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## For Immediate Release

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## **State Financial Education Commission Holds First Meeting**

Members announced

Little Rock, Ark. – The Arkansas Financial Education Commission, established by Act 1025 of 2021 and chaired by Treasurer of State Dennis Milligan, held its first meeting on Nov. 30.

The Commission, made up of nine members, offered suggestions as to how to make the organization be helpful to as many Arkansans as possible.

"The purpose of this commission is to help Arkansans from all across the state and all socioeconomic backgrounds improve their financial wellbeing," Milligan told the board.

Members of the commission include a mixture of government and community appointees who have financial backgrounds. They are:

- Treasurer Milligan
- Johnny Key, Commissioner of Elementary & Secondary Education
- Eric Munson, Commissioner, Arkansas Securities Department
- Susannah Marshall, Commissioner, Arkansas State Bank Department
- Duncan Bellingrath of Simmons Bank, Arkansas Bankers Association designee
- Steve Brown, President & CEO of Alcoa Community Federal Credit Union
- Patricia Ashanti, Founder & CEO of Delta Circles\*
- Abby Hughes Holsclaw, President & CEO of Proper Southern Strategies\*
- Marsha Masters, Associate Director of Economics Arkansas\*

<sup>\*</sup>Appointed by Treasurer Milligan to serve as at large members

The next meeting of the Commission is tentatively scheduled for Jan. 11, where members will approve rules and regulations, elect officers and identify goals to consider for the year.

"We had a great initial meeting and are looking forward to helping facilitate the sharing of information between members and their communities," Milligan said. "Our commissioners have some great ideas and are looking forward to getting to work for Arkansans."

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Dennis Milligan was elected Treasurer of State in 2014 and re-elected in 2018. The State Treasury is responsible for overseeing the state's \$5 billion portfolio. Since taking office in 2015, Milligan has receipted the state more than \$420 million in investment returns and has grown the investment portfolio's receipts to record highs. <a href="https://www.artreasury.gov">www.artreasury.gov</a>.