

2023 - 2025 REQUEST FOR SPECIAL LANGUAGE IN APPROPRIATION ACT

0700 DOE - Higher Education Division

ACT#: 215

SECTION#: 30

CURRENT SPECIAL LANGUAGE (WITH AGENCY REQUEST)

EXECUTIVE RECOMMENDATION

SPECIAL LANGUAGE - CODE AMENDMENT. Arkansas Code Title 25, Chapter 7, Subchapter 1, is amended to add an additional section to codify special language in appropriation acts to read as follows:

AGENCY REQUEST

25-7-103. Emergency grants - Extra help pool.

(a) An institution of higher education affected by a disaster emergency resulting in the interruption of all or a significant portion of campus operations may request disaster assistance through the Division of Higher Education.

(b) Upon the declaration of a disaster emergency by the Governor under § 12-75-107, an institution of higher education affected by the disaster emergency may request, subject to the recommendation of the Director of the Division of Higher Education and approval by the Governor, a grant from the Disaster Relief Fund to:

(1) Return the institution of higher education to normal operations; or

(2)(A) Enable a campus that is part of and incorporated into the institution of higher education affected by the disaster emergency to provide services to the students enrolled in the campus of the institution of higher education affected by the disaster emergency.

(B) A certified law enforcement officer employed by an institution of higher education during the declaration of a disaster emergency by the Governor under § 12-75-107 may be granted jurisdiction at a campus that is part of and incorporated into the institution of higher education affected by the disaster emergency upon agreement of both campuses.

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(c)(1) The division is authorized a pool of five hundred (500) extra help positions for use in an emergency or a disaster event.

(2) The extra help positions authorized under subdivision (c) (1) of this section may be assigned to:

(A) The campus affected by the disaster emergency;

or

(B) A campus that is part of and incorporated into the institution of higher education affected by the disaster emergency that is providing services to the students enrolled in the campus affected by the disaster emergency.

(3) The Governor may waive the restriction on periods of time during which an employee may be employed as extra help during a fiscal year under § 6-63-314.

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DHE - REALLOCATION OF RESOURCES FOR INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER EDUCATION. Upon determination by the president or chancellor of an institution of higher education that a reallocation of resources for purposes of reorganization or consolidation of administrative functions within the institution is necessary for efficient and effective operations of the institution, the president or chancellor, with approval of the institution's board of trustees, may have the authority to transfer positions, appropriations and related funds between campuses, divisions, branches, and other budgetary units of the institution, after receiving prior approval of the Legislative Council or Joint Budget Committee. The transfers of positions, programs, or activities shall be used for those purposes for which the appropriations were approved by the General Assembly. The transfers, consolidations, or reorganizations which involve academic programs shall be reviewed by the Division of Higher Education prior to submission to the Legislative Council or Joint Budget Committee. Provided, however, that the institution shall be limited to submitting no more than two (2) individual transaction transfer requests during any fiscal year and shall be further limited to no more than five percent (5%) of the total General Revenue and Special Revenue appropriation, funding, positions specific to each institution, and no Tobacco Settlement funds or appropriations may be reallocated pursuant to this section.

Determining the maximum number of employees and the maximum amount of appropriation and general revenue funding for institutions of higher education each fiscal year is the prerogative of the General Assembly. This is usually accomplished by delineating such maximums in

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the appropriation act(s) for institutions of higher education 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 institutions of higher education may operate more efficiently if some flexibility is provided to institutions of higher education 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, ~~2022~~ 2023 through June 30, ~~2023~~ 2024.

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CURRENT SPECIAL LANGUAGE (WITH AGENCY REQUEST)

EXECUTIVE RECOMMENDATION

~~DHE — LOANS. In order to provide timely payments under financial aid appropriations made in this Act, the Chief Fiscal Officer of the State is authorized to provide loans from the Budget Stabilization Trust Fund to make available all funds attributable to the financial aid programs under the then current official revenue estimates. In the event of an unanticipated state revenue shortfall, any such loans remaining at the end of a fiscal year shall be repaid from revenues distributed in the first two months of the next fiscal year. Funds for appropriations made in this Act for purposes other than financial aid shall not be affected by the application of this provision.~~

~~The provisions of this section shall be in effect only from July 1, 2022 2023 through June 30, 2023-2024.~~

Recommendation: *DELETE* - ALREADY CODIFIED AT § 19-5-506.

