

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

As Engrossed: S4/3/25

# A Bill

SENATE BILL 37

5 By: Joint Budget Committee  
6  
7

## For An Act To Be Entitled

9 AN ACT TO MAKE AN APPROPRIATION FOR PERSONAL SERVICES  
10 AND OPERATING EXPENSES FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
11 FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDING JUNE 30, 2026; AND FOR  
12 OTHER PURPOSES.  
13  
14

## Subtitle

15 AN ACT FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
16 APPROPRIATION FOR THE 2025-2026 FISCAL  
17 YEAR.  
18  
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21 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:  
22

23 *SECTION 1. REGULAR SALARIES – SHARED SERVICES. There is hereby*  
24 *established for the Department of Commerce for the 2025-2026 fiscal year, the*  
25 *following maximum number of regular employees.*

			<i>Maximum</i>	<i>Annual</i>
			<i>Maximum</i>	<i>Salary Rate</i>
<i>Item</i>	<i>Class</i>		<i>No. of</i>	<i>Fiscal Year</i>
<i>No.</i>	<i>Code</i>	<i>Title</i>	<i>Employees</i>	<i>2025-2026</i>
30	(1)	SC002 ACOM SECRETARY OF COMMERCE	1	GRADE SE05
31	(2)	G329C CHIEF WORKFORCE OFFICER	1	GRADE SE04
32	(3)	N263N COMMERCE CHIEF OF STAFF	1	GRADE SE03
33	(4)	A152C ACOM CHIEF FISCAL OFFICER	1	GRADE SE01
34	(5)	G330C ACOM CHIEF LEGAL COUNSEL II	1	GRADE SE01
35	(6)	D150C ACOM CHIEF INFORMATION OFFICER	1	GRADE IT12
36	(7)	DO02N STATE DATABASE ADMINISTRATOR LEAD	1	GRADE IT11



1	(8)	D001C STATE DATABASE ADMINISTRATOR	2	GRADE IT09
2	(9)	D007C INFORMATION SYSTEMS MANAGER	1	GRADE IT08
3	(10)	D029C SENIOR GIS ANALYST	1	GRADE IT07
4	(11)	D063C COMPUTER SUPPORT SPECIALIST	1	GRADE IT05
5	(12)	D064C WEBSITE DEVELOPER	1	GRADE IT04
6	(13)	N084N ACOM AEDC MRKT & COMM. DIR	1	GRADE GS15
7	(14)	N066N ACOM CHIEF COMM & LEG. AFFAIRS	2	GRADE GS14
8	(15)	A014C FISCAL DIVISION MANAGER	2	GRADE GS12
9	(16)	G026N ACOM AEDC ASSISTANT DIR. MGMT SVS	1	GRADE GS12
10	(17)	G030N ACOM AEDC ASST DIR OF STEM EDUCATION	1	GRADE GS12
11	(18)	P007N ACOM DWS DIR. OF COMMUNICATIONS	1	GRADE GS12
12	(19)	P078C ACOM ARS DIR. OF COMMUNICATIONS	1	GRADE GS12
13	(20)	R006C HUMAN RESOURCES ADMINISTRATOR	3	GRADE GS12
14	(21)	R013C AGENCY HUMAN RESOURCES MANAGER	1	GRADE GS11
15	(22)	A040C ACOM ADFA FISCAL PROGRAM MANAGER	1	GRADE GS10
16	(23)	G076C ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES MANAGER	1	GRADE GS10
17	(24)	X009C ACOM INSURANCE DEPT DIR OF SEC. OPS	1	GRADE GS10
18	(25)	A038C FISCAL SUPPORT MANAGER	1	GRADE GS09
19	(26)	A052C ACCOUNTING COORDINATOR	1	GRADE GS09
20	(27)	A060C SENIOR AUDITOR	1	GRADE GS08
21	(28)	A082C ACCOUNTANT II	4	GRADE GS08
22	(29)	R014C PERSONNEL MANAGER	3	GRADE GS08
23	(30)	A065C PAYROLL SERVICES COORDINATOR	1	GRADE GS07
24	(31)	C114C ACOM EXECUTIVE ASST TO SECRETARY	1	GRADE GS07
25	(32)	E040C STAFF DEVELOPMENT COORDINATOR	1	GRADE GS07
26	(33)	G148C ENERGY PROGRAM MANAGER	1	GRADE GS07
27	(34)	G163C ACOM REHAB PROGRAM COORDINATOR	1	GRADE GS07
28	(35)	G181C ACOM DWS PROGRAM MONITOR	1	GRADE GS07
29	(36)	R024C ASSISTANT PERSONNEL MANAGER	2	GRADE GS07
30	(37)	A080C ACOM FINANCE AUTHORITY SPECIALIST	1	GRADE GS06
31	(38)	C037C ADMINISTRATIVE ANALYST	1	GRADE GS06
32	(39)	P027C PUBLIC INFORMATION SPECIALIST	1	GRADE GS06
33	(40)	R025C HUMAN RESOURCES ANALYST	5	GRADE GS06
34	(41)	R027C BUDGET SPECIALIST	1	GRADE GS06
35	(42)	R033C BENEFITS ANALYST	1	GRADE GS05
36	(43)	R036C HUMAN RESOURCES SPECIALIST	<u>2</u>	GRADE GS04

1 MAX. NO. OF EMPLOYEES 59

2

3 SECTION 2. APPROPRIATION - SHARED SERVICES PAYING ACCOUNT. There is  
4 hereby appropriated, to the Department of Commerce, to be payable from the  
5 paying account as determined by the Chief Fiscal Officer of the State, for  
6 personal services and operating expenses of the Department of Commerce -  
7 Shared Services for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2026, the following:

8

9 ITEM	FISCAL YEAR
10 <u>NO.</u>	<u>2025-2026</u>
11 (01) REGULAR SALARIES	\$4,400,000
12 (02) PERSONAL SERVICES MATCHING	1,502,564
13 (03) MAINT. & GEN. OPERATION	
14 (A) OPER. EXPENSE	500,000
15 (B) CONF. & TRAVEL	200,000
16 (C) PROF. FEES	100,000
17 (D) CAP. OUTLAY	100,000
18 (E) DATA PROC.	<u>0</u>
19 TOTAL AMOUNT APPROPRIATED	<u><u>\$6,802,564</u></u>

20

21 SECTION 3. APPROPRIATION - ARKANSAS WINE PRODUCERS COUNCIL. There is  
22 hereby appropriated, to the Department of Commerce, to be payable from the  
23 Miscellaneous Agencies Fund Account, for miscellaneous grants and expenses of  
24 the Department of Commerce - Arkansas Wine Producers Council for the fiscal  
25 year ending June 30, 2026, the following:

26

27 ITEM	FISCAL YEAR
28 <u>NO.</u>	<u>2025-2026</u>
29 (01) ARKANSAS WINE PRODUCERS COUNCIL	<u><u>\$5,000</u></u>

30

31 SECTION 4. APPROPRIATION - ARKANSAS WINE TOURISM FACILITY. There is  
32 hereby appropriated, to the Department of Commerce, to be payable from the  
33 Tourism Development Trust Fund, for land acquisition, construction, lease,  
34 equipment acquisition, improvements, renovation, major maintenance, personal  
35 services, maintenance and operating expenses associated with the wine tourism  
36 facility in Franklin County, Arkansas for the fiscal year ending June 30,

1 2026, the following:

2

3 ITEM	FISCAL YEAR
4 NO.	2025-2026
5 (01) ARKANSAS WINE TOURISM FACILITY	
6 EXPENSES	<u>\$1,250,000</u>

7

8 SECTION 5. REGULAR SALARIES. There is hereby established for the  
 9 Department of Commerce - Arkansas Economic Development Commission for the  
 10 2025-2026 fiscal year, the following maximum number of regular employees.

