

**REPORT OF THE SPECIAL LANGUAGE SUBCOMMITTEE
OF THE
JOINT BUDGET COMMITTEE**

B.2

Tuesday April 2, 2025

Co-Chairs:

Your Special Language Subcommittee met on Tuesday April 1, 2025 and makes the following recommendations listed below to the Joint Budget Committee.

A. The following amendments and bills are recommended for approval and RELEASED from the Subcommittee:

1. SB36 - Department of Human Services - Division of Aging, Adult, and Behavioral Services - Representative Cavanaugh (Attachment 1 - LCW048)
2. Governor's Letter #28 to SB88 - Department of Education - Division of Higher Education (Attachment 2 - KMW048)
3. Governor's Letter #32 to SB37 - Department of Commerce (Attachment 3 - MAH039)
4. Governor's Letter #33 to SB39 - Department of Commerce - Division of Workforce Services (Attachment 4 - MAH040)
5. SB359 - Department of Education - Division of Elementary and Secondary Education Out-Of-School Time Program Grants - Senator J. Petty (Attachment 5 - bill KMW038 and amendment KMW051)
6. SB362 - Department of Education - Division of Elementary and Secondary Education - Youth Organization Grants - Senator K. Hammer (Attachment 6 - bill KMW037 and amendment KMW045)

Respectfully submitted by Subcommittee Co-Chairs Senator Matt McKee and Representative Lee Johnson

ARKANSAS SENATE
95th General Assembly - Regular Session, 2025
Amendment Form

DRAFT

Subtitle of Senate Bill 36

AN ACT FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES - DIVISION OF AGING, ADULT,
AND BEHAVIORAL HEALTH SERVICES APPROPRIATION FOR THE 2025-2026 FISCAL
YEAR.

Amendment No. ___ to Senate Bill 36

Amend Senate Bill 36 as engrossed S3/17/25 (version: 3/17/25 04:21:25 PM):

On page 9, immediately following Section 13, insert the following:

" SECTION 14. APPROPRIATION - FIGHT SENIOR HUNGER COMMUNITY GRANT MATCH PROGRAM. There is hereby appropriated, to the Department of Human Services, to be payable from the paying account as determined by the Chief Fiscal Officer of the State, for grant match payments of the Department of Human Services - Division of Aging, Adult, and Behavioral Health Services for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2026, the following:

ITEM	FISCAL YEAR
NO.	2025-2026
(01) FIGHT SENIOR HUNGER GRANT MATCH	<u>\$400,000"</u>

AND

On page 16, immediately following Section 21, insert the following:

DRAFT

" SECTION 22. SPECIAL LANGUAGE - CODE AMENDMENT. Arkansas Code Title 20, Subtitle 5, Chapter 76, is amended to add an additional subchapter to read as follows:

Subchapter 9 – Fight Senior Hunger Community Grant Match Program

20-76-901. Fight Senior Hunger Community Grant Match Program – Creation – Definitions.

(a) There is created a grant program to be known as the "Fight Senior Hunger Community Grant Match Program" to incentivize Arkansas counties, cities, and nonprofit organizations to help fight senior hunger in their respective communities.

(b) The Department of Human Services is authorized to award a grant to a county, city, or nonprofit organization from funds provided if:

(1) The county, city, or nonprofit organization develops a written plan for providing meals or food to senior citizens in its community and submits the written plan to the Department of Human Services - Division of Aging, Adult, and Behavioral Health Services for approval; and

(2) The members of the county quorum court, city council, or nonprofit organization submits proof that, through either donations of money or property in kind, citizens of the county or city, or persons associated with the nonprofit organization, have pledged or will make available no less than one-half (1/2) of the cost of the program.

(c)(1) Except as provided in subdivision (c)(2) of this section, upon the Department of Human Services - Division of Aging, Adult, and Behavioral Health Services approval of compliance required by subdivision (b)(1) of this section, the department may approve a state grant to be used for the benefit of the county, city, or nonprofit organization program in an amount that equals up to one-half (1/2) of the estimated program cost.

