

1 State of Arkansas
2 95th General Assembly
3 Fiscal Session, 2026
4

As Engrossed: H4/22/26

A Bill

HOUSE BILL 1017

5 By: Joint Budget Committee
6
7

For An Act To Be Entitled

9 AN ACT TO MAKE AN APPROPRIATION FOR OPERATING,
10 RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT EXPENSES FOR THE DEPARTMENT
11 OF AGRICULTURE - PROMOTION BOARDS FOR THE FISCAL YEAR
12 ENDING JUNE 30, 2027; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.
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Subtitle

15 AN ACT FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
16 - PROMOTION BOARDS APPROPRIATION FOR THE
17 2026-2027 FISCAL YEAR.
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21 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:
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23 SECTION 1. APPROPRIATION - BEEF COUNCIL. There is hereby appropriated,
24 to the Department of Agriculture, to be payable from the Beef Council Fund,
25 for operating, research and development expenses of the Department of
26 Agriculture - Arkansas Beef Council for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2027,
27 the following:
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ITEM	FISCAL YEAR
<u>NO.</u>	<u>2026-2027</u>
(01) MAINT. & GEN. OPERATION	
(A) OPER. EXPENSE	\$22,076
(B) CONF. & TRAVEL	5,000
(C) PROF. FEES	3,000
(D) CAP. OUTLAY	0
(E) DATA PROC.	0



1	(02) RESEARCH & DEVELOPMENT	<u>1,037,000</u>
2	TOTAL AMOUNT APPROPRIATED	<u><u>\$1,067,076</u></u>

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 4 SECTION 2. APPROPRIATION - CATFISH PROMOTION BOARD. There is hereby
 5 appropriated, to the Department of Agriculture, to be payable from the
 6 Arkansas Catfish Promotion Fund, for operating expenses, research, promotion
 7 and consumer activities of the Department of Agriculture - Arkansas Catfish
 8 Promotion Board for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2027, the following:

10	ITEM	FISCAL YEAR
11	<u>NO.</u>	<u>2026-2027</u>
12	(01) MAINT. & GEN. OPERATION	
13	(A) OPER. EXPENSE	\$1,000
14	(B) CONF. & TRAVEL	0
15	(C) PROF. FEES	0
16	(D) CAP. OUTLAY	0
17	(E) DATA PROC.	0
18	(02) PROMOTIONAL ITEMS	25,000
19	(03) RESEARCH DEVELOPMENT	<u>94,000</u>
20	TOTAL AMOUNT APPROPRIATED	<u><u>\$120,000</u></u>

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 22 SECTION 3. APPROPRIATION - CORN AND GRAIN SORGHUM PROMOTION BOARD.
 23 There is hereby appropriated, to the Department of Agriculture, to be payable
 24 from the Arkansas Corn and Grain Sorghum Promotion Board Fund, for operating,
 25 research and development expenses of the Department of Agriculture - Arkansas
 26 Corn and Grain Sorghum Promotion Board for the fiscal year ending June 30,
 27 2027, the following:

29	ITEM	FISCAL YEAR
30	<u>NO.</u>	<u>2026-2027</u>
31	(01) MAINT. & GEN. OPERATION	
32	(A) OPER. EXPENSE	\$25,000
33	(B) CONF. & TRAVEL	0
34	(C) PROF. FEES	0
35	(D) CAP. OUTLAY	0
36	(E) DATA PROC.	0

1	(02) RESEARCH/DEVELOPMENT	<u>1,975,000</u>
2	TOTAL AMOUNT APPROPRIATED	<u><u>\$2,000,000</u></u>

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 4 SECTION 4. APPROPRIATION - RICE RESEARCH AND PROMOTION BOARD. There is
 5 hereby appropriated, to the Department of Agriculture, to be payable from the
 6 Arkansas Rice Research and Promotion Fund, for operating, research and
 7 development expenses of the Department of Agriculture - Arkansas Rice
 8 Research and Promotion Board for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2027, the
 9 following:

11	ITEM	FISCAL YEAR
12	<u>NO.</u>	<u>2026-2027</u>
13	(01) MAINT. & GEN. OPERATION	
14	(A) OPER. EXPENSE	\$14,200
15	(B) CONF. & TRAVEL	0
16	(C) PROF. FEES	0
17	(D) CAP. OUTLAY	0
18	(E) DATA PROC.	0
19	(02) RESEARCH/DEVELOPMENT	<u>6,966,496</u>
20	TOTAL AMOUNT APPROPRIATED	<u><u>\$6,980,696</u></u>

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 22 SECTION 5. APPROPRIATION - RICE RESEARCH AND PROMOTION BOARD- CASH.
 23 There is hereby appropriated, to the Department of Agriculture, to be payable
 24 from the cash funds as defined by Arkansas Code 19-4-801, for rice research
 25 and development of the Department of Agriculture - Arkansas Rice Research and
 26 Promotion Board for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2027, the following:

