## STATE OF OKLAHOMA

1st Session of the 56th Legislature (2017)

HOUSE BILL 1836 By: Osborn (Leslie)

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## AS INTRODUCED

An Act relating to agriculture; transferring law enforcement powers, duties, responsibilities and personnel from the Oklahoma Horse Racing Commission to the State Board of Agriculture; allowing transferred personnel to maintain certain employment positions and benefits; transferring functions and powers to State Board of Agriculture; amending 3A O.S. 2011, Section 203.3, as amended by Section 1, Chapter 380, O.S.L. 2014 (3A O.S. Supp. 2016, Section 203.3), which relates to powers of the Oklahoma Horse Racing Commission; deleting law enforcement language from Oklahoma Horse Racing Commission; amending 2 O.S. 2011, Section 2-4, as last amended by Section 1, Chapter 20, O.S.L. 2015 (2 O.S. Supp. 2016, Section 2-4), which relates to the powers of the State Board of Agriculture; providing for law enforcement division for horse racing; granting powers to investigate and prevent crime in the state; requiring Oklahoma State Bureau of Investigation to provide information as requested; allowing Board to review and remedy security at race tracks; providing for no restriction on other law enforcement agencies; authorizing purchase of vehicles, supplies and uniforms; amending 3A O.S. 2011, Section 204.2, which relates to licensing and fees; transferring funds from fees received; specifying funds shall be received in Agriculture Evidence and Law Enforcement Fund; amending 2 O.S. 2011, Section 2-27.1, which relates to the Agriculture Evidence and Law Enforcement Fund; increasing the maximum balance of the fund; providing for codification; and providing an effective date.

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BE IT ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA:

SECTION 1. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 2-32 of Title 2, unless there is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

- A. The law enforcement division of the Oklahoma Horse Racing Commission is hereby transferred to the State Board of Agriculture. The power, duties and responsibilities exercised by the law enforcement division of the Oklahoma Horse Racing Commission in Sections 200 through 209 in Title 3A of the Oklahoma Statutes are granted to the State Board of Agriculture.
- B. Personnel transferred pursuant to the provisions of this section shall not be required to accept a lesser salary than presently received; provided, the provisions of this section shall not operate to prohibit the imposition of furloughs or reductions-in-force with respect to such personnel as allowed by law.

  Personnel transferred shall be placed within the classification level in which they meet qualifications without an entrance exam.

  All such persons shall retain seniority, leave, sick and annual time earned and any retirement benefits which have accrued during their tenure with their respective agency. The transfer of personnel among the agencies shall be coordinated with the Office of Management and Enterprise Services.
  - C. All rules, regulations, acts, orders, determinations and decisions of the Oklahoma Horse Racing Commission pertaining to the

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    functions and powers herein transferred and assigned to the Oklahoma
    Department of Agriculture, Food, and Forestry in force at the time
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    of such transfer, assignment, assumption or devolution shall
    continue in force and effect as rules, regulations, acts, orders,
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    determinations and decisions of the Oklahoma Department of
    Agriculture, Food, and Forestry until modified or abrogated by the
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    Cabinet or until otherwise provided by law. From and after the
    originating agency's date of official transfer to the Oklahoma
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    Department of Agriculture, Food, and Forestry, any amendment, repeal
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    or addition to the transferred rules shall be under the jurisdiction
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    of the Oklahoma Department of Agriculture, Food, and Forestry.
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    documents issued by the sections transferred to the Oklahoma
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    Department of Agriculture, Food, and Forestry, including, but not
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    limited to, vehicle registrations and permits, shall be deemed to
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    have been issued by the Oklahoma Department of Agriculture, Food,
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    and Forestry. The Office of Administrative Rules in the Secretary
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    of State's office shall provide adequate notice in "The Oklahoma
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    Register" of the transfer of rules, and shall place the transferred
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    rules under the Administrative Code section of the Oklahoma
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    Department of Agriculture, Food, and Forestry.
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        SECTION 2.
                       AMENDATORY
                                      3A O.S. 2011, Section 203.3, as
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    amended by Section 1, Chapter 380, O.S.L. 2014 (3A O.S. Supp. 2016,
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    Section 203.3), is amended to read as follows:
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Section 203.3 A. The Oklahoma Horse Racing Commission shall appoint an executive director who shall have the same qualifications as a member of the Commission. The qualification regarding the residency requirement for Commission members shall not apply to the executive director. The executive director shall have experience in the horse racing industry of a character and for a length of time sufficient, in the opinion of the Commission, to fulfill the duties required of the executive director. The Commission shall determine the duties and compensation of the executive director.

