

STATE CATFISH PROMOTION BOARD (317)
FISCAL YEAR 2014 & 2015 - EXECUTIVE RECOMMENDATION

I) AGENCY SUMMARY & REVENUE SOURCES

MISSION

The Board was created by Act 790 of 1999. The Board's primary activities are to promote the growth and development of the catfish industry in Arkansas by research, extension, promotion and market development. The Board is made up of seven producers appointed by the governor. Three are nominated by and represent the Arkansas Farm Bureau Federation and four are nominated by and represent The Catfish Farmers of Arkansas.

TOTAL BIENNIAL BUDGET

The total budget is \$255,000 each fiscal year of the biennium.

FUNDING SOURCE

The Board administers a one dollar per ton assessment on all catfish feed purchased by commercial Arkansas catfish producers and are disbursed by the Board to fund catfish research and promotion efforts.

II) SIGNIFICANT CHANGES

- The **Operations** appropriation, funded by Special Revenues, provides Base Level of \$100,000 each year with a Change Level of \$155,000 each year for a total appropriation of \$255,000 each fiscal year of the biennium, which includes:
 1. Operating Expenses increased by \$4,000 each year for telecommunications services and board member travel.
 2. Promotional Items increased by \$45,000 each year for materials and efforts to promote the Board.
 3. Research Development increased by \$61,000 each year for improvement of the Arkansas catfish industry.
 4. Consumer Information increased by \$45,000 each year for advertising and clipping services.

III) ADDITIONAL POSITIONS

There are no authorized regular salary positions for the Arkansas Catfish Promotion Board.

IV) SPECIAL LANGUAGE

NONE.