



**STATE OF ARKANSAS  
SARAH HUCKABEE SANDERS  
GOVERNOR**

March 18, 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 SB37, the 2025-2026 Operations Appropriation Bill for the Department of Commerce.

Please delete SECTION 1. REGULAR SALARIES – SHARED SERVICES. in its entirety and insert the following new section:

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
<u>(1)</u>	<u>SC002</u>	<u>ACOM SECRETARY OF COMMERCE</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>GRADE SE05</u>
<u>(2)</u>	<u>G329C</u>	<u>CHIEF WORKFORCE OFFICER</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>GRADE SE04</u>
<u>(3)</u>	<u>N263N</u>	<u>COMMERCE CHIEF OF STAFF</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>GRADE SE03</u>
<u>(4)</u>	<u>A152C</u>	<u>ACOM CHIEF FISCAL OFFICER</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>GRADE SE01</u>
<u>(5)</u>	<u>G330C</u>	<u>ACOM CHIEF LEGAL COUNSEL II</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>GRADE SE01</u>
<u>(6)</u>	<u>D150C</u>	<u>ACOM CHIEF INFORMATION OFFICER</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>GRADE IT12</u>
<u>(7)</u>	<u>D002N</u>	<u>STATE DATABASE ADMINISTRATOR LEAD</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>GRADE IT11</u>
<u>(8)</u>	<u>D001C</u>	<u>STATE DATABASE ADMINISTRATOR</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>GRADE IT09</u>

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(9)	<u>D007C</u>	<u>INFORMATION SYSTEMS MANAGER</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>GRADE IT08</u>
(10)	<u>D029C</u>	<u>SENIOR GIS ANALYST</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>GRADE IT07</u>
(11)	<u>D063C</u>	<u>COMPUTER SUPPORT SPECIALIST</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>GRADE IT05</u>
(12)	<u>D064C</u>	<u>WEBSITE DEVELOPER</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>GRADE IT04</u>
(13)	<u>N084N</u>	<u>ACOM AEDC MRKT &amp; COMM. DIR</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>GRADE GS15</u>
(14)	<u>N066N</u>	<u>ACOM CHIEF COMM &amp; LEG. AFFAIRS</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>GRADE GS14</u>
(15)	<u>A014C</u>	<u>FISCAL DIVISION MANAGER</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>GRADE GS12</u>
(16)	<u>G026N</u>	<u>ACOM AEDC ASSISTANT DIR. MGMT SVS</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>GRADE GS12</u>
(17)	<u>G030N</u>	<u>ACOM AEDC ASST DIR OF STEM EDUCATION</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>GRADE GS12</u>
(18)	<u>P007N</u>	<u>ACOM DWS DIR. OF COMMUNICATIONS</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>GRADE GS12</u>
(19)	<u>P078C</u>	<u>ACOM ARS DIR. OF COMMUNICATIONS</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>GRADE GS12</u>
(20)	<u>R006C</u>	<u>HUMAN RESOURCES ADMINISTRATOR</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>GRADE GS12</u>
(21)	<u>R013C</u>	<u>AGENCY HUMAN RESOURCES MANAGER</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>GRADE GS11</u>
(22)	<u>A040C</u>	<u>ACOM ADFA FISCAL PROGRAM MANAGER</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>GRADE GS10</u>
(23)	<u>G076C</u>	<u>ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES MANAGER</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>GRADE GS10</u>
(24)	<u>X009C</u>	<u>ACOM INSURANCE DEPT DIR OF SEC. OPS</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>GRADE GS10</u>
(25)	<u>A038C</u>	<u>FISCAL SUPPORT MANAGER</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>GRADE GS09</u>
(26)	<u>A052C</u>	<u>ACCOUNTING COORDINATOR</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>GRADE GS09</u>
(27)	<u>A060C</u>	<u>SENIOR AUDITOR</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>GRADE GS08</u>
(28)	<u>A082C</u>	<u>ACCOUNTANT II</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>GRADE GS08</u>
(29)	<u>R014C</u>	<u>PERSONNEL MANAGER</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>GRADE GS08</u>
(30)	<u>A065C</u>	<u>PAYROLL SERVICES COORDINATOR</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>GRADE GS07</u>
(31)	<u>C114C</u>	<u>ACOM EXECUTIVE ASST TO SECRETARY</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>GRADE GS07</u>
(32)	<u>E040C</u>	<u>STAFF DEVELOPMENT COORDINATOR</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>GRADE GS07</u>
(33)	<u>G148C</u>	<u>ENERGY PROGRAM MANAGER</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>GRADE GS07</u>
(34)	<u>G163C</u>	<u>ACOM REHAB PROGRAM COORDINATOR</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>GRADE GS07</u>
(35)	<u>G181C</u>	<u>ACOM DWS PROGRAM MONITOR</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>GRADE GS07</u>
(36)	<u>R024C</u>	<u>ASSISTANT PERSONNEL MANAGER</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>GRADE GS07</u>
(37)	<u>A080C</u>	<u>ACOM FINANCE AUTHORITY SPECIALIST</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>GRADE GS06</u>
(38)	<u>C037C</u>	<u>ADMINISTRATIVE ANALYST</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>GRADE GS06</u>
(39)	<u>P027C</u>	<u>PUBLIC INFORMATION SPECIALIST</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>GRADE GS06</u>
(40)	<u>R025C</u>	<u>HUMAN RESOURCES ANALYST</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>GRADE GS06</u>
(41)	<u>R027C</u>	<u>BUDGET SPECIALIST</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>GRADE GS06</u>
(42)	<u>R033C</u>	<u>BENEFITS ANALYST</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>GRADE GS05</u>
(43)	<u>R036C</u>	<u>HUMAN RESOURCES SPECIALIST</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>GRADE GS04</u>
		<u>MAX. NO. OF EMPLOYEES</u>	<u>59</u>	

