

1 State of Arkansas
2 95th General Assembly
3 Fiscal Session, 2026
4

A Bill

HOUSE BILL 1046

5 By: Joint Budget Committee
6
7

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 WATERWAYS COMMISSION FOR THE FISCAL YEAR
12 ENDING JUNE 30, 2027; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.
13
14

Subtitle

15 AN ACT FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE -
16 ARKANSAS WATERWAYS COMMISSION
17 APPROPRIATION FOR THE 2026-2027 FISCAL
18 YEAR.
19
20
21

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

24 SECTION 1. REGULAR SALARIES - OPERATIONS. There is hereby established
25 for the Department of Commerce - Arkansas Waterways Commission for the 2026-
26 2027 fiscal year, the following maximum number of regular employees.
27

| Item No. | Class Code | Title | Maximum No. of Employees | Maximum Annual Salary Rate Fiscal Year 2026-2027 |
|----------|------------|-------------------------------|--------------------------|--|
| 32 | (1) PPE13C | WATERWAYS COMMISSION DIRECTOR | 1 | GRADE SPC04 |
| 33 | (2) PAS01P | ADMINISTRATIVE ANALYST | 1 | GRADE SGS05 |
| 34 | (3) PAS02P | ADMINISTRATIVE COORDINATOR | <u>1</u> | GRADE SGS04 |
| 35 | | MAX. NO. OF EMPLOYEES | 3 | |



SECTION 2. APPROPRIATION - OPERATIONS. There is hereby appropriated, to the Department of Commerce, to be payable from the Miscellaneous Agencies Fund Account, for personal services and operating expenses of the Department of Commerce - Arkansas Waterways Commission for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2027, the following:

| ITEM | FISCAL YEAR |
|---------------------------------|-------------------------|
| <u>NO.</u> | <u>2026-2027</u> |
| (01) REGULAR SALARIES | \$171,883 |
| (02) PERSONAL SERVICES MATCHING | 63,856 |
| (03) MAINT. & GEN. OPERATION | |
| (A) OPER. EXPENSE | 88,879 |
| (B) CONF. & TRAVEL | 8,151 |
| (C) PROF. FEES | 0 |
| (D) CAP. OUTLAY | 0 |
| (E) DATA PROC. | 0 |
| (04) STATE'S CONTRIBUTIONS | <u>2,555</u> |
| TOTAL AMOUNT APPROPRIATED | <u><u>\$335,324</u></u> |

SECTION 3. APPROPRIATION - WATERWAY DEVELOPMENT GRANT PROGRAM. There is hereby appropriated, to the Department of Commerce, to be payable from the Arkansas Port, Intermodal, and Waterway Development Grant Program Fund, for grants to port authorities and intermodal authorities under the Arkansas Port, Intermodal, and Waterway Development Grant Program for port development projects as defined by Arkansas Code 15-23-205 for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2027, the following:

| ITEM | FISCAL YEAR |
|----------------------------------|---------------------------|
| <u>NO.</u> | <u>2026-2027</u> |
| (01) WATERWAY DEVELOPMENT GRANTS | <u><u>\$5,000,000</u></u> |

SECTION 4. APPROPRIATION - ARKANSAS RIVER NAVIGATION SYSTEM FUND. There is hereby appropriated, to the Department of Commerce, to be payable from the Arkansas River Navigation System Fund, for expenses for the development, improvement, and expansion of river transportation resources within the portion of the McClellan-Kerr Arkansas River Navigation System

1 located in the State of Arkansas for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2027,
 2 the following:

| 4 ITEM | FISCAL YEAR |
|---|--------------------|
| 5 NO. | 2026-2027 |
| 6 (01) ARKANSAS RIVER NAVIGATION SYSTEM | |
| 7 EXPENSES | <u>\$2,000,000</u> |

8
 9 SECTION 5. COMPLIANCE WITH OTHER LAWS. Disbursement of funds
 10 authorized by this act shall be limited to the appropriation for such agency
 11 and funds made available by law for the support of such appropriations; and
 12 the restrictions of the State Procurement Law, the General Accounting and
 13 Budgetary Procedures Law, the Revenue Stabilization Law, the Regular Salary
 14 Procedures and Restrictions Act, or their successors, and other fiscal
 15 control laws of this State, where applicable, and regulations promulgated by
 16 the Department of Finance and Administration, as authorized by law, shall be
 17 strictly complied with in disbursement of said funds.
 18

19 SECTION 6. LEGISLATIVE INTENT. It is the intent of the General
 20 Assembly that any funds disbursed under the authority of the appropriations
 21 contained in this act shall be in compliance with the stated reasons for
 22 which this act was adopted, as evidenced by the Agency Requests, Executive
 23 Recommendations and Legislative Recommendations contained in the budget
 24 manuals prepared by the Department of Finance and Administration, letters, or
 25 summarized oral testimony in the official minutes of the Arkansas Legislative
 26 Council or Joint Budget Committee which relate to its passage and adoption.
 27

28 SECTION 7. EMERGENCY CLAUSE. It is found and determined by the General
 29 Assembly, that the Constitution of the State of Arkansas prohibits the
 30 appropriation of funds for more than a one (1) year period; that the
 31 effectiveness of this Act on July 1, 2026 is essential to the operation of
 32 the agency for which the appropriations in this Act are provided, and that in
 33 the event of an extension of the legislative session, the delay in the
 34 effective date of this Act beyond July 1, 2026 could work irreparable harm
 35 upon the proper administration and provision of essential governmental
 36 programs. Therefore, an emergency is hereby declared to exist and this Act

1 being necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health
2 and safety shall be in full force and effect from and after July 1, 2026.
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25
26
27
28
29
30
31
32
33
34
35
36