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EXECUTIVE RECOMMENDATION

DHE - WORK FORCE 2000 DEVELOPMENT FUND PROCEDURES. After the amounts to be made available to the various technical colleges have been determined as set out in Arkansas Code 26-51-205(d)(2)(A) and 26-51-205(d)(2)(B), such documents as may be necessary shall be processed so that funds may be transferred from the Work Force 2000 Development Fund to the State Treasury fund or fund account from which the technical college draws its general revenue support. Such funds as may be transferred shall not exceed 93.691% of the total funds available from the Work Force 2000 Development Fund during the fiscal year.

In the event that a technical institute or comprehensive lifelong learning center which receives support from the Work Force 2000 Development Fund as determined by law transfers or merges into the Arkansas Technical College and Community College System for which Work Force 2000 Development Fund monies are determined by law, then the actual amount of support from the Work Force 2000 Development Fund in the preceding fiscal year for such educational institution shall be made available irrespective of any other provision of law which sets out maximum levels of support from such fund.

The funds distributed under Arkansas Code 26-51-205(d)(2)(C) in excess of those amounts collected and distributed prior to June 30, 2014 shall be deposited into the Skills Development Fund to be used only for personal services, grants, operation, support, and improvement of occupational, vocational, technical, and workforce development programs by the Department of Career Education - Office of Skills Development. The distributions of funds under Arkansas Code 26-51-205(d)(2)(C) in excess of

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those amounts collected and distributed prior to June 30, 2014 shall not apply to proceeds allocated to schools, colleges and educational institutions under Arkansas Code 26-51-205(d)(2)(A) and 26-51-205(d)(2)(B).

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DHE - BUILDING MAINTENANCE FUND. After the sum of \$13,200,000 has been deposited into the Higher Education Building Maintenance Fund, any additional deposits are to be transferred to the Research Development Fund there to be used as provided by law.

The provisions of this section shall be in effect only from July 1, ~~2022~~ 2023 through June 30, ~~2023~~ 2024.

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EXECUTIVE RECOMMENDATION

~~DHE — NATIONAL GUARD TUITION INCENTIVE PROGRAM. In addition to any other provisions of law, any student who receives assistance from the appropriation made for the "National Guard Tuition Incentive Program" in this Act shall repay any loans and/or assistance if the student receives a discharge that is a less than Honorable Discharge. Priority for funding shall be given to students already receiving assistance from the National Guard Tuition Incentive Program.~~

~~—The provisions of this section shall be in effect only from July 1, 2022 2023 through June 30, 2023-2024.~~

Recommendation: The agency has said that the language is no longer needed and can be deleted.

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CURRENT SPECIAL LANGUAGE (WITH AGENCY REQUEST)

EXECUTIVE RECOMMENDATION

SPECIAL LANGUAGE - CODE AMENDMENT. Arkansas Code § 6-81-1101(f), concerning tuition assistance for certain professional schools, is amended to codify special language in appropriation acts to read as follows:

(f)(1)(A)(i) The Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board, after consulting with the recognized associations of each of the applicable medical professions and other interested persons, shall determine the priorities for the grants and loans under this section.

(ii) The division shall readjust, if necessary, the number of positions for entering students to be funded for each grant or loan based upon the priorities determined by the board.

(B) The division will allocate, based upon funds appropriated, the number of eligible grant recipients to receive funds at each participating institution for each applicable academic period.

(2)(A) Each participating institution will select eligible grant recipients for each applicable academic period.

(B) In the event that the number of eligible students accepted for enrollment at such participating institution exceeds the number of eligible grant recipients for whom funds have been allocated by the division from funds appropriated, such participating institution shall have sole discretion in selecting the eligible students to designate as eligible grant recipients.

(3) The division shall make grants according to the allocations made by the division and selections made by the participating institutions. The division shall have no obligation to make any grants except to the extent that funds have been appropriated and funded for the program.

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CURRENT SPECIAL LANGUAGE (WITH AGENCY REQUEST)

EXECUTIVE RECOMMENDATION

SPECIAL LANGUAGE - CODE AMENDMENT. Arkansas Code Title 6, Chapter 61, Subchapter 2, is amended to add an additional section to codify special language in appropriation acts to read as follows:

AGENCY REQUEST

6-61-235. Reporting requirements - Financial aid programs.

The Division of Higher Education shall report annually by May 30 to the House Committee on Education and the Senate Committee on Education the:

(1) Budgeted allocation for each financial aid program that is funded through the Higher Education Grants Fund Account for the upcoming fiscal year; and

(2) Projections for the following fiscal year for the budgeted allocation for each financial aid program that is funded through the Higher Education Grants Fund Account.