This request provides for the transfer of thirty-two (32) positions, including five (5) from SB25-State Insurance Department; twelve (12) from HB1115-Arkansas Rehabilitation Services; four (4) from the Arkansas Economic Development Commission; and eleven (11) from SB39-Division of Workforce Services. This reflects a realignment within the Department of Commerce to support centralized administrative functions.

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Please amend, SECTION 2. APPROPRIATION – SHARED SERVICES PAYING ACCOUNT., as follows:

ITEM NO.			FISCAL YEAR 2025-2026
(01)	REGULAR SALARIES	\$2,337,577	\$4,400,000
(02)	PERSONAL SERVICES MATCHING	759,481	1,502,564
(03)	MAINT. & GEN. OPERATIONS		
	(A) OPERATING EXPENSES	272,000	500,000
	(B) CONF. & TRAVEL	100,000	200,000
	(D) CAP. OUTLAY	0	100,000
	TOTAL AMOUNT APPROPRIATED	\$3,569,058	\$6,802,564

This request provides for corresponding appropriation transfers associated with the transfer of thirty-two (32) positions to support centralized administrative functions for the department.

Please delete, SECTION 3. REGULAR SALARIES – OFFICE OF SKILLS DEVELOPMENT in its entirety. This request provides for the transfer of the Office of Skills Development to the Department of Commerce – Division of Workforce Services.

Please delete, SECTION 4. APPROPRIATION – OFFICE OF SKILLS DEVELOPMENT – ADMINISTRATION – OPERATIONS in its entirety. This request provides for the transfer of the Office of Skills Development to the Department of Commerce – Division of Workforce Services.

Please delete, SECTION 5. APPROPRIATION – CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY CRAFT TRAINING PROGRAM in its entirety. This request provides for the transfer of the Office of Skills Development to the Department of Commerce – Division of Workforce Services.

Please delete, SECTION 8. APPROPRIATION – STATE APPRENTICESHIP EXPANSION in its entirety. This request provides for the transfer of the Office of Skills Development to the Department of Commerce – Division of Workforce Services.