- B. The executive director shall recommend to the Commission the administrative organization and the number and qualifications of employees necessary without regard to race, color, gender, creed or national origin, to implement the provisions of the Oklahoma Horse Racing Act. A written equal opportunity plan will be developed for the Commission, by the executive director as part of the organizational plan. Upon approval of the organizational plan by the Commission, the executive director may employ such persons as are deemed necessary to implement the provisions of the Oklahoma Horse Racing Act.
- C. 1. The organizational plan adopted by the Commission shall provide for a law enforcement division which shall have the responsibility for conducting investigations relating to the proper conduct of horse racing and the pari-mutuel system of wagering including but not limited to barring undesirables from horse racing,

undercover investigations, fingerprinting persons licensed by the Commission, and reviewing license applications. The person in charge of the law enforcement division shall be a professional law enforcement officer with a minimum of five (5) years of experience in the field of law enforcement and a graduate of a four-year college with a degree in law enforcement administration, law, criminology or a related science, or in lieu thereof a minimum of ten (10) years of experience in the field of law enforcement.

- 2. The officers and agents of the law enforcement division of the Commission, and such other employees as the person in charge of said division shall designate to perform duties in the investigation and prevention of crime and the enforcement of the criminal laws of the state, shall have and exercise all the powers and authority of peace officers, including the right and power of search and seizure.
- 3. The Oklahoma State Bureau of Investigation shall provide such information within its possession as is requested by the law enforcement division of the Commission for the purpose of reviewing license applications.
- 4. If upon investigation by the Commission there is substantial evidence indicating that the security at any track is not satisfactory, the Commission may order the organization licensee to remedy the deficiency. If after ten (10) days following the order the organization licensee has not remedied the deficiency, the Commission may institute its own security personnel program until

the deficiency in security is remedied, and may charge the organization licensee the actual costs incurred for said security.

The organization licensee may petition the Commission for a hearing at any time to review the necessity of the Commission further maintaining its own security personnel.

5. The provisions of this subsection shall not be construed to restrict or prohibit any federal, state, or local law enforcement officer from performing any duties imposed upon the law enforcement officer by law.

6. The executive director is authorized to purchase and maintain motor vehicles, to authorize the purchase and issuance of uniforms for all law enforcement officers within the law enforcement division of the Oklahoma Horse Racing Commission and to purchase and issue necessary equipment for all employees of the Commission. All uniforms and equipment shall be used only in the performance of the official duties of the law enforcement officers and other personnel of the Oklahoma Horse Racing Commission as designated by the executive director and shall remain the property of the Oklahoma Horse Racing Commission.

D. The executive director shall obtain a surety bond in the amount of One Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$100,000.00) before entering into the duties of the office. The surety bond shall be conditioned upon the faithful performance of the duties of the executive director and the proper accounting of all moneys and property

- 1 received by the executive director by virtue of the office. The 2 cost of the surety bond shall be paid by the Commission.
- 3 SECTION 3. AMENDATORY 2 O.S. 2011, Section 2-4, as last 4 amended by Section 1, Chapter 20, O.S.L. 2015 (2 O.S. Supp. 2016,
- 5 | Section 2-4), is amended to read as follows:

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- Section 2-4. A. The State Board of Agriculture shall have the power to:
  - 1. Adopt and prescribe the use of a seal, which shall be in the custody of the Secretary of the Board;
  - 2. Promulgate rules necessary, expedient, or appropriate to the performance, enforcement, or carrying out of any of the purposes, objectives, or provisions of the Oklahoma Agricultural Code;
  - 3. Initiate and prosecute administrative, civil, or criminal actions and proceedings necessary under the Oklahoma Agricultural Code;
    - 4. Appoint authorized agents to make inspections or investigations and to perform other services for the Board or any division of the Oklahoma Department of Agriculture, Food, and Forestry;
- 5. Consolidate any of the divisions established by the Oklahoma
  Agricultural Code, transfer any of the functions or activities to
  another division, place additional functions or activities in a
  division, establish new divisions, and create new or additional

positions in the Department, when conducive to a more efficient administration and enforcement of laws pertaining to agriculture;