(2) The state's share of the county, city, or nonprofit organization program shall not exceed twenty thousand dollars (\$20,000).

(d) As used in this section:

(1) "Nonprofit organization" means an organization formed under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code, as it existed on January 1, 2025; and

(2) "Property in kind" is limited to kitchen and dining space operational costs that would be associated with the county, city, or

nonprofit organization's program.

20-76-902. Reporting.

Each Area Agency on Aging shall report on its active programs and expenditures to address senior food insecurity under this subchapter to the:

- (1) House Committee on Aging, Children and Youth, Legislative and Military Affairs at least one (1) time each year and during a legislative session; and
- (2) Senate Interim Committee on Children and Youth at least one (1) time each year during a legislative interim."

AND

Appropriately renumber the section numbers of the bill.

The Amendment was read the first time, rules suspended and read the second time and _____
By: JOINT BUDGET COMMITTEE
By: Representative Cavanaugh
LCW/LCW - 03-18-2025 03:00:09
LCW048

Secretary

ARKANSAS SENATE
95th General Assembly - Regular Session, 2025
Amendment Form

DRAFT

Subtitle of Senate Bill 88

AN ACT FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION - DIVISION OF HIGHER EDUCATION
APPROPRIATION FOR THE 2025-2026 FISCAL YEAR.

Amendment No. ___ to Senate Bill 88

Amend Senate Bill 88 as engrossed S3/17/25 (version: 3/17/25 04:21:01 PM):

Page 3, line 16, delete "SCHOLARSHIP AND GRANT"

AND

Page 4, line 24, delete "1,400,000" and substitute "4,400,000"

AND

Page 4, delete lines 30-31 in their entirety and substitute the following:

" (07) ARKANSAS HEROES SCHOLARSHIP 5,500,000"

AND

Appropriately renumber all item numbers in SECTION 6

AND

Page 5, line 4, delete "\$68,550,000" and substitute "\$71,550,000"

DRAFT

KMW048 - 03-20-2025 02:35:25

Page 1 of 2

AND

Page 12, line 30, delete "\$4,555,985" and substitute "\$7,437,405"

AND

Page 19, line 6, delete "SCHOLARSHIP AND GRANT" and substitute "~~SCHOLARSHIP AND GRANT~~"

AND

Page 19, line 11, delete "Scholarship and Grant" and substitute "~~Scholarship and Grant~~"

AND

Page 19, line 13, delete "scholarships and grants" and substitute "~~scholarships and grants~~ programs and initiatives".

The Amendment was read the first time, rules suspended and read the second time and _____

By: JOINT BUDGET COMMITTEE

KMW/KMW - 03-20-2025 02:35:25

KMW048

Secretary

ARKANSAS SENATE
95th General Assembly - Regular Session, 2025
Amendment Form

DRAFT

Subtitle of Senate Bill 37

AN ACT FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE APPROPRIATION FOR THE 2025-2026
FISCAL YEAR.

Amendment No. ___ to Senate Bill 37

Amend Senate Bill 37 as originally introduced:

Page 1, delete SECTION 1 in its entirety and substitute:

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

Item No.	Class Code	Title	Maximum No. of Employees	Maximum Annual Salary Rate Fiscal Year 2025-2026
(1)	SC002	ACOM SECRETARY OF COMMERCE	1	GRADE SE05
(2)	G329C	CHIEF WORKFORCE OFFICER	1	GRADE SE04
(3)	N263N	COMMERCE CHIEF OF STAFF	1	GRADE SE03
(4)	A152C	ACOM CHIEF FISCAL OFFICER	1	GRADE SE01
(5)	G330C	ACOM CHIEF LEGAL COUNSEL II	1	GRADE SE01
(6)	D150C	ACOM CHIEF INFORMATION OFFICER	1	GRADE IT12
(7)	D002N	STATE DATABASE ADMINISTRATOR LEAD	1	GRADE IT11
(8)	D001C	STATE DATABASE ADMINISTRATOR	2	GRADE IT09
(9)	D007C	INFORMATION SYSTEMS MANAGER	1	GRADE IT08
(10)	D029C	SENIOR GIS ANALYST	1	GRADE IT07
(11)	D063C	COMPUTER SUPPORT SPECIALIST	1	GRADE IT05
(12)	D064C	WEBSITE DEVELOPER	1	GRADE IT04