SECTIONS 3, 4, 5, and 8 referenced above are requested for inclusion into SB39, the 2025-2026 Operations Appropriation Bill for the Department of Commerce – Division of Workforce Services.

Please amend, SECTION 9. REGULAR SALARIES., as follows and renumber accordingly:

Item No.	Class Code	Title	Maximum No. of Employees	Maximum Annual Salary Rate Fiscal Year 2025-2026
(4)	<del>D029C</del>	SENIOR GIS ANALYST	1	GRADE IT07
(7)	N225N	ACOM AEDC EXEC VP & GEN COUNSEL	1	GRADE GS15
(10)	N059N	ACOM AEDC TRAINING DIVISION DIRECTOR	1	GRADE GS14
(12)	<del>B140C</del>	ACOM AEDC MANUFACTURING SOLUTIONS DIR	1	GRADE GS13
(14)	G034N	ACOM AEDC ASST DIR SALES AND MARKETING	1	GRADE GS12
(17)	B018N	ACOM AEDC FIELD ENGINEER	3	GRADE GS12
(25)	G062C	ACOM AEDC PROJECT CONSULTANT	30	<u>26</u> GRADE GS11
(27)	A052C	ACCOUNTING COORDINATOR	1	GRADE GS09
(34)	<del>C159C</del>	DEPARTMENT BUSINESS COORDINATOR	1	GRADE GS07
(35)	C010C	EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT TO THE DIRECTOR	2	<u>1</u> GRADE GS07
MAX. NO. OF EMPLOYEES			85	<u>70</u>

This request reflects the transfer of four (4) positions to Department of Commerce - Shared Services and eleven (11) positions to the Department of Commerce - Division of Workforce Services to support the Arkansas Manufacturing Extension program.

Please amend, SECTION 10. EXTRA HELP., as follows:

SECTION 10. EXTRA HELP. There is hereby authorized, for the Department of Commerce - Arkansas Economic Development Commission for the 2025-2026 fiscal year, the following maximum number of part-time or temporary employees, to be known as "Extra Help", payable from funds appropriated herein for such purposes: ~~six-seven (6)~~ (7) temporary or part-time employees, when needed, at rates of pay not to exceed those provided in the Uniform Classification and Compensation Act, or its successor, or this act for the appropriate classification.

Please delete, SECTION 11. EXTRA HELP RURAL SERVICES DIVISION., in its entirety.

This request provides to combine Section 10 and Section 11 to reflect seven (7) temporary or part-time employees.

Please amend, SECTION 12. APPROPRIATION – STATE OPERATIONS., as follows:

ITEM NO.			FISCAL YEAR 2025-2026
(01)	REGULAR SALARIES	\$4,283,320	<u>\$3,967,320</u>
(03)	PERSONAL SERVICES MATCHING	<u>1,472,164</u>	<u>1,366,101</u>
	TOTAL AMOUNT APPROPRIATED	\$13,405,008	<u>\$12,982,945</u>

This request reflects a decrease in Regular Salaries (\$316,000) and Personal Services Matching (\$106,063) appropriation totaling (\$422,063) associated with the transfer of positions to the Division of Workforce Services to support the Business Engagement and Training/Existing Business programs.

Please delete, SECTION 21. APPROPRIATION – DIVISION OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY – ARKANSAS MANUFACTURING EXTENSION NETWORK – STATE., in its entirety to reflect the realignment of this program to the Department of Commerce – Division of Workforce Services, as a new appropriation section in SB39.

Please delete, SECTION 22. APPROPRIATION – DIVISION OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY – ARKANSAS MANUFACTURING EXTENSION NETWORK – FEDERAL., in its entirety to reflect the realignment of this program to the Department of Commerce – Division of Workforce Services, as a new appropriation section in SB39.

Please delete, SECTION 23. APPROPRIATION – DIVISION OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY – ARKANSAS MANUFACTURING EXTENSION NETWORK – CASH., in its entirety to reflect the realignment of this program to the Department of Commerce – Division of Workforce Services, as a new appropriation section in SB39.

