

1 State of Arkansas  
2 95th General Assembly  
3 Regular Session, 2025  
4

As Engrossed: H3/11/25

# A Bill

HOUSE BILL 1519

5 By: Representatives Cavanaugh, Beaty Jr.  
6 By: Senator Gilmore  
7

## For An Act To Be Entitled

9 AN ACT TO ALLOW THE SECRETARY OF THE DEPARTMENT OF  
10 COMMERCE TO PARTICIPATE IN THE HIRING AND CONTRACTING  
11 OF EMPLOYEES FOR THE STATE INSURANCE DEPARTMENT,  
12 STATE BANK DEPARTMENT, AND STATE SECURITIES  
13 DEPARTMENT; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.  
14  
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### Subtitle

17 TO ALLOW THE SECRETARY OF THE DEPARTMENT  
18 OF COMMERCE TO PARTICIPATE IN THE HIRING  
19 AND CONTRACTING OF EMPLOYEES FOR THE  
20 STATE INSURANCE DEPARTMENT, STATE BANK  
21 DEPARTMENT, AND STATE SECURITIES  
22 DEPARTMENT.  
23

24 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:  
25

26 *SECTION 1. DO NOT CODIFY. Legislative findings and intent.*

27 *(a) The General Assembly finds that:*

28 *(1) Shared services allow state agencies to streamline*  
29 *workflows, accelerate decision-making, and improve administrative*  
30 *responsiveness;*

31 *(2) This act allows for the pooling of resources and the*  
32 *coordination of essential services, such as human resources, procurement, and*  
33 *information technology, to enhance efficiency, reduce costs, and minimize*  
34 *waste while complying with state and federal law; and*

35 *(3) Shared services allow state agencies to benefit from*  
36 *standardized services, encourages collaboration, interagency cooperation, and*



1 resource sharing, fostering greater knowledge exchange and expertise across  
2 government entities.

3 (b) It is the intent of the General Assembly that the Secretary of  
4 Commerce who participates in shared services shall comply with all applicable  
5 state and federal laws.

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7 SECTION 2. Arkansas Code § 25-43-303(e), concerning the duties and  
8 powers of the Secretary of the Department of Commerce, is amended to read as  
9 follows:

10 (e) The secretary may, unless otherwise provided by law:

11 (1) Hire Department of Commerce personnel;

12 (2) Perform or assign duties assigned to the Department of  
13 Commerce; and

14 (3) ~~Be appointed~~ Except as provided under subdivision (f)(1) of  
15 this section, serve as the director or the administrative or executive head  
16 of any state entity under the administrative control of the Department of  
17 Commerce if the secretary also meets all statutory requirements for the  
18 position.

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20 SECTION 3. Arkansas Code § 25-43-303(g)(1), concerning the ability of  
21 the Secretary of the Department of Commerce to delegate hiring decisions, is  
22 amended to read as follows:

23 (g)(1) The secretary *shall* delegate the authority to hire employees and  
24 to make employment contracts for work performed to the following officers *for*  
25 *their respective departments, to the extent necessary to comply with state or*  
26 federal law:

27 (A) The Insurance Commissioner;

28 (B) The Bank Commissioner; and

29 (C) The Securities Commissioner.

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31 /s/Cavenaugh  
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