11

12		Maximum Annual
13		Salary Rate
14 Item Class	Maximum	Fiscal Year
15 No. Code Title	No. of	2025-2026
	Employees	
16 (1) U055U ACOM AEDC DIRECTOR	1	GRADE SE04
17 (2) U063U ACOM CHIEF INFORMATION OFFICER	1	GRADE SE01
18 (3) N214N ACOM AEDC EXEC VP GLOBAL BUSINESS	1	GRADE SE01
19 <del>(4) D029C SENIOR GIS ANALYST</del>	<del>1</del>	<del>GRADE IT07</del>
20 (5) N062N ACOM AEDC BUSINESS DEV DIV DIR	1	GRADE GS15
21 (6) N061N ACOM AEDC BUSINESS FINANCE DIRECTOR	1	GRADE GS15
22 <del>(7) N225N ACOM AEDC EXEC VP &amp; GEN COUNSEL</del>	<del>1</del>	<del>GRADE GS15</del>
23 (8) N085N ACOM AEDC DIR TECH & ENTREPRENEURSHIP	1	GRADE GS14
24 (9) G294C ACOM AEDC SENIOR COUNSEL	1	GRADE GS14
25 <del>(10) N059N ACOM AEDC TRAINING DIVISION DIRECTOR</del>	<del>1</del>	<del>GRADE GS14</del>
26 (11) B139C ACOM AEDC DIRECTOR OF EPSCOR	2	GRADE GS13
27 <del>(12) B140C ACOM AEDC MANUFACTURING SOLUTIONS DIR</del>	<del>1</del>	<del>GRADE GS13</del>
28 (13) N196N MILITARY AFFAIRS DIRECTOR	1	GRADE GS13
29 <del>(14) G034N ACOM AEDC ASST DIR SALES AND MARKETING</del>	<del>1</del>	<del>GRADE GS12</del>
30 (15) G245C ACOM AEDC DIR COMMUNITY DEV & IMPROVE	1	GRADE GS12
31 (16) G014C ACOM AEDC DIR OF COMMUNITY DEV	1	GRADE GS12
32 <del>(17) B018N ACOM AEDC FIELD ENGINEER</del>	<del>3</del>	<del>GRADE GS12</del>
33 (18) G035N ACOM AEDC SALES AND MARKETING SPEC	1	GRADE GS12
34 (19) G273C ACOM AEDC SENIOR PROJECT CONSULTANT	4	GRADE GS12
35 (20) G015C ACOM AEDC SMALL/MINORITY BUSINESS DIR	1	GRADE GS12
36 (21) U099U ACOM DIRECTOR OF RURAL SERVICES	1	GRADE GS12

1	(22)	G025C ATTORNEY SUPERVISOR	1	GRADE GS12
2	(23)	B016C ACOM AEDC ASSISTANT DIRECTOR EPSCOR	1	GRADE GS11
3	(24)	P076C ACOM AEDC DIGITAL MARKETING DIRECTOR	1	GRADE GS11
4	(25)	G062C ACOM AEDC PROJECT CONSULTANT	26	GRADE GS11
5	(26)	G048C ACOM AEDC STRATEGIC PLAN ASST DIR	1	GRADE GS11
6	<del>(27)</del>	<del>A052C ACCOUNTING COORDINATOR</del>	<del>1</del>	<del>GRADE GS09</del>
7	(28)	P004C PUBLIC INFORMATION MANAGER	1	GRADE GS09
8	(29)	R021C BUDGET ANALYST	1	GRADE GS08
9	(30)	A116C BUSINESS OPERATIONS MANAGER	1	GRADE GS08
10	(31)	G126C FINANCE PROGRAM COORDINATOR	1	GRADE GS08
11	(32)	A041C PROGRAM FISCAL MANAGER	1	GRADE GS08
12	(33)	E023C TRAINING PROJECT MANAGER	2	GRADE GS08
13	<del>(34)</del>	<del>NG159C DEPARTMENT BUSINESS COORDINATOR</del>	<del>1</del>	<del>GRADE GS07</del>
14	(35)	C010C EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT TO THE DIRECTOR	1	GRADE GS07
15	(36)	G147C GRANTS COORDINATOR	1	GRADE GS07
16	(37)	C037C ADMINISTRATIVE ANALYST	2	GRADE GS06
17	(38)	R022C BENEFITS COORDINATOR	1	GRADE GS06
18	(39)	P027C PUBLIC INFORMATION SPECIALIST	2	GRADE GS06
19	(40)	B076C RESEARCH PROJECT ANALYST	1	GRADE GS06
20	(41)	C056C ADMINISTRATIVE SPECIALIST III	<u>6</u>	GRADE GS04
21		MAX. NO. OF EMPLOYEES	70	

22

23 SECTION 6. EXTRA HELP. There is hereby authorized, for the Department  
 24 of Commerce - Arkansas Economic Development Commission for the 2025-2026  
 25 fiscal year, the following maximum number of part-time or temporary  
 26 employees, to be known as "Extra Help", payable from funds appropriated  
 27 herein for such purposes: seven (7) temporary or part-time employees, when  
 28 needed, at rates of pay not to exceed those provided in the Uniform  
 29 Classification and Compensation Act, or its successor, or this act for the  
 30 appropriate classification.

31

32 SECTION 7. APPROPRIATION - STATE OPERATIONS. There is hereby  
 33 appropriated, to the Department of Commerce, to be payable from the Arkansas  
 34 Economic Development Commission Fund Account, for personal services,  
 35 operating expenses, grants and aid, and state matching funds of the  
 36 Department of Commerce - Arkansas Economic Development Commission - State

1 Operations for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2026, the following:

2		
3	ITEM	FISCAL YEAR
4	<u>NO.</u>	<u>2025-2026</u>
5	(01) REGULAR SALARIES	\$3,967,320
6	(02) EXTRA HELP	50,000
7	(03) PERSONAL SERVICES MATCHING	1,366,101
8	(04) MAINT. & GEN. OPERATION	
9	(A) OPER. EXPENSE	1,450,650
10	(B) CONF. & TRAVEL	141,486
11	(C) PROF. FEES	1,765,000
12	(D) CAP. OUTLAY	0
13	(E) DATA PROC.	0
14	(05) ECONOMIC INFRASTRUCTURE/REGIONALISM	
15	GRANTS	877,588
16	(06) GLOBAL BUSINESS INITIATIVES	900,000
17	(07) MILITARY AFFAIRS GRANT PROGRAM	750,000
18	(08) INDUSTRY TRAINING PROGRAM	<u>1,714,800</u>
19	TOTAL AMOUNT APPROPRIATED	<u>\$12,982,945</u>

20

21 SECTION 8. APPROPRIATION - COMMUNITY ASSISTANCE (CDBG) - FEDERAL.

22 There is hereby appropriated, to the Department of Commerce, to be payable  
 23 from the federal funds as designated by the Chief Fiscal Officer of the  
 24 State, for personal services and operating expenses of the Department of  
 25 Commerce - Arkansas Economic Development Commission - Community Assistance  
 26 (CDBG) - Federal for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2026, the following:

27

28	ITEM	FISCAL YEAR
29	<u>NO.</u>	<u>2025-2026</u>
30	(01) REGULAR SALARIES	\$382,165
31	(02) PERSONAL SERVICES MATCHING	136,675
32	(03) MAINT. & GEN. OPERATION	
33	(A) OPER. EXPENSE	60,600
34	(B) CONF. & TRAVEL	25,000
35	(C) PROF. FEES	70,000
36	(D) CAP. OUTLAY	0