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CURRENT SPECIAL LANGUAGE (WITH AGENCY REQUEST)

EXECUTIVE RECOMMENDATION

SPECIAL LANGUAGE - CODE AMENDMENT. Arkansas Code § 6-60-113, concerning accountability and transparency at state-supported institutions of higher education, is amended to add an additional subsection to codify special language in appropriation acts to read as follows:

(c) A state-supported institution of higher education that receives state funds administered by the division for scholarships shall be subject to the audit of those state funds by Arkansas Legislative Audit, upon approval of the Legislative Joint Auditing Committee.

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CURRENT SPECIAL LANGUAGE (WITH AGENCY REQUEST)

EXECUTIVE RECOMMENDATION

SPECIAL LANGUAGE - CODE AMENDMENT. Arkansas Code § 21-5-1404, concerning effect of the Higher Education Uniform Classification and Compensation Act on appropriation acts, is amended to add an additional subsection to codify special language in appropriation acts to read as follows:

(e)(1) New funding through the Revenue Stabilization Law, § 19-5-101 et seq., that is determined by the Division of Higher Education to have been for salary increases for the current fiscal year for institutions of higher education shall be used exclusively for salary increases.

(2) New funding through the Revenue Stabilization Law, § 19-5-101 et seq., that is actually received for salary increases shall be spent exclusively for salary increases based upon the state general revenue portion of total unrestricted educational and general revenue.

(3)(A) Funding received under this subsection shall be used for no purposes other than to provide salary increases.

(B) Any designated funds not used for salary increases under this subsection shall be recouped at the end of each fiscal year and transferred by the division to the General Revenue Allotment Reserve Fund.

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CURRENT SPECIAL LANGUAGE (WITH AGENCY REQUEST)

EXECUTIVE RECOMMENDATION

DHE PROGRAM COORDINATOR FUNDING. The Chief Fiscal Officer of the State shall transfer sufficient funding for the fiscal year from the Higher Education Grants Fund Account to the Division of Higher Education Fund Account in order to finance the personal services costs of a DHE Program Coordinator.

The provisions of this section shall be in effect only from July 1, ~~2022~~ 2023 through June 30, ~~2023~~ 2024.

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CURRENT SPECIAL LANGUAGE (WITH AGENCY REQUEST)

EXECUTIVE RECOMMENDATION

DHE - TRANSFER PROVISION. Upon certification by the Director of the Division_of Higher Education that transfers are needed to make maximum utilization of funds and appropriations provided for financial aid programs, and with the approval of the Chief Fiscal Officer of the State and a review by the Arkansas Legislative Council or Joint Budget Committee, funds and appropriations may be transferred between financial aid programs to more adequately align the appropriation with the number of eligible students.

The provisions of this section shall be in effect only from July 1, ~~2022~~ 2023 through June 30, ~~2023~~ 2024.

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EXECUTIVE RECOMMENDATION

DHE - TRANSFER OF HIGHER EDUCATION GRANTS FUND APPROPRIATIONS - HEALTH EDUCATION GRANTS AND LOANS. Upon certification to and with the approval of the Chief Fiscal Officer of the State, surplus funds and appropriations may be transferred between the appropriations provided for "Health Education Grants and Loans" by this Act by the General Assembly for Dental Aid Grants and Loans, Optometry Aid Grants and Loans, Veterinary Aid, Veterinary Med. Loan Forgiveness Program, Podiatry Aid, and Chiropractic Aid.

The provisions of this section shall be in effect only from July 1, ~~2022~~ 2023 through June 30, ~~2023~~ 2024.

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CURRENT SPECIAL LANGUAGE (WITH AGENCY REQUEST)

EXECUTIVE RECOMMENDATION

DHE - CONTINGENCY APPROPRIATIONS - TRANSFERS AND REPORTS. (a) Upon approval by the Department of Education - Division of Higher Education and the Chief Fiscal Officer of the State, institutions of higher education may transfer appropriation from the cash contingency appropriation to any other appropriation made to the institution from cash funds including the establishment of commitment items, and may transfer appropriation from the contingency appropriation made payable from each institution's State Treasury Fund to the state operations appropriation made payable from each institution's State Treasury Fund including the establishment of commitment items, and may transfer appropriation from the contingency appropriation made payable from the Tobacco Settlement Program Fund Accounts to any other appropriation made to the institution from Tobacco Settlement Program Fund Accounts including the establishment of commitment items.

(b) Contingency appropriation transfers shall only establish and supplement commitment items that were recommended by the Higher Education Coordinating Board in the budget manuals presented to the Legislative Council and Joint Budget Committee.