6. Sell, exchange, or dispose of property;

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- 7. Have jurisdiction over all matters affecting animal industry, animal health, and animal quarantine;
  - 8. Issue stop-sale and stop-use orders and quarantines;
- 9. Employ, appoint, or contract and fix the duties and compensation of the director of each division of the Department and other personnel, either on a full-time, part-time, or contractual basis, as deemed necessary by the Board;
  - 10. Fix the qualifications of the personnel in the Department;
- 12 11. Accept and use grants of money and other property from any source;
  - 12. Advise, consult, cooperate, and enter into agreements or contracts with persons as defined in the Oklahoma Agricultural Code;
  - 13. Coordinate with the federal government and other states on matters pertaining to agriculture;
  - 14. Revoke, suspend, or deny for up to one (1) year, any license, permit, or charter issued by the Board if the Board finds any violations of the Oklahoma Agricultural Code or any rule of the Board;
- 22 15. Adopt a master plan and promulgate rules for the protection 23 of state-owned and private forestry, grazing, and other lands from 24 damage by fire and for suppressing fires on lands. In carrying out

the master plan the Board is authorized to enter into contractual agreements with the federal government, local political subdivisions of the state, individuals, private organizations, companies, and corporations for protection and for the suppression of fires and to expend funds as available for these services. To effectuate the purposes of the Oklahoma Agricultural Code, the Board is authorized to enter into contractual agreements with private landowners for the protection and suppression of fires, provided that the private landowners reimburse the Board for actual expenses incurred in the protection and suppression of fires on privately owned lands;

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- 16. Have jurisdiction over all matters affecting agriculture as contained and set out in the Oklahoma Agricultural Code, which have not been expressly delegated to another state or federal agency and be responsible for fully implementing and enforcing the laws and rules within its jurisdictional areas of environmental responsibility.
  - a. The Department of Environmental Quality shall have environmental jurisdiction over:
    - (1) commercial manufacturers of fertilizers, grain and feed products, and chemicals, and over manufacturing of food and kindred products, tobacco, paper, lumber, wood, textile mill, and other agricultural products,

(2) slaughterhouses, but not including feedlots at these facilities, and

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- (3) aquaculture and fish hatcheries, including, but not limited to, discharges of pollutants and storm water to waters of the state, surface impoundments and land application of wastes and sludge, and other pollution originating at these facilities.
- b. Facilities storing grain, feed, seed, fertilizer, and agricultural chemicals that are required by federal National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) regulations to obtain a permit for storm water discharges shall only be subject to the jurisdiction of the Department of Environmental Quality with respect to storm water discharges;
- 17. Have jurisdiction over all matters affecting the importation, health, and quarantining of exotic livestock;
- 18. Prescribe forms of application, certification, licenses, charters, and other forms and blanks as may be necessary to carry out the provisions of the Oklahoma Agricultural Code;
- 19. Stagger throughout the year the renewal dates for any licenses or permits issued by the Department pursuant to the provisions of the Oklahoma Agricultural Code by notifying licensees in writing of the expiration and renewal date being assigned to the

1 licensee and permittee and by making an appropriate adjustment in
2 the fee charged for the license or permit;

- 20. Establish and collect fees for licenses, permits, charters, and services provided. The fees shall be promulgated in accordance with the Administrative Procedures Act and shall be fair and equitable to all parties concerned;
- 21. Establish planting and harvesting seasons for the purpose of meeting the maximum driving and on-duty time exemptions set forth in the National Highway System Designation Act of 1995. The Board shall notify the United States Secretary of Transportation of the seasons;
- 22. Fix and adopt official standards for grading and classifying any agricultural commodity, meat, or meat product prepared, produced, or distributed in Oklahoma;
  - 23. Promulgate rules, make investigations, and conduct hearings for the purpose of making inspection compulsory on any agricultural commodity and designate the shipping points where compulsory inspection applies;
  - 24. Inspect agricultural commodities, at any time, upon request of any financially interested party or when necessary and to issue certificates showing the quality and condition of the commodities at the time of the inspection;
- 25. Grade meat or meat products upon the request of any packing plant in Oklahoma. The packing plant shall be required to pay the

cost of services, including the compensation and expenses of personnel employed to perform the actual grading;

- 26. Apply to the district court for a temporary or permanent injunction or any other remedy restraining any person from violating the Oklahoma Agricultural Code;
- 27. Extend and implement the powers and provisions granted by the Oklahoma Agricultural Code to all programs administered by the Department regardless of whether the statutes creating the program are codified in this title;
- 28. Increase its efforts to ensure the safety and quality of food and food products for wholesalers and retail sales in this state and shall include, but not be limited to, inspections of retailers and wholesalers to ensure compliance with all federal and state certification standards;
- 29. Exercise all incidental powers which are necessary and proper to implement and administer the purposes of the Oklahoma Agricultural Code;
- 30. Accept upon behalf of the Department any gift or donation of property, including but not limited to monetary gifts;
- 31. Promulgate rules regarding prescribed burning and smoke management;
- 32. Enter into written leases or lease-purchase agreements to acquire equipment, furnishings, supplies and other items necessary

for the operation of the Oklahoma Department of Agriculture, Food, and Forestry Agriculture Laboratory;