1	(E) DATA PROC.	0
2	(04) GRANTS/AIDS - CDBG	48,261,988
3	(05) STORM RECOVERY GRANTS	<u>7,579,614</u>
4	TOTAL AMOUNT APPROPRIATED	<u><u>\$56,516,042</u></u>

5

6 SECTION 9. APPROPRIATION - CDBG DISASTER RECOVERY. There is hereby

7 appropriated, to the Department of Commerce - Arkansas Economic Development

8 Commission, to be payable from the federal funds as designated by the Chief

9 Fiscal Officer of the State, for addressing long term recovery and

10 restoration of infrastructure, housing and economic revitalization in the

11 most impacted and distressed areas of the State for the fiscal year ending

12 June 30, 2026, the following:

13		
14	ITEM	FISCAL YEAR
15	<u>NO.</u>	<u>2025-2026</u>
16	(01) CDBG DISASTER RECOVERY	<u><u>\$8,933,441</u></u>

17

18 SECTION 10. APPROPRIATION - ARKANSAS ACCELERATION FUND. There is

19 hereby appropriated, to the Department of Commerce, to be payable from the

20 Arkansas Acceleration Fund, for grants and incentives to accelerate the

21 economy of the State through technology and knowledge-based development of

22 of the Department of Commerce - Arkansas Economic Development Commission -

23 Arkansas Acceleration Fund for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2026, the

24 following:

25		
26	ITEM	FISCAL YEAR
27	<u>NO.</u>	<u>2025-2026</u>
28	(01) ACCELERATION GRANTS & INCENTIVES	<u><u>\$5,000,000</u></u>

29

30 SECTION 11. APPROPRIATION - SUPER PROJECTS. There is hereby

31 appropriated, to the Department of Commerce, to be payable from the Economic

32 Development Superprojects Project Fund, for Super Projects as defined by

33 Amendment 82 to the Arkansas Constitution of the Department of Commerce -

34 Arkansas Economic Development Commission - Super Projects for the fiscal year

35 ending June 30, 2026, the following:

36

1	ITEM	FISCAL YEAR
2	<u>NO.</u>	<u>2025-2026</u>
3	(01) SUPER PROJECTS	<u>\$6,000,000</u>

4

5 SECTION 12. APPROPRIATION - NEW MARKETS PERFORMANCE PROGRAM. There is

6 hereby appropriated, to the Department of Commerce, to be payable from the

7 New Markets Performance Guarantee Fund, for refunds and reimbursements of

8 performance program application fees of the Department of Commerce - Arkansas

9 Economic Development Commission - New Markets Performance Program for the

10 fiscal year ending June 30, 2026, the following:

11		
12	ITEM	FISCAL YEAR
13	<u>NO.</u>	<u>2025-2026</u>
14	(01) REFUNDS/REIMBURSEMENTS	<u>\$142,266</u>

15

16 SECTION 13. APPROPRIATION - QUICK ACTION CLOSING FUND. There is hereby

17 appropriated, to the Department of Commerce, to be payable from the Economic

18 Development Incentive Quick Action Closing Fund, for incentives to attract

19 new business and economic development to the State by the Department of

20 Commerce - Arkansas Economic Development Commission - Quick Action Closing

21 Fund for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2026, the following:

22		
23	ITEM	FISCAL YEAR
24	<u>NO.</u>	<u>2025-2026</u>
25	(01) QUICK ACTION CLOSING GRANTS	<u>\$75,000,000</u>

26

27 SECTION 14. APPROPRIATION - DIVISION OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY - STATE

28 OPERATIONS. There is hereby appropriated, to the Department of Commerce, to

29 be payable from the Arkansas Economic Development Commission Fund Account,

30 for personal services, operating expenses and grants and aid by the Division

31 of Science and Technology of the Department of Commerce - Arkansas Economic

32 Development Commission - State Operations for the fiscal year ending June 30,

33 2026, the following:

34		
35	ITEM	FISCAL YEAR
36	<u>NO.</u>	<u>2025-2026</u>



1	(01) REGULAR SALARIES	\$393,695
2	(02) PERSONAL SERVICES MATCHING	147,361
3	(03) MAINT. & GEN. OPERATION	
4	(A) OPER. EXPENSE	0
5	(B) CONF. & TRAVEL	0
6	(C) PROF. FEES	0
7	(D) CAP. OUTLAY	0
8	(E) DATA PROC.	0
9	(04) GRANTS & AID - ARKANSAS RESEARCH MATCH	1,092,653
10	(05) TECHNOLOGY DEVELOPMENT	156,975
11	(06) SEED CAPITAL INVESTMENTS	292,653
12	(07) ARKANSAS ACCELERATION FUND PROGRAM	<u>11,600,000</u>
13	TOTAL AMOUNT APPROPRIATED	<u>\$13,683,337</u>

14  
 15 SECTION 15. APPROPRIATION - DIVISION OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY - SEED  
 16 CAPITAL INVESTMENT - CASH. There is hereby appropriated, to the Department  
 17 of Commerce, to be payable from the cash fund deposited in the State Treasury  
 18 as determined by the Chief Fiscal Officer of the State, for investments in  
 19 technology based businesses by the Division of Science and Technology of the  
 20 Department of Commerce - Arkansas Economic Development Commission - Seed  
 21 Capital Investment - Cash for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2026, the  
 22 following:

23		
24	ITEM	FISCAL YEAR
25	<u>NO.</u>	<u>2025-2026</u>
26	(01) INVESTMENTS	<u>\$1,040,000</u>

27  
 28 SECTION 16. APPROPRIATION - RURAL SERVICES DIVISION - STATE OPERATIONS.  
 29 There is hereby appropriated, to the Department of Commerce, to be payable  
 30 from the Arkansas Economic Development Commission Fund Account, for personal  
 31 services, operating expenses and grants and aid by the Department of Commerce  
 32 - Arkansas Economic Development Commission - Rural Services Division - State  
 33 Operations for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2026, the following:

34		
35	ITEM	FISCAL YEAR
36	<u>NO.</u>	<u>2025-2026</u>

1	(01) REGULAR SALARIES	\$154,934
2	(02) EXTRA HELP	2,000
3	(03) PERSONAL SERVICES MATCHING	63,022
4	(04) MAINT. & GEN. OPERATION	
5	(A) OPER. EXPENSE	72,038
6	(B) CONF. & TRAVEL	4,100
7	(C) PROF. FEES	0
8	(D) CAP. OUTLAY	0
9	(E) DATA PROC.	0
10	(05) GRANTS & AID -RURAL COMMUNITY GRANTS	500,000
11	(06) RURAL FIRE PROTECTION GRANTS	<u>900,000</u>
12	TOTAL AMOUNT APPROPRIATED	<u><u>\$1,696,094</u></u>

13

14 SECTION 17. APPROPRIATION - RURAL SERVICES DIVISION - CONFERENCE CASH.  
 15 There is hereby appropriated, to the Department of Commerce, to be payable  
 16 from the cash fund deposited in the State Treasury as determined by the Chief  
 17 Fiscal Officer of the State, for conference expenses of the Rural Services  
 18 Division of the Department of Commerce - Arkansas Economic Development  
 19 Commission - Conference Cash for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2026, the  
 20 following:

21

22	ITEM	FISCAL YEAR
23	<u>NO.</u>	<u>2025-2026</u>
24	(01) CONFERENCE EXPENSES	<u><u>\$150,000</u></u>

25

26 SECTION 18. APPROPRIATION - ARKANSAS ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION -  
 27 RURAL SERVICES - FISH AND WILDLIFE CONSERVATION EDUCATION PROGRAM. There is  
 28 hereby appropriated, to the Department of Commerce, to be payable from the  
 29 cash fund deposited in the State Treasury as determined by the Chief Fiscal  
 30 Officer of the State, for grants and operating expenses for the Fish and  
 31 Wildlife Conservation Education Program by the Department of Commerce -  
 32 Arkansas Economic Development Commission for the fiscal year ending June 30,  
 33 2026, the following:

34

35	ITEM	FISCAL YEAR
36	<u>NO.</u>	<u>2025-2026</u>

1	(01) MAINT. & GEN. OPERATION	
2	(A) OPER. EXPENSE	\$0
3	(B) CONF. & TRAVEL	0
4	(C) PROF. FEES	0
5	(D) CAP. OUTLAY	50,000
6	(E) DATA PROC.	0
7	(02) FISH AND WILDLIFE CONSERVATION	
8	EDUCATION GRANTS AND AID	<u>800,000</u>
9	TOTAL AMOUNT APPROPRIATED	<u><u>\$850,000</u></u>

10

11           SECTION 19. APPROPRIATION - MINORITY AND WOMEN-OWNED BUSINESS  
 12 ENTERPRISE LOAN MOBILIZATION. There is hereby appropriated, to the  
 13 Department of Commerce - Arkansas Economic Development Commission, to be  
 14 payable from the Minority and Women-Owned Business Loan Mobilization  
 15 Revolving Fund, for promotion and development of minority and women-owned  
 16 business enterprises in the state, increasing the ability of minority and  
 17 women-owned business enterprises to compete for state contracts, and  
 18 sustaining the economic growth of minority and women-owned businesses for the  
 19 fiscal year ending June 30, 2026, the following:

20

21	ITEM	FISCAL YEAR
22	<u>NO.</u>	<u>2025-2026</u>
23	(01) MINORITY & WOMEN-OWNED BUSINESS	
24	ENTERPRISE MOBILIZATION LOAN	<u><u>\$500,000</u></u>

25

26           SECTION 20. APPROPRIATION - RURAL SERVICES DIVISION - LAW ENFORCEMENT  
 27 GRANTS. There is hereby appropriated, to the Department of Commerce -  
 28 Arkansas Economic Development Commission - Rural Services Division, to be  
 29 payable from the cash fund deposited in the State Treasury as determined by  
 30 the Chief Fiscal Officer of the State, for grants to law enforcement agencies  
 31 and associations for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2026, the following:

32

33	ITEM	FISCAL YEAR
34	<u>NO.</u>	<u>2025-2026</u>
35	(01) GRANTS TO LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES	<u><u>\$5,000,000</u></u>

36

1 SECTION 21. APPROPRIATION - DIVISION OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY - EPSCOR  
 2 - FEDERAL. There is hereby appropriated, to the Department of Commerce -  
 3 Arkansas Economic Development Commission - Division of Science and  
 4 Technology, to be payable from the federal funds as designated by the Chief  
 5 Fiscal Officer of the State, for strengthening research and education in  
 6 science and engineering in Arkansas for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2026,  
 7 the following:

8	9 ITEM	FISCAL YEAR
10	<u>NO.</u>	<u>2025-2026</u>
11	(01) REGULAR SALARIES	\$252,663
12	(02) PERSONAL SERVICES MATCHING	135,519
13	(03) MAINT. & GEN. OPERATION	
14	(A) OPER. EXPENSE	254,080
15	(B) CONF. & TRAVEL	305,735
16	(C) PROF. FEES	447,470
17	(D) CAP. OUTLAY	0
18	(E) DATA PROC.	0
19	(04) GRANTS AND AID - RESEARCH & EDUCATION	5,000,000
20	(05) INDIRECT FACILITIES AND ADMIN	34,502
21	(06) EXTERNAL EVALUATORS	<u>400,000</u>
22	TOTAL AMOUNT APPROPRIATED	<u><u>\$6,829,969</u></u>

23  
 24 SECTION 22. APPROPRIATION ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT INCENTIVE - PAYROLL  
 25 REBATE. There is hereby appropriated, to the Department of Commerce, to be  
 26 payable from the Economic Development Incentive Fund for financial incentives  
 27 to companies locating a new facility or expanding an existing facility with  
 28 the State of Arkansas for companies that hire and maintain specified levels  
 29 of employment for the Department of Commerce - Arkansas Economic Development  
 30 Commission for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2026, the following:

31	32 ITEM	FISCAL YEAR
33	<u>NO.</u>	<u>2025-2026</u>
34	(01) GRANTS AND AID - PAYROLL REBATE	<u><u>\$37,500,000</u></u>

35  
 36

1 SECTION 23. APPROPRIATION - ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT INCENTIVE - RECYCLE  
 2 TAX CREDIT. There is hereby appropriated, to the Department of Commerce -  
 3 Arkansas Economic Development Commission, to be payable from the Economic  
 4 Development Incentive Fund to provide recycling tax credits in accordance  
 5 with Arkansas Code 26-51-506 for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2026, the  
 6 following:

8 ITEM	FISCAL YEAR
9 <u>NO.</u>	<u>2025-2026</u>
10 (01) GRANTS AND AID - RECYCLING TAX CREDITS	<u>\$42,000,000</u>

11  
 12 SECTION 24. APPROPRIATION - RURAL SERVICES DIVISION - ANIMAL RESCUE AND  
 13 SHELTER GRANTS. There is hereby appropriated, to the Department of Commerce  
 14 - Arkansas Economic Development Commission - Rural Services Division, to be  
 15 payable from the Animal Rescue and Shelter Trust Fund, for grants to a county  
 16 or municipality based only on the infrastructure needs for animal rescues or  
 17 animal shelters for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2026, the following:

19 ITEM	FISCAL YEAR
20 <u>NO.</u>	<u>2025-2026</u>
21 (01) ANIMAL RESCUE AND SHELTER GRANTS	<u>\$50,000"</u>

22  
 23 SECTION 25. APPROPRIATION - RURAL SERVICES DIVISION - COMMUNITY  
 24 ASSISTANCE GRANT PROGRAM. There is hereby appropriated, to the Department of  
 25 Commerce - Arkansas Economic Development Commission - Rural Services Division  
 26 - Community Assistance Grant Program, to be payable from the paying account  
 27 as determined by the Chief Fiscal Officer of the State, for community  
 28 assistance grants for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2026, the following:

30 ITEM	FISCAL YEAR
31 <u>NO.</u>	<u>2025-2026</u>
32 (01) COMMUNITY ASSISTANCE GRANT PROGRAM	<u>\$10,000,000"</u>

33  
 34 SECTION 26. SPECIAL LANGUAGE. NOT TO BE INCORPORATED INTO THE ARKANSAS  
 35 CODE NOR PUBLISHED SEPARATELY AS SPECIAL, LOCAL AND TEMPORARY LAW.  
 36 REALLOCATION OF RESOURCES - DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE. Upon determination by the

1 Secretary of the Department of Commerce that a reallocation of resources for  
2 purposes of reorganization or consolidation of administrative functions  
3 within or between divisions is necessary for efficient and effective  
4 operations of the department, the Secretary, with approval of the Governor  
5 and prior approval by the Legislative Council or Joint Budget Committee,  
6 shall have the authority to request from the Chief Fiscal Officer of the  
7 State, a transfer of positions, appropriations, programs, and funds between  
8 divisions or other budgetary units of the department. The transfers of  
9 positions, programs, or activities shall be used for those purposes for which  
10 the appropriations were approved by the General Assembly. Upon approval by  
11 the Governor, the Secretary of the Department of Commerce shall request to  
12 the Chief Fiscal Officer of the State, a transfer of positions, programs,  
13 funds, appropriations, and/or line-item appropriations within or between  
14 existing and newly created divisions, offices, sections and/or units. The  
15 Chief Fiscal Officer of the State shall then initiate the necessary transfer  
16 documents to reflect transfers upon the fiscal records of the State  
17 Treasurer, the State Auditor, the Chief Fiscal Officer of the State, and  
18 Divisions of the Commerce Department. Provided, however, that the Secretary  
19 shall be limited to submitting no more than two (2) individual transaction  
20 transfer requests during any fiscal year.

