

1 State of Arkansas
2 95th General Assembly
3 Regular Session, 2025
4

A Bill

HOUSE BILL 1407

5 By: Representative Dalby
6 By: Senator A. Clark
7

For An Act To Be Entitled

9 AN ACT TO AMEND THE LAW CONCERNING THE STATE
10 ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE FUND; AND FOR OTHER
11 PURPOSES.
12
13

Subtitle

15 TO AMEND THE LAW CONCERNING THE STATE
16 ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE FUND.
17

18 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:
19

20 SECTION 1. DO NOT CODIFY. Legislative findings and intent.

21 (a) The General Assembly finds that:

22 (1) Arkansas Constitution, Amendment 80, vested the judicial
23 power of the State of Arkansas in the judicial department;

24 (2) Over the past twenty-five (25) years, the state has
25 transitioned from hundreds of part-time local municipal court, city court,
26 and district court judges to seventy (70) full-time state district court
27 judges resulting from a consolidation of these courts into a unified state
28 system of district courts;

29 (3) The Supreme Court in In re Amendment 80, 2025 Ark. 5,
30 directed the Administrative Office of the Courts to:

31 (A) Assist the district judges in forming the Arkansas
32 District Judges Judicial Council similar to that of the circuit court; and

33 (B) Support the new judicial council for district judges
34 as it has supported the Arkansas Judicial Council for decades.

35 (4) Distributions from the State Administration of Justice Fund
36 are currently made to the Arkansas District Judges Council, Inc., for the



1 Executive Director of the Arkansas District Judges Council, Inc.; and
 2 (5) It is no longer necessary for the state to support the
 3 Arkansas District Judges Council, Inc., in this manner.

4 (b) The General Assembly intends this act to ensure the efficient use
 5 of the State Administration of Justice Fund.

6
 7 SECTION 2. Arkansas Code § 16-10-310(b), concerning the distribution
 8 of revenue credited to the State Administration of Justice Fund, is amended
 9 to read as follows:

10 (b) The revenue described in subsection (a) of this section shall be
 11 distributed to the following state programs and state agencies in monthly
 12 installments of at least one-twelfth (1/12) of the annual allocation provided
 13 for each state program or state agency from the State Administration of
 14 Justice Fund subject to the limitations stated in this section:

15 (1) The Board of Trustees of the University of Arkansas for the
 16 purpose of and as regulated by §§ 6-64-604 – 6-64-606;

17 (2) The Public Health Fund and the Drug Abuse Prevention and
 18 Treatment Fund for use in the drug abuse prevention and treatment program of
 19 the Division of Aging, Adult, and Behavioral Health Services of the
 20 Department of Human Services;

21 (3) The Division of Arkansas State Police for the State Police
 22 Retirement Fund;

23 (4) The Crime Victims Reparations Revolving Fund for the purpose
 24 of and as regulated by the Arkansas Crime Victims Reparations Act, § 16-90-
 25 701 et seq.;

26 (5) The Prosecutor Coordinator's office for deposit into the Law
 27 Enforcement and Prosecutor Drug Enforcement Training Fund;

28 (6) The Crime Information System Fund;

29 (7) The Justice Building Construction Fund;

30 (8) The District Court Judge and District Court Clerk Education
 31 Fund;

32 (9) The Judges Retirement Fund;

33 (10) The State Central Services Fund for the benefit of the
 34 Arkansas Public Defender Commission;

35 (11) The Court Reporter's Fund;

36 (12) The Justice Building Fund;

1 (13) The Arkansas Counties Alcohol and Drug Abuse and Crime
 2 Prevention Program Fund;

3 (14) The Administrative Office of the Courts to fund the Trial
 4 Court Administrator Fund;

5 (15) The Division of Arkansas State Police Fund;

6 (16) The State Central Services Fund for the benefit of the
 7 Division of Dependency-Neglect Representation of the Administrative Office of
 8 the Courts;

9 (17) The Miscellaneous Agencies Fund Account for the benefit of
 10 the State Crime Laboratory;

11 ~~(18) The Arkansas District Judges Council, Inc., for the~~
 12 ~~Executive Director of the Arkansas District Judges Council, Inc.;~~

13 ~~(19)~~(18) The Public Legal Aid Fund;

14 ~~(20)~~(19) The Administrative Office of the Courts for county
 15 reimbursements for jurors; and

16 ~~(21)~~(20) The Administrative Office of the Courts to reimburse
 17 the State Central Services Fund for the Drug Court Coordinator.

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 19 SECTION 3. Arkansas Code § 16-10-310(c)(1)(A), concerning the priority
 20 of allocations if the State Administration of Justice Fund balance is
 21 inadequate to fully fund all authorized monthly allocations, is amended to
 22 read as follows:

23 (1)(A) The available revenue and remaining State Administration
 24 of Justice Fund balance shall be distributed first to fully fund the monthly
 25 allocation for:

26 (i) The Court Reporter's Fund;

27 ~~(ii) The Arkansas District Judges Council, Inc., for~~
 28 ~~the Executive Director of the Arkansas District Judges Council, Inc.;~~ and

29 ~~(iii)~~(ii) The Administrative Office of the Courts to
 30 fund the Trial Court Administrator Fund.

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 33 **APPROVED: 2/25/25**
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