilient and  
28 sustainable logistics, processes, materials, and methods to ensure cost-  
29 effectiveness and the furtherance of education and economic development  
30 concerning all forms of transportation, including without limitation rail,  
31 public transportation, aviation, and waterborne transportation.

32           (b) The Transportation-Related Research Grant is established to  
33 provide grants to publicly funded institutions of higher education for  
34 transportation-related research.

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36           (c) A publicly funded institution of higher education may submit an

1 application to receive a grant for transportation-related research to the  
2 Arkansas State Highway and Transportation Department, which includes without  
3 limitation:

4 (1) A brief description of the transportation-related research;

5 (2) An estimate of the cost-effective benefits of the  
6 transportation-related research;

7 (3) The economic development anticipated from the  
8 transportation-related research; and

9 (4) Any other information requested by the department.

10 (d) The department may award a grant to a publicly funded institution  
11 of higher education using funds available in the Future Transportation  
12 Research Fund for transportation-related research that meets the criteria  
13 established by the department.

14 (e) The department and the State Highway Commission shall promulgate  
15 rules to implement and administer this section, including without limitation  
16 the:

17 (1) Application process;

18 (2) Disbursement of grant funds; and

19 (3) Criteria required under subsection (d) of this section.

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