

MEMORANDUM

FROM: Governor Mike Beebe
TO: All State Agency Heads/Directors
DATE: May 5, 2009
RE: Expenditure of ARRA Funds to Promote Arkansas and American Economic Vitality

The American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) proposed by President Obama and approved by Congress is intended to stimulate the nation's economy and preserve American jobs by investing capital in public infrastructure projects. Through the ARRA, funding will flow to Arkansas state agencies, school districts, institutions of higher education, counties and municipalities, and other grantees. Spending these dollars responsibly and with transparency is critical to maintaining the confidence of the taxpayers. Investing these dollars to improve Arkansas's economy is our highest priority. Domestically produced products purchased with stimulus dollars, and the employment of Arkansas-based service providers, will immediately help Arkansas and American companies and, by extension, their employees and families.

In order to maximize the positive impact of ARRA funding in Arkansas, I am requesting all state agencies to make every effort to ensure participation in the procurement process for materials, goods and services for ARRA projects from Arkansas companies whenever possible, consistent with applicable law. Further, in the event that needed materials, goods or services are not available from companies with operations in Arkansas, I am requesting all state agencies to extend similar efforts, consistent with applicable law, to ensure that companies that operate and employ workers in the United States participate in the procurement process.