- 33. Exercise all incidental powers and promulgate rules, procedures and forms which are necessary and proper to implement, administer and enforce the Oklahoma Scrap Metal Dealers Act;
- 34. Promulgate rules to ensure state control of any federal program relating to on-farm fruit and vegetable production inspections and regulation; and
- 35. Develop a pollinator protection plan to promote the health of and mitigate the risks to honeybees and other managed pollinators; and
- 36. Provide for a law enforcement division which shall have the responsibility for conducting investigations relating to the proper conduct of horse racing and the pari-mutuel system of wagering including but not limited to barring undesirables from horse racing, undercover investigations, fingerprinting persons licensed by the Commission and reviewing license applications. The person in charge of the law enforcement division shall be a professional law enforcement officer with a minimum of five (5) years of experience in the field of law enforcement and a graduate of a four-year college with a degree in law enforcement administration, law, criminology or a related science, or in lieu thereof a minimum of ten (10) years of experience in the field of law enforcement.

1 The officers and agents of the law enforcement a. 2 division of the Board, and such other employees as the 3 person in charge of the division shall designate to 4 perform duties in the investigation and prevention of 5 crime and the enforcement of the criminal laws of the state, shall have and exercise all the powers and 6 7 authority of peace officers, including the right and power of search and seizure. 8 9 The Oklahoma State Bureau of Investigation shall b. 10

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- b. The Oklahoma State Bureau of Investigation shall provide such information within its possession as is requested by the law enforcement division of the Board for the purpose of reviewing license applications.
- substantial evidence indicating that the security at any track is not satisfactory, the Board may order the organization licensee to remedy the deficiency. If after ten (10) days following the order the organization licensee has not remedied the deficiency, the Board may institute its own security personnel program until the deficiency in security is remedied, and may charge the organization licensee the actual costs incurred for said security. The organization licensee may petition the Board for a hearing at any

time to review the necessity of the Board further
maintaining its own security personnel.

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- <u>d.</u> The provisions of this subsection shall not be construed to restrict or prohibit any federal, state or local law enforcement officer from performing any duties imposed upon the law enforcement officer by law.
- e. The Commissioner of Agriculture is authorized to purchase and maintain motor vehicles, to authorize the purchase and issuance of uniforms for all law enforcement officers within the law enforcement division of the Board and to purchase and issue necessary equipment. All uniforms and equipment shall be used only in the performance of the official duties of the law enforcement officers within the law enforcement division of the Board as designated by the Commissioner of Agriculture and shall remain the property of the Department of Agriculture.
- B. 1. If upon inspection or investigation, or whenever the Oklahoma Department of Agriculture, Food, and Forestry determines that there are reasonable grounds to believe that any person is in violation of any part of the Oklahoma Environmental Quality Code which is the responsibility and jurisdiction of the Oklahoma Department of Agriculture, Food, and Forestry, any rule promulgated

by the State Board of Agriculture, or of any order, permit,

certificate, registration, charter, or license issued by the Board,

the Department may give written notice to the alleged violator of

the specific violation and of the alleged violator's duty to correct

the violation immediately or within a set time period or both and

that the failure to do so shall result in administrative fines or

penalties.

- 2. Whenever the Department finds that an emergency exists requiring immediate action to protect the public health, welfare, or the environment, the President of the State Board of Agriculture may without notice or hearing issue an order, effective upon issuance, reciting the existence of an emergency and requiring that action be taken as specified in the order to meet the emergency. Any person to whom an order is directed shall comply immediately but may request an administrative enforcement hearing within fifteen (15) days after the order is served. The hearing shall be held by the Department within ten (10) days after receipt of the request. On the basis of the hearing record, the President of the Board shall sustain or modify the original order.
- SECTION 4. AMENDATORY 3A O.S. 2011, Section 204.2, is amended to read as follows:
- Section 204.2 A. The Oklahoma Horse Racing Commission shall issue occupation licenses to horse owners, trainers, jockeys, agents, apprentices, grooms, exercise persons, veterinarians,

