

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

A Bill

SENATE BILL 31

5 By: Joint Budget Committee
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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 LABOR
11 AND LICENSING - WORKERS' COMPENSATION COMMISSION FOR
12 THE FISCAL YEAR ENDING JUNE 30, 2026; AND FOR OTHER
13 PURPOSES.
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Subtitle

16 AN ACT FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND
17 LICENSING - WORKERS' COMPENSATION
18 COMMISSION APPROPRIATION FOR THE 2025-
19 2026 FISCAL YEAR.
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23 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:
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25 SECTION 1. REGULAR SALARIES. There is hereby established for the
26 Department of Labor and Licensing - Workers' Compensation Commission for the
27 2025-2026 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
33	(1) U100U	DLL WCC CHAIRMAN	1	GRADE SE03
34	(2) U007U	DLL WCC COMMISSIONER	2	GRADE SE02
35	(3) U046U	DLL WCC CHIEF EXEC OFFICER	1	GRADE SE01
36	(4) L038C	REGISTERED NURSE	1	GRADE MP01



1	(5)	D007C INFORMATION SYSTEMS MANAGER	1	GRADE IT08
2	(6)	D030C INFORMATION SYSTEMS COORDINATOR	1	GRADE IT07
3	(7)	D063C COMPUTER SUPPORT SPECIALIST	1	GRADE IT05
4	(8)	D052C SOFTWARE SUPPORT ANALYST	1	GRADE IT05
5	(9)	D062C DATABASE ANALYST	1	GRADE IT04
6	(10)	D071C COMPUTER SUPPORT ANALYST	1	GRADE IT03
7	(11)	N070N DLL WCC ASST CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER	1	GRADE GS15
8	(12)	G005N DLL WCC CHIEF ADMIN LAW JUDGE	1	GRADE GS15
9	(13)	G010N DLL WCC ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE	13	GRADE GS14
10	(14)	G004C MANAGING ATTORNEY	1	GRADE GS13
11	(15)	G047C ATTORNEY SPECIALIST	6	GRADE GS11
12	(16)	G007C DLL WCC DIVISION MANAGER	7	GRADE GS11
13	(17)	G073C ATTORNEY	5	GRADE GS10
14	(18)	A052C ACCOUNTING COORDINATOR	1	GRADE GS09
15	(19)	A042C INSURANCE SENIOR EXAMINER	2	GRADE GS09
16	(20)	G107C DLL WCC PROGRAM MANAGER	4	GRADE GS08
17	(21)	G093C OPERATIONS MANAGER	1	GRADE GS08
18	(22)	R024C ASSISTANT PERSONNEL MANAGER	1	GRADE GS07
19	(23)	C010C EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT TO THE DIRECTOR	2	GRADE GS07
20	(24)	C009C HEARING REPORTER	3	GRADE GS07
21	(25)	G168C INDUSTRIAL CONSULTANT	4	GRADE GS07
22	(26)	R027C BUDGET SPECIALIST	1	GRADE GS06
23	(27)	G160C DLL WCC PROGRAM COORDINATOR	2	GRADE GS06
24	(28)	G193C DLL WCC PROGRAM SPECIALIST	13	GRADE GS06
25	(29)	A074C FISCAL SUPPORT SUPERVISOR	4	GRADE GS06
26	(30)	G179C LEGAL SERVICES SPECIALIST	2	GRADE GS06
27	(31)	C036C ADMINISTRATIVE REVIEW ANALYST	1	GRADE GS05
28	(32)	C050C ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORT SUPERVISOR	2	GRADE GS05
29	(33)	X123C INSURANCE INVESTIGATOR	3	GRADE GS05
30	(34)	C056C ADMINISTRATIVE SPECIALIST III	10	GRADE GS04
31	(35)	C046C LEGAL SUPPORT SPECIALIST	3	GRADE GS04
32	(36)	C073C ADMINISTRATIVE SPECIALIST II	<u>1</u>	GRADE GS03
33		MAX. NO. OF EMPLOYEES	105	

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35 SECTION 2. EXTRA HELP. There is hereby authorized, for the Department
 36 of Labor and Licensing - Workers' Compensation Commission for the 2025-2026

1 fiscal year, the following maximum number of part-time or temporary
 2 employees, to be known as "Extra Help", payable from funds appropriated
 3 herein for such purposes: two (2) temporary or part-time employees, when
 4 needed, at rates of pay not to exceed those provided in the Uniform
 5 Classification and Compensation Act, or its successor, or this act for the
 6 appropriate classification.