21 Determining the maximum number of employees and the maximum amount of  
22 appropriation and general revenue funding for a state agency each fiscal year  
23 is the prerogative of the General Assembly. This is usually accomplished by  
24 delineating such maximums in the appropriation act(s) for a state agency and  
25 the general revenue allocations authorized for each fund and fund account by  
26 amendment to the Revenue Stabilization law. Further, the General Assembly  
27 has determined that the Department of Commerce may operate more efficiently  
28 if some flexibility is provided to the Department of Commerce under the  
29 Reallocation of Resources provisions herein. Therefore, it is both necessary  
30 and appropriate that the General Assembly maintain oversight by requiring  
31 prior approval of the Legislative Council or Joint Budget Committee as  
32 provided by this section. The requirement of approval by the Legislative  
33 Council or Joint Budget Committee is not a severable part of this section.  
34 If the requirement of approval by the Legislative Council or Joint Budget  
35 Committee is ruled unconstitutional by a court jurisdiction, this entire  
36 section is void.

1        The provisions of this section shall be in effect only from July 1,  
2        2025 through June 30, 2026.

3  
4        SECTION 27. SPECIAL LANGUAGE. NOT TO BE INCORPORATED INTO THE ARKANSAS  
5        CODE NOR PUBLISHED SEPARATELY AS SPECIAL, LOCAL AND TEMPORARY LAW. FUND  
6        TRANSFER PROVISION. As requested from time to time by the Director of the  
7        Arkansas Economic Development Commission, the Chief Fiscal Officer may  
8        transfer on his books and those of the State Treasurer and the Auditor of the  
9        State, the sum not to exceed five hundred thousand dollars (\$500,000) from  
10       the Arkansas Economic Development Commission Fund Account to the Minority and  
11       Women-Owned Business Loan Mobilization Revolving Fund, to provide funds for  
12       the Minority and Women-Owned Business Enterprise Loan Mobilization  
13       appropriation herein.

14       The provisions of this section shall be in effect only from July 1, ~~2024~~  
15       2025 through June 30, ~~2025~~ 2026.

16  
17       SECTION 28. SPECIAL LANGUAGE. NOT TO BE INCORPORATED INTO THE ARKANSAS  
18       CODE NOR PUBLISHED SEPARATELY AS SPECIAL, LOCAL AND TEMPORARY LAW. CARRY  
19       FORWARD – MINORITY AND WOMEN-OWNED BUSINESS LOAN MOBILIZATION REVOLVING FUND.  
20       Any unexpended balance of funds for the Minority and Women-Owned Business  
21       Enterprise Loan Mobilization appropriation which remain at the close of each  
22       state fiscal year shall be carried forward to the next state fiscal year to  
23       be used for the same intent and purposes as set forth in law.

24       The provisions of this section shall be in effect only from July 1, ~~2024~~  
25       2025 through June 30, ~~2025~~ 2026.

26  
27       SECTION 29. SPECIAL LANGUAGE. NOT TO BE INCORPORATED INTO THE ARKANSAS  
28       CODE NOR PUBLISHED SEPARATELY AS SPECIAL, LOCAL AND TEMPORARY LAW. TRANSFER  
29       PROVISION – STATE OPERATIONS. After receiving approval from the Chief  
30       Fiscal Officer of the State and prior review by the Legislative Council or  
31       Joint Budget Committee, the Director of the Arkansas Economic Development  
32       Commission is authorized to transfer appropriation from any line item  
33       appropriation authorized in the State Operations Section of this Act to any  
34       other line item authorized in the State Operations Section of this Act.

35       Determining the maximum number of employees and the maximum amount of  
36       appropriation and general revenue funding for a state agency each fiscal year

1 is the prerogative of the General Assembly. This is usually accomplished by  
2 delineating such maximums in the appropriation act(s) for a state agency and  
3 the general revenue allocations authorized for each fund and fund account by  
4 amendment to the Revenue Stabilization Law. Further, the General Assembly  
5 has determined that the Arkansas Economic Development Commission may operate  
6 more efficiently if some flexibility is provided to the Arkansas Economic  
7 Development Commission authorizing broad powers under this  
8 Section. Therefore, it is both necessary and appropriate that the General  
9 Assembly maintain oversight by requiring prior review of the Legislative  
10 Council or Joint Budget Committee as provided by this section. The  
11 requirement of review by the Legislative Council or Joint Budget Committee is  
12 not a severable part of this section. If the requirement of review by the  
13 Legislative Council or Joint Budget Committee is ruled unconstitutional by a  
14 court of competent jurisdiction, this entire section is void.

15 The provisions of this section shall be in effect only from July 1,  
16 ~~2024~~ 2025 through June 30, ~~2025~~ 2026.

17  
18 SECTION 30. SPECIAL LANGUAGE. NOT TO BE INCORPORATED INTO THE ARKANSAS  
19 CODE NOR PUBLISHED SEPARATELY AS SPECIAL, LOCAL AND TEMPORARY LAW. FOREIGN  
20 OFFICE OPERATIONS. The Arkansas Economic Development Commission is hereby  
21 authorized to enter into contractual arrangements with private and/or public  
22 companies, corporations, individuals or organizations for the purpose of  
23 operating foreign offices which shall only (i) provide export trade  
24 assistance to Arkansas-based businesses, (ii) facilitate the repatriation to  
25 Arkansas manufacturing businesses operating overseas, and (iii) encourage  
26 direct investment in Arkansas of foreign companies that are not state-owned  
27 or controlled. Arkansas Code 15-4-210 shall not be deemed restrictive in its  
28 language so as to preclude the use of standard Professional Services  
29 Contracts for the operation of the foreign offices and/or payment of such  
30 contracts from the special line items as established by legislative  
31 appropriation for the operation of said foreign offices.

32 The provisions of this section shall be in effect only from July 1, ~~2024~~  
33 2025 through June 30, ~~2025~~ 2026.

34  
35 SECTION 31. SPECIAL LANGUAGE. NOT TO BE INCORPORATED INTO THE ARKANSAS  
36 CODE NOR PUBLISHED SEPARATELY AS SPECIAL, LOCAL AND TEMPORARY LAW. RURAL



1 DEVELOPMENT. From the funds appropriated for Community Development Grants  
2 within the Community Development Program in this Act for Community Assistance  
3 (CDBG) - Federal, the Arkansas Economic Development Commission (AEDC) shall  
4 allocate at least \$500,000 per fiscal year to the Rural Development Set-Aside  
5 from the annual Community Development Block Grant, as defined in AEDC's  
6 Consolidated Plan filed with the federal Department of Housing and Urban  
7 Development. Funds allocated to the Rural Development Set-Aside are to be  
8 used exclusively for grants to rural communities as defined in the  
9 Consolidated Plan.

10 The provisions of this section shall be in effect only from July 1, ~~2024~~  
11 2025 through June 30, ~~2025~~ 2026.

12  
13 SECTION 32. SPECIAL LANGUAGE. NOT TO BE INCORPORATED INTO THE ARKANSAS  
14 CODE NOR PUBLISHED SEPARATELY AS SPECIAL, LOCAL AND TEMPORARY LAW. GRANT  
15 REVIEW. The Arkansas Economic Development Commission (AEDC) shall review all  
16 applications for grant funds and shall certify those applications eligible  
17 for grant funds under AEDC and federal guidelines. The Rural Services  
18 Division of the Arkansas Economic Development Commission alone shall  
19 recommend which grant applications will be funded, and AEDC shall disburse  
20 grant funds from the Rural Development Set-Aside to those applicants  
21 receiving final approval by the Rural Services Division of the Arkansas  
22 Economic Development Commission. AEDC and the Rural Services Division of the  
23 Arkansas Economic Development Commission shall promulgate rules and  
24 regulations governing the application for and disbursement of grant funds  
25 from the Rural Development Set-Aside, and an annual report of the disposition  
26 of these grant funds shall be made to the Legislative Joint Auditing  
27 Committee.

