

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

A Bill

HOUSE BILL 1115

5 By: Joint Budget Committee
6
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For An Act To Be Entitled

9 AN ACT TO MAKE AN APPROPRIATION FOR PERSONAL SERVICES
10 AND OPERATING EXPENSES FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
11 - ARKANSAS REHABILITATION SERVICES FOR THE FISCAL
12 YEAR ENDING JUNE 30, 2026; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.
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Subtitle

15 AN ACT FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE -
16 ARKANSAS REHABILITATION SERVICES
17 APPROPRIATION FOR THE 2025-2026 FISCAL
18 YEAR.
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22 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:
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24 SECTION 1. REGULAR SALARIES. There is hereby established for the
25 Department of Commerce - Arkansas Rehabilitation Services for the 2025-2026
26 fiscal year, the following maximum number of regular employees.
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Item No.	Class Code	Title	Maximum No. of Employees	Maximum Annual Salary Rate Fiscal Year 2025-2026
32	(1) U012U	REHABILITATION SERVICES COMMISSIONER	1	GRADE SE01
33	(2) L013N	GENERAL PHYSICIAN	2	GRADE MP06
34	(3) L021N	PHYSICAL THERAPIST	1	GRADE MP03
35	(4) L003C	PSYCHOLOGIST	2	GRADE MP03
36	(5) L022N	OCCUPATIONAL THERAPIST	3	GRADE MP02



1	(6)	L032C REGISTERED NURSE - HOSPITAL	2	GRADE MP01
2	(7)	D006N STATE SYSTEMS ARCHITECT	1	GRADE IT10
3	(8)	D022N IT SENIOR PROJECT MANAGER	2	GRADE IT09
4	(9)	D012C DATABASE SPECIALIST	1	GRADE IT08
5	(10)	D028C SENIOR SOFTWARE SUPPORT SPECIALIST	3	GRADE IT07
6	(11)	D038C SENIOR SOFTWARE SUPPORT ANALYST	2	GRADE IT06
7	(12)	D022C SYSTEMS SPECIALIST	1	GRADE IT06
8	(13)	D063C COMPUTER SUPPORT SPECIALIST	1	GRADE IT05
9	(14)	D052C SOFTWARE SUPPORT ANALYST	1	GRADE IT05
10	(15)	D064C WEBSITE DEVELOPER	1	GRADE IT04
11	(16)	N172N ACOM REHAB OPERATIONS DIRECTOR	3	GRADE GS13
12	(17)	G004C MANAGING ATTORNEY	1	GRADE GS13
13	(18)	P078C ACOM ARS DIRECTOR OF COMMUNICATIONS	1	GRADE GS12
14	(19)	A014C FISCAL DIVISION MANAGER	1	GRADE GS12
15	(20)	R006C HUMAN RESOURCES ADMINISTRATOR	1	GRADE GS12
16	(21)	A027C ACCOUNTING OPERATIONS MANAGER	1	GRADE GS11
17	(22)	E005C ACOM REHAB DIR OF VOCATIONAL TRAIN	1	GRADE GS10
18	(23)	G040C ACOM REHAB DIRECTOR - SPECIAL PROGR	4	GRADE GS10
19	(24)	A052C ACCOUNTING COORDINATOR	1	GRADE GS09
20	(25)	G070C ACOM DIRECTOR OF FIELD OPERATIONS	1	GRADE GS09
21	(26)	L037C ACOM REHAB AREA MANAGER	13	GRADE GS09
22	(27)	E011C ACOM VOCATIONAL EDUCATION COORD	4	GRADE GS09
23	(28)	M009C LICENSED CERTIFIED SOCIAL WORKER	3	GRADE GS09
24	(29)	L033C PSYCHOLOGICAL EXAMINER	8	GRADE GS09
25	(30)	X038C QUALITY ASSURANCE MANAGER	3	GRADE GS09
26	(31)	L098C CERTIFIED VOCATIONAL REHAB COUNSELOR	95	GRADE GS08
27	(32)	S004C MAINTENANCE MANAGER	1	GRADE GS08
28	(33)	V007C PROCUREMENT COORDINATOR	1	GRADE GS08
29	(34)	X062C QUALITY ASSURANCE COORDINATOR	4	GRADE GS08
30	(35)	G121C REHAB PROGRAM MANAGER	8	GRADE GS08
31	(36)	A060C SENIOR AUDITOR	1	GRADE GS08
32	(37)	E023C TRAINING PROJECT MANAGER	1	GRADE GS08
33	(38)	G163C ACOM REHAB PROGRAM COORDINATOR	9	GRADE GS07
34	(39)	L057C ACOM REHAB SVS FACILITY SPECIALIST	2	GRADE GS07
35	(40)	M032C ACOM VOCATIONAL REHAB PLACEMENT SPEC	14	GRADE GS07
36	(41)	R024C ASSISTANT PERSONNEL MANAGER	1	GRADE GS07

