

2015 - 2017 REQUEST FOR SPECIAL LANGUAGE IN APPROPRIATION ACT

0250 Rural Services, Department of

ACT#: 116

SECTION#: 8

CURRENT SPECIAL LANGUAGE (WITH AGENCY REQUEST)

EXECUTIVE RECOMMENDATION

GENERAL IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS ADMINISTRATIVE FEE. The Department of Rural Services is authorized to retain and utilize for administrative cost purposes up to one and one half percent (1.5%) of the total amount of any General Improvement Fund moneys received for projects authorized for disbursement through the department by the General Assembly.

AGENCY REQUEST

2015 - 2017 REQUEST FOR SPECIAL LANGUAGE IN APPROPRIATION ACT

0250 Rural Services, Department of

ACT#: 116

SECTION#: 9

CURRENT SPECIAL LANGUAGE (WITH AGENCY REQUEST)

EXECUTIVE RECOMMENDATION

FUND TRANSFER. Upon request of the Director of the Department of Rural Services to the Chief Fiscal Officer of the State, the Chief Fiscal Officer of the State, from time to time, shall cause to be transferred on his books and those of the State Treasurer and Auditor of State, an amount not to exceed one and one half percent (1.5%) from the various sub funds created in any General Improvement Fund, established for disbursement through the Department of Rural Services, to the Miscellaneous Agencies Fund Account. The funds transferred to the Miscellaneous Agencies Fund Account from the various sub funds established in any General Improvement Fund pursuant to this section shall be made available and utilized solely by the Department of Rural Services for maintenance and general operations costs.

AGENCY REQUEST

2015 - 2017 REQUEST FOR SPECIAL LANGUAGE IN APPROPRIATION ACT

0250 Rural Services, Department of

ACT#: 116

SECTION#: 10

CURRENT SPECIAL LANGUAGE (WITH AGENCY REQUEST)

EXECUTIVE RECOMMENDATION

ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES. Any unexpended balance of funds remaining on June 30, of each fiscal year in the Miscellaneous Agencies Fund Account for the Department of Rural Services that were transferred from the various sub funds created in any General Improvement Fund for the administration of general improvement fund projects shall remain in the Miscellaneous Agencies Fund Account and made available to the Department of Rural Services and utilized for the same purpose during the following fiscal year.

AGENCY REQUEST

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0250 Rural Services, Department of

ACT#: 116

SECTION#: 11

CURRENT SPECIAL LANGUAGE (WITH AGENCY REQUEST)

EXECUTIVE RECOMMENDATION

COUNTY FAIR GRANTS. The Department of Rural Services shall develop the necessary rules and regulations for the disbursement of matching fund grants to county fairs for the construction, renovation and/or improvements to county fair grounds. The grants shall be matched on a 50/50 basis. The match may be cash or in-kind. No county fair shall receive more than \$30,000 for the biennium.

AGENCY REQUEST

2015 - 2017 REQUEST FOR SPECIAL LANGUAGE IN APPROPRIATION ACT

0250 Rural Services, Department of

ACT#: 116

SECTION#: 12

CURRENT SPECIAL LANGUAGE (WITH AGENCY REQUEST)

EXECUTIVE RECOMMENDATION

GRANT AWARD CRITERIA. The Department of Rural Services shall promulgate regulations establishing the criteria to be utilized in determining to whom grants will be made under this Act. Subject to the approval of the Governor, and approval by the Arkansas Legislative Council or the Joint Budget Committee, the Department of Rural Services shall distribute the grants.

Determining the maximum number of employees and the maximum amount of appropriation and general revenue funding for a state agency each fiscal year is the prerogative of the General Assembly. This is usually accomplished by delineating such maximums in the appropriation act(s) for a state agency and the general revenue allocations authorized for each fund and fund account by amendment to the Revenue Stabilization law. Further, the General Assembly has determined that the Department of Rural Services may operate more efficiently if some flexibility is provided to the Department of Rural Services authorizing broad powers under this Section. Therefore, it is both necessary and appropriate that the General Assembly maintain oversight by requiring prior approval of the Legislative Council or Joint Budget Committee as provided by this section. The requirement of approval by the Legislative Council or Joint Budget Committee is not a severable part of this section. If the requirement of approval by the Legislative Council or Joint Budget Committee is ruled unconstitutional by a court of competent jurisdiction, this entire section is void.

The provisions of this section shall be in effect only from July 1, ~~2014~~ 2015 through June 30, ~~2015~~ 2016.

AGENCY REQUEST