28	ITEM	FISCAL YEAR
29	<u>NO.</u>	<u>2026-2027</u>
30	(01) RESEARCH & DEVELOPMENT	<u><u>\$15,000,000</u></u>

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 32 SECTION 6. APPROPRIATION - SOYBEAN PROMOTION BOARD. There is hereby
 33 appropriated, to the Department of Agriculture, to be payable from the
 34 Soybean Promotion Fund, for operating, research and development expenses of
 35 the Department of Agriculture - Arkansas Soybean Promotion Board for the
 36 fiscal year ending June 30, 2027, the following:

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ITEM	FISCAL YEAR
<u>NO.</u>	<u>2026-2027</u>
(01) MAINT. & GEN. OPERATION	
(A) OPER. EXPENSE	\$60,500
(B) CONF. & TRAVEL	0
(C) PROF. FEES	2,000
(D) CAP. OUTLAY	0
(E) DATA PROC.	0
(02) RESEARCH/DEVELOPMENT	<u>8,537,500</u>
TOTAL AMOUNT APPROPRIATED	<u><u>\$8,600,000</u></u>

SECTION 7. APPROPRIATION - WHEAT PROMOTION BOARD. There is hereby appropriated, to the Department of Agriculture, to be payable from the Arkansas Wheat Promotion Fund, for operating, research and development expenses of the Department of Agriculture - Arkansas Wheat Promotion Board for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2027, the following:

ITEM	FISCAL YEAR
<u>NO.</u>	<u>2026-2027</u>
(01) MAINT. & GEN. OPERATION	
(A) OPER. EXPENSE	\$3,599
(B) CONF. & TRAVEL	0
(C) PROF. FEES	0
(D) CAP. OUTLAY	0
(E) DATA PROC.	0
(02) RESEARCH/DEVELOPMENT	<u>440,895</u>
TOTAL AMOUNT APPROPRIATED	<u><u>\$444,494</u></u>

SECTION 8. SPECIAL LANGUAGE. NOT TO BE INCORPORATED INTO THE ARKANSAS CODE NOR PUBLISHED SEPARATELY AS SPECIAL, LOCAL AND TEMPORARY LAW. SERVICE CHARGE FEE WAIVER.

(a)(1) After consultation with the Secretary of the Department of Agriculture, the Chief Fiscal Officer of the State may waive the deductions for the Constitutional Officers Fund and the State Central Services Fund required under §§ 19-21-103 and 19-21-105 for:

1 (A) Collections of special revenue under § 2-9-112; or
2 (B) The deductions under §§ 2-20-406(c)(1), 2-20-507(c)(1), 2-20-
3 606(b)(2)(A), 2-20-805(c)(2), and 2-35-308(b)(1).

4 (2) The Chief Fiscal Officer of the State shall notify the
5 Treasurer of State and the secretary of the waiver.

6 (b) The provision of this section shall be in effect only from July 1,
7 2026 through June 30, 2027.

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9 SECTION 9. COMPLIANCE WITH OTHER LAWS. Disbursement of funds
10 authorized by this act shall be limited to the appropriation for such agency
11 and funds made available by law for the support of such appropriations; and
12 the restrictions of the State Procurement Law, the General Accounting and
13 Budgetary Procedures Law, the Revenue Stabilization Law, the Regular Salary
14 Procedures and Restrictions Act, or their successors, and other fiscal
15 control laws of this State, where applicable, and regulations promulgated by
16 the Department of Finance and Administration, as authorized by law, shall be
17 strictly complied with in disbursement of said funds.

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19 SECTION 10. LEGISLATIVE INTENT. It is the intent of the General
20 Assembly that any funds disbursed under the authority of the appropriations
21 contained in this act shall be in compliance with the stated reasons for
22 which this act was adopted, as evidenced by the Agency Requests, Executive
23 Recommendations and Legislative Recommendations contained in the budget
24 manuals prepared by the Department of Finance and Administration, letters, or
25 summarized oral testimony in the official minutes of the Arkansas Legislative
26 Council or Joint Budget Committee which relate to its passage and adoption.

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28 SECTION 11. EMERGENCY CLAUSE. It is found and determined by the
29 General Assembly, that the Constitution of the State of Arkansas prohibits
30 the appropriation of funds for more than a one (1) year period; that the
31 effectiveness of this Act on July 1, 2026 is essential to the operation of
32 the agency for which the appropriations in this Act are provided, and that in
33 the event of an extension of the legislative session, the delay in the
34 effective date of this Act beyond July 1, 2026 could work irreparable harm
35 upon the proper administration and provision of essential governmental
36 programs. Therefore, an emergency is hereby declared to exist and this Act

1 being necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health
2 and safety shall be in full force and effect from and after July 1, 2026.

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4 */s/Joint Budget Committee*

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7 **APPROVED: 4/29/26**
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