

State of Arkansas
95th General Assembly
Fiscal Session, 2026

A Bill

SENATE BILL 73

By: Joint Budget Committee

For An Act To Be Entitled

AN ACT TO MAKE AN APPROPRIATION FOR THE COMMUNITY ASSISTANCE GRANT PROGRAM FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE - ARKANSAS ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION WHICH SHALL BE SUPPLEMENTAL AND IN ADDITION TO THOSE FUNDS APPROPRIATED BY ACT 608 OF 2025; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

Subtitle

AN ACT FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE - ARKANSAS ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATION.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:

SECTION 1. APPROPRIATION - RURAL SERVICES DIVISION - COMMUNITY ASSISTANCE GRANT PROGRAM. There is hereby appropriated, to the Department of Commerce - Arkansas Economic Development Commission - Rural Services Division - Community Assistance Grant Program, to be payable from the paying account as determined by the Chief Fiscal Officer of the State, for community assistance grants which shall be supplemental and in addition to those funds appropriated in Section 25 of Act 608 of 2025, the following:

ITEM NO.	FISCAL YEAR
(01) COMMUNITY ASSISTANCE GRANT PROGRAM	2025-2026
	<u>\$10,000,000</u>



SECTION 2. SPECIAL LANGUAGE. NOT TO BE INCORPORATED INTO THE ARKANSAS CODE NOR PUBLISHED SEPARATELY AS SPECIAL, LOCAL, AND TEMPORARY LAW. FUND TRANSFER. Immediately upon the effective date of this act, the Chief Fiscal Officer of the State shall transfer on his or her books and those of the Treasurer of State and the Auditor of the State the sum of ten million dollars (\$10,000,000) from the General Revenue Allotment Reserve Fund to the paying account as determined by the Chief Fiscal Officer of the State to provide funds for community assistance grants.

SECTION 3. COMPLIANCE WITH OTHER LAWS. Disbursement of funds authorized by this act shall be limited to the appropriation for such agency and funds made available by law for the support of such appropriations; and the restrictions of the State Procurement Law, the General Accounting and Budgetary Procedures Law, the Revenue Stabilization Law, the Regular Salary Procedures and Restrictions Act, or their successors, and other fiscal control laws of this State, where applicable, and regulations promulgated by the Department of Finance and Administration, as authorized by law, shall be strictly complied with in disbursement of said funds.

SECTION 4. LEGISLATIVE INTENT. It is the intent of the General Assembly that any funds disbursed under the authority of the appropriations contained in this act shall be in compliance with the stated reasons for which this act was adopted, as evidenced by the Agency Requests, Executive Recommendations and Legislative Recommendations contained in the budget manuals prepared by the Department of Finance and Administration, letters, or summarized oral testimony in the official minutes of the Arkansas Legislative Council or Joint Budget Committee which relate to its passage and adoption.

SECTION 5. EMERGENCY CLAUSE. It is found and determined by the General Assembly, that funds provided by the General Assembly for the operations of the Department Of Commerce - Arkansas Economic Development Commission are, due to unforeseen circumstances, insufficient for the Department Of Commerce - Arkansas Economic Development Commission to continue to provide essential governmental services; that the provisions of this act will provide the necessary monies for the Department Of Commerce - Arkansas Economic Development Commission to continue such services; and that a delay in the

effective date of this Act could work irreparable harm upon the proper administration and provision of essential governmental programs. Therefore, an emergency is hereby declared to exist and this Act being necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health and safety shall be in full force and effect from and after the date of its passage and approval.

If the bill is neither approved nor vetoed by the Governor, it shall become effective on the expiration of the period of time during which the Governor may veto the bill. If the bill is vetoed by the Governor and the veto is overridden, it shall become effective on the date the last house overrides the veto.

APPROVED: 4/29/26