Please delete, SECTION 32. APPROPRIATION SUPPLY CHAIN OPTIMIZATION AND INTELLIGENCE NETWORK., in its entirety to reflect the realignment of this program to the Department of Commerce – Division of Workforce Services, as a new appropriation section in SB39.

Please insert four new sections, as follows:

“SECTION 33. APPROPRIATION – RURAL SERVICES DIVISION – ANIMAL RESCUE AND SHELTER GRANTS. There is hereby appropriated, to the Department of Commerce – Arkansas Economic Development Commission – Rural Services Division, to be payable from the Animal Rescue and Shelter Trust Fund, for grants to

a county or municipality based only on the infrastructure needs for animal rescues or animal shelters for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2026, the following:

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

SECTION 34. APPROPRIATION - RURAL SERVICES DIVISION - COMMUNITY ASSISTANCE GRANT PROGRAM. There is hereby appropriated, to the Department of Commerce - Arkansas Economic Development Commission - Rural Services Division - Community Assistance Grant program, to be payable from the paying account as determined by the Chief Fiscal Officer of the State, for community assistance grants for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2026, the following:

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

SECTION 36. 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

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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."

Please renumber all sections accordingly.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Sarah Sanders", written in a cursive style.

Sarah Huckabee Sanders  
Governor of Arkansas

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

**DRAFT**

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**Subtitle of Senate Bill 37**

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

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**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**

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(13)	N084N ACOM AEDC MRKT & COMM. DIR	1	GRADE GS15
(14)	N066N ACOM CHIEF COMM & LEG. AFFAIRS	2	GRADE GS14
(15)	A014C FISCAL DIVISION MANAGER	2	GRADE GS12
(16)	G026N ACOM AEDC ASSISTANT DIR. MGMT SVS	1	GRADE GS12
(17)	G030N ACOM AEDC ASST DIR OF STEM EDUCATION	1	GRADE GS12
(18)	P007N ACOM DWS DIR. OF COMMUNICATIONS	1	GRADE GS12
(19)	P078C ACOM ARS DIR. OF COMMUNICATIONS	1	GRADE GS12
(20)	R006C HUMAN RESOURCES ADMINISTRATOR	3	GRADE GS12
(21)	R013C AGENCY HUMAN RESOURCES MANAGER	1	GRADE GS11
(22)	A040C ACOM ADFA FISCAL PROGRAM MANAGER	1	GRADE GS10
(23)	G076C ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES MANAGER	1	GRADE GS10
(24)	X009C ACOM INSURANCE DEPT DIR OF SEC. OPS	1	GRADE GS10
(25)	A038C FISCAL SUPPORT MANAGER	1	GRADE GS09
(26)	A052C ACCOUNTING COORDINATOR	1	GRADE GS09
(27)	A060C SENIOR AUDITOR	1	GRADE GS08
(28)	A082C ACCOUNTANT II	4	GRADE GS08
(29)	R014C PERSONNEL MANAGER	3	GRADE GS08
(30)	A065C PAYROLL SERVICES COORDINATOR	1	GRADE GS07
(31)	C114C ACOM EXECUTIVE ASST TO SECRETARY	1	GRADE GS07
(32)	E040C STAFF DEVELOPMENT COORDINATOR	1	GRADE GS07
(33)	G148C ENERGY PROGRAM MANAGER	1	GRADE GS07
(34)	G163C ACOM REHAB PROGRAM COORDINATOR	1	GRADE GS07
(35)	G181C ACOM DWS PROGRAM MONITOR	1	GRADE GS07
(36)	R024C ASSISTANT PERSONNEL MANAGER	2	GRADE GS07
(37)	A080C ACOM FINANCE AUTHORITY SPECIALIST	1	GRADE GS06
(38)	C037C ADMINISTRATIVE ANALYST	1	GRADE GS06
(39)	P027C PUBLIC INFORMATION SPECIALIST	1	GRADE GS06
(40)	R025C HUMAN RESOURCES ANALYST	5	GRADE GS06
(41)	R027C BUDGET SPECIALIST	1	GRADE GS06
(42)	R033C BENEFITS ANALYST	1	GRADE GS05
(43)	R036C HUMAN RESOURCES SPECIALIST	<u>2</u>	GRADE GS04
	MAX. NO. OF EMPLOYEES	59"	