28 The provisions of this section shall be in effect only from July 1, ~~2024~~  
29 2025 through June 30, ~~2025~~ 2026.

30  
31 SECTION 33. SPECIAL LANGUAGE. NOT TO BE INCORPORATED INTO THE ARKANSAS  
32 CODE NOR PUBLISHED SEPARATELY AS SPECIAL, LOCAL AND TEMPORARY LAW. TRANSFER  
33 PROVISION - COMMUNITY ASSISTANCE (CDBG) - FEDERAL. After receiving approval  
34 from the Chief Fiscal Officer of the State and prior approval by the  
35 Legislative Council or Joint Budget Committee, the Director of the Arkansas  
36 Economic Development Commission is authorized to transfer appropriation from

1 any line item appropriation authorized in the Community Assistance (CDBG) -  
2 Federal Section of this Act to any other line item authorized in the  
3 Community Assistance (CDBG) - Federal Section of this Act.

4 Determining the maximum number of employees and the maximum amount of  
5 appropriation and general revenue funding for a state agency each fiscal year  
6 is the prerogative of the General Assembly. This is usually accomplished by  
7 delineating such maximums in the appropriation act(s) for a state agency and  
8 the general revenue allocations authorized for each fund and fund account by  
9 amendment to the Revenue Stabilization law. Further, the General Assembly  
10 has determined that the Arkansas Economic Development Commission may operate  
11 more efficiently if some flexibility is provided to the Arkansas Economic  
12 Development Commission authorizing broad powers under this Section.  
13 Therefore, it is both necessary and appropriate that the General Assembly  
14 maintain oversight by requiring prior approval of the Legislative Council or  
15 Joint Budget Committee as provided by this section. The requirement of  
16 approval by the Legislative Council or Joint Budget Committee is not a  
17 severable part of this section. If the requirement of approval by the  
18 Legislative Council or Joint Budget Committee is ruled unconstitutional by a  
19 court of competent jurisdiction, this entire section is void.

20 The provisions of this section shall be in effect only from July 1, ~~2024~~  
21 2025 through June 30, ~~2025~~ 2026.

22  
23 SECTION 34. SPECIAL LANGUAGE. NOT TO BE INCORPORATED INTO THE ARKANSAS  
24 CODE NOR PUBLISHED SEPARATELY AS SPECIAL, LOCAL AND TEMPORARY LAW.

25 FLEXIBILITY RESTRICTIONS. The transfer flexibility provided to the Arkansas  
26 Economic Development Commission within this Act relating to the appropriation  
27 in the Community Assistance (CDBG) - Federal Section shall be used only when  
28 necessary to carry out the Community Development Block Grant Program and  
29 shall require approval by the Arkansas Legislative Council or Joint Budget  
30 Committee.

31 Determining the maximum number of employees and the maximum amount of  
32 appropriation and general revenue funding for a state agency each fiscal year  
33 is the prerogative of the General Assembly. This is usually accomplished by  
34 delineating such maximums in the appropriation act(s) for a state agency and  
35 the general revenue allocations authorized for each fund and fund account by  
36 amendment to the Revenue Stabilization law. Further, the General Assembly

1 has determined that the Arkansas Economic Development Commission may operate  
2 more efficiently if some flexibility is provided to the Arkansas Economic  
3 Development Commission authorizing broad powers under this Section.

4 Therefore, it is both necessary and appropriate that the General Assembly  
5 maintain oversight by requiring prior approval of the Legislative Council or  
6 Joint Budget Committee as provided by this section. The requirement of  
7 approval by the Legislative Council or Joint Budget Committee is not a  
8 severable part of this section. If the requirement of approval by the  
9 Legislative Council or Joint Budget Committee is ruled unconstitutional by a  
10 court of competent jurisdiction, this entire section is void.

11 The provisions of this section shall be in effect only from July 1, ~~2024~~  
12 2025 through June 30, ~~2025~~ 2026.

13  
14 SECTION 35. SPECIAL LANGUAGE. NOT TO BE INCORPORATED INTO THE ARKANSAS  
15 CODE NOR PUBLISHED SEPARATELY AS SPECIAL, LOCAL AND TEMPORARY LAW.

16 ADDITIONAL PAYMENTS AUTHORIZED. The Arkansas Industrial and Economic  
17 Development Foundation is hereby authorized to make additional payments to  
18 the Director of the Arkansas Economic Development Commission, from private  
19 funding sources, and upon prior approval from the Arkansas Economic  
20 Development Commission, the Arkansas Industrial and Economic Development  
21 Foundation, and the Governor. Such additional payments to the Director of  
22 the Arkansas Economic Development Commission shall not be considered salary  
23 and shall not be deemed or construed to exceed the maximum salaries  
24 established for unclassified employees by the General Assembly. Nothing in  
25 this section may be construed to reduce or eliminate the authority granted  
26 elsewhere in the Arkansas statute for the payment of allowances or bonuses to  
27 unclassified employees.

28 The provisions of this section shall be in effect only from July 1, ~~2024~~  
29 2025 through June 30, ~~2025~~ 2026.

30  
31 SECTION 36. SPECIAL LANGUAGE. NOT TO BE INCORPORATED INTO THE ARKANSAS  
32 CODE NOR PUBLISHED SEPARATELY AS SPECIAL, LOCAL AND TEMPORARY LAW.

33 CARRY FORWARD - INDUSTRY TRAINING PROGRAM. Any unexpended balance of funds  
34 for the Industry Training Program in the Arkansas Economic Development  
35 Commission Fund Account which remain at the close of each state fiscal year  
36 shall be carried forward to the next state fiscal year to be used for the

1 same intent and purposes as set forth in law.

2 Any carry forward of unexpended balance of funding as authorized herein,  
3 may be carried forward under the following conditions:

4 (1) Prior to June 30, ~~2025~~ 2026 the Agency shall by written statement set  
5 forth its reason(s) for the need to carry forward said funding to the  
6 Department of Finance and Administration Office of Budget;

7 (2) The Department of Finance and Administration Office of Budget shall  
8 report to the Arkansas Legislative Council all amounts carried forward by the  
9 September Arkansas Legislative Council or Joint Budget Committee meeting  
10 which report shall include the name of the Agency, Board, Commission or  
11 Institution and the amount of the funding carried forward, the program name  
12 or line item, the funding source of that appropriation and a copy of the  
13 written request set forth in (1) above;

14 (3) Each Agency, Board, Commission or Institution shall provide a written  
15 report to the Arkansas Legislative Council or Joint Budget Committee  
16 containing all information set forth in item (2) above, along with a written  
17 statement as to the current status of the project, contract, purpose etc. for  
18 which the carry forward was originally requested no later than thirty (30)  
19 days prior to the time the Agency, Board, Commission or Institution presents  
20 its budget request to the Arkansas Legislative Council/Joint Budget  
21 Committee; and

22 (4) Thereupon, the Department of Finance and Administration shall include  
23 all information obtained in item (3) above in the budget manuals and/or a  
24 statement of non-compliance by the Agency, Board, Commission or Institution.

25 The provisions of this section shall be in effect only from July 1, ~~2024~~  
26 2025 through June 30, ~~2025~~ 2026.

