

**2021 - 2023 REQUEST FOR SPECIAL LANGUAGE IN APPROPRIATION ACT**

**0280 Optometry, State Board of**

**ACT#: 0175**

**SECTION#: 050**

**CURRENT SPECIAL LANGUAGE (WITH AGENCY REQUEST)**

**EXECUTIVE RECOMMENDATION**

ARKANSAS STATE DENTAL EXAMINERS BOARD, ARKANSAS STATE MEDICAL BOARD, STATE BOARD OF OPTOMETRY - EMPLOYMENT OF ATTORNEYS. None of the funds appropriated in this Act for Maintenance and General Operation shall be expended in payment for services of attorneys, unless the agency shall first make a request in writing to the Attorney General of the State of Arkansas to provide the required legal services. The Attorney General's Office shall provide the requested legal services, or, if the Attorney General's Office shall determine that sufficient personnel are not available to provide the requested legal services, the Attorney General shall certify the same to the agency and may authorize the agency to employ legal counsel and to expend monies appropriated for Maintenance and General Operations therefore, if:

- (1) The Attorney General determines, and certifies in writing, that such agency needs the advice or assistance of legal counsel, and
- (2) The Attorney General consents in writing to the employment of the legal counsel to be retained by the agency, and
- (3) The Attorney General receives confirmation in writing from the Agency that the agency will re-advertise annually for legal counsel if outside legal counsel is hired and that any amount to be paid for outside legal counsel will be reviewed and approved by the Arkansas Legislative Council or Joint Budget Committee. Such certification shall be required with respect to each instance of the employment of special

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legal counsel, or shall be required annually with respect to legal counsel employed on a retainer basis. A copy of such certification shall be entered in the official minutes of the agency, and shall be retained in the fiscal records of the agency for audit purposes.

The provisions of this section shall be in effect only from July 1, ~~2020~~ 2021 through June 30, ~~2021~~ 2022.