DRAFT

MAH039 - 03-19-2025 11:02:50

Page 1 of 8

as determined by the Chief Fiscal Officer of the State, for community assistance grants for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2026, the following:

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

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

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

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

has determined that the Department of Commerce may operate more efficiently if some flexibility is provided to the Department of Commerce under the Reallocation of Resources provisions herein. Therefore, it is both necessary and appropriate that the General Assembly maintain oversight by requiring prior approval of the Legislative Council or Joint Budget Committee as provided by this section. The requirement of approval by the Legislative Council or Joint Budget Committee is not a severable part of this section. If the requirement of approval by the Legislative Council or Joint Budget Committee is ruled unconstitutional by a court jurisdiction, this entire section is void.

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

and

Appropriately renumber all the SECTION numbers of the bill.

The Amendment was read the first time, rules suspended and read the second time and _____

By: JOINT BUDGET COMMITTEE

MAH/MAH - 03-19-2025 11:02:50

MAH039

Secretary

ARKANSAS SENATE
 95th General Assembly - Regular Session, 2025
 Amendment Form

DRAFT

Subtitle of Senate Bill 39

AN ACT FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE - DIVISION OF WORKFORCE
 SERVICES APPROPRIATION FOR THE 2025-2026 FISCAL YEAR.

Amendment No. ___ to Senate Bill 39

Amend Senate Bill 39 as originally introduced:

Page 1, delete SECTION 1 in its entirety and substitute the following:

" SECTION 1. REGULAR SALARIES. There is hereby established for the Department of Commerce - Division of Workforce Services for the 2025-2026 fiscal year, the following maximum number of regular employees.

Item No.	Class Code	Title	Maximum No. of Employees	Maximum Annual Salary Rate Fiscal Year 2025-2026
(1)	U070U	ACOM DWS DEPUTY DIRECTOR	1	GRADE SE01
(2)	U076U	DWS WORKFORCE INVESTMENT DIRECTOR	1	GRADE SE01
(3)	D002N	STATE DATABASE ADMINISTRATOR LEAD	1	GRADE IT11
(4)	D006N	STATE SYSTEMS ARCHITECT	3	GRADE IT10
(5)	D001C	STATE DATABASE ADMINISTRATOR	1	GRADE IT09
(6)	D022N	IT SENIOR PROJECT MANAGER	1	GRADE IT09
(7)	D007C	INFORMATION SYSTEMS MANAGER	3	GRADE IT08
(8)	D012C	DATABASE SPECIALIST	1	GRADE IT08
(9)	D017C	INFORMATION SYSTEMS SECURITY SPECIALIST	1	GRADE IT07

DRAFT

MAH040 - 03-19-2025 11:50:41

Page 1 of 27

SECTION 31. APPROPRIATION - DIVISION OF WORKFORCE SERVICES - WORKFORCE POLICY & INNOVATION. There is hereby appropriated, to the Department of Commerce, to be payable from the Division of Workforce Services Trust Fund, for personal services and operating expenses of the Department of Commerce - Division of Workforce Services - Workforce Policy & Innovation for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2026, the following:

ITEM NO.	FISCAL YEAR
	2025-2026
(01) REGULAR SALARIES	\$1,285,000
(02) PERSONAL SERVICES MATCHING	428,792
(03) MAINT. & GEN. OPERATION	
(A) OPER. EXPENSE	250,000
(B) CONF. & TRAVEL	15,000
(C) PROF. FEES	15,000
(D) CAP. OUTLAY	0
(E) DATA PROC.	0
TOTAL AMOUNT APPROPRIATED	<u>\$1,993,792"</u>

and

Page 15, immediately following SECTION 23, insert the following SECTIONS:

" SECTION 24. SPECIAL LANGUAGE. NOT TO BE INCORPORATED INTO THE ARKANSAS CODE NOR PUBLISHED SEPARATELY AS SPECIAL, LOCAL AND TEMPORARY LAW. CARRY FORWARD - ARKANSAS REHABILITATION SERVICES. Any balance in the funds made available by this Act for the Arkansas Rehabilitation Services which remain on June 30, 2026, may be carried forward into the next fiscal year, to be used for the same purpose.

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

(1) Prior to June 30, 2026 the Agency shall by written statement set forth its reason(s) for the need to carry forward said funding to the

Department of Finance and Administration Office of Budget;

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

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

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

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

SECTION 25. SPECIAL LANGUAGE. NOT TO BE INCORPORATED INTO THE ARKANSAS CODE NOR PUBLISHED SEPARATELY AS SPECIAL, LOCAL AND TEMPORARY LAW. CARRY FORWARD - DIVISION OF STATE SERVICES FOR THE BLIND. Any balance in the funds made available by this Act for the Division of State Services for the Blind which remain on June 30, 2026, may be carried forward into the next fiscal year, to be used for the same purpose.

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

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

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

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

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

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

and

Appropriately renumber all the SECTION numbers of the bill.

The Amendment was read the first time, rules suspended and read the second time and _____

By: JOINT BUDGET COMMITTEE

MAH/MAH - 03-19-2025 11:50:42

MAH040

Secretary

Stricken language would be deleted from and underlined language would be added to present law.

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

A Bill

SENATE BILL 359

5 By: Senator J. Petty
6
7

For An Act To Be Entitled

8
9 AN ACT TO MAKE AN APPROPRIATION FOR COMPREHENSIVE
10 OUT-OF-SCHOOL TIME PROGRAM GRANTS FOR THE DEPARTMENT
11 OF EDUCATION - DIVISION OF ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY
12 EDUCATION FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDING JUNE 30, 2026;
13 AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.
14
15

Subtitle

16
17 AN ACT FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION -
18 DIVISION OF ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY
19 EDUCATION OUT-OF-SCHOOL TIME PROGRAM
20 GRANTS APPROPRIATION FOR THE 2025-2026
21 FISCAL YEAR.
22

23 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:
24

25 SECTION 1. APPROPRIATION - OUT-OF-SCHOOL TIME PROGRAM GRANTS. There is
26 hereby appropriated, to the Department of Education, to be payable from the
27 cash fund deposited in the State Treasury as determined by the Chief Fiscal
28 Officer of the State, for a grant program for comprehensive out-of-school
29 time programs for school aged children which shall provide evidence-based
30 academic enhancement programs and activities that align with and support
31 state curriculum standards by the Department of Education - Division of
32 Elementary and Secondary Education for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2026,
33 the following:
34

ITEM	FISCAL YEAR
NO.	2025-2026



1 (01) OUT-OF-SCHOOL TIME PROGRAM GRANTS \$1,700,000

2

3 SECTION 2. SPECIAL LANGUAGE. NOT TO BE INCORPORATED INTO THE ARKANSAS
 4 CODE NOR PUBLISHED SEPARATELY AS SPECIAL, LOCAL AND TEMPORARY LAW. OUT-OF-
 5 SCHOOL TIME PROGRAM GRANTS REQUIREMENTS. (a)Of the amount appropriated to
 6 the Department of Education - Division of Elementary and Secondary Education
 7 for Out-Of-School Time Program Grants in this act, funding shall only be made
 8 available to eligible entities for comprehensive out-of-school time programs
 9 for school aged children.

