

**AGENDA**  
**Senate Committee on State Agencies and Governmental Affairs**  
**House Committee on State Agencies and Governmental Affairs**  
**Meeting Jointly**

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**Wednesday, May 24, 2023**  
**9:00 AM**  
**Oaklawn Event Center, 2705 Central Avenue**  
**Hot Springs, Arkansas**

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Sen. Blake Johnson, Chair  
Sen. Clarke Tucker, Vice-Chair  
Sen. Stephanie Flowers  
Sen. Bart Hester  
Sen. Bryan King  
Sen. Steve Crowell  
Sen. John Payton  
Sen. Jim Dotson

Rep. Dwight Tosh, Chair  
Rep. Mark D. McElroy, Vice-Chair  
Rep. Stephen Meeks  
Rep. Lane Jean  
Rep. Jeff Wardlaw  
Rep. Josh Miller  
Rep. Richard Womack  
Rep. Mary Bentley  
Rep. Justin Gonzales  
Rep. Rick Beck

Rep. Marcus E. Richmond  
Rep. Jimmy Gazaway  
Rep. Cindy Crawford  
Rep. Jamie Scott  
Rep. Nicole Clowney  
Rep. Jon Milligan  
Rep. John P. Carr  
Rep. Kendon Underwood  
Rep. Mark H. Berry  
Rep. Jeremiah Moore

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- A. Call to Order
- B. Comments by Committee Chairs
- C. Consideration of a Motion to Ratify Special Expenses Incurred in Conjunction with the May 24, 2023, House and Senate State Agencies and Governmental Affairs Committee Meeting in Hot Springs, Arkansas
- D. Consideration of a Motion to Authorize Chairs to Approve Special Expenses Incurred by the Committee
- E. Consideration to Approve the Minutes from the September 20, 2022, Meeting **[Exhibit E]**
- F. Welcome Remarks – Arkansas Rural Development Conference
  - Ms. Becca Caldwell, Director, Division of Rural Services, Arkansas Economic Development Commission (AEDC)
- G. Presentation from Arkansas Economic Development Commission
  - Mr. Matt Twyford, Director of Community Development, AEDC
- H. Discussion of U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Grants Program **[Exhibits H.1-H.8]**
  - Mr. Timothy Smith, Acting Program Director, Rural Business/Cooperative Development Program, USDA
- I. Other Business
- J. Adjournment

**Refreshments Available to All in Attendance**

**Note: All exhibits for this meeting are available by electronic means and are accessible on the General Assembly's website at [www.arkleg.state.ar.us](http://www.arkleg.state.ar.us)**

**Notice: Silence your cell phones. Keep your personal conversations to a minimum. Observe restrictions designating areas as *'Members and Staff Only'*.**