1	(42)	C010C EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT TO THE DIRECTOR	1	GRADE GS07
2	(43)	G147C GRANTS COORDINATOR	2	GRADE GS07
3	(44)	S017C MAINTENANCE COORDINATOR	1	GRADE GS07
4	(45)	A065C PAYROLL SERVICES COORDINATOR	1	GRADE GS07
5	(46)	E040C STAFF DEVELOPMENT COORDINATOR	1	GRADE GS07
6	(47)	C037C ADMINISTRATIVE ANALYST	6	GRADE GS06
7	(48)	G172C CAREER PLANNING & PLAC COORDINATOR	1	GRADE GS06
8	(49)	E043C CERTIFIED VOCATIONAL TEACHER	7	GRADE GS06
9	(50)	G214C GRANTS SPECIALIST	2	GRADE GS06
10	(51)	R025C HUMAN RESOURCES ANALYST	2	GRADE GS06
11	(52)	M050C INTERPRETER	4	GRADE GS06
12	(53)	S033C MAINTENANCE SUPERVISOR	1	GRADE GS06
13	(54)	P031C MEDIA SPECIALIST	1	GRADE GS06
14	(55)	P027C PUBLIC INFORMATION SPECIALIST	1	GRADE GS06
15	(56)	T062C PUBLIC SAFETY DIRECTOR	1	GRADE GS06
16	(57)	B076C RESEARCH PROJECT ANALYST	1	GRADE GS06
17	(58)	S022C SKILLED TRADES SUPERVISOR	1	GRADE GS06
18	(59)	C036C ADMINISTRATIVE REVIEW ANALYST	2	GRADE GS05
19	(60)	C022C BUSINESS OPERATIONS SPECIALIST	1	GRADE GS05
20	(61)	V014C BUYER	2	GRADE GS05
21	(62)	A091C FISCAL SUPPORT ANALYST	5	GRADE GS05
22	(63)	C054C LOCAL OFFICE ADMINISTRATIVE SPEC	4	GRADE GS05
23	(64)	V018C WAREHOUSE MANAGER	1	GRADE GS05
24	(65)	C056C ADMINISTRATIVE SPECIALIST III	15	GRADE GS04
25	(66)	V020C INVENTORY CONTROL MANAGER	1	GRADE GS04
26	(67)	V022C PURCHASING TECHNICIAN	1	GRADE GS04
27	(68)	C043C RECORDS MANAGEMENT ANALYST	2	GRADE GS04
28	(69)	S099C STATIONARY ENGINEER	1	GRADE GS04
29	(70)	V023C STOREROOM SUPERVISOR	1	GRADE GS04
30	(71)	C073C ADMINISTRATIVE SPECIALIST II	64	GRADE GS03
31	(72)	S056C FOOD PREPARATION SUPERVISOR	1	GRADE GS03
32	(73)	M081C RESIDENTIAL CARE SHIFT SUPERVISOR	1	GRADE GS03
33	(74)	C087C ADMINISTRATIVE SPECIALIST I	4	GRADE GS02
34	(75)	S068C FOOD PREPARATION COORDINATOR	1	GRADE GS02
35	(76)	M076C RECREATIONAL ACTIVITY LEADER II	1	GRADE GS02
36	(77)	M083C RESIDENTIAL CARE TECHNICIAN	2	GRADE GS02

