

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

# A Bill

HOUSE BILL 1060

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 - ARKANSAS STATE LIBRARY FOR THE FISCAL  
12 YEAR ENDING JUNE 30, 2027; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.  
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## Subtitle

15 AN ACT FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION -  
16 ARKANSAS STATE LIBRARY APPROPRIATION FOR  
17 THE 2026-2027 FISCAL YEAR.  
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21 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:  
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23 SECTION 1. REGULAR SALARIES. There is hereby established for the  
24 Department of Education - Arkansas State Library for the 2026-2027 fiscal  
25 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 2026-2027 |
|----------|------------|----------------------------------|--------------------------|--|
| 31       | (1) ELI05C | STATE LIBRARIAN                  | 1                        | GRADE SPC08                                      |
| 32       | (2) ELI02C | LIBRARY MANAGER                  | 2                        | GRADE SGS10                                      |
| 33       | (3) ELI04P | LIBRARY SUPERVISOR/EXPERT        | 7                        | GRADE SGS08                                      |
| 34       | (4) FFS05P | FISCAL SUPPORT SUPERVISOR/EXPERT | 1                        | GRADE SGS07                                      |
| 35       | (5) ELI01P | LIBRARIAN                        | 16                       | GRADE SGS06                                      |
| 36       | (6) CPR07P | PUBLIC INFORMATION SPECIALIST    | 1                        | GRADE SGS06                                      |



|   |                                       |           |             |
|---|---------------------------------------|-----------|-------------|
| 1 | (7) PPR04P PROCUREMENT SPECIALIST     | 1         | GRADE SGS05 |
| 2 | (8) PAS02P ADMINISTRATIVE COORDINATOR | 2         | GRADE SGS04 |
| 3 | (9) FFS04P FISCAL SUPPORT SPECIALIST  | 2         | GRADE SGS04 |
| 4 | (10) ELI03P LIBRARY SPECIALIST        | <u>10</u> | GRADE SGS02 |
| 5 | MAX. NO. OF EMPLOYEES                 | 43        |             |

7 SECTION 2. EXTRA HELP - STATE OPERATIONS. There is hereby authorized,  
 8 for the Department of Education - Arkansas State Library - State Operations  
 9 for the 2026-2027 fiscal year, the following maximum number of part-time or  
 10 temporary employees, to be known as "Extra Help", payable from funds  
 11 appropriated herein for such purposes: seven (7) temporary or part-time  
 12 employees, when needed, at rates of pay not to exceed those provided in the  
 13 Uniform Classification and Compensation Act, or its successor, or this act  
 14 for the appropriate classification.

16 SECTION 3. APPROPRIATION - STATE OPERATIONS. There is hereby  
 17 appropriated, to the Department of Education, to be payable from the State  
 18 Library Fund Account, for personal services and operating expenses of the  
 19 Department of Education - Arkansas State Library - State Operations for the  
 20 fiscal year ending June 30, 2027, the following:

| 22 | ITEM                            | FISCAL YEAR               |
|----|---------------------------------|---------------------------|
| 23 | <u>NO.</u>                      | <u>2026-2027</u>          |
| 24 | (01) REGULAR SALARIES           | \$1,677,679               |
| 25 | (02) EXTRA HELP                 | 10,000                    |
| 26 | (03) PERSONAL SERVICES MATCHING | 631,390                   |
| 27 | (04) MAINT. & GEN. OPERATION    |                           |
| 28 | (A) OPER. EXPENSE               | 1,125,091                 |
| 29 | (B) CONF. & TRAVEL              | 10,000                    |
| 30 | (C) PROF. FEES                  | 0                         |
| 31 | (D) CAP. OUTLAY                 | 0                         |
| 32 | (E) DATA PROC.                  | 0                         |
| 33 | (05) BOOKS & SUBSCRIPTIONS      | <u>230,000</u>            |
| 34 | TOTAL AMOUNT APPROPRIATED       | <u><u>\$3,684,160</u></u> |

36 SECTION 4. EXTRA HELP - FEDERAL OPERATIONS. There is hereby

1 authorized, for the Department of Education - Arkansas State Library -  
 2 Federal Operations for the 2026-2027 fiscal year, the following maximum  
 3 number of part-time or temporary employees, to be known as "Extra Help",  
 4 payable from funds appropriated herein for such purposes: five (5) temporary  
 5 or part-time employees, when needed, at rates of pay not to exceed those  
 6 provided in the Uniform Classification and Compensation Act, or its  
 7 successor, or this act for the appropriate classification.

