

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

# A Bill

HOUSE BILL 1087

5 By: Joint Budget Committee  
6

## For An Act To Be Entitled

8 AN ACT TO MAKE AN APPROPRIATION FOR PERSONAL SERVICES  
9 AND OPERATING EXPENSES FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY  
10 AND ENVIRONMENT - OIL AND GAS COMMISSION FOR THE  
11 FISCAL YEAR ENDING JUNE 30, 2026; AND FOR OTHER  
12 PURPOSES.  
13

## Subtitle

14  
15 AN ACT FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY AND  
16 ENVIRONMENT - OIL AND GAS COMMISSION  
17 APPROPRIATION FOR THE 2025-2026 FISCAL  
18 YEAR.  
19  
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22 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:  
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24 SECTION 1. REGULAR SALARIES - OIL AND GAS COMMISSION. There is hereby  
25 established for the Department of Energy and Environment - Oil and Gas  
26 Commission for the 2025-2026 fiscal year, the following maximum number of  
27 regular employees.  
28

| Item | Class |                                | Maximum   | Maximum Annual |
|------|-------|--------------------------------|-----------|----------------|
| No.  | Code  | Title                          | No. of    | Salary Rate    |
|      |       |                                | Employees | Fiscal Year    |
|      |       |                                |           | 2025-2026      |
| 33   | (1)   | U045U OIL & GAS DIRECTOR       | 1         | GRADE SE01     |
| 34   | (2)   | D015C STATE NETWORK ENGINEER   | 1         | GRADE IT07     |
| 35   | (3)   | D040C GIS ANALYST              | 1         | GRADE IT06     |
| 36   | (4)   | D052C SOFTWARE SUPPORT ANALYST | 1         | GRADE IT05     |



|    |   |          |            |
|----|---|----------|------------|
| 1  | (5) D071C COMPUTER SUPPORT ANALYST        | 1        | GRADE IT03 |
| 2  | (6) G032C E&E ENERGY OPERATIONS MANAGER   | 2        | GRADE GS12 |
| 3  | (7) B014N SENIOR PETROLEUM GEOLOGIST      | 3        | GRADE GS11 |
| 4  | (8) G076C ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES MANAGER | 1        | GRADE GS10 |
| 5  | (9) G063C E&E BRANCH MANAGER              | 2        | GRADE GS10 |
| 6  | (10) B050C E&E INSPECTOR SUPERVISOR II    | 1        | GRADE GS08 |
| 7  | (11) C037C ADMINISTRATIVE ANALYST         | 3        | GRADE GS06 |
| 8  | (12) X082C E&E INSPECTOR II               | 9        | GRADE GS06 |
| 9  | (13) C056C ADMINISTRATIVE SPECIALIST III  | 4        | GRADE GS04 |
| 10 | (14) X098C OIL & GAS TECHNICIAN           | 1        | GRADE GS04 |
| 11 | (15) C073C ADMINISTRATIVE SPECIALIST II   | <u>2</u> | GRADE GS03 |
| 12 | MAX. NO. OF EMPLOYEES                     | 33       |            |

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14 SECTION 2. EXTRA HELP - OIL AND GAS COMMISSION. There is hereby  
 15 authorized, for the Department of Energy and Environment - Oil and Gas  
 16 Commission for the 2025-2026 fiscal year, the following maximum number of  
 17 part-time or temporary employees, to be known as "Extra Help", payable from  
 18 funds appropriated herein for such purposes: six (6) temporary or part-time  
 19 employees, when needed, at rates of pay not to exceed those provided in the  
 20 Uniform Classification and Compensation Act, or its successor, or this act  
 21 for the appropriate classification.