27

28 SECTION 37. SPECIAL LANGUAGE. NOT TO BE INCORPORATED INTO THE ARKANSAS  
29 CODE NOR PUBLISHED SEPARATELY AS SPECIAL, LOCAL AND TEMPORARY LAW. CARRY  
30 FORWARD – TECHNOLOGY DEVELOPMENT. The Division of Science and Technology of  
31 the Arkansas Economic Development Commission is authorized to carry forward  
32 an amount of up to \$150,000 of any obligated but unexpended funds in the  
33 Technology Development line item in the Division of Science and Technology -  
34 State Operations Section of this Act for basic or applied research grants  
35 which remains at the end of the fiscal year ~~2025~~ 2026 to be used for the same  
36 purpose.

1 Any carry forward of unexpended balance of funding as authorized herein, may  
2 be carried forward under the following conditions:

3 (1) Prior to June 30, ~~2025~~ 2026 the Agency shall by written statement set  
4 forth its reason(s) for the need to carry forward said funding to the  
5 Department of Finance and Administration Office of Budget;

6 (2) The Department of Finance and Administration Office of Budget shall  
7 report to the Arkansas Legislative Council all amounts carried forward by the  
8 September Arkansas Legislative Council or Joint Budget Committee meeting  
9 which report shall include the name of the Agency, Board, Commission or  
10 Institution and the amount of the funding carried forward, the program name  
11 or line item, the funding source of that appropriation and a copy of the  
12 written request set forth in (1) above;

13 (3) Each Agency, Board, Commission or Institution shall provide a written  
14 report to the Arkansas Legislative Council or Joint Budget Committee  
15 containing all information set forth in item (2) above, along with a written  
16 statement as to the current status of the project, contract, purpose etc. for  
17 which the carry forward was originally requested no later than thirty (30)  
18 days prior to the time the Agency, Board, Commission or Institution presents  
19 its budget request to the Arkansas Legislative Council/Joint Budget  
20 Committee; and

21 (4) Thereupon, the Department of Finance and Administration shall include  
22 all information obtained in item (3) above in the budget manuals and/or a  
23 statement of non-compliance by the Agency, Board, Commission or Institution.

24 The provisions of this section shall be in effect only from July 1 ~~2024~~  
25 2025 through June 30, ~~2025~~ 2026.

26

27 SECTION 38. SPECIAL LANGUAGE. NOT TO BE INCORPORATED INTO THE ARKANSAS  
28 CODE NOR PUBLISHED SEPARATELY AS SPECIAL, LOCAL AND TEMPORARY LAW.

29 APPROPRIATION AND FUND TRANSFERS. After receiving approval from the Chief  
30 Fiscal Officer of the State, the Director of the Arkansas Economic  
31 Development Commission is authorized to transfer appropriation and funds from  
32 the Division of Science and Technology State Operations - Arkansas  
33 Acceleration Fund Programs line item within the Arkansas Economic Development  
34 Commission Fund Account to the Arkansas Acceleration Fund. The total of all  
35 transfers shall not exceed \$3,500,000.

36 The provisions of this section shall be in effect only from July 1, ~~2024~~

1 2025 through June 30, ~~2025~~ 2026.

2

3 SECTION 39. SPECIAL LANGUAGE. NOT TO BE INCORPORATED INTO THE ARKANSAS  
4 CODE NOR PUBLISHED SEPARATELY AS SPECIAL, LOCAL AND TEMPORARY LAW.  
5 PROMOTIONAL ITEMS. The Chief Fiscal Officer of the State shall establish,  
6 upon request from the Arkansas Economic Development Commission, a special  
7 appropriation line item to be used in the acquisition of promotional items.  
8 When the Arkansas Economic Development Commission wishes to transfer from its  
9 operating expenses to promotional items, the request shall be forwarded to  
10 the Chief Fiscal Officer of the State for processing after prior approval by  
11 the Arkansas Legislative Council or Joint Budget Committee.

12 Determining the maximum number of employees and the maximum amount of  
13 appropriation and general revenue funding for a state agency each fiscal year  
14 is the prerogative of the General Assembly. This is usually accomplished by  
15 delineating such maximums in the appropriation act(s) for a state agency and  
16 the general revenue allocations authorized for each fund and fund account by  
17 amendment to the Revenue Stabilization Law. Further, the General Assembly  
18 has determined that the Arkansas Economic Development Commission may operate  
19 more efficiently if some flexibility is provided to the Arkansas Economic  
20 Development Commission authorizing broad powers under this Section.  
21 Therefore, it is both necessary and appropriate that the General Assembly  
22 maintain oversight by requiring prior approval of the Legislative Council or  
23 Joint Budget Committee as provided by this Section. The requirement of  
24 approval by the Legislative Council or Joint Budget Committee is not a  
25 severable part of this Section. If the requirement of approval by the  
26 Legislative Council or Joint Budget Committee is ruled unconstitutional by a  
27 court of competent jurisdiction, this entire section is void.

28 The provisions of this section shall be in effect only from July 1, ~~2024~~  
29 2025 through June 30, ~~2025~~ 2026.

30

31 SECTION 40. SPECIAL LANGUAGE. NOT TO BE INCORPORATED INTO THE ARKANSAS  
32 CODE NOR PUBLISHED SEPARATELY AS SPECIAL, LOCAL AND TEMPORARY LAW. GRANT  
33 AWARD CRITERIA. The Rural Services Division of the Arkansas Economic  
34 Development Commission shall promulgate rules establishing the criteria to be  
35 utilized in determining to whom grants will be made under this Act. Subject  
36 to the approval of the Governor, and approval by the Arkansas Legislative

1 Council or the Joint Budget Committee, the Rural Services Division of the  
2 Arkansas Economic Development Commission shall distribute the grants.

3 Determining the maximum number of employees and the maximum amount of  
4 appropriation and general revenue funding for a state agency each fiscal year  
5 is the prerogative of the General Assembly. This is usually accomplished by  
6 delineating such maximums in the appropriation act(s) for a state agency and  
7 the general revenue allocations authorized for each fund and fund account by  
8 amendment to the Revenue Stabilization law. Further, the General Assembly  
9 has determined that the Rural Services Division of the Arkansas Economic  
10 Development Commission may operate more efficiently if some flexibility is  
11 provided to the Rural Services Division of the Arkansas Economic Development  
12 Commission authorizing broad powers under this Section. Therefore, it is  
13 both necessary and appropriate that the General Assembly maintain oversight  
14 by requiring prior approval of the Legislative Council or Joint Budget  
15 Committee as provided by this section. The requirement of approval by the  
16 Legislative Council or Joint Budget Committee is not a severable part of this  
17 section. If the requirement of approval by the Legislative Council or Joint  
18 Budget Committee is ruled unconstitutional by a court of competent  
19 jurisdiction, this entire section is void.

20 The provisions of this section shall be in effect only from July 1, ~~2024~~  
21 2025 through June 30, ~~2025~~ 2026.

22  
23 SECTION 41. SPECIAL LANGUAGE. NOT TO BE INCORPORATED INTO THE ARKANSAS  
24 CODE NOR PUBLISHED SEPARATELY AS SPECIAL, LOCAL AND TEMPORARY LAW. TRANSFER  
25 OF FUNDS. In the event that revenue is available for transfer to and in  
26 support of the Arkansas Acceleration Fund Act, the Executive Director of the  
27 Arkansas Economic Development Commission shall certify to the Chief Fiscal  
28 Officer of the State the amount needed for transfer from the Arkansas  
29 Economic Development Commission Fund Account to the Arkansas Acceleration  
30 Fund. Upon the approval of the Chief Fiscal Officer of the State, the amount  
31 certified shall be transferred. The Chief Fiscal Officer of the State shall  
32 initiate the necessary transfer documents to reflect all such transfers upon  
33 the fiscal records of the State Auditor, the State Treasurer and the Chief  
34 Fiscal Officer of the State.

