

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

A Bill

HOUSE BILL 1055

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
11 EDUCATION - OFFICE OF EARLY CHILDHOOD FOR THE FISCAL
12 YEAR ENDING JUNE 30, 2027; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.
13
14

Subtitle

15 AN ACT FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION -
16 OFFICE OF EARLY CHILDHOOD APPROPRIATION
17 FOR THE 2026-2027 FISCAL YEAR.
18
19
20

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

23 SECTION 1. REGULAR SALARIES. There is hereby established for the
24 Department of Education - Office of Early Childhood for the 2026-2027 fiscal
25 year, the following maximum number of regular employees.
26

Item No.	Class Code	Title	Maximum No. of Employees	Maximum Annual Salary Rate Fiscal Year 2026-2027
31	(1) EEA02C	EDUCATION DIVISION DIRECTOR	1	GRADE SPC09
32	(2) EEP02C	EDUCATION PROGRAM ADMINISTRATOR	1	GRADE SPC07
33	(3) EES01P	EDUCATION PROFESSIONAL I	1	GRADE SPC02
34	(4) FAC01P	ACCOUNTANT I	1	GRADE SPC01
35	(5) EEC01C	EARLY CHILDHOOD PROGRAM ADMIN	3	GRADE SGS10
36	(6) FFS03C	FISCAL SUPPORT MANAGER	1	GRADE SGS09



1	(7)	PQA02C QUALITY ASSURANCE MANAGER	3	GRADE SGS09
2	(8)	EEC05P EARLY CHILDHOOD PROGRAM SUPV/EXP	8	GRADE SGS08
3	(9)	HDH05P HR COORDINATOR	1	GRADE SGS07
4	(10)	PQA01P QUALITY ASSURANCE COORDINATOR	5	GRADE SGS07
5	(11)	CTR02P TRAINER	1	GRADE SGS07
6	(12)	EEC02P EARLY CHILDHOOD PROGRAM COORD	22	GRADE SGS06
7	(13)	IIV04P INVESTIGATOR III	5	GRADE SGS06
8	(14)	PAS01P ADMINISTRATIVE ANALYST	7	GRADE SGS05
9	(15)	FGM02P GRANTS COORDINATOR	1	GRADE SGS05
10	(16)	IIV03P INVESTIGATOR II	7	GRADE SGS05
11	(17)	PPR04P PROCUREMENT SPECIALIST	1	GRADE SGS05
12	(18)	PPE02P PROGRAM ELIGIBILITY SPECIALIST I	2	GRADE SGS05
13	(19)	PAS02P ADMINISTRATIVE COORDINATOR	8	GRADE SGS04
14	(20)	EEC04P EARLY CHILDHOOD PROGRAM SPECIALIST	83	GRADE SGS04
15	(21)	FFS04P FISCAL SUPPORT SPECIALIST	2	GRADE SGS04
16	(22)	FGM01P GRANTS ANALYST	1	GRADE SGS04
17	(23)	TIW01P INVENTORY COORDINATOR	1	GRADE SGS04
18	(24)	PAS03P ADMINISTRATIVE SPECIALIST	4	GRADE SGS02
19	(25)	IDM02P DATABASE ANALYST	1	GRADE IST07
20	(26)	IUS02P USER SUPPORT COORDINATOR	1	GRADE IST05
21	(27)	IUS04P USER SUPPORT SPECIALIST	4	GRADE IST02
22	(28)	FFS02P FISCAL SUPPORT COORDINATOR	<u>1</u>	GRADE SGS06
23		MAX. NO. OF EMPLOYEES	177	

24

25 SECTION 2. EXTRA HELP - OPERATIONS. There is hereby authorized, for
 26 the Department of Education - Office of Early Childhood for the 2026-2027
 27 fiscal year, the following maximum number of part-time or temporary
 28 employees, to be known as "Extra Help", payable from funds appropriated
 29 herein for such purposes: thirteen (13) temporary or part-time employees,
 30 when needed, at rates of pay not to exceed those provided in the Uniform
 31 Classification and Compensation Act, or its successor, or this act for the
 32 appropriate classification.

33

34 SECTION 3. APPROPRIATION - OFFICE OF EARLY CHILDHOOD - OPERATIONS.
 35 There is hereby appropriated, to the Department of Education, to be payable
 36 from the Child Care and Early Childhood Education Fund Account, for personal

1 services, operating expenses, and grants of the Department of Education -
 2 Office of Early Childhood - Operations for the fiscal year ending June 30,
 3 2027, the following:

5 ITEM	FISCAL YEAR
6 <u>NO.</u>	<u>2026-2027</u>
7 (01) REGULAR SALARIES	\$1,482,755
8 (02) EXTRA HELP	20,000
9 (03) PERSONAL SERVICES MATCHING	668,714
10 (04) OVERTIME	4,850
11 (05) MAINT. & GEN. OPERATION	
12 (A) OPER. EXPENSE	7,585,752
13 (B) CONF. & TRAVEL	103,243
14 (C) PROF. FEES	3,000,000
15 (D) CAP. OUTLAY	0
16 (E) DATA PROC.	0
17 (06) GRANTS AND AID	<u>2,500,000</u>
18 TOTAL AMOUNT APPROPRIATED	<u><u>\$15,365,314</u></u>

