



# Division of Elementary and Secondary Education

*Transforming Arkansas to lead the nation in student-focused education*

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**Jacob Oliva**  
Secretary

April 11, 2023

**Dr. Ivy Pfeffer**  
Deputy  
Commissioner

Dr. Kevin K. Durand, CAO  
Arkansas Military and First Responders Academy

**Stacy Smith**  
Deputy  
Commissioner

10701 I-30  
Little Rock, AR 72209

**State Board of  
Education**

RE: Charter Amendment Request

**Ouida Newton**  
*Poyen*  
Chair

Dear Dr. Durand:

**Dr. Sarah Moore**  
*Stuttgart*  
Vice Chair

I received your letter dated April 7, 2023, requesting a waiver of section 4.02.4 of the Division of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE) Rules Governing Public Charter Schools. You requested this waiver so that the Charter Authorizing Panel may hear Arkansas Military and First Responders Academy's additional request for the amendment of its charter related to rescission of Ark. Code Ann. § 6-17-2403, to comply with the minimum teacher salary requirements in the LEARNS Act during the Panel's April meeting. This additional request is to accompany an already properly filed and noticed request.

**Dr. Fitz Hill**  
*Little Rock*

**Kathy McPetridge**  
*Springdale*

**Steve Sutton**  
*Marion*

**Adrienne Woods**  
*Rogers*

Pursuant to my authority under Section 4.02.6 of the above rules, I grant Arkansas Military and First Responders Academy a waiver of section 4.02.4.

**Randy Henderson**  
*Blytheville*

Sincerely,

**Lisa Hunter**  
*White Hall*

**Jeff Wood**  
*Little Rock*

Jacob Oliva  
Commissioner of Education