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23 SECTION 3. APPROPRIATION - OIL AND GAS COMMISSION - OPERATIONS. There  
 24 is hereby appropriated, to the Department of Energy and Environment, to be  
 25 payable from the Oil and Gas Commission Fund, for personal services and  
 26 operating expenses of the Department of Energy and Environment - Oil and Gas  
 27 Commission - Operations for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2026, the  
 28 following:

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| 30 | ITEM                            | FISCAL YEAR      |
|----|---------------------------------|------------------|
| 31 | <u>NO.</u>                      | <u>2025-2026</u> |
| 32 | (01) REGULAR SALARIES           | \$1,910,320      |
| 33 | (02) EXTRA HELP                 | 60,000           |
| 34 | (03) PERSONAL SERVICES MATCHING | 705,017          |
| 35 | (04) MAINT. & GEN. OPERATION    |                  |
| 36 | (A) OPER. EXPENSE               | 887,197          |

|    |                                    |                           |
|----|------------------------------------|---------------------------|
| 1  | (B) CONF. & TRAVEL                 | 40,000                    |
| 2  | (C) PROF. FEES                     | 25,000                    |
| 3  | (D) CAP. OUTLAY                    | 200,000                   |
| 4  | (E) DATA PROC.                     | 0                         |
| 5  | (05) POLLUTION CONTROL             | 275,000                   |
| 6  | (06) REFUNDS/REIMBURSEMENTS        | 100,000                   |
| 7  | (07) DATA PROCESSING SERVICES      | 348,217                   |
| 8  | (08) INTERSTATE OIL COMPACT        | 35,000                    |
| 9  | (09) UNDERGROUND INJECTION CONTROL | 100,000                   |
| 10 | (10) GROUNDWATER PROTECTION        | 12,500                    |
| 11 | (11) ENERGY EDUCATION              | <u>30,000</u>             |
| 12 | TOTAL AMOUNT APPROPRIATED          | <u><u>\$4,728,251</u></u> |

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 14 SECTION 4. APPROPRIATION - OIL AND GAS COMMISSION - REFUNDS AND  
 15 REIMBURSEMENTS. There is hereby appropriated, to the Department of Energy  
 16 and Environment, to be payable from cash funds as defined by Arkansas Code  
 17 §19-4-801, for refunds and reimbursements of the Department of Energy and  
 18 Environment - Oil and Gas Commission - Refunds and Reimbursements for the  
 19 fiscal year ending June 30, 2026, the following:

|    |                             |                         |
|----|-----------------------------|-------------------------|
| 21 | ITEM                        | FISCAL YEAR             |
| 22 | <u>NO.</u>                  | <u>2025-2026</u>        |
| 23 | (01) REFUNDS/REIMBURSEMENTS | <u><u>\$200,000</u></u> |

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 25 SECTION 5. APPROPRIATION - OIL AND GAS COMMISSION - WELL PLUGGING  
 26 PROGRAM. There is hereby appropriated, to the Department of Energy and  
 27 Environment, to be payable from the Abandoned and Orphaned Well Plugging  
 28 Fund, for well plugging program expenses of the Department of Energy and  
 29 Environment - Oil and Gas Commission - Well Plugging Program for the fiscal  
 30 year ending June 30, 2026, the following:

|    |                             |                            |
|----|-----------------------------|----------------------------|
| 32 | ITEM                        | FISCAL YEAR                |
| 33 | <u>NO.</u>                  | <u>2025-2026</u>           |
| 34 | (01) WELL PLUGGING EXPENSES | <u><u>\$12,500,000</u></u> |

35  
 36 SECTION 6. REGULAR SALARIES - OFFICE OF THE STATE GEOLOGIST. There is

1 hereby established for the Department of Energy and Environment - Office of  
 2 the State Geologist for the 2025-2026 fiscal year, the following maximum  
 3 number of regular employees.

