

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

As Engrossed: S4/21/26

**A Bill**

SENATE BILL 23

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 HUMAN  
11 SERVICES - DIVISION OF YOUTH SERVICES 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 HUMAN  
16 SERVICES - DIVISION OF YOUTH SERVICES  
17 APPROPRIATION FOR THE 2026-2027 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 - OPERATIONS. There is hereby established  
25 for the Department of Human Services - Division of Youth Services for the  
26 2026-2027 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 2026-2027
32	(1) EEX22A	HUMAN SERVICES DIVISION DIRECTOR	1	GRADE EXE02
33	(2) SSP07C	SOCIAL SERVICES ADMINISTRATOR	3	GRADE SPC08
34	(3) LAT04P	ATTORNEY II	1	GRADE SPC05
35	(4) FFS01C	FISCAL SUPPORT ADMINISTRATOR	1	GRADE SGS10
36	(5) CTR03C	TRAINING MANAGER	1	GRADE SGS10



1	(6)	IMPO2C MILITARY PROGRAM MANAGER	1	GRADE SGS09
2	(7)	SSP15C SOCIAL SERVICES MANAGER	1	GRADE SGS09
3	(8)	PQA04P QUALITY ASSURANCE SUPVR/EXPERT	1	GRADE SGS08
4	(9)	SSP17P SOCIAL SERVICES SUPERVISOR/EXPERT	18	GRADE SGS08
5	(10)	PPR02P PROCUREMENT COORDINATOR	2	GRADE SGS07
6	(11)	PQA01P QUALITY ASSURANCE COORDINATOR	1	GRADE SGS07
7	(12)	SSP11P SOCIAL SERVICES COORDINATOR	14	GRADE SGS07
8	(13)	ETF06P TEACHER II	4	GRADE SGS07
9	(14)	CTR02P TRAINER	4	GRADE SGS07
10	(15)	EEP05P EDUCATION PROGRAM SPECIALIST	5	GRADE SGS06
11	(16)	SSP16P SOCIAL SERVICES SPECIALIST	10	GRADE SGS06
12	(17)	ETF05P TEACHER I	5	GRADE SGS06
13	(18)	PAS01P ADMINISTRATIVE ANALYST	2	GRADE SGS05
14	(19)	IIV03P INVESTIGATOR II	3	GRADE SGS05
15	(20)	SSP08P SOCIAL SERVICES ADVISOR	11	GRADE SGS05
16	(21)	PAS02P ADMINISTRATIVE COORDINATOR	5	GRADE SGS04
17	(22)	FGM01P GRANTS ANALYST	1	GRADE SGS04
18	(23)	IIN01P INSPECTOR I	1	GRADE SGS04
19	(24)	SSP10P SOCIAL SERVICES ASSISTANT	24	GRADE SGS02
20	(25)	MNU06P REGISTERED NURSE	<u>2</u>	GRADE MED05
21		MAX. NO. OF EMPLOYEES	122	

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23 SECTION 2. EXTRA HELP - OPERATIONS. There is hereby authorized, for  
 24 the Department of Human Services - Division of Youth Services for the 2026-  
 25 2027 fiscal year, the following maximum number of part-time or temporary  
 26 employees, to be known as "Extra Help", payable from funds appropriated  
 27 herein for such purposes: thirty-six (36) temporary or part-time employees,  
 28 when needed, at rates of pay not to exceed those provided in the Uniform  
 29 Classification and Compensation Act, or its successor, or this act for the  
 30 appropriate classification.

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32 SECTION 3. APPROPRIATION - OPERATIONS. There is hereby appropriated,  
 33 to the Department of Human Services, to be payable from the paying account as  
 34 determined by the Chief Fiscal Officer of the State, for personal services  
 35 and operating expenses of the Department of Human Services - Division of  
 36 Youth Services for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2027, the following:

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ITEM	FISCAL YEAR
<u>NO.</u>	<u>2026-2027</u>
(01) REGULAR SALARIES	\$6,074,027
(02) EXTRA HELP	41,903
(03) PERSONAL SERVICES MATCHING	2,382,574
(04) OVERTIME	8,699
(05) MAINT. & GEN. OPERATION	
(A) OPER. EXPENSE	5,257,099
(B) CONF. & TRAVEL	55,400
(C) PROF. FEES	609,050
(D) CAP. OUTLAY	105,000
(E) DATA PROC.	<u>0</u>
TOTAL AMOUNT APPROPRIATED	<u><u>\$14,533,752</u></u>

SECTION 4. APPROPRIATION - COMMUNITY BASED SANCTIONS. There is hereby appropriated, to the Department of Human Services - Division of Youth Services, to be payable from the Youth Services Fund Account, for grants and aid for graduated community based sanctions for juveniles adjudicated delinquent for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2027, the following:

