



ARKANSAS DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

501 Woodlane Street, Suite 401N

Little Rock, AR 72201

SARAH HUCKABEE SANDERS
GOVERNOR

KENDALL W. PENN
RET. MAJOR GENERAL
SECRETARY

15OCT2024

Senator Terry Rice, Co-Chair
Representative Jeff Wardlaw, Co-Chair
ALC-JBC Budget Committee
Arkansas Legislative Council
State Capital Building
Little Rock, AR 72201

Dear Co-Chairs:

In addition to the requests outlined in the budget manual, the Department of Veterans Affairs (ADVA) plans to propose merging our four separate business areas into a single business area within the cabinet to achieve more efficient operations within the department and improve services to constituents. This request will include the following changes:

A single appropriation bill to combine all positions into a single salary section for all divisions.

Combining Section 2 of Senate Bill 13 Act 119 of 2024 (Fund center Z50) and Section 4 of Senate Bill 13 Act 119 of 2024 (Fund center 224) operations appropriation sections, which are both funded by general revenue, to achieve flexibility.

Maintaining current existing and proposed special language, limited to the specific divisions identified in the language.

These changes will allow ADVA to efficiently utilize newly moved resources, both personnel and funding, needed to operate facilities which have a similar mission.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Kendall W. Penn". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

SEC Kendall W. Penn
Arkansas Department of Veterans Affairs