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## 92nd General Assembly March 27, 2020 – Day 2 First Extraordinary Session

### Daily Legislative Update

March 27, 2020 Day 2 First Extraordinary Session of the 92<sup>nd</sup> General Assembly

#### TODAY AT THE CAPITOL

The House and Senate convened at 3 p.m. to consider their own versions of identical bills to create the Covid-19 Rainy Day Fund.

The House approved HB 1001 by a vote of 100 to 0.

HB 1001 [here](#).

The Senate approved SB2 by a vote of 35 to 0.

SB 2 [here](#).

The bills will be sent to their opposite Chambers and the General Assembly will convene just after midnight to pass the bills from their opposite Chambers. This is being done to meet the minimum required three days for a Special Session.

Governor Hutchinson will be waiting to sign the bills as soon as they get to his desk.

#### COVID-19 RAINY DAY FUND

**HB 1001** by House Speaker Matthew Shepherd and 36 others and **SB 2** by Senate President Jim Hendren and 21 others are identical bills that create the COVID-19 Rainy Day Fund. It provides for the transfer of \$173,610,632 to the new Fund from the General Revenue Reserve Allotment Fund. It also authorizes transfers from the Fund to offset related funding needs, with approval from legislative leaders. The legislative leaders will be a panel of three House and three Senate members that includes the House Speaker, Senate President, and the majority and minority leaders of both chambers.

#### YESTERDAY AT THE CAPITOL

The House met at the Jack Stephens Center and after convening went into a Committee of the Whole and discussed HB 1001. The bill was given a Do Pass recommendation and sent to the House Calendar for today's vote.

The Senate met in their Chamber using the galleries to allow social distancing. They convened and then went into a Committee of the Whole. Sen. Jimmy Hickey proposed an amendment that would have replaced the six-person panel with the existing PEER Committee to authorize expenditures out of the COVID-19 Rainy Day Fund. After an extended debate, the Amendment failed on a vote of 13 yea and 18 nay. The Senate Committee of the Whole then voted a Do Pass recommendation on SB 2 and placed it on today's Senate Calendar

## LEGISLATIVE SESSION INFORMATION

To view schedules, calendars, bill information and legislator information, click [www.arkleg.state.ar.us](http://www.arkleg.state.ar.us).

### Legislative Message Center

House of Representatives: 501-682-6211

Senate: 501-682-2902

### Live Streaming from the Capitol

The House and Senate have links to live streaming of their committee meetings and floor session online.

- House: <https://www.arkansashouse.org/>
- Senate: <http://www.arkansas.gov/senate/>

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