|      |                       |                                      | Maximum   | Maximum Annual |
|------|-----------------------|--------------------------------------|-----------|----------------|
|      |                       |                                      | No. of    | Salary Rate    |
| Item | Class                 | Title                                | Employees | Fiscal Year    |
| No.  | Code                  | Title                                | Employees | 2025-2026      |
| 9    | (1)                   | U039U STATE GEOLOGIST                | 1         | GRADE SE01     |
| 10   | (2)                   | D040C GIS ANALYST                    | 1         | GRADE IT06     |
| 11   | (3)                   | D044C SYSTEMS ANALYST                | 1         | GRADE IT05     |
| 12   | (4)                   | D062C DATABASE ANALYST               | 1         | GRADE IT04     |
| 13   | (5)                   | D078C GIS TECHNICIAN                 | 2         | GRADE IT02     |
| 14   | (6)                   | B013N ASST STATE GEOLOGIST           | 1         | GRADE GS12     |
| 15   | (7)                   | B014N SENIOR PETROLEUM GEOLOGIST     | 1         | GRADE GS11     |
| 16   | (8)                   | B035C GEOLOGY SUPERVISOR             | 5         | GRADE GS09     |
| 17   | (9)                   | B043C PROFESSIONAL GEOLOGIST         | 4         | GRADE GS08     |
| 18   | (10)                  | B051C GEOLOGIST                      | 1         | GRADE GS07     |
| 19   | (11)                  | C022C BUSINESS OPERATIONS SPECIALIST | 1         | GRADE GS05     |
| 20   | (12)                  | C056C ADMINISTRATIVE SPECIALIST III  | <u>1</u>  | GRADE GS04     |
| 21   | MAX. NO. OF EMPLOYEES |                                      | 20        |                |

22  
 23 SECTION 7. EXTRA HELP - OFFICE OF THE STATE GEOLOGIST. There is hereby  
 24 authorized, for the Department of Energy and Environment - Office of the  
 25 State Geologist for the 2025-2026 fiscal year, the following maximum number  
 26 of part-time or temporary employees, to be known as "Extra Help", payable  
 27 from funds appropriated herein for such purposes: eight (8) temporary or  
 28 part-time employees, when needed, at rates of pay not to exceed those  
 29 provided in the Uniform Classification and Compensation Act, or its  
 30 successor, or this act for the appropriate classification.

31  
 32 SECTION 8. APPROPRIATION - OFFICE OF THE STATE GEOLOGIST - OPERATIONS.  
 33 There is hereby appropriated, to the Department of Energy and Environment, to  
 34 be payable from the Oil and Gas Commission Fund, for personal services and  
 35 operating expenses of the Department of Energy and Environment - Office of  
 36 the State Geologist - Operations for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2026,

1 the following:

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| 3 ITEM                            | FISCAL YEAR               |
|-----------------------------------|---------------------------|
| 4 <u>NO.</u>                      | <u>2025-2026</u>          |
| 5 (01) REGULAR SALARIES           | \$1,199,871               |
| 6 (02) EXTRA HELP                 | 45,000                    |
| 7 (03) PERSONAL SERVICES MATCHING | 429,343                   |
| 8 (04) MAINT. & GEN. OPERATION    |                           |
| 9 (A) OPER. EXPENSE               | 257,047                   |
| 10 (B) CONF. & TRAVEL             | 8,000                     |
| 11 (C) PROF. FEES                 | 0                         |
| 12 (D) CAP. OUTLAY                | 40,000                    |
| 13 (E) DATA PROC.                 | <u>0</u>                  |
| 14 TOTAL AMOUNT APPROPRIATED      | <u><u>\$1,979,261</u></u> |

15

16 SECTION 9. APPROPRIATION - OFFICE OF THE STATE GEOLOGIST - MAP RESALE  
 17 PROGRAM. There is hereby appropriated, to the Department of Energy and  
 18 Environment, to be payable from the Geology Map Resale Revolving Fund, for  
 19 operating expenses of the Department of Energy and Environment - Office of  
 20 the State Geologist - Map Resale Program for the fiscal year ending June 30,  
 21 2026, the following:

22

| 23 ITEM                       | FISCAL YEAR            |
|-------------------------------|------------------------|
| 24 <u>NO.</u>                 | <u>2025-2026</u>       |
| 25 (01) RESALE REVOLVING FUND | <u><u>\$49,000</u></u> |

26

27 SECTION 10. REGULAR SALARIES - OFFICE OF THE STATE GEOLOGIST - STATE  
 28 GEOLOGIC MAPPING PROGRAM. There is hereby established for the Department of  
 29 Energy and Environment - Office of the State Geologist - State Geologic  
 30 Mapping Program for the 2025-2026 fiscal year, the following maximum number  
 31 of regular employees.