1 (78) S087C INSTITUTIONAL SERVICES ASSISTANT 1 GRADE GS01
 2 MAX. NO. OF EMPLOYEES 352
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4 SECTION 2. EXTRA HELP. There is hereby authorized, for the Department
 5 of Commerce - Arkansas Rehabilitation Services for the 2025-2026 fiscal year,
 6 the following maximum number of part-time or temporary employees, to be known
 7 as "Extra Help", payable from funds appropriated herein for such purposes:
 8 nineteen (19) temporary or part-time employees, when needed, at rates of pay
 9 not to exceed those provided in the Uniform Classification and Compensation
 10 Act, or its successor, or this act for the appropriate classification.
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12 SECTION 3. APPROPRIATION - OPERATIONS. There is hereby appropriated,
 13 to the Department of Commerce, to be payable from the paying account as
 14 determined by the Chief Fiscal Officer of the State, for personal services,
 15 operating expenses, and grants and aid by the Department of Commerce -
 16 Arkansas Rehabilitation Services - Operations 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) REGULAR SALARIES	\$16,426,131
22 (02) EXTRA HELP	252,000
23 (03) PERSONAL SERVICES MATCHING	6,374,281
24 (04) MAINT. & GEN. OPERATION	
25 (A) OPER. EXPENSE	7,401,096
26 (B) CONF. & TRAVEL	175,000
27 (C) PROF. FEES	844,903
28 (D) CAP. OUTLAY	0
29 (E) DATA PROC.	0
30 (05) CONTRACT SERVICES	<u>30,000,000</u>
31 TOTAL AMOUNT APPROPRIATED	<u>\$61,473,411</u>

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 33 SECTION 4. APPROPRIATION - INCREASING CAPABILITIES ACCESS NETWORK -
 34 FEDERAL. There is hereby appropriated, to the Department of Commerce, to be
 35 payable from the paying account as determined by the Chief Fiscal Officer of
 36 the State, for personal services and operating expenses of the Department of

1 Commerce - Arkansas Rehabilitation Services - Increasing Capabilities Access
 2 Network - Federal for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2026, the following:

4 ITEM	FISCAL YEAR
5 <u>NO.</u>	<u>2025-2026</u>
6 (01) REGULAR SALARIES	\$200,707
7 (02) PERSONAL SERVICES MATCHING	77,783
8 (03) MAINT. & GEN. OPERATION	
9 (A) OPER. EXPENSE	400,000
10 (B) CONF. & TRAVEL	20,402
11 (C) PROF. FEES	20,000
12 (D) CAP. OUTLAY	100,000
13 (E) DATA PROC.	<u>0</u>
14 TOTAL AMOUNT APPROPRIATED	<u><u>\$818,892</u></u>

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 16 SECTION 5. APPROPRIATION - STATEWIDE DISABILITY TELECOMMUNICATIONS
 17 EQUIPMENT PROGRAM. There is hereby appropriated, to the Department of
 18 Commerce, to be payable from the Telecommunications Equipment Fund, for
 19 personal services and operating expenses of the Department of Commerce -
 20 Arkansas Rehabilitation Services - Statewide Disability Telecommunications
 21 Equipment Program for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2026, the following:

23 ITEM	FISCAL YEAR
24 <u>NO.</u>	<u>2025-2026</u>
25 (01) REGULAR SALARIES	\$173,203
26 (02) PERSONAL SERVICES MATCHING	71,465
27 (03) MAINT. & GEN. OPERATION	
28 (A) OPER. EXPENSE	80,000
29 (B) CONF. & TRAVEL	7,000
30 (C) PROF. FEES	5,000
31 (D) CAP. OUTLAY	0
32 (E) DATA PROC.	0
33 (04) ASSISTIVE EQUIPMENT PURCHASE GRANTS	<u>310,000</u>
34 TOTAL AMOUNT APPROPRIATED	<u><u>\$646,668</u></u>

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 36 SECTION 6. APPROPRIATION - PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES PROGRAM - SPECIAL.

