

#### FRANCHISE FEE

Act 6, (SB 7) and Act 7, (HB 1005), clarify the authority of municipalities to assess utility franchise fees as rentals for use of public rights-of-way. The acts also prohibit municipalities from increasing a current franchise fee or assessing a new franchise fee against any public utility unless such increase is accepted in writing by the public utility.

#### JURY DUTY

Act 4, (SB 4), provides that persons shall be disqualified to act as grand or petit jurors who, by reason of a physical or mental disability, are unable to render satisfactory jury service; except that no person shall be disqualified solely on the basis of loss of hearing or sight in any degree. Further provides that the state shall pay the cost of qualified interpreters and readers.

#### COMMUNITY PUNISHMENT

Act 8, (HB 1004) and Act 9, (SB 5), allow persons who committed "target" offenses as defined by the Community Punishment Act of 1993 prior to January 1, 1994, to be transferred by the Post Prison Transfer Board to the Department of Community Punishment, 120 days prior to their projected parole eligibility date.

#### CHILD SUPPORT

Act 5, (SB 9), provides for pro rata disbursements of child support from funds collected through income withholding from noncustodial parents who have more than one support obligation so that all families competing for the same funds will receive a proportionate share. This is a change from the "first-come first-serve" treatment of multiple income withholding notices and orders for child support in order to comply with federal regulations.

#### POST CONVICTION BAIL

Act 3, (HB 1006), prohibits the release of persons on bail pending appeal who have been convicted of capital murder, murder in the first degree, rape, aggravated robbery, causing a catastrophe, or kidnapping or arson when classified as a Class Y felony.

#### EDUCATION

Act 1, (HB 1007), amends the school funding formula so that Minimum Foundation Program Aid to local school districts is based on actual assessment figures for all classes of property. The act also authorizes local school districts that lose state aid because of a court decision or legislation enacted by the General Assembly to change the date of the annual school election to consider a millage increase. The act is retroactive to February 1, 1994.

## FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION

### Disbursing Officer

#### Act 12 (SB3)

##### Disaster Assistance Grants

- Appropriates an additional \$2,000,000 for the 1993-94 fiscal year from interest earnings of the State for replenishment of disaster assistance to individuals or families as authorized by the Disaster Relief Act of 1974, and to make state funds available for emergencies, as authorized by Arkansas Code 12-75-101 et. seq.

## STATE CLAIMS COMMISSION

#### Act 13 (HB 1009)

#### Act 14 (SB 8)

##### Payment of non-controversial claims

- Allows an appropriation transfer, not to exceed \$50,000, from the appropriation provided for the payment of small controversial claims authorized in Section 4 of Act 45 of 1993 to the appropriation provided for the payment of non-controversial claims authorized in Section 5 of Act 45 of 1993.

## DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

#### Act 2 (HB1003)

##### School Finance

- Authorizes the Department of Education with the approval of the Governor and Chief Fiscal Officer of the State, to expend from funds and appropriation authorized for Minimum Foundation Program Aid during the 1993-95 biennium, to be used for the purpose of providing additional amounts to those school districts that will suffer a loss of funds due to a change in the state charge and calculation of personal property, utility and carrier assessments. Such additional amounts to be expended may not exceed \$3.7 million during the 1994 fiscal year and \$2,833,333 during the 1995 fiscal year.

## DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTION

#### Act 11 (SB2)

##### Jail Reimbursements

- Authorizes the Department of Correction \$9 million for the 1995 fiscal year, from accrued year-end general revenue fund balances, for the purpose of providing additional funding and appropriation for the reimbursement of inmates housed in county jails including claims from previous fiscal years upon certification to the Chief Fiscal Officer of the State.
- Authorizes \$350,000 from the General Improvement Fund for the purpose of reimbursing counties for providing emergency medical assistance to inmates housed in county jails.

**SUMMARY  
OF ACTION BY**

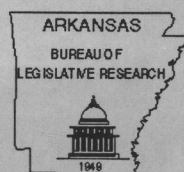
**FIRST**

**EXTRAORDINARY SESSION**

**OF THE  
79TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY  
OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS**

**1994**

**February 28 through  
March 2, 1994**



**March, 1994**