(c) The Department of Education - Division of Higher Education shall report contingency appropriation transfers and the establishment of any commitment items authorized by this Section to the Legislative Council or Joint Budget Committee for review during its July meeting. The report shall include, by institution, the establishment of, and the amounts transferred to, each commitment item, the reasons therefor and the source of funds. Institutions shall submit contingency appropriation transfer and commitment

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item establishment requests authorized by this Section to the Division of Higher Education no later than July 1. Upon the failure of an institution to submit the required information by the July 1 deadline, the Department of Education - Division of Higher Education shall immediately notify by written notification the chairpersons of the Legislative Council or Joint Budget Committee.

The provisions of this section shall be in effect only from July 1, ~~2022~~ 2023 through June 30, ~~2023~~ 2024.

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CURRENT SPECIAL LANGUAGE (WITH AGENCY REQUEST)

EXECUTIVE RECOMMENDATION

SPECIAL LANGUAGE - CODE AMENDMENT. Arkansas Code Title 6, Chapter 61, Subchapter 2, is amended to add an additional section to codify special language in appropriation acts to read as follows:

AGENCY REQUEST

6-61-236. Student Undergraduate Research Fellowship Program - Established.

(a) There is established the Student Undergraduate Research Fellowship Program, which shall be administered by the Division of Higher Education and division staff.

(b) The program shall focus on the continued development of undergraduate academic research efforts at state-supported colleges and universities.

(c) The division shall promulgate rules necessary for the implementation and operation of the program.

(d) The responsibilities of the division in administering the program shall include without limitation the following:

(1) The development of eligibility criteria for a recipient of a fellowship under the program;

(2) The collection of applications for a fellowship under the program;

(3) The coordination of student evaluations under the program;

(4) The distribution of public notices regarding the program;
and

(5) The funding of grants for academic research purposes under the program.

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(e) The division may expense costs associated with the administration of the program from funds made payable from the Higher Education Grants Fund Account for the program as authorized to be used for student assistance grants and scholarships in the division's operative appropriation act.

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CURRENT SPECIAL LANGUAGE (WITH AGENCY REQUEST)

EXECUTIVE RECOMMENDATION

SPECIAL LANGUAGE - CODE AMENDMENT. Arkansas Code § 23-115-801(d) (3)(C), concerning lottery proceeds, is amended to codify special language in appropriation acts to read as follows:

(C)(i) The office shall reimburse the division for the costs of administering the scholarship awards funded with net proceeds from the lottery after the Legislative Council's review under this subsection.

(ii) After the reimbursement of funds received by the division from the office under subdivision (d)(3)(C)(i) of this section, the division may refund the funds to the:

(a) Division of Higher Education Fund

Account; or

(b) Higher Education Grants Fund

Account.

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CURRENT SPECIAL LANGUAGE (WITH AGENCY REQUEST)

EXECUTIVE RECOMMENDATION

SPECIAL LANGUAGE - CODE AMENDMENT. Arkansas Code § 6-82-1503, concerning the eligibility for amount of the Critical Needs Minority Teacher Scholarship Program, is amended to add an additional subsection to codify special language in appropriation acts to read as follows:

AGENCY REQUEST

(g) The Director of the Division of Higher Education shall:

(1)(A) Determine the amount available to fund the Critical Needs Minority Teacher Scholarship Program.

(B) However, the amount determined under subdivision (g)(1)(A) of this section shall not exceed two hundred thousand dollars (\$200,000); and

(2)(A) Certify to the Chief Fiscal Officer of the State and the Treasurer of State the amount determined under subdivision (g)(1)(A) of this section to be transferred from the Higher Education Grants Fund Account.

(B)(i) Upon receipt of the certification under subdivision (g)(2)(A) of this section, the Chief Fiscal Officer of the State and the Treasurer of State shall transfer the necessary amount from the Higher Education Grants Fund Account and the related appropriation to the University of Arkansas at Pine Bluff Fund.

(ii) The university may use up to twenty percent (20%) of the funds and appropriation received under subdivision (g)(2)(B)(i) of this section for the administration of the Critical Needs Minority Teacher Scholarship Program under this section.

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CURRENT SPECIAL LANGUAGE (WITH AGENCY REQUEST)

EXECUTIVE RECOMMENDATION

SPECIAL LANGUAGE - CODE AMENDMENT. Arkansas Code Title 6, Chapter 61, Subchapter 2, is amended to add an additional section to codify special language in appropriation acts to read as follows:

AGENCY REQUEST

6-61-235. Administrative fees.

(a) The Division of Higher Education may recover nonrefundable administrative fees related to the institutional certification and exemption process for out-of-state, nonpublic, and for-profit colleges and universities.

(b) Fees in this section eligible for recovery include:

(1) Notification fees;

(2) Application processing fees; and

(3) Travel expenses for individuals on the certification review teams.