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 9 SECTION 5. APPROPRIATION - FEDERAL OPERATIONS. There is hereby  
 10 appropriated, to the Department of Education, to be payable from the federal  
 11 funds as designated by the Chief Fiscal Officer of the State, for personal  
 12 services and operating expenses of the Department of Education - Arkansas  
 13 State Library - Federal Operations for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2027,  
 14 the following:

| 16 ITEM                            | FISCAL YEAR        |
|------------------------------------|--------------------|
| 17 <u>NO.</u>                      | <u>2026-2027</u>   |
| 18 (01) REGULAR SALARIES           | \$459,024          |
| 19 (02) EXTRA HELP                 | 22,000             |
| 20 (03) PERSONAL SERVICES MATCHING | 194,802            |
| 21 (04) MAINT. & GEN. OPERATION    |                    |
| 22 (A) OPER. EXPENSE               | 2,337,700          |
| 23 (B) CONF. & TRAVEL              | 145,000            |
| 24 (C) PROF. FEES                  | 0                  |
| 25 (D) CAP. OUTLAY                 | 60,000             |
| 26 (E) DATA PROC.                  | <u>0</u>           |
| 27 TOTAL AMOUNT APPROPRIATED       | <u>\$3,218,526</u> |

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 29 SECTION 6. APPROPRIATION - AID TO PUBLIC LIBRARIES. There is hereby  
 30 appropriated, to the Department of Education, to be payable from the State  
 31 Library Public School Fund Account, to provide aid to public libraries by the  
 32 Department of Education - Arkansas State Library - Aid to Public Libraries  
 33 for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2027, the following:

| 35 ITEM       | FISCAL YEAR      |
|---------------|------------------|
| 36 <u>NO.</u> | <u>2026-2027</u> |

1 (01) AID TO PUBLIC LIBRARIES \$6,500,000

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3 SECTION 7. APPROPRIATION - GRANTS ADMINISTRATION - CASH. There is  
 4 hereby appropriated, to the Department of Education, to be payable from the  
 5 cash fund deposited in the State Treasury as determined by the Chief Fiscal  
 6 Officer of the State, for operating expenses of the Department of Education -  
 7 Arkansas State Library - Grants Administration - Cash for the fiscal year  
 8 ending June 30, 2027, the following:

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| 10 ITEM                         | FISCAL YEAR      |
|---------------------------------|------------------|
| 11 <u>NO.</u>                   | <u>2026-2027</u> |
| 12 (01) MAINT. & GEN. OPERATION |                  |
| 13 (A) OPER. EXPENSE            | \$20,000         |
| 14 (B) CONF. & TRAVEL           | 20,000           |
| 15 (C) PROF. FEES               | 0                |
| 16 (D) CAP. OUTLAY              | 0                |
| 17 (E) DATA PROC.               | <u>0</u>         |
| 18 TOTAL AMOUNT APPROPRIATED    | <u>\$40,000</u>  |

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20 SECTION 8. APPROPRIATION - STATE LIBRARY REVOLVING. There is hereby  
 21 appropriated, to the Department of Education, to be payable from the State  
 22 Library Revolving Fund, for operating expenses of the Department of Education  
 23 - Arkansas State Library - State Library Revolving for the fiscal year ending  
 24 June 30, 2027, the following:

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| 26 ITEM                         | FISCAL YEAR      |
|---------------------------------|------------------|
| 27 <u>NO.</u>                   | <u>2026-2027</u> |
| 28 (01) MAINT. & GEN. OPERATION |                  |
| 29 (A) OPER. EXPENSE            | \$500            |
| 30 (B) CONF. & TRAVEL           | 0                |
| 31 (C) PROF. FEES               | 0                |
| 32 (D) CAP. OUTLAY              | 0                |
| 33 (E) DATA PROC.               | <u>0</u>         |
| 34 TOTAL AMOUNT APPROPRIATED    | <u>\$500</u>     |

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36 SECTION 9. SPECIAL LANGUAGE. NOT TO BE INCORPORATED INTO THE ARKANSAS

1 CODE NOR PUBLISHED SEPARATELY AS SPECIAL, LOCAL AND TEMPORARY LAW.  
2 CARRY FORWARD. At the close of the fiscal year ending June 30, ~~2025~~ 2026,  
3 any unexpended balance of monies provided from the State Library Fund Account  
4 for Books and Subscriptions, as provided in the State Operations  
5 Appropriation of this Act, shall be transferred forward and made available  
6 for the same purpose for the fiscal year ending June 30, ~~2026~~ 2027.

