

AR FAIR HOUSING COMMISSION

Enabling Laws

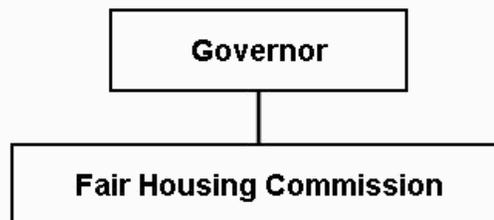
Act 1011 of 2003

Act 1785 of 2001, as amended. See A.C.A. § 16-123-302

History and Organization

The Arkansas Legislature created the Arkansas Fair Housing Commission by Act 185 of 2001. The mission of the Commission is to receive, investigate, conciliate and/or resolve complaints alleging violations of the Arkansas Fair Housing Act (the Act prohibits discrimination on the basis of on race, religion, color, sex, national origin, familial status or disability); to cooperate with and provide technical and other assistance to federal, state, local and other public or private entities that are formulating or operating programs to prevent or eliminate discriminatory housing practices; and to establish an education and outreach program to prevent discriminatory housing practices.

The Commission is composed of thirteen members. Seven are appointed by the Governor, three by the President Pro Tempore of the Senate and three by the Speaker of the House. Six of the appointees are industry representatives and seven are consumers. Each Congressional District must be represented by a Commissioner.



Agency Commentary

The Arkansas Fair Housing Commission respectfully requests an adjustment of funds transferring \$10,000.00 from Travel and Conferences to Operating Expenses. There are several reasons for this transfer. First, the increased operating expenses are due to the increase in travel. This agency serves the entire State of Arkansas and must travel to all corners. As the Agency's case load grows its need to travel increases. This increase would be needed even if gasoline prices were not high. Second, many of the Agency's education and conferencing needs have been met in the first years of existence and will, therefore, be reduced in the future. Finally, the Agency spends some \$24,000.00 per year in stipends and traveling expenses for its Commission members. (The Agency has thirteen [13] members.) As the Agency grows, it may be necessary to have longer meetings over more than one day or additional meetings. Ideally, it may be better to reduce the number of required meetings. In the meantime, additional funds are needed.

Audit Findings

DIVISION OF LEGISLATIVE AUDIT
AUDIT OF :
THE ARKANSAS FAIR HOUSING COMMISSION
FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2002

Findings

Recommendations

THE 2002 FISCAL YEAR WAS THE FIRST YEAR OF OPERATION FOR THE ARKANSAS FAIR HOUSING COMMISSION. AN AUDIT HAD NOT BEEN PREPARED AS OF THE PUBLICATION DATE OF THIS MANUAL.

Employment Summary

	Male	Female	Total	%
White Employees	1	0	1	33 %
Black Employees	1	0	1	33 %
Other Racial Minorities	0	1	1	34 %
Total Minorities			2	67%
Total Employees			3	100 %

Publications

A.C.A 25-1-204

Name	Statutory Authorization	Required for		# Of Copies	Reason (s) for Continued Publication and Distribution
		Governor	General Assembly		
None	N/A	N	N	0	N/A

Analysis of Budget Request

Appropriation / Program: 1NH - State Operations

Funding Sources: HUA - Miscellaneous Agencies Fund

The Arkansas Fair Housing Commission was created by Act 1785 of 2001. The Commission is authorized to investigate housing discrimination complaints and punish violators, in cooperation with the State Attorney General.

Base Level for this appropriation includes graduated salary increases of 3% to 1.5% each year over FY05 salary levels, along with related Personal Services Matching costs for four (4) Base Level positions. This includes a \$600 minimum increase for employees earning \$20,000 or below. Included in Personal Services Matching is a \$40 increase in the monthly contribution for State employee's health insurance for a total State match of \$320 per month.

The agency is requesting an increase of \$10,000 each year in Operating Expenses to cover increased mileage for the Commission members. A decrease of \$10,000 each year in Travel is requested to offset the increase in Operating Expenses due to more mileage being spent as official business travel.

The Executive Recommendation provides for the Agency Request.

Appropriation / Program Summary

Appropriation / Program: 1NH State Operations
Funding Sources: HUA - Miscellaneous Agencies Fund

Commitment Item	Historical Data			Agency Request and Executive Recommendation					
	2003-2004 Actual	2004-2005 Budget	2004-2005 Authorized	2005-2006			2006-2007		
				Base Level	Agency	Executive	Base Level	Agency	Executive
Regular Salaries 5010000	74,072	107,317	144,409	130,300	130,300	130,300	134,175	134,175	134,175
#Positions	3	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4
Personal Services Matching 5010003	19,898	33,551	36,117	39,857	39,857	39,857	40,584	40,584	40,584
Operating Expenses 5020002	42,287	40,000	40,000	40,000	50,000	50,000	40,000	50,000	50,000
Travel-Conference Fees 5050009	5,592	25,000	25,000	25,000	15,000	15,000	25,000	15,000	15,000
Professional Fees and Services 5060010	0	18,000	18,000	18,000	18,000	18,000	18,000	18,000	18,000
Data Processing 5090012	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Capital Outlay 5120011	0	0	10,000	0	0	0	0	0	0
Public Education 5900046	0	899	30,000	899	899	899	899	899	899
Total	141,849	224,767	303,526	254,056	254,056	254,056	258,658	258,658	258,658
Funding Sources									
Fund Balance 4000005	0	21,788		21,788	21,788	21,788	0	0	0
General Revenue 4000010	108,637	109,767		114,325	114,325	114,325	116,396	116,396	116,396
Fees & Federal Reimbursements:4000250	55,000	115,000		117,943	117,943	117,943	142,262	142,262	142,262
Total Funding	163,637	246,555		254,056	254,056	254,056	258,658	258,658	258,658
Excess Appropriation/(Funding)	(21,788)	(21,788)		0	0	0	0	0	0
Grand Total	141,849	224,767		254,056	254,056	254,056	258,658	258,658	258,658

Actual exceeds Authorized Appropriation in Operating Expenses due to a Budget Classification Transfer.

Change Level by Appropriation

Appropriation / Program: 1NH-State Operations

Funding Sources: HUA - Miscellaneous Agencies Fund

Agency Request

Change Level		2005-2006	Pos	Cumulative	% of BL	2006-2007	Pos	Cumulative	% of BL
BL	Base Level	254,056	4	254,056	100.0	258,658	4	258,658	100.0
C01	Existing Program	10,000	0	264,056	103.9	10,000	0	268,658	103.8
C03	Discontinue Program	(10,000)	0	254,056	100.0	(10,000)	0	258,658	100.0

Executive Recommendation

Change Level		2005-2006	Pos	Cumulative	% of BL	2006-2007	Pos	Cumulative	% of BL
BL	Base Level	254,056	4	254,056	100.0	258,658	4	258,658	100.0
C01	Existing Program	10,000	0	264,056	103.9	10,000	0	268,658	103.8
C03	Discontinue Program	(10,000)	0	254,056	100.0	(10,000)	0	258,658	100.0

Justification

C01	The increase in Operating Expenses is for increased mileage for the Commission members.
C03	The decrease is to offset the increase in Operating Expenses due to more mileage being needed in that line item.