

SUPPLEMENTAL AGENDA
Suspension of the Rules Request
ALC/Personnel Subcommittee

Wednesday, August 21, 2024
1:30 p.m., Room A, MAC

- A. Suspension of the rules
 - 1. Request from Arkansas Public Defender Commission to approve forty-five (45) positions from the OPM Growth pool established by Arkansas Code Annotated §21-5-225(b).



Department of Transformation and Shared Services
Governor Sarah Huckabee Sanders
Secretary Leslie Fiskien

August 19, 2024

The Honorable Breanne Davis, Co-Chairperson
The Honorable Mark Berry, Co-Chairperson
Uniform Personnel Classification and
Compensation Plan Subcommittee
Arkansas Legislative Council
State Capitol Building, Room 315
Little Rock, Arkansas 72201

Dear Co-Chairs:

The Arkansas Department of Transformation and Shared Services (TSS) submits for your review a pool position request from the Arkansas Public Defender Commission and asks for your approval to accept this as a supplemental agenda item for the committee meeting on August 21, 2024. This request was inadvertently overlooked when the other personnel committee items were sent for the August 2024 agenda.

TSS respectfully requests your approval to add this item to the August 21, 2024, meeting as a supplemental agenda item. Thank you for your kind consideration of this request.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Leslie Fiskien'.

Leslie Fiskien
Secretary



August 21, 2024

The Honorable Breanne Davis, Co-Chairperson
The Honorable Mark Berry, Co-Chairperson
Uniform Personnel Classification and
Compensation Plan Subcommittee
Arkansas Legislative Council
State Capitol Building, Room 315
Little Rock, Arkansas 72201

Dear Senator Davis and Representative Berry:

The Office of Personnel Management (OPM) submits a request from the Arkansas Public Defender Commission (APDC) for your review.

APDC is requesting forty-five (45) positions from the OPM growth pool established by Arkansas Code Annotated § 21-5-225(b). The classifications requested are listed below:

CLASSIFICATIONS REQUESTED

| <u>CLASS CODE</u> | <u>TITLE</u> | <u>GRADE</u> | <u># REQUESTED</u> | <u>SALARY RANGE</u> |
|--------------------------|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|----------------------------|
| G047C | Attorney Specialist | GS11 | 45 | \$62,531 - \$99,737 |

JUSTIFICATION

APDC is requesting the above positions in order to meet the needs of the department. The current special language included within the APDC appropriation act, Act 36 of 2024, authorizes forty-five (45) extra help positions payable from cash funds. These extra help positions have been crossgraded to the G047C, Attorney Specialist, grade GS11, classification and incumbents are responsible for addressing the case backlog created by the COVID 19 pandemic. APDC has noted that the cash fund source from which these positions are to be paid is unable to support these positions for an extended period. The addition of the requested positions will allow APDC to continue making progress in the case backlog without losing funding for the positions specifically focused on this goal.

Approximately thirty (30) of the extra help positions are filled with the incumbents receiving a salary of \$60,000. Due to the change in funding source, these existing extra help positions cannot be continued. Therefore, the only avenue to continue this program is establish forty-five (45) growth pool positions with the appropriate funding source.

The Honorable Breanne Davis, Co-Chairperson
The Honorable Mark Berry, Co-Chairperson
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Approval of this request will be limited to \$1,250,000 including matching and will be funded through State Central Services. These positions are anticipated to be used for no longer than six (6) months. If additional funding is needed for these positions, APDC will have to come back to Arkansas Legislative Council for approval.

RECOMMENDATION

OPM has reviewed the request and **recommends** the approval of forty-five (45) growth pool positions.

Your consideration of this request is greatly appreciated.


STATE PERSONNEL DIRECTOR

8/19/24
DATE

KB/ca:1-2