19
 20 SECTION 4. APPROPRIATION - OFFICE OF EARLY CHILDHOOD - OPERATIONS -
 21 FEDERAL. There is hereby appropriated, to the Department of Education, to be
 22 payable from the federal funds as designated by the Chief Fiscal Officer of
 23 the State, for personal services, operating expenses, and grants of the
 24 Department of Education - Office of Early Childhood - Operations - Federal
 25 for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2027, the following:

27 ITEM	FISCAL YEAR
28 <u>NO.</u>	<u>2026-2027</u>
29 (01) EARLY CHILDHOOD FEDERAL EXPENSES	<u>\$268,667,976</u>

30
 31 SECTION 5. APPROPRIATION - OFFICE OF EARLY CHILDHOOD - CHILD CARE
 32 PROGRAM GRANTS AND EXPENSES. There is hereby appropriated, to the Department
 33 of Education, to be payable from the Child Care Grant Fund Account, for
 34 operating expenses and grants of the Department of Education - Office of
 35 Early Childhood - Child Care Program Grants and Expenses for the fiscal year
 36 ending June 30, 2027, the following:

1		
2	ITEM	FISCAL YEAR
3	<u>NO.</u>	<u>2026-2027</u>
4	(01) CHILD CARE PROGRAM GRANTS AND EXPENSES	<u>\$9,000,000</u>

5

6 SECTION 6. APPROPRIATION - OFFICE OF EARLY CHILDHOOD - LOAN GUARANTEES
 7 AND GRANTS. There is hereby appropriated, to the Department of Education, to
 8 be payable from the cash fund deposited in the State Treasury as determined
 9 by the Chief Fiscal Officer of the State, for loan guarantees and grants of
 10 the Department of Education - Office of Early Childhood - Loan Guarantees and
 11 Grants for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2027, the following:

12		
13	ITEM	FISCAL YEAR
14	<u>NO.</u>	<u>2026-2027</u>
15	(01) LOAN GUARANTEES & GRANTS	<u>\$36,786</u>

16

17 SECTION 7. APPROPRIATION - OFFICE OF EARLY CHILDHOOD - COMMODITY
 18 DISTRIBUTION AND SALVAGE CONTAINER - CASH. There is hereby appropriated, to
 19 the Department of Education, to be payable from the cash fund deposited in
 20 the State Treasury as determined by the Chief Fiscal Officer of the State,
 21 for operating expenses of the Department of Education - Office of Early
 22 Childhood - Commodity Distribution and Salvage Container - Cash for the
 23 fiscal year ending June 30, 2027, the following:

24		
25	ITEM	FISCAL YEAR
26	<u>NO.</u>	<u>2026-2027</u>
27	(01) MAINT. & GEN. OPERATION	
28	(A) OPER. EXPENSE	\$130,186
29	(B) CONF. & TRAVEL	9,490
30	(C) PROF. FEES	0
31	(D) CAP. OUTLAY	0
32	(E) DATA PROC.	<u>0</u>
33	TOTAL AMOUNT APPROPRIATED	<u>\$139,676</u>

34

35 SECTION 8. APPROPRIATION - OFFICE OF EARLY CHILDHOOD - CHILDCARE
 36 FACILITY GRANTS. There is hereby appropriated, to the Department of

1 Education, to be payable from the Child Care Fund, for providing grants to
 2 childcare facilities as provided by law of the Department of Education -
 3 Office of Early Childhood - Childcare Facility Grants for the fiscal year
 4 ending June 30, 2027, the following:

6 ITEM	FISCAL YEAR
7 NO.	2026-2027
8 (01) CHILDCARE FACILITY GRANTS	<u>\$200,000</u>

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

19
 20 SECTION 10. LEGISLATIVE INTENT. It is the intent of the General
 21 Assembly that any funds disbursed under the authority of the appropriations
 22 contained in this act shall be in compliance with the stated reasons for
 23 which this act was adopted, as evidenced by the Agency Requests, Executive
 24 Recommendations and Legislative Recommendations contained in the budget
 25 manuals prepared by the Department of Finance and Administration, letters, or
 26 summarized oral testimony in the official minutes of the Arkansas Legislative
 27 Council or Joint Budget Committee which relate to its passage and adoption.

28
 29 SECTION 11. EMERGENCY CLAUSE. It is found and determined by the
 30 General Assembly, that the Constitution of the State of Arkansas prohibits
 31 the appropriation of funds for more than a one (1) year period; that the
 32 effectiveness of this Act on July 1, 2026 is essential to the operation of
 33 the agency for which the appropriations in this Act are provided, and that in
 34 the event of an extension of the legislative session, the delay in the
 35 effective date of this Act beyond July 1, 2026 could work irreparable harm
 36 upon the proper administration and provision of essential governmental

1 programs. Therefore, an emergency is hereby declared to exist and this Act
2 being necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health
3 and safety shall be in full force and effect from and after July 1, 2026.

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