and

Page 2, line 29, delete "\$2,337,577" and substitute "\$4,400,000"

and

Page 2, line 30, delete "759,481" and substitute "1,502,564"

and

Page 2, line 32, delete "272,000" and substitute "500,000"

and

Page 2, line 33, delete "100,000" and substitute "200,000"

and

Page 2, line 35, delete "0" and substitute "100,000"

and

Page 3, line 1, delete "\$3,569,058" and substitute "\$6,802,564"

and

Page 3, delete SECTION 3 in its entirety

and

Page 3, delete SECTION 4 in its entirety

and

Page 4, delete SECTION 5 in its entirety

and

Page 5, delete SECTION 8 in its entirety

and

Page 6, delete line 6 in its entirety and substitute:

~~"(4) D029C SENIOR GIS ANALYST 1 GRADE IT07"~~

and

Page 6, delete line 9 in its entirety and substitute:

~~"(7) N225N ACOM AEDC EXEC VP & GEN COUNSEL 1 GRADE GS15"~~

and

Page 6, delete line 12 in its entirety and substitute:

~~"(10) N059N ACOM AEDC TRAINING DIVISION DIRECTOR 1 GRADE GS14"~~

and

Page 6, delete line 14 in its entirety and substitute:

~~"(12) B140C ACOM AEDC MANUFACTURING SOLUTIONS DIR 1 GRADE GS13"~~

and

Page 6, delete line 16 in its entirety and substitute:

~~"(14) C034N ACOM AEDC ASST DIR SALES AND MARKETING 1 GRADE GS12"~~

and

Page 6, delete line 19 in its entirety and substitute:

~~"(17) B018N ACOM AEDC FIELD ENGINEER 3 GRADE GS12"~~

and

Page 6, line 27 delete "30" and substitute "26"

and

Page 6, delete line 29 in its entirety and substitute:

~~"(27) A052C ACCOUNTING COORDINATOR 1 GRADE CS09"~~

and

Page 6, delete line 36 in its entirety and substitute:

~~"(34) NG159C DEPARTMENT BUSINESS COORDINATOR 1 GRADE CS07"~~

and

Page 7, line 1, delete "2" and substitute "1"

and

Page 7, line 8, delete "85" and substitute "70"

and

Page 7, line 14, delete "six (6)" and substitute "seven (7)"

and

Page 7, delete SECTION 11 in its entirety

and

Page 8, line 1, delete "\$4,283,320" and substitute "\$3,967,320"

and

Page 8, line 3, delete "1,472,164" and substitute "1,366,101"

and

Page 8, line 15, delete "\$13,405,008" and substitute "\$12,982,945"

and

Page 11, delete SECTION 21 in its entirety

and

Pages 11 and 12, delete SECTION 22 in its entirety

and

Pages 12 and 13, delete SECTION 23 in its entirety

and

Pages 16 and 17, delete SECTION 32 in its entirety

and

Page 17, immediately following SECTION 32 insert the following sections:

" SECTION 33. APPROPRIATION - RURAL SERVICES DIVISION - ANIMAL RESCUE AND SHELTER GRANTS. There is hereby appropriated, to the Department of Commerce - Arkansas Economic Development Commission - Rural Services Division, to be payable from the Animal Rescue and Shelter Trust Fund, for grants to a county or municipality based only on the infrastructure needs for animal rescues or animal shelters for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2026, the following:

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

SECTION 34. APPROPRIATION - RURAL SERVICES DIVISION - COMMUNITY ASSISTANCE GRANT PROGRAM. There is hereby appropriated, to the Department of Commerce - Arkansas Economic Development Commission - Rural Services Division - Community Assistance Grant Program, to be payable from the paying account

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 - 03-26-2025 10:27:50

MAH039

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Secretary