1 There is hereby appropriated, to the Department of Commerce, to be payable
 2 from the Governor’s Commission on People with Disabilities Fund, for
 3 operating expenses of the Department of Commerce - Arkansas Rehabilitation
 4 Services - People with Disabilities Program - Special for the fiscal year
 5 ending June 30, 2026, the following:

7 ITEM	FISCAL YEAR
8 <u>NO.</u>	<u>2025-2026</u>
9 (01) MAINT. & GEN. OPERATION	
10 (A) OPER. EXPENSE	\$30,000
11 (B) CONF. & TRAVEL	0
12 (C) PROF. FEES	0
13 (D) CAP. OUTLAY	0
14 (E) DATA PROC.	<u>0</u>
15 TOTAL AMOUNT APPROPRIATED	<u><u>\$30,000</u></u>

17 SECTION 7. APPROPRIATION - TECHNOLOGY EQUIPMENT REVOLVING LOAN PROGRAM.

18 There is hereby appropriated, to the Department of Commerce, to be payable
 19 from the cash fund deposited in the State Treasury as determined by the Chief
 20 Fiscal Officer of the State, for providing loans to individuals with
 21 disabilities for essential assistive technology, adaptive equipment, and for
 22 loan administration/servicing by the Department of Commerce - Arkansas
 23 Rehabilitation Services - Technology Equipment Revolving Loan Program for the
 24 fiscal year ending June 30, 2026, the following:

26 ITEM	FISCAL YEAR
27 <u>NO.</u>	<u>2025-2026</u>
28 (01) LOANS	<u><u>\$750,000</u></u>

30 SECTION 8. APPROPRIATION - CASH OPERATIONS. There is hereby
 31 appropriated, to the Department of Commerce, to be payable from the cash fund
 32 deposited in the State Treasury as determined by the Chief Fiscal Officer of
 33 the State, for operating expenses of the Department of Commerce - Arkansas
 34 Rehabilitation Services - Cash Operations for the fiscal year ending June 30,
 35 2026, the following:

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ITEM	FISCAL YEAR
NO.	2025-2026
(01) MAINT. & GEN. OPERATION	
(A) OPER. EXPENSE	\$356,542
(B) CONF. & TRAVEL	0
(C) PROF. FEES	0
(D) CAP. OUTLAY	0
(E) DATA PROC.	0
TOTAL AMOUNT APPROPRIATED	<u>\$356,542</u>

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11 SECTION 9. REGULAR SALARIES - DIVISION OF STATE SERVICES FOR THE BLIND
 12 - OPERATIONS. There is hereby established for the Department of Commerce -
 13 Arkansas Rehabilitation Services - Division of State Services for the Blind
 14 for the 2025-2026 fiscal year, the following maximum number of regular
 15 employees.

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Item	Class	Maximum	Maximum Annual
No.	Code	No. of	Salary Rate
No.	Code	Title	Fiscal Year
		Employees	2025-2026
21	(1) N125N	ACOM DSB DEP DIR SVCS FOR THE BLIND	1 GRADE GS15
22	(2) G021C	ACOM DSB ASSISTANT DIRECTOR	1 GRADE GS11
23	(3) G303C	ACOM DSB PROGRAM ADMINISTRATOR	2 GRADE GS09
24	(4) L037C	ACOM REHAB AREA MANAGER	3 GRADE GS09
25	(5) X038C	QUALITY ASSURANCE MANAGER	1 GRADE GS09
26	(6) L098C	CERTIFIED VOCATIONAL REHAB COUNSELOR	23 GRADE GS08
27	(7) E026C	EDUCATION & INSTRUCTION COORDINATOR	1 GRADE GS08
28	(8) X062C	QUALITY ASSURANCE COORDINATOR	1 GRADE GS08
29	(9) G121C	REHAB PROGRAM MANAGER	4 GRADE GS08
30	(10) E023C	TRAINING PROJECT MANAGER	1 GRADE GS08
31	(11) G163C	ACOM REHAB PROGRAM COORDINATOR	2 GRADE GS07
32	(12) M032C	ACOM VOCATIONAL REHAB PLACEMENT SPEC	1 GRADE GS07
33	(13) E040C	STAFF DEVELOPMENT COORDINATOR	1 GRADE GS07
34	(14) C037C	ADMINISTRATIVE ANALYST	6 GRADE GS06
35	(15) A074C	FISCAL SUPPORT SUPERVISOR	1 GRADE GS06
36	(16) L051C	REHABILITATION COUNSELOR	2 GRADE GS06