ITEM	FISCAL YEAR
<u>NO.</u>	<u>2026-2027</u>
(01) COMMUNITY BASED SANCTIONS	<u><u>\$2,480,444</u></u>

SECTION 5. APPROPRIATION - COMMUNITY SERVICES. There is hereby appropriated, to the Department of Human Services, to be payable from the Youth Services Fund Account, for purchase of services from community based providers of the Department of Human Services - Division of Youth Services for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2027, the following:

ITEM	FISCAL YEAR
<u>NO.</u>	<u>2026-2027</u>
(01) COMMUNITY SERVICES	<u><u>\$13,821,100</u></u>

SECTION 6. APPROPRIATION - FEDERAL CHILD AND YOUTH SERVICE GRANTS.

1 There is hereby appropriated, to the Department of Human Services, to be  
2 payable from the federal funds as designated by the Chief Fiscal Officer of  
3 the State, for federally funded grants of the Department of Human Services -  
4 Division of Youth Services for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2027, the  
5 following:

6	7 ITEM	FISCAL YEAR
8	<u>NO.</u>	<u>2026-2027</u>
9	(01) FEDERAL CHILD AND YOUTH SERVICE GRANTS	<u>\$17,832,942</u>

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11 SECTION 7. APPROPRIATION - RESIDENTIAL SERVICES. There is hereby  
12 appropriated, to the Department of Human Services, to be payable from the  
13 Youth Services Fund Account, for the purchase and operation of residential  
14 services by the Department of Human Services - Division of Youth Services for  
15 the fiscal year ending June 30, 2027, the following:

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17	ITEM	FISCAL YEAR
18	<u>NO.</u>	<u>2026-2027</u>
19	(01) RESIDENTIAL SERVICES	<u>\$34,616,356</u>

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21 SECTION 8. SPECIAL LANGUAGE. NOT TO BE INCORPORATED INTO THE ARKANSAS  
22 CODE NOR PUBLISHED SEPARATELY AS SPECIAL, LOCAL AND TEMPORARY LAW. TRANSFER  
23 OF FUNDS FOR THE JUVENILE OMBUDSMAN PROGRAM. The Department of Human  
24 Services shall provide funding in an amount not to exceed \$240,000 for the  
25 fiscal year ending June 30, ~~2026~~ 2027 for the Juvenile Ombudsman Program  
26 described in ACA 25-43-1008. Upon request by the Secretary of the Department  
27 of Inspector General, the Chief Fiscal Officer of the State shall transfer an  
28 amount not to exceed \$240,000 for the fiscal year ending June 30, ~~2026~~ 2027  
29 from an account designated by the Secretary of the Department of Human  
30 Services to the State Central Services Fund as a direct revenue to fund the  
31 Juvenile Ombudsman Program.

32 The provisions of this section shall be in effect only from July 1, ~~2025~~  
33 2026 through June 30, ~~2026~~ 2027.

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35 SECTION 9. SPECIAL LANGUAGE. NOT TO BE INCORPORATED INTO THE ARKANSAS  
36 CODE NOR PUBLISHED SEPARATELY AS SPECIAL, LOCAL AND TEMPORARY LAW. TRANSFER

1 OF FUNDS FOR LOCAL JUVENILE DETENTION FACILITIES. The Chief Fiscal Officer  
2 of the State shall transfer funds in an amount of \$400,000 for the fiscal  
3 year ending June 30, ~~2026~~ 2027 from the Department of Human Services – Youth  
4 Services Fund Account to the Juvenile Detention Facilities Operating Fund to  
5 fund the appropriation to the Department of Finance and Administration –  
6 Disbursing Officer for grants for operating expenses of local juvenile  
7 detention facilities.

8 The amount of the funds transferred in the fiscal year ending June 30,  
9 ~~2026~~ 2027 may be adjusted upon request of the Secretary of the Department of  
10 Human Services on a pro-rata basis with any reductions provided in the  
11 Revenue Stabilization Law from the July 1 Official Forecast of general  
12 revenue funding for the Division of Youth Services.

13 The provisions of this section shall be in effect only from July 1, ~~2025~~  
14 2026 through June 30, ~~2026~~ 2027.