10 (b) Eligible programs shall be limited to applicants meeting the following
 11 criteria:

12 (1) Provide out-of-school time programs during the school year to school
 13 aged children;

14 (2) Provide regular activities designed for evidence-based academic
 15 enhancement that aligns and supports state curriculum standards and will
 16 include a minimum of two of the following five activity areas:

17 (A)STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math);

18 (B)Academic support;

19 (C)Goal setting / leadership;

20 (D)Career exposure/Workforce Readiness; and

21 (E)Community service.

22 (3) Provide activities above as a part of a comprehensive out-of-school
 23 program;

24 (4) Operate for a minimum of 12 hours weekly during the school year;
 25 minimum of four days per week during the calendar school year; not including
 26 school breaks such as holiday or seasonal;

27 (5) Collect data on participants' demographics, attendance and program
 28 participation and compile statewide aggregated data;

29 (6) Implement rigorous safety standards including employee background
 30 checks, compliance with mandated reporting laws; and

31 (7) Must be a qualified 501(c)(3) or 501(c)(4) organization that has been
 32 in operation for more than 5 years and has a record of fiscal accountability.
 33 Organizations must also provide a sustainability model with a minimum of 50%
 34 of funding derived from non-state resources.

35 (c)The Department of Education - Division of Elementary and Secondary
 36 Education shall promulgate rules for the determination of eligibility and

1 administration of the Out-Of-School Time Program Grants.

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

4
5 SECTION 3. COMPLIANCE WITH OTHER LAWS. Disbursement of funds
6 authorized by this act shall be limited to the appropriation for such agency
7 and funds made available by law for the support of such appropriations; and
8 the restrictions of the State Procurement Law, the General Accounting and
9 Budgetary Procedures Law, the Revenue Stabilization Law, the Regular Salary
10 Procedures and Restrictions Act, or their successors, and other fiscal
11 control laws of this State, where applicable, and regulations promulgated by
12 the Department of Finance and Administration, as authorized by law, shall be
13 strictly complied with in disbursement of said funds.

14
15 SECTION 4. LEGISLATIVE INTENT. It is the intent of the General
16 Assembly that any funds disbursed under the authority of the appropriations
17 contained in this act shall be in compliance with the stated reasons for
18 which this act was adopted, as evidenced by the Agency Requests, Executive
19 Recommendations and Legislative Recommendations contained in the budget
20 manuals prepared by the Department of Finance and Administration, letters, or
21 summarized oral testimony in the official minutes of the Arkansas Legislative
22 Council or Joint Budget Committee which relate to its passage and adoption.

23
24 SECTION 5. EMERGENCY CLAUSE. It is found and determined by the General
25 Assembly, that the Constitution of the State of Arkansas prohibits the
26 appropriation of funds for more than a one (1) year period; that the
27 effectiveness of this Act on July 1, 2025 is essential to the operation of
28 the agency for which the appropriations in this Act are provided, and that in
29 the event of an extension of the legislative session, the delay in the
30 effective date of this Act beyond July 1, 2025 could work irreparable harm
31 upon the proper administration and provision of essential governmental
32 programs. Therefore, an emergency is hereby declared to exist and this Act
33 being necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health
34 and safety shall be in full force and effect from and after July 1, 2025.

35
36

ARKANSAS SENATE
95th General Assembly - Regular Session, 2025
Amendment Form

DRAFT

Subtitle of Senate Bill 359

AN ACT FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION - DIVISION OF ELEMENTARY AND
SECONDARY EDUCATION OUT-OF-SCHOOL TIME PROGRAM GRANTS
APPROPRIATION FOR THE 2025-2026 FISCAL YEAR.

Amendment No. ___ to Senate Bill 359

Amend Senate Bill 359 as originally introduced:

Page 2, line 1, delete "\$1,700,000" and substitute "\$3,900,000".

DRAFT

The Amendment was read the first time, rules suspended and read the second time and _____

By: Senator J. Petty

KMW/KMW - 03-31-2025 08:28:45

KMW051

Secretary

Stricken language would be deleted from and underlined language would be added to present law.