32

| 33         | 34          | 35           | 36               | Maximum Annual     |
|------------|-------------|--------------|------------------|--------------------|
| Item       | Class       | Maximum      | No. of           | Salary Rate        |
| <u>No.</u> | <u>Code</u> | <u>Title</u> | <u>Employees</u> | <u>Fiscal Year</u> |
| <u>No.</u> | <u>Code</u> | <u>Title</u> | <u>Employees</u> | <u>2025-2026</u>   |

1 (1) B051C GEOLOGIST 1 GRADE GS07  
 2 MAX. NO. OF EMPLOYEES 1  
 3

4 SECTION 11. EXTRA HELP - OFFICE OF THE STATE GEOLOGIST - STATE GEOLOGIC  
 5 MAPPING PROGRAM. There is hereby authorized, for the Department of Energy  
 6 and Environment - Office of the State Geologist - State Geologic Mapping  
 7 Program for the 2025-2026 fiscal year, the following maximum number of part-  
 8 time or temporary employees, to be known as "Extra Help", payable from funds  
 9 appropriated herein for such purposes: six (6) temporary or part-time  
 10 employees, when needed, at rates of pay not to exceed those provided in the  
 11 Uniform Classification and Compensation Act, or its successor, or this act  
 12 for the appropriate classification.  
 13

14 SECTION 12. APPROPRIATION - OFFICE OF THE STATE GEOLOGIST - STATE  
 15 GEOLOGIC MAPPING PROGRAM. There is hereby appropriated, to the Department of  
 16 Energy and Environment, to be payable from the federal funds as designated by  
 17 the Chief Fiscal Officer of the State, for personal services and operating  
 18 expenses of the Department of Energy and Environment - Office of the State  
 19 Geologist - State Geologic Mapping Program for the fiscal year ending June  
 20 30, 2026, the following:  
 21

| 22 ITEM                            | FISCAL YEAR             |
|------------------------------------|-------------------------|
| 23 <u>NO.</u>                      | <u>2025-2026</u>        |
| 24 (01) REGULAR SALARIES           | \$43,660                |
| 25 (02) EXTRA HELP                 | 48,779                  |
| 26 (03) PERSONAL SERVICES MATCHING | 21,681                  |
| 27 (04) MAINT. & GEN. OPERATION    |                         |
| 28 (A) OPER. EXPENSE               | 77,742                  |
| 29 (B) CONF. & TRAVEL              | 0                       |
| 30 (C) PROF. FEES                  | 0                       |
| 31 (D) CAP. OUTLAY                 | 0                       |
| 32 (E) DATA PROC.                  | <u>0</u>                |
| 33 TOTAL AMOUNT APPROPRIATED       | <u><u>\$191,862</u></u> |

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 35 SECTION 13. APPROPRIATION - OFFICE OF THE STATE GEOLOGIST - GEOLOGY  
 36 MUSEUM. There is hereby appropriated, to the Department of Energy and

1 Environment, to be payable from the cash fund deposited in the State Treasury  
 2 as determined by the Chief Fiscal Officer of the State, for museum expenses  
 3 of the Department of Energy and Environment - Office of the State Geologist -  
 4 Geology Museum for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2026, the following:

| 6 ITEM                 | FISCAL YEAR    |
|------------------------|----------------|
| 7 NO.                  | 2025-2026      |
| 8 (01) MUSEUM EXPENSES | <u>\$1,125</u> |

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 10 SECTION 14. REGULAR SALARIES - OFFICE OF THE STATE GEOLOGIST -  
 11 GEOLOGICAL RESEARCH - LANDSLIDE/SINKHOLE. There is hereby established for  
 12 the Department of Energy and Environment - Office of the State Geologist -  
 13 Geological Research - Landslide/Sinkhole for the 2025-2026 fiscal year, the  
 14 following maximum number of regular employees.

| 16                                  |           | Maximum Annual |
|-------------------------------------|-----------|----------------|
| 17                                  | Maximum   | Salary Rate    |
| 18 Item Class                       | No. of    | Fiscal Year    |
| 19 No. Code Title                   | Employees | 2025-2026      |
| 20 (1) B043C PROFESSIONAL GEOLOGIST | <u>1</u>  | GRADE GS08     |
| 21 MAX. NO. OF EMPLOYEES            | 1         |                |