- valets, blacksmiths, concessionaires, stewards, starters, timers, judges, supervisors of mutuels, guards, and such other personnel designated by the Commission whose work, in whole or in part, is conducted upon racetrack grounds which are owned by an organization licensee. The licenses shall be obtained prior to the time such persons engage in their vocations upon such racetrack grounds at any time during the calendar year for which the organization license has been issued. No person required to be licensed pursuant to the provisions of this section may participate in any capacity in any race meeting without a valid license authorizing such participation.
  - B. Each application for an occupation license shall be on a form prescribed and furnished by the Commission and shall include a search waiver. The license shall be renewed either annually or triennially beginning January 1. The application shall be accompanied by a fee in an amount of not more than One Hundred Dollars (\$100.00) if renewed annually or not more than Three Hundred Dollars (\$300.00) if renewed triennially. Each application shall contain the following information concerning the applicant:
    - 1. Full name and address;
- 20 2. Age;

- 3. Whether the applicant was issued any prior occupation license from this state;
- 4. Whether the applicant was issued any occupation license from another state;

- 5. Whether an occupation license from another state is or has been denied, suspended, or revoked;
  - 6. Whether the applicant has been convicted of a felony in this state or any other state as established by a national criminal history record check as defined by Section 150.9 of Title 74 of the Oklahoma Statutes; and
    - 7. Such other information as required by the Commission.
  - C. The Commission may refuse an occupation license to any person:
    - 1. Who has been convicted of a felony; or

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- 2. Who has been convicted of violating any law regarding gambling or controlled dangerous substances of the United States, this state, or any other state; or
  - 3. Who is unqualified to perform the duties required of the applicant; or
    - 4. Who fails to disclose or states falsely any information required in the application; or
  - 5. Who has been found guilty of a violation of any provision of the Oklahoma Horse Racing Act or of the rules and regulations of the Commission; or
    - 6. Whose license has been suspended, revoked, or denied for just cause in any other state.
- D. The Commission may suspend or revoke any occupation license or fine an occupation licensee for:

- 1. Violation of any of the provisions of the Oklahoma Horse Racing Act; or
- 2. Violation of any provision of the rules or regulations of the Commission; or
- 3. Any cause which, if known to the Commission, would have justified the refusal of the Commission to issue the occupation license; or
  - 4. Any other just cause as determined by the Commission.
- E. Except as provided for in this subsection, the license fees received by the Commission pursuant to the provisions of this section shall be deposited to the credit of the General Revenue Fund of the State Treasury. Of the original application fee for an occupation license, the amount of the fingerprinting fee shall be deposited in the OSBI Revolving Fund.
- F. Notwithstanding any other provision of the Oklahoma Horse Racing Act, Section 200 et seq. of this title, licenses for personnel specified in subsection A of this section whose work is limited to racetrack grounds which are owned by an organization licensee which only conducts non-pari-mutuel race meetings or training races shall be issued pursuant to rules adopted by the Commission in accordance with the American Quarter Horse Association rules.

G. The Commission may promulgate rules to facilitate and promote uniform, reciprocal occupation licensing with other jurisdictions.

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- H. Nothing in the Oklahoma Horse Racing Act or rules promulgated pursuant thereto shall prohibit or be construed as prohibiting issuance of any occupational license solely because the applicant is an organizational licensee or racetrack owner or holds an interest in a race track.
- I. The first One Hundred Twenty-five Thousand Dollars

  (\$125,000.00) received by the Commission from the fees collected

  from this section shall be deposited in the Agriculture Evidence and
  Law Enforcement Fund.
- SECTION 5. AMENDATORY 2 O.S. 2011, Section 2-27.1, is amended to read as follows:
- Section 2-27.1 A. There is created in the State Treasury a revolving fund for the Oklahoma Department of Agriculture, Food, and Forestry to be designated the "Agriculture Evidence and Law Enforcement Fund". The fund shall be a continuing fund, not subject to fiscal year limitations, and shall consist of monies received from the sale of confiscated property, the seizure and forfeiture of confiscated monies, property, gifts, bequests, devises, or contributions, public or private, including federal and state funds unless otherwise provided by federal law or regulation.

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B. All monies accruing to the credit of the fund are appropriated and may be budgeted and expended by the Oklahoma Department of Agriculture, Food, and Forestry, for purposes including but not limited to investigation, enforcement, and prosecution of cases involving administrative, civil, or criminal violations of the Agricultural Code.
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- C. The balance on deposit in the Agriculture Evidence and Law Enforcement Fund shall never exceed the sum of One Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$100,000.00) Two Hundred Twenty-five Thousand Dollars (\$225,000.00). Amounts exceeding One Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$100,000.00) Two Hundred Twenty-five Thousand Dollars (\$225,000.00) shall be deposited in the Agriculture Revolving Fund.
- SECTION 6. This act shall become effective November 1, 2017.

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