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

A Bill

SENATE BILL 362

4
5 By: Senator K. Hammer
6
7

For An Act To Be Entitled

8
9 AN ACT TO MAKE AN APPROPRIATION FOR GRANTS TO YOUTH
10 ORGANIZATIONS FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION -
11 DIVISION OF ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY EDUCATION FOR
12 THE FISCAL YEAR ENDING JUNE 30, 2026; AND FOR OTHER
13 PURPOSES.
14

Subtitle

15
16
17 AN ACT FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION -
18 DIVISION OF ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY
19 EDUCATION YOUTH ORGANIZATION GRANTS
20 APPROPRIATION FOR THE 2025-2026 FISCAL
21 YEAR.
22

23 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:
24

25 SECTION 1. APPROPRIATION - YOUTH ORGANIZATION GRANTS. There is hereby
26 appropriated, to the Department of Education, to be payable from the
27 Miscellaneous Agencies Fund Account, for grants to youth organizations by the
28 Department of Education - Division of Elementary and Secondary Education for
29 the fiscal year ending June 30, 2026, the following:
30

ITEM	FISCAL YEAR
NO.	2025-2026
(01) YOUTH ORGANIZATION GRANTS	<u>\$2,000,000</u>

34
35 SECTION 2. SPECIAL LANGUAGE. NOT TO BE INCORPORATED INTO THE ARKANSAS
36 CODE NOR PUBLISHED SEPARATELY AS SPECIAL, LOCAL AND TEMPORARY LAW. YOUTH



03/03/2025 4:16:45 PM KMW038

1 ORGANIZATION GRANT REQUIREMENTS. (a) Grants authorized in this act shall be
2 granted to youth organizations that are not affiliated in any capacity with
3 local or national organizations that promote, require to be affiliated, or
4 have the presence of DEI requirements, identification by pronouns, or
5 presence of woke ideologies.

6 (b) Grants authorized in this act shall be provided to youth organizations
7 that align with the educational goals of the Governor and General Assembly.

8 (c) Eligible youth organizations shall promote the fundamental values of a
9 healthy home environment and engage youth to become role models in their
10 homes, hometowns, schools, state, nation and the world.

11 (d) The Department of Education - Division of Elementary and Secondary
12 Education shall promulgate rules for the determination of eligible entities,
13 the disbursement of funds, and the ongoing administration of this program in
14 accordance with the requirements of this section.

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

17
18 SECTION 3. COMPLIANCE WITH OTHER LAWS. Disbursement of funds
19 authorized by this act shall be limited to the appropriation for such agency
20 and funds made available by law for the support of such appropriations; and
21 the restrictions of the State Procurement Law, the General Accounting and
22 Budgetary Procedures Law, the Revenue Stabilization Law, the Regular Salary
23 Procedures and Restrictions Act, or their successors, and other fiscal
24 control laws of this State, where applicable, and regulations promulgated by
25 the Department of Finance and Administration, as authorized by law, shall be
26 strictly complied with in disbursement of said funds.

27
28 SECTION 4. LEGISLATIVE INTENT. It is the intent of the General
29 Assembly that any funds disbursed under the authority of the appropriations
30 contained in this act shall be in compliance with the stated reasons for
31 which this act was adopted, as evidenced by the Agency Requests, Executive
32 Recommendations and Legislative Recommendations contained in the budget
33 manuals prepared by the Department of Finance and Administration, letters, or
34 summarized oral testimony in the official minutes of the Arkansas Legislative
35 Council or Joint Budget Committee which relate to its passage and adoption.

36

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

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ARKANSAS SENATE
95th General Assembly - Regular Session, 2025
Amendment Form

DRAFT

Subtitle of Senate Bill 362

AN ACT FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION - DIVISION OF ELEMENTARY AND
SECONDARY EDUCATION YOUTH ORGANIZATION GRANTS APPROPRIATION FOR
THE 2025-2026 FISCAL YEAR.