22  
 23 SECTION 15. EXTRA HELP - OFFICE OF THE STATE GEOLOGIST - GEOLOGICAL  
 24 RESEARCH - LANDSLIDE/SINKHOLE. There is hereby authorized, for the  
 25 Department of Energy and Environment - Office of the State Geologist -  
 26 Geological Research - Landslide/Sinkhole for the 2025-2026 fiscal year, the  
 27 following maximum number of part-time or temporary employees, to be known as  
 28 "Extra Help", payable from funds appropriated herein for such purposes: two  
 29 (2) temporary or part-time employees, when needed, at rates of pay not to  
 30 exceed those provided in the Uniform Classification and Compensation Act, or  
 31 its successor, or this act for the appropriate classification.

32  
 33 SECTION 16. APPROPRIATION - OFFICE OF THE STATE GEOLOGIST - GEOLOGICAL  
 34 RESEARCH - LANDSLIDE/SINKHOLE. There is hereby appropriated, to the  
 35 Department of Energy and Environment, to be payable from the cash fund  
 36 deposited in the State Treasury as determined by the Chief Fiscal Officer of

1 the State, for personal services and operating expenses of the Department of  
 2 Energy and Environment - Office of the State Geologist - Geological Research  
 3 - Landslide/Sinkhole for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2026, the following:  
 4

| 5 ITEM                            | FISCAL YEAR             |
|-----------------------------------|-------------------------|
| 6 <u>NO.</u>                      | <u>2025-2026</u>        |
| 7 (01) REGULAR SALARIES           | \$49,011                |
| 8 (02) EXTRA HELP                 | 27,328                  |
| 9 (03) PERSONAL SERVICES MATCHING | 21,268                  |
| 10 (04) GEOLOGICAL RESEARCH       | <u>143,762</u>          |
| 11 TOTAL AMOUNT APPROPRIATED      | <u><u>\$241,369</u></u> |

12  
 13 SECTION 17. COMPLIANCE WITH OTHER LAWS. Disbursement of funds  
 14 authorized by this act shall be limited to the appropriation for such agency  
 15 and funds made available by law for the support of such appropriations; and  
 16 the restrictions of the State Procurement Law, the General Accounting and  
 17 Budgetary Procedures Law, the Revenue Stabilization Law, the Regular Salary  
 18 Procedures and Restrictions Act, or their successors, and other fiscal  
 19 control laws of this State, where applicable, and regulations promulgated by  
 20 the Department of Finance and Administration, as authorized by law, shall be  
 21 strictly complied with in disbursement of said funds.  
 22

23 SECTION 18. LEGISLATIVE INTENT. It is the intent of the General  
 24 Assembly that any funds disbursed under the authority of the appropriations  
 25 contained in this act shall be in compliance with the stated reasons for  
 26 which this act was adopted, as evidenced by the Agency Requests, Executive  
 27 Recommendations and Legislative Recommendations contained in the budget  
 28 manuals prepared by the Department of Finance and Administration, letters, or  
 29 summarized oral testimony in the official minutes of the Arkansas Legislative  
 30 Council or Joint Budget Committee which relate to its passage and adoption.  
 31

32 SECTION 19. EMERGENCY CLAUSE. It is found and determined by the  
 33 General Assembly, that the Constitution of the State of Arkansas prohibits  
 34 the appropriation of funds for more than a one (1) year period; that the  
 35 effectiveness of this Act on July 1, 2025 is essential to the operation of  
 36 the agency for which the appropriations in this Act are provided, and that in



1 the event of an extension of the legislative session, the delay in the  
2 effective date of this Act beyond July 1, 2025 could work irreparable harm  
3 upon the proper administration and provision of essential governmental  
4 programs. Therefore, an emergency is hereby declared to exist and this Act  
5 being necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health  
6 and safety shall be in full force and effect from and after July 1, 2025.

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9 **APPROVED: 2/25/25**  
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