

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

A Bill

HOUSE BILL 1002

5 By: Joint Budget Committee
6
7

For An Act To Be Entitled

9 AN ACT TO MAKE AN APPROPRIATION FOR EXPENSES OF THE
10 JUDICIAL BRANCH OF GOVERNMENT FOR THE AUDITOR OF
11 STATE - GENERAL APPROPRIATIONS, ARKANSAS SENATE AND
12 ARKANSAS HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES FOR THE FISCAL YEAR
13 ENDING JUNE 30, 2026; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.
14

Subtitle

15
16 THE GENERAL APPROPRIATION ACT FOR THE
17 2025-2026 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 - AUDITOR OF STATE DISBURSEMENTS. There is
24 hereby appropriated, to the Auditor of State, to be payable from the
25 Constitutional Officers Fund, for personal services and operating expenses of
26 the Auditor of State - General Appropriations for the fiscal year ending June
27 30, 2026, the following:
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29 ITEM	FISCAL YEAR
30 <u>NO.</u>	<u>2025-2026</u>
31 (01) DISTRICT JUDGES TRAVEL EXPENSE	
32 REIMBURSEMENT	\$80,000
33 (02) SPECIAL/RECALLED JUDGES FOR THE	
34 CIRCUIT COURTS	350,000
35 (03) TRIAL JUDGES EXPENSES	<u>400,000</u>
36 TOTAL AMOUNT APPROPRIATED	<u><u>\$830,000</u></u>



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 2 SECTION 2. APPROPRIATION - HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES. There is hereby
 3 appropriated, to the Arkansas House of Representatives, to be payable from
 4 the Constitutional Officers Fund, for reimbursements to Representatives for
 5 interim expenses incurred as authorized by law of the Arkansas House of
 6 Representatives for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2026, the following:

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8 ITEM	FISCAL YEAR
9 <u>NO.</u>	<u>2025-2026</u>
10 (01) INTERIM EXPENSE REIMBURSEMENTS FOR	
11 REPRESENTATIVES	<u>\$368,000</u>

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13 SECTION 3. APPROPRIATION - ARKANSAS SENATE. There is hereby
 14 appropriated, to the Arkansas Senate, to be payable from the Constitutional
 15 Officers Fund, for reimbursements to Senators for interim expenses incurred
 16 as authorized by law of the Arkansas Senate for the fiscal year ending June
 17 30, 2026, the following:

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19 ITEM	FISCAL YEAR
20 <u>NO.</u>	<u>2025-2026</u>
21 (01) INTERIM EXPENSE REIMBURSEMENTS FOR	
22 SENATORS	<u>\$200,000</u>

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24 SECTION 4. SPECIAL LANGUAGE. NOT TO BE INCORPORATED INTO THE ARKANSAS
 25 CODE NOR PUBLISHED SEPARATELY AS SPECIAL, LOCAL AND TEMPORARY LAW.
 26 DISBURSING OFFICER. The Auditor of State shall be disbursing officer for the
 27 funds appropriated for Auditor of State Disbursements herein.

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29 SECTION 5. SPECIAL LANGUAGE. NOT TO BE INCORPORATED INTO THE ARKANSAS
 30 CODE NOR PUBLISHED SEPARATELY AS SPECIAL, LOCAL AND TEMPORARY LAW. SENATE
 31 DISBURSEMENTS. The Secretary of the Senate shall be disbursing officer for
 32 the funds appropriated for Interim Expense Reimbursements for Senators
 33 herein.

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35 SECTION 6. SPECIAL LANGUAGE. NOT TO BE INCORPORATED INTO THE ARKANSAS
 36 CODE NOR PUBLISHED SEPARATELY AS SPECIAL, LOCAL AND TEMPORARY LAW. HOUSE

1 DISBURSEMENTS. The Chief of Staff or his designee of the House of
2 Representatives shall be disbursing officer for the funds appropriated for
3 Interim Expense Reimbursements for Representatives herein.
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5 SECTION 7. SPECIAL LANGUAGE. NOT TO BE INCORPORATED INTO THE ARKANSAS
6 CODE NOR PUBLISHED SEPARATELY AS SPECIAL, LOCAL AND TEMPORARY LAW. HOUSE
7 INTERIM EXPENSE DISBURSEMENTS. The appropriations authorized for House of
8 Representatives shall be used for making reimbursements for interim expenses
9 incurred by members of the House of Representatives.
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11 SECTION 8. SPECIAL LANGUAGE. NOT TO BE INCORPORATED INTO THE ARKANSAS
12 CODE NOR PUBLISHED SEPARATELY AS SPECIAL, LOCAL AND TEMPORARY LAW. SENATE
13 INTERIM EXPENSE DISBURSEMENTS. The appropriations authorized for Arkansas
14 Senate shall be used for making reimbursements for interim expenses incurred
15 by members of the Senate.
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17 SECTION 9. SPECIAL LANGUAGE. NOT TO BE INCORPORATED INTO THE ARKANSAS
18 CODE NOR PUBLISHED SEPARATELY AS SPECIAL, LOCAL AND TEMPORARY LAW.
19 LEGISLATIVE INSTITUTE. Members of the preceding General Assembly and the
20 newly elected members of the House of Representatives and Senate shall be
21 eligible to attend the biennial Institute of Legislative Procedure and shall
22 be entitled, upon filing claim therefore, to per diem in the amount fixed by
23 law for members of the General Assembly to receive for attendance at
24 Legislative sessions, for each day in attending the biennial Institute of
25 Legislative Procedure plus mileage for traveling from their place of
26 residence to the biennial Institute of Legislative Procedure and return.
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28 SECTION 10. SPECIAL LANGUAGE. NOT TO BE INCORPORATED INTO THE ARKANSAS
29 CODE NOR PUBLISHED SEPARATELY AS SPECIAL, LOCAL AND TEMPORARY LAW. JUDICIAL
30 DISBURSEMENTS. The Auditor of State shall be disbursing officer for the
31 funds appropriated for Travel Expense Reimbursements for Judges herein.
32 Disbursement of funds shall be subject to review by the Auditor of State for
33 accuracy and consistency with applicable travel guidelines. Any request for
34 reimbursements under the District Judges Travel Expense Reimbursement line
35 item must be submitted to the Auditor of State within sixty (60) days of end
36 date for the underlying travel or expense.

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SECTION 11. LEGISLATIVE INTENT. It is the intent of the General Assembly that any funds disbursed under the authority of the appropriations contained in this act shall be in compliance with the stated reasons for which this act was adopted, as evidenced by the Agency Requests, Executive Recommendations and Legislative Recommendations contained in the budget manuals prepared by the Department of Finance and Administration, letters, or summarized oral testimony in the official minutes of the Arkansas Legislative Council or Joint Budget Committee which relate to its passage and adoption.

SECTION 12. EMERGENCY CLAUSE. It is found and determined by the General Assembly, that the Constitution of the State of Arkansas prohibits the appropriation of funds for more than a one (1) year period; that the effectiveness of this Act on July 1, 2025 is essential to the operation of the agency for which the appropriations in this Act are provided, and that in the event of an extension of the legislative session, the delay in the effective date of this Act beyond July 1, 2025 could work irreparable harm upon the proper administration and provision of essential governmental programs. Therefore, an emergency is hereby declared to exist and this Act being necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health and safety shall be in full force and effect from and after July 1, 2025.