7 Any carry forward of unexpended balance of funding as authorized herein,  
8 may be carried forward under the following conditions:

9 (1) Prior to June 30, ~~2026~~ 2027 the Agency shall by written statement  
10 set forth its reason(s) for the need to carry forward said funding to the  
11 Department of Finance and Administration Office of Budget;

12 (2) The Department of Finance and Administration Office of Budget shall  
13 report to the Arkansas Legislative Council all amounts carried forward by the  
14 September Arkansas Legislative Council or Joint Budget Committee meeting  
15 which report shall include the name of the Agency, Board, Commission or  
16 Institution and the amount of the funding carried forward, the program name  
17 or line item, the funding source of that appropriation and a copy of the  
18 written request set forth in (1) above;

19 (3) Each Agency, Board, Commission or Institution shall provide a  
20 written report to the Arkansas Legislative Council or Joint Budget Committee  
21 containing all information set forth in item (2) above, along with a written  
22 statement as to the current status of the project, contract, purpose etc. for  
23 which the carry forward was originally requested no later than thirty (30)  
24 days prior to the time the Agency, Board, Commission or Institution presents  
25 its budget request to the Arkansas Legislative Council/Joint Budget  
26 Committee; and

27 (4) Thereupon, the Department of Finance and Administration shall  
28 include all information obtained in item (3) above in the budget manuals  
29 and/or a statement of non-compliance by the Agency, Board, Commission or  
30 Institution.

31 The provisions of this section shall be in effect only from July 1, ~~2025~~  
32 2026 through June 30, ~~2026~~ 2027.

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34 SECTION 10. SPECIAL LANGUAGE. NOT TO BE INCORPORATED INTO THE ARKANSAS  
35 CODE NOR PUBLISHED SEPARATELY AS SPECIAL, LOCAL AND TEMPORARY LAW. STATE  
36 FUNDING FOR LIBRARIES PROVISIONS.

1 (i) The Department of Education – Arkansas State Library provides  
2 grants and aid to Libraries across the state. The Arkansas State Library  
3 has developed the Standards for State Aid to public libraries which creates  
4 standards public libraries must meet to be eligible for state aid.

5 (ii) The Standards for State Aid to Public Libraries contains the  
6 requirement that a public library shall maintain a one-mill county or city  
7 property tax, and the requirement that the library have a qualified  
8 librarian.

9 (iii) Less populated areas in the State may not have the ability to  
10 pass and maintain a one-mill county or city property tax.

11 (iv) Due to the importance that the public library represents to rural  
12 communities, the Arkansas State Library shall review and modify the  
13 requirements that prevent rural public libraries from receiving state grant  
14 and aid that is authorized by the General Assembly, as set out in subsection  
15 (v).

16 (v) Therefore, the Arkansas State Library shall promulgate rules that  
17 allow a public library to adequately demonstrate a source of revenue in lieu  
18 of the requirement to maintain a one-mill county or city property tax.

19 (vi) One month prior to the distribution of state aid to public  
20 libraries for the ~~2026~~ 2027 Fiscal Year, the Arkansas State Library shall  
21 report to the Arkansas Legislative Council or Joint Budget Committee, if  
22 meeting in legislative session, the revised Standards for State Aid to Public  
23 Libraries which shall address in writing the actions taken to address the  
24 issues as set out in this section. The report shall include all criteria,  
25 including but not limited to how a local public library may become certified  
26 to receive funding from the Arkansas State Library.

27 (vii) The provisions of this section shall be in effect only from July  
28 1, ~~2025~~ 2026 through June 30, ~~2026~~ 2027.

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30 SECTION 11. COMPLIANCE WITH OTHER LAWS. Disbursement of funds  
31 authorized by this act shall be limited to the appropriation for such agency  
32 and funds made available by law for the support of such appropriations; and  
33 the restrictions of the State Procurement Law, the General Accounting and  
34 Budgetary Procedures Law, the Revenue Stabilization Law, the Regular Salary  
35 Procedures and Restrictions Act, or their successors, and other fiscal  
36 control laws of this State, where applicable, and regulations promulgated by

1 the Department of Finance and Administration, as authorized by law, shall be  
2 strictly complied with in disbursement of said funds.

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4 SECTION 12. LEGISLATIVE INTENT. It is the intent of the General  
5 Assembly that any funds disbursed under the authority of the appropriations  
6 contained in this act shall be in compliance with the stated reasons for  
7 which this act was adopted, as evidenced by the Agency Requests, Executive  
8 Recommendations and Legislative Recommendations contained in the budget  
9 manuals prepared by the Department of Finance and Administration, letters, or  
10 summarized oral testimony in the official minutes of the Arkansas Legislative  
11 Council or Joint Budget Committee which relate to its passage and adoption.  
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13 SECTION 13. EMERGENCY CLAUSE. It is found and determined by the  
14 General Assembly, that the Constitution of the State of Arkansas prohibits  
15 the appropriation of funds for more than a one (1) year period; that the  
16 effectiveness of this Act on July 1, 2026 is essential to the operation of  
17 the agency for which the appropriations in this Act are provided, and that in  
18 the event of an extension of the legislative session, the delay in the  
19 effective date of this Act beyond July 1, 2026 could work irreparable harm  
20 upon the proper administration and provision of essential governmental  
21 programs. Therefore, an emergency is hereby declared to exist and this Act  
22 being necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health  
23 and safety shall be in full force and effect from and after July 1, 2026.  
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