



**GL #26**

**STATE OF ARKANSAS**  
**SARAH HUCKABEE SANDERS**  
**GOVERNOR**

March 11, 2025

Senator Jonathan Dismang, Co-Chair  
Representative Lane Jean, Co-Chair  
Joint Budget Committee  
Arkansas General Assembly  
State Capitol Building  
Little Rock, AR 72201

Dear Co-Chairs:

I respectfully request the following amendments to HB1206, the 2025-2026 Appropriation Bill for the Department of Education – Division of Elementary and Secondary Education – Public School Fund.

Please amend SECTION 1. APPROPRIATION – GRANTS AND AID TO LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICTS AND SPECIAL PROGRAMS as follows and renumber accordingly:

Item No.		Fiscal Year 2025-2026
(15)	DECLINING ENROLLMENT	<u>13,963,389</u> <u>23,963,389</u>
(25)	ESA MATCHING GRANT PROGRAM	<u>5,300,000</u> <u>5,636,400</u>
(38)	OE CHARTER FAC FUNDING AID PROGRAM	<u>9,075,000</u> <u>10,275,000</u>
(51)	SPECIAL EDUCATION - HIGH COST OCCURRENCES	<u>17,498,150</u> <u>17,934,000</u>
(X)	FREE BREAKFAST PROGRAM	<u>14,700,000</u>
	TOTAL AMOUNT APPROPRIATED	<u><del>\$3,454,041,080</del></u> <u>\$3,480,713,330</u>

This request will increase the Declining Enrollment appropriation by \$10,000,000 in order to support qualifying public school districts as required by Ark. Code Ann. § 6-20-2305(a)(3).

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This request will also increase the ESA Matching Grant Program appropriation by \$336,400 and the Special Education – High Cost Occurrences appropriation by \$435,850 in order to adopt the 2024 Educational Adequacy Recommendations.

This request will also increase the OE Charter Facility Funding Aid Program appropriation by \$1,200,000 in order to assist open enrollment charter schools in the maintenance and repair of approved academic facilities.

This request will also establish a new appropriation that will be used to provide every public school student a breakfast at no cost during the school day, as authorized by Act 123 of 2025.

Please amend SECTION 3. APPROPRIATION – ARKANSAS PUBLIC SCHOOL COMPUTER NETWORK as follows:

Item No.		Fiscal Year 2025-2026
(03) MAINT. & GEN. OPERATION		
(A) OPER. EXPENSE	25,245,839	29,245,839
TOTAL AMOUNT APPROPRIATED	<u>\$29,328,356</u>	<u>\$33,328,356</u>

This request will increase the Operating Expenses line by \$4,000,000 to allow the Department to maintain a unified special education reporting system.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,



Sarah Huckabee Sanders  
Governor of Arkansas

# Hall of the House of Representatives

95th General Assembly - Regular Session, 2025

## Amendment Form

**DRAFT**

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### Subtitle of House Bill 1206

AN ACT FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION - DIVISION OF ELEMENTARY AND  
SECONDARY EDUCATION - PUBLIC SCHOOL FUND APPROPRIATION FOR THE 2025-  
2026 FISCAL YEAR.

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### Amendment No. \_\_\_ to House Bill 1206

Amend House Bill 1206 as originally introduced:

Page 2, line 14, delete "13,963,389" and substitute "23,963,389"

AND

Page 2, line 24, delete "5,300,000" and substitute "5,636,400"

AND

Page 2, immediately following line 24, insert the following:

" (25.1) FREE BREAKFAST PROGRAM 14,700,000"

AND

Page 3, line 1, delete "9,075,000" and substitute "10,275,000"

AND

Page 3, line 14, delete "17,498,150" and substitute "17,934,000"

AND

**DRAFT**

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Page 3, line 29, delete "\$3,454,041,080" and substitute "\$3,480,713,330"

AND

Page 4, line 34, delete "25,245,839" and substitute "29,245,839"

AND

Page 5, line 4, delete "\$29,328,356" and substitute "\$33,328,356".

The Amendment was read \_\_\_\_\_  
By: JOINT BUDGET COMMITTEE  
KMW/KMW - 03-11-2025 11:13:59  
KMW044

\_\_\_\_\_  
Chief Clerk