1	(17) A091C FISCAL SUPPORT ANALYST	3	GRADE GS05
2	(18) C056C ADMINISTRATIVE SPECIALIST III	8	GRADE GS04
3	(19) A098C FISCAL SUPPORT SPECIALIST	2	GRADE GS04
4	(20) C043C RECORDS MANAGEMENT ANALYST	1	GRADE GS04
5	(21) C073C ADMINISTRATIVE SPECIALIST II	<u>11</u>	GRADE GS03
6	MAX. NO. OF EMPLOYEES	76	

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8 SECTION 10. EXTRA HELP - DIVISION OF STATE SERVICES FOR THE BLIND -

9 OPERATION. There is hereby authorized, for the Department of Commerce -

10 Arkansas Rehabilitation Services - Division of State Services for the Blind

11 for the 2025-2026 fiscal year, the following maximum number of part-time or

12 temporary employees, to be known as "Extra Help", payable from funds

13 appropriated herein for such purposes: thirty (30) temporary or part-time

14 employees, when needed, at rates of pay not to exceed those provided in the

15 Uniform Classification and Compensation Act, or its successor, or this act

16 for the appropriate classification.

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18 SECTION 11. APPROPRIATION - STATE SERVICES FOR THE BLIND - OPERATIONS.

19 There is hereby appropriated, to the Department of Commerce, to be payable

20 from the paying account as determined by the Chief Fiscal Officer of the

21 State, for personal services and operating expenses of the Department of

22 Commerce - Arkansas Rehabilitation Services - Division of State Services for

23 the Blind for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2026, the following:

25	ITEM	FISCAL YEAR
26	<u>NO.</u>	<u>2025-2026</u>
27	(01) REGULAR SALARIES	\$3,496,655
28	(02) EXTRA HELP	384,174
29	(03) PERSONAL SERVICES MATCHING	1,418,651
30	(04) MAINT. & GEN. OPERATION	
31	(A) OPER. EXPENSE	1,222,186
32	(B) CONF. & TRAVEL	155,000
33	(C) PROF. FEES	195,259
34	(D) CAP. OUTLAY	100,000
35	(E) DATA PROC.	<u>0</u>
36	TOTAL AMOUNT APPROPRIATED	<u><u>\$6,971,925</u></u>

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SECTION 12. APPROPRIATION - BLIND SERVICES GRANTS. There is hereby appropriated, to the Department of Commerce, to be payable from the paying account as determined by the Chief Fiscal Officer of the State, for grants and aid and purchase of services of the Department of Commerce - Arkansas Rehabilitation Services - Blind Services Grants for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2026, the following:

ITEM	FISCAL YEAR
<u>NO.</u>	<u>2025-2026</u>
(01) GRANTS AND AID/PURCHASE OF SERVICES	<u>\$6,000,000</u>

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

SECTION 14. 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 15. 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

1 the event of an extension of the legislative session, the delay in the
2 effective date of this Act beyond July 1, 2025 could work irreparable harm
3 upon the proper administration and provision of essential governmental
4 programs. Therefore, an emergency is hereby declared to exist and this Act
5 being necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health
6 and safety shall be in full force and effect from and after July 1, 2025.

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