

INTERIM RESOLUTION 2025-007

REQUESTING THAT THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON STATE AGENCIES AND
GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS EXPRESS ITS SUPPORT FOR THE ENACTMENT OF
LEGISLATION TO CREATE AN EQUAL DISTRIBUTION COUNTY TURNBACK FUND
TO PROVIDE ADDITIONAL FUNDING FOR COUNTIES THROUGH THE
DISTRIBUTION OF CERTAIN TAX REVENUES TO EACH COUNTY.

WHEREAS, our Founding Fathers created a brilliant system of government
that balances power between smaller and larger populations by granting two
(2) United States Senators per state; and

WHEREAS, funding local government is a basic need with locally
generated sales tax going towards that purpose, but local government
continues to need additional resources to provide critical services; and

WHEREAS, the percentage of state tax funds going to general government
and local aid are decreasing, with five and nine-tenths cents (5.9¢) of every
dollar of state tax revenue going towards those purposes in fiscal year 2021
but that number declining to three and three-tenths cents (3.3¢) of every
dollar of state tax revenue in fiscal year 2027; and

WHEREAS, during the 2026 Fiscal Session of the Ninety-Fifth General
Assembly Senator Bryan King filed Senate Resolution 6, which sought the
introduction of a nonappropriation bill to provide additional funding for
counties by using certain state tax revenues through the creation of the
Equal Distribution County Turnback Fund; and

WHEREAS, Senate Resolution 6 received eighteen (18) votes for passage
in the Senate during the 2026 Fiscal Session, which would be sufficient for
the Senate to pass the proposed legislation in a regular session; and

WHEREAS, the Equal Distribution County Turnback Fund will provide
critical long-term funding for roads, water systems, infrastructure, police
emergency services, and other public goods and services to each county in the
state; and

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2 WHEREAS, a portion of the Equal Distribution County Turnback Fund could
3 also provide long-term resources to entities such as senior centers and rural
4 fire departments,
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6 NOW THEREFORE,

7 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON STATE AGENCIES AND GOVERNMENTAL
8 AFFAIRS OF THE NINETY-FIFTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:
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10 THAT the Senate Committee on State Agencies and Governmental Affairs
11 expresses its support for the enactment of legislation for the creation of an
12 Equal Distribution County Turnback Fund to provide additional funding for
13 counties through the distribution of certain tax revenues to each county.
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15 Prepared by: MBM/MBM
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