35 The provisions of this section shall be in effect only from July 1, ~~2024~~  
36 2025 through June 30, ~~2025~~ 2026.

1  
2 SECTION 42. SPECIAL LANGUAGE. NOT TO BE INCORPORATED INTO THE ARKANSAS  
3 CODE NOR PUBLISHED SEPARATELY AS SPECIAL, LOCAL AND TEMPORARY LAW. SHARED  
4 SERVICES.

5 (a)(1) The Chief Fiscal Officer of the State may create a Shared  
6 Services paying account on his or her books and on the books of the Treasurer  
7 of State and the Auditor of State for the payment of personal services and  
8 operating expenses in the Shared Services Paying Account Appropriation by the  
9 Department of Commerce.

10 (2) The Chief Fiscal Officer of the State shall direct the  
11 transfer of funds and appropriations to the Shared Services Paying Account  
12 appropriation section of this act on the books of the Treasurer of State, the  
13 Auditor of State, and the Chief Fiscal Officer of the State.

14 (3) The transfer authority provided to the department in  
15 subdivision (a)(2) of this section may be used to make transfers only within  
16 the department's appropriation act or between other appropriation acts  
17 authorized for the department.

18 (4) The provisions of this section shall be in effect from the  
19 date of passage through June 30, ~~2025~~ 2026.

20  
21 SECTION 43. SPECIAL LANGUAGE. NOT TO BE INCORPORATED INTO THE ARKANSAS  
22 CODE NOR PUBLISHED SEPARATELY AS SPECIAL, LOCAL AND TEMPORARY LAW. CARRY  
23 FORWARD - MILITARY AFFAIRS GRANT PROGRAM. Any unexpended balance of funds  
24 allocated for the Military Affairs Grant Program in the Arkansas Economic  
25 Development Commission Fund Account which remain at the close of each state  
26 fiscal year shall be carried forward to the next state fiscal year to be used  
27 for the same intent and purposes as set forth in law. Any carry forward of  
28 unexpended balance of funding as authorized herein, may be carried forward  
29 under the following conditions:

30 (1) Prior to June 30, ~~2025~~ 2026 the Agency shall by written statement set  
31 forth its reason(s) for the need to carry forward said funding to the  
32 Department of Finance and Administration Office of Budget;

33 (2) The Department of Finance and Administration Office of Budget shall  
34 report to the Arkansas Legislative Council all amounts carried forward by the  
35 September Arkansas Legislative Council or Joint Budget Committee meeting  
36 which report shall include the name of the Agency, Board, Commission or



1 Institution and the amount of the funding carried forward, the program name  
2 or line item, the funding source of that appropriation and a copy of the  
3 written request set forth in (1) above;

4 (3) Each Agency, Board, Commission or Institution shall provide a written  
5 report to the Arkansas Legislative Council or Joint Budget Committee  
6 containing all information set forth in item (2) above, along with a written  
7 statement as to the current status of the project, contract, purpose etc. for  
8 which the carry forward was originally requested no later than thirty (30)  
9 days prior to the time the Agency, Board, Commission or Institution presents  
10 its budget request to the Arkansas Legislative Council/Joint Budget  
11 Committee; and

12 (4) Thereupon, the Department of Finance and Administration shall include  
13 all information obtained in item (3) above in the budget manuals and/or a  
14 statement of non-compliance by the Agency, Board, Commission or Institution.

15 The provisions of this section shall be in effect only from July 1, ~~2024~~  
16 2025 through June 30, ~~2025~~ 2026.

17  
18 SECTION 44. SPECIAL LANGUAGE. NOT TO BE INCORPORATED INTO THE ARKANSAS  
19 CODE NOR PUBLISHED SEPARATELY AS SPECIAL, LOCAL AND TEMPORARY LAW. CARRY  
20 FORWARD - ARKANSAS ACCELERATION FUND PROGRAM. Any unexpended balance of  
21 funds for the Arkansas Acceleration Fund Program line item in the Division of  
22 Science and Technology - State Operations Section of this Act which remain at  
23 the close of each state fiscal year shall be carried forward to the next  
24 state fiscal year to be used for the same intent and purposes as set forth in  
25 law.

26 Any carry forward of unexpended balance of funding as authorized herein, may  
27 be carried forward under the following conditions:

28 (1) Prior to June 30, ~~2025~~ 2026 the Agency shall by written statement set  
29 forth its reasons(s) for the need to carry forward said funding to the  
30 Department of Finance and Administration Office of Budget;

31 (2) The Department of Finance and Administration Office of Budget shall  
32 report to the Arkansas Legislative Council all amounts carried forward by the  
33 September Arkansas Legislative Council or Joint Budget Committee meeting,  
34 which report shall include the name of the Agency, Board, Commission or  
35 Institution and the amount of the funding carried forward, the program name  
36 or line item, the funding source of the appropriation and a copy of the

1 written request set forth in (1) above;

2 (3) Each Agency, Board, Commission or Institution shall provide a written  
3 report to the Arkansas Legislative Council or Joint Budget Committee  
4 containing all information set forth in item (2) above, along with a written  
5 statement as to the current status of the project, contract, purpose, etc.  
6 for which the carry forward was originally requested no later than thirty  
7 (30) days prior to the time the Agency, Board, Commission or Institution  
8 presents its budget request to the Arkansas Legislative Council/Joint Budget  
9 Committee; and

10 (4) Thereupon, the Department of Finance and Administration shall include all  
11 information obtained in item (3) above in the budget manuals and/or a  
12 statement of non-compliance by the Agency, Board, Commission or Institution.

13 The provisions of this section shall be in effect only from July 1,  
14 ~~2024~~ 2025 through June 30, ~~2025~~ 2026.

15

16 SECTION 45. COMPLIANCE WITH OTHER LAWS. Disbursement of funds  
17 authorized by this act shall be limited to the appropriation for such agency  
18 and funds made available by law for the support of such appropriations; and  
19 the restrictions of the State Procurement Law, the General Accounting and  
20 Budgetary Procedures Law, the Revenue Stabilization Law, the Regular Salary  
21 Procedures and Restrictions Act, or their successors, and other fiscal  
22 control laws of this State, where applicable, and regulations promulgated by  
23 the Department of Finance and Administration, as authorized by law, shall be  
24 strictly complied with in disbursement of said funds.

25

26 SECTION 46. LEGISLATIVE INTENT. It is the intent of the General  
27 Assembly that any funds disbursed under the authority of the appropriations  
28 contained in this act shall be in compliance with the stated reasons for  
29 which this act was adopted, as evidenced by the Agency Requests, Executive  
30 Recommendations and Legislative Recommendations contained in the budget  
31 manuals prepared by the Department of Finance and Administration, letters, or  
32 summarized oral testimony in the official minutes of the Arkansas Legislative  
33 Council or Joint Budget Committee which relate to its passage and adoption.

34

35 SECTION 47. EMERGENCY CLAUSE. It is found and determined by the  
36 General Assembly, that the Constitution of the State of Arkansas prohibits

1 the appropriation of funds for more than a one (1) year period; that the  
2 effectiveness of this Act on July 1, 2025 is essential to the operation of  
3 the agency for which the appropriations in this Act are provided, and that in  
4 the event of an extension of the legislative session, the delay in the  
5 effective date of this Act beyond July 1, 2025 could work irreparable harm  
6 upon the proper administration and provision of essential governmental  
7 programs. Therefore, an emergency is hereby declared to exist and this Act  
8 being necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health  
9 and safety shall be in full force and effect from and after July 1, 2025.

10  
11 */s/ Joint Budget Committee*

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14 **APPROVED: 4/14/25**  
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