Amendment No. ___ to Senate Bill 362

Amend Senate Bill 362 as originally introduced:

Pages 1-2, delete SECTIONS 1 - 2 in their entirety and substitute the following:

" SECTION 1. APPROPRIATION - YOUTH ORGANIZATION GRANTS. There is hereby appropriated to the Department of Education, to be payable from the cash fund deposited in the State Treasury as determined by the Chief Fiscal Officer of the State, for grants to youth organizations by the Department of Education - Division of Elementary and Secondary Education for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2026, the following:

ITEM NO.	FISCAL YEAR 2025-2026
(01) YOUTH ORGANIZATION GRANTS	<u>\$4,000,000</u>

SECTION 2. SPECIAL LANGUAGE. NOT TO BE INCORPORATED INTO THE ARKANSAS CODE NOR PUBLISHED SEPARATELY AS SPECIAL, LOCAL AND TEMPORARY LAW. YOUTH ORGANIZATION GRANT REQUIREMENTS.

(a) A grant authorized by this act shall be awarded to a youth organization that does not compel or require a person to adopt, affirm, or profess an idea in violation of Title IV and Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, Pub. L. No. 88-352 in accordance with any local or national

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1 ORGANIZATION GRANT REQUIREMENTS. (a) Grants authorized in this act shall be
2 granted to youth organizations that are not affiliated in any capacity with
3 local or national organizations that promote, require to be affiliated, or
4 have the presence of DEI requirements, identification by pronouns, or
5 presence of woke ideologies.

6 (b) Grants authorized in this act shall be provided to youth organizations
7 that align with the educational goals of the Governor and General Assembly.

8 (c) Eligible youth organizations shall promote the fundamental values of a
9 healthy home environment and engage youth to become role models in their
10 homes, hometowns, schools, state, nation and the world.

11 (d) The Department of Education - Division of Elementary and Secondary
12 Education shall promulgate rules for the determination of eligible entities,
13 the disbursement of funds, and the ongoing administration of this program in
14 accordance with the requirements of this section.

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

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18 SECTION 3. COMPLIANCE WITH OTHER LAWS. Disbursement of funds
19 authorized by this act shall be limited to the appropriation for such agency
20 and funds made available by law for the support of such appropriations; and
21 the restrictions of the State Procurement Law, the General Accounting and
22 Budgetary Procedures Law, the Revenue Stabilization Law, the Regular Salary
23 Procedures and Restrictions Act, or their successors, and other fiscal
24 control laws of this State, where applicable, and regulations promulgated by
25 the Department of Finance and Administration, as authorized by law, shall be
26 strictly complied with in disbursement of said funds.

27

28 SECTION 4. LEGISLATIVE INTENT. It is the intent of the General
29 Assembly that any funds disbursed under the authority of the appropriations
30 contained in this act shall be in compliance with the stated reasons for
31 which this act was adopted, as evidenced by the Agency Requests, Executive
32 Recommendations and Legislative Recommendations contained in the budget
33 manuals prepared by the Department of Finance and Administration, letters, or
34 summarized oral testimony in the official minutes of the Arkansas Legislative
35 Council or Joint Budget Committee which relate to its passage and adoption.

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organization requirement that:

(1) Compels a person to adopt, affirm, or profess an idea in violation of Title IV and Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, Pub. L. No. 88-352, as it existed on January 1, 2025, including that:

(A) People of one color, creed, race, ethnicity, sex, age, marital status, familial status, disability status, religion, national origin, or any other characteristic protected by federal or state law are inherently superior or inferior to people of another color, creed, race, ethnicity, sex, age, marital status, familial status, disability status, religion, national origin, or any other characteristic protected by federal or state law; or

(B) An individual should be discriminated against or receive adverse treatment solely or partly because of the individual's color, creed, race, ethnicity, sex, age, marital status, familial status, disability status, religion, national origin, or any other characteristic protected by federal or state law; or

(2) Requires a person or youth organization to adopt, affirm, or profess an idea based on a diversity, equity, and inclusion initiative, which includes:

(A) An office, division, department, administrator, or person associated with a youth organization that has the purpose of:

(i) Influencing administrative, hiring, or employment practices at a youth organization;

(ii) Promoting:

(a) Preferences based on race, color, sex, ethnicity, or national origin;

(b) Differential treatment on the basis of race, color, sex, ethnicity, or national origin; or

(c) Political or social activism to consider race, color, sex, ethnicity, or national origin as factors in decision-making, except when required by federal or state law; or

(iii) Any promotion described under subdivision (a)(2)(A)(ii) of this section that conflicts with state and federal antidiscrimination laws;

(B) Any program, activity, applicant statement, or training that promotes an activity described in subdivision (a)(2)(A)(ii) of

this section;

(C) The distribution of literature, materials, or other information that promotes an activity described in subdivision (a)(2)(A)(ii) of this section;

(D) The exposure to or distribution of materials through a virtual platform that promote an activity described in subdivision (a)(2)(A)(ii) of this section or that violate Title IV or Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, Pub. L. No. 88-352; or

(E) Soliciting an individual, either in person or through a virtual platform, to subscribe to or otherwise adhere to an activity described in subdivision (a)(2)(A)(ii) of this section or that violates Title IV or Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, Pub. L. No. 88-352.

(b) To be eligible for a grant authorized by this act, a youth organization that is affiliated with a national organization shall submit an official memorandum of understanding between the youth organization and national organization that acknowledges the youth organization's intent to comply with this act.

(c) A grant authorized by this act shall be provided to a youth organization that aligns with the educational goals of the Governor and General Assembly.

(d) A youth organization eligible for a grant under this act shall promote the fundamental values of a healthy home environment and engage youth to become role models in their homes, hometowns, schools, state, nation, and the world.

(e) Funding shall be made available only to eligible entities for comprehensive out-of-school time programs for school-aged children.

(f) To be eligible for a grant under this act, a youth organization shall:

(1) Provide out-of-school time programs during the school year to school-aged children;

(2) Provide regular activities designed for evidence-based academic enhancement that aligns with and supports state curriculum standards and includes at least two (2) of the following five (5) activity areas:

(A) STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math);

(B) Academic support;

(C) Goal setting and leadership activities;

(D) Career exposure and workforce readiness; and

(E) Community service opportunities.

(3) Provide activities under subdivision (f)(2) as part of a comprehensive out-of-school program;

(4) Operate for a minimum of the following, which shall not include designated school breaks:

(A) Twelve (12) hours each week during the school year;
and

(B) Four (4) days each week during the school year;

(5) Collect data on participants' demographics, attendance, and program participation, and compile statewide aggregated data;

(6) Implement rigorous safety standards, including without limitation employee background checks and maintaining compliance with mandated reporting laws; and

(7)(A) Be a qualified 501(c)(3) or 501(c)(4) organization that has been in operation for more than five (5) years and has a record of fiscal accountability.

(B) A youth organization shall provide a sustainability model demonstrating a minimum of fifty percent (50%) of funding derived from non-state resources.

(C) If a youth organization has operated for five (5) years or less, the youth organization may provide a financial plan and have a Certificate of Good Standing from the Secretary of State to be approved by the Department of Education.

(g) Youth Organizations holding a charter of five years or less shall be eligible for a matching grant share of seventy-five (75%) using the funds appropriated in this Act once certification that a twenty-five (25%) local investment is made for the program.

(h) Youth Organizations holding a charter of greater than 5 years shall be eligible for a matching grant share of fifty (50%) using the funds appropriated in this Act once certification that a fifty (50%) local investment is made for the program.

(i) If at any time it is determined by the department that a youth organization has not followed requirements established by this section, the youth organization shall not be eligible for any future grants.

(j) The Department of Education - Division of Elementary and Secondary Education shall promulgate rules for the determination of eligible youth organizations, the disbursement of funds, and the ongoing administration of this program in accordance with the requirements of this section.

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

The Amendment was read the first time, rules suspended and read the second time and _____

By: Senator K. Hammer

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Secretary