



TREASURER OF STATE

June 28, 2017

For Immediate Release

Media Contact: Stacy Peterson

Phone: 501-682-3838 office; 501-519-3650 cell

Email: stacy.peterson@artreasury.gov

Changes to State Treasury Money Management Trust Purports To Increase Local Governments' Investment Returns

Bringing More Money to Arkansas Communities

Little Rock, AR – A piece of legislation initiated by State Treasurer Dennis Milligan and passed during the 91st General Assembly will expand the investment opportunities of cities, counties, school districts and other state agencies. Milligan and staff presented the updates to the State Board of Finance this morning, and the Board approved them.

“Multiple city and county officials took note of our investment success and approached us seeking help investing their money,” Milligan said. “Over the past 2 ½ years that I’ve been Treasurer, we’ve receipted over \$100 million back to the State of Arkansas from our investment portfolio.”

Under Milligan’s lead, the State Treasury has produced some of the highest investment returns in nearly a decade.

“We’re making your tax dollars work harder,” Milligan said. “At the end of the day, the taxpayers are the ones benefiting from this.”

Act 296 of 2017 updates language for the State Treasury Money Management Trust – the state’s version of a local government investment pool that has been around for 20 years. The legislation, however, updates the trust to today’s investment standards.

“What we’ve done through this legislation is allowed participants – state agencies, local governments, school districts, etc. – to jointly invest their cash funds in the State Treasury Money Management Trust so as to enhance those entities’ individual investment opportunities and earnings,” Milligan said. “Based on our ability to produce the tremendous results that we have, we hope to be able to offer local governments a much better rate of return than they’re currently getting.”

The Treasury has receipted back \$39.4 million already in fiscal 2017, which ends June 30. The overall total for fiscal 2016 was \$48.9 million, and the Treasury anticipates similar – if not better – returns for FY 2017, Milligan said.

“We’ve been able to fill in critical budget gaps on the state level, and I’m very excited about the potential that this program has to help us make real, tangible, financial impacts in communities throughout Arkansas,” Milligan said.

The final step to finalize the updates to the State Treasury Money Management Trust is public approval under the requirements of the Arkansas Administrative Procedure Act.

-30-

Dennis Milligan was elected Treasurer of State in 2014. The State Treasury is responsible for overseeing the state’s \$3.5 billion portfolio. Since taking office in 2015, Milligan has receipted the state more than \$100 million in investment returns and has grown the investment portfolio’s receipts to some of the highest levels in nearly a decade.