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CURRENT SPECIAL LANGUAGE (WITH AGENCY REQUEST)

EXECUTIVE RECOMMENDATION

DHE WORKFORCE INITIATIVE ACT FUNDING. The Chief Fiscal Officer of the State may transfer, on his or her books and those of the State Treasurer and the Auditor of the State, funding up to the amount authorized in the Workforce Initiative Act of 2015 appropriation section in this Act, from the Division of Higher Education Fund Account to the Workforce Initiative Act of 2015 Fund in order to finance the distribution of grants identified under §6-60-107.

The provisions of this section shall be in effect only from July 1, ~~2022~~ 2023 through June 30, ~~2023~~ 2024.

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CURRENT SPECIAL LANGUAGE (WITH AGENCY REQUEST)

EXECUTIVE RECOMMENDATION

~~DHE — ARKANSAS WORKFORCE CHALLENGE SCHOLARSHIP FUNDS. The Department of Education — Division of Higher Education may transfer Arkansas Workforce Challenge Scholarship funds to:~~

~~————— (1)(A) An Arkansas Academic Challenge Scholarship account in an amount necessary to fund scholarship awards for nontraditional students for the 2017-2018 academic year that were not funded due to the limitation on the scholarship award amount for nontraditional students under § 6-85-212(e)(2)(A) as it existed before the effective date of this act.~~

~~————— (B) The department may distribute scholarship awards to nontraditional students for the 2017-2018 academic year from funds transferred under subdivision (1)(A) of this section; and~~

~~————— (2)(A) The Office of the Arkansas Lottery in an amount not to exceed the amount required to fund scholarship awards to be distributed under § 6-85-201 et seq. for the 2018-2019 or 2019-2020 academic years without having to draw upon the Scholarship Shortfall Reserve Trust Account under § 23-115-802.~~

~~————— (B) If the transfer under subdivision (2)(A) of this section exhausts the department's Arkansas Workforce Challenge Scholarship funds and there remain insufficient funds for distribution as scholarship awards under § 6-85-201 et seq. for the 2018-2019 or 2019-2020 academic years without having to draw upon the trust account, then the trust account may be drawn upon as provided under § 23-115-802.~~

~~—The provisions of this section shall be in effect only from July 1, 2022 2023 through June 30, 2023-2024.~~

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CURRENT SPECIAL LANGUAGE (WITH AGENCY REQUEST)

EXECUTIVE RECOMMENDATION

DHE - STATEWIDE SCHOLARSHIP AND GRANT PROMOTION. Of the general revenue that is received by and distributed from the Higher Education Grants Fund Account, the Chief Fiscal Officer of the State shall transfer two hundred ninety-five thousand dollars (\$295,000) to the Division of Higher Education Fund Account to be allocated, budgeted, committed and distributed to the Statewide Scholarship and Grant Promotion line item in the General Operations section of this Act for the purpose of increasing public awareness of the scholarships and grants offered by the State through the Arkansas Department of Education - Division of Higher Education. The Department shall utilize a minimum of one hundred forty-seven thousand five hundred dollars (\$147,500) of the aforementioned total specifically for the promotion of the Arkansas Futures Grant Program.

The provisions of this section shall be in effect only from July 1, ~~2022~~ 2023 through June 30, ~~2023~~ 2024.

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CURRENT SPECIAL LANGUAGE (WITH AGENCY REQUEST)

EXECUTIVE RECOMMENDATION

GOVERNOR'S HIGHER EDUCATION TRANSITION SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM.
The Department of Education - Division of Higher Education shall provide for the administration of the "Governor's Higher Education Transition Scholarship Program" as appropriated in the Student Assistance Grants and Various Scholarships Appropriation section of this Act to assist students accepted into transitional programs for students with intellectual and/or developmental disabilities at state institutions of higher education and shall promulgate rules for the implementation of the program and for the disbursement of scholarships to eligible students.

The provisions of this section shall be in effect only from July 1, ~~2022~~ 2023 through June 30, ~~2023~~ 2024.

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SECTION#: NEW

CURRENT SPECIAL LANGUAGE (WITH AGENCY REQUEST)	EXECUTIVE RECOMMENDATION
<p>SECTION XX. SPECIAL LANGUAGE. TO AMEND EXPENDITURES RELATED TO WOMEN'S SPORT ATHLETIC PROGRAMS.</p> <p>§6-62-803(c) This section shall not apply to expenditures related to compliance with § 6-60-111 or increased compliance under 20 U.S.C. § 1092(f), <u>nor the transfer of funds necessary to support women's athletic programs.</u></p> <p>Need language to be effective upon passage and approval.</p>	<p>AGENCY REQUEST</p>