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 8 SECTION 3. APPROPRIATION - WCC ADMINISTRATION. There is hereby
 9 appropriated, to the Department of Labor and Licensing, to be payable from
 10 the Workers' Compensation Fund, for personal services and operating expenses
 11 of the Department of Labor and Licensing - Workers' Compensation Commission -
 12 Administration for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2026, the following:

14 ITEM	FISCAL YEAR
15 <u>NO.</u>	<u>2025-2026</u>
16 (01) REGULAR SALARIES	\$7,027,198
17 (02) EXTRA HELP	100,000
18 (03) PERSONAL SERVICES MATCHING	2,454,898
19 (04) OVERTIME	10,000
20 (05) MAINT. & GEN. OPERATION	
21 (A) OPER. EXPENSE	1,305,495
22 (B) CONF. & TRAVEL	20,000
23 (C) PROF. FEES	240,000
24 (D) CAP. OUTLAY	1,000
25 (E) DATA PROC.	0
26 (06) REFUND/REIMBURSEMENTS - ADMIN	500,000
27 (07) COMPUTER SOFTWARE/HARDWARE	<u>243,800</u>
28 TOTAL AMOUNT APPROPRIATED	<u>\$11,902,391</u>

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 30 SECTION 4. APPROPRIATION - REFUNDS/CLAIMS/INVESTMENTS. There is
 31 hereby appropriated, to the Department of Labor and Licensing, to be payable
 32 from the Death and Permanent Total Disability Trust Fund, for refund of
 33 taxes, payment of death and total disability claims, and investment of funds
 34 in the Death and Permanent Total Disability Trust Fund as allowed by the
 35 Department of Labor and Licensing - Workers' Compensation Commission for the
 36 fiscal year ending June 30, 2026, the following:

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2 ITEM FISCAL YEAR

3 NO. 2025-2026

4 (01) REFUND/REIMBURSEMENTS - DEATH AND

5 TOTAL DISABILITY \$550,000

6 (02) CLAIMS - DEATH AND TOTAL DISABILITY 21,000,000

7 TOTAL AMOUNT APPROPRIATED \$21,550,000

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9 SECTION 5. APPROPRIATION - SECOND INJURY CLAIMS. There is hereby

10 appropriated, to the Department of Labor and Licensing, to be payable from

11 the Second Injury Trust Fund, for payment of second injury claims of the

12 Department of Labor and Licensing - Workers' Compensation Commission - Second

13 Injury Claims for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2026, the following:

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15 ITEM FISCAL YEAR

16 NO. 2025-2026

17 (01) CLAIMS - SECOND INJURY \$500,000

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19 SECTION 6. APPROPRIATION - SEMINAR - CASH. There is hereby

20 appropriated, to the Department of Labor and Licensing, to be payable from

21 the cash fund deposited in the State Treasury as determined by the Chief

22 Fiscal Officer of the State, for scholarships and educational conference

23 expenses of the Department of Labor and Licensing - Workers' Compensation

24 Commission for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2026, the following:

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26 ITEM FISCAL YEAR

27 NO. 2025-2026

28 (01) MAINT. & GEN. OPERATION

29 (A) OPER. EXPENSE \$85,000

30 (B) CONF. & TRAVEL 0

31 (C) PROF. FEES 15,000

32 (D) CAP. OUTLAY 0

33 (E) DATA PROC. 0

34 (02) SCHOLARSHIPS 40,000

35 TOTAL AMOUNT APPROPRIATED \$140,000

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SECTION 7. APPROPRIATION - WORKERS' COMPENSATION COMMISSION BUILDING.

There is hereby appropriated, to the Department of Labor and Licensing, to be payable from the Workers' Compensation Fund, for maintenance, renovation, equipping, construction, improvement, upgrade and repair projects for the Department of Labor and Licensing - Workers' Compensation Commission Building for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2026, the following:

ITEM	FISCAL YEAR
<u>NO.</u>	<u>2025-2026</u>
(01) BUILDING REPAIRS AND MAINTENANCE	<u>\$150,000</u>

SECTION 8. SPECIAL LANGUAGE. NOT TO BE INCORPORATED INTO THE ARKANSAS CODE NOR PUBLISHED SEPARATELY AS SPECIAL, LOCAL AND TEMPORARY LAW.

WORKERS' COMPENSATION COMMISSION - REFUND TO EXPENDITURE. The proceeds from the reimbursement of travel expenses received by the Arkansas Workers' Compensation Commission shall be deposited into the same State Treasury Fund or Fund Account from which the original travel expenditures was incurred as a refund to expenditure to the credit of the appropriation from which the original expenditure was made.

The provisions of this section shall be in effect only from July 1, ~~2024~~ 2025 through June 30, ~~2025~~ 2026.

SECTION 9. 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 10. 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

1 Recommendations and Legislative Recommendations contained in the budget
2 manuals prepared by the Department of Finance and Administration, letters, or
3 summarized oral testimony in the official minutes of the Arkansas Legislative
4 Council or Joint Budget Committee which relate to its passage and adoption.
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6 SECTION 11. EMERGENCY CLAUSE. It is found and determined by the
7 General Assembly, that the Constitution of the State of Arkansas prohibits
8 the appropriation of funds for more than a one (1) year period; that the
9 effectiveness of this Act on July 1, 2025 is essential to the operation of
10 the agency for which the appropriations in this Act are provided, and that in
11 the event of an extension of the legislative session, the delay in the
12 effective date of this Act beyond July 1, 2025 could work irreparable harm
13 upon the proper administration and provision of essential governmental
14 programs. Therefore, an emergency is hereby declared to exist and this Act
15 being necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health
16 and safety shall be in full force and effect from and after July 1, 2025.
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