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16 SECTION 10. SPECIAL LANGUAGE. NOT TO BE INCORPORATED INTO THE ARKANSAS  
17 CODE NOR PUBLISHED SEPARATELY AS SPECIAL, LOCAL AND TEMPORARY LAW.  
18 RESIDENTIAL SERVICES CONTINGENCY. If it has been determined that the  
19 Department of Human Services - Division of Youth Services cannot continue to  
20 contract with private provider(s) for residential juvenile services,  
21 educational services, therapeutic services, and/or medical services and deems  
22 it necessary to utilize Department staff to provide all or parts of the  
23 required services above, the Department is authorized to seek the approval of  
24 the Chief Fiscal Officer of the State, the Governor and the Arkansas  
25 Legislative Council or Joint Budget Committee to utilize the contingent  
26 residential services positions contained in this Act and to make the  
27 appropriate transfers from any line item authorized in the RESIDENTIAL  
28 SERVICES appropriation of this Act to any line item authorized in the  
29 OPERATIONS appropriation of this Act. If it has been determined that the  
30 Department of Human Services - Division of Youth Services cannot continue to  
31 operate one or more of the various service components of a Residential  
32 Facility for residential juvenile services, educational services, therapeutic  
33 services, and/or medical services and deems it necessary to utilize a  
34 contract with private provider(s), the Department is authorized to seek the  
35 approval of the Chief Fiscal Officer of the State, the Governor and the  
36 Arkansas Legislative Council or Joint Budget Committee to make the

1 appropriate transfers from any line item authorized in the OPERATIONS  
2 appropriation of this Act to any line item authorized in the RESIDENTIAL  
3 SERVICES appropriation of this Act.

4 The provisions of this section shall be in effect only from July 1,  
5 ~~2025~~ 2026 through June 30, ~~2026~~ 2027.

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7 SECTION 11. SPECIAL LANGUAGE. NOT TO BE INCORPORATED INTO THE ARKANSAS  
8 CODE NOR PUBLISHED SEPARATELY AS SPECIAL, LOCAL AND TEMPORARY LAW. EXTRA  
9 HELP SALARIES - CONTINGENT RESIDENTIAL SERVICES POSITIONS. There is hereby  
10 established for the Department of Human Services - Division of Youth Services  
11 - Contingent Residential Services Positions, the following maximum number of  
12 positions whose salaries shall be governed by the provisions of the Uniform  
13 Classification and Compensation Act (Arkansas Code § 21-5-201 et seq.), or  
14 its successor, and all laws amendatory thereto. Requests to use positions  
15 will be based upon the non-contracted services for residential juvenile  
16 services, educational services, therapeutic services, and/or medical  
17 services. If at such time a category(s) of services are contracted with  
18 private provider(s), identified positions associated with such service(s)  
19 shall be returned to the contingency pool. In order to ensure required  
20 staffing levels, Extra Help positions authorized herein are specifically  
21 exempt from limitation of hours, either by Act or regulation.

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23 CONTINGENT POSITIONS - RESIDENTIAL SERVICES

	ITEM	CLASS	TITLE	MAXIMUM
	NO.	CODE		NO. OF
	(01)	9999	EXTRA HELP	<u>320</u>
	GRAND TOTAL CONTINGENT POSITIONS			320

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30 The provisions of this section shall be in effect through June 30, ~~2026~~ 2027.

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33 SECTION 12. COMPLIANCE WITH OTHER LAWS. Disbursement of funds  
34 authorized by this act shall be limited to the appropriation for such agency  
35 and funds made available by law for the support of such appropriations; and  
36 the restrictions of the State Procurement Law, the General Accounting and

1 Budgetary Procedures Law, the Revenue Stabilization Law, the Regular Salary  
2 Procedures and Restrictions Act, or their successors, and other fiscal  
3 control laws of this State, where applicable, and regulations promulgated by  
4 the Department of Finance and Administration, as authorized by law, shall be  
5 strictly complied with in disbursement of said funds.

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7 SECTION 13. LEGISLATIVE INTENT. It is the intent of the General  
8 Assembly that any funds disbursed under the authority of the appropriations  
9 contained in this act shall be in compliance with the stated reasons for  
10 which this act was adopted, as evidenced by the Agency Requests, Executive  
11 Recommendations and Legislative Recommendations contained in the budget  
12 manuals prepared by the Department of Finance and Administration, letters, or  
13 summarized oral testimony in the official minutes of the Arkansas Legislative  
14 Council or Joint Budget Committee which relate to its passage and adoption.

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16 SECTION 14. EMERGENCY CLAUSE. It is found and determined by the  
17 General Assembly, that the Constitution of the State of Arkansas prohibits  
18 the appropriation of funds for more than a one (1) year period; that the  
19 effectiveness of this Act on July 1, 2026 is essential to the operation of  
20 the agency for which the appropriations in this Act are provided, and that in  
21 the event of an extension of the legislative session, the delay in the  
22 effective date of this Act beyond July 1, 2026 could work irreparable harm  
23 upon the proper administration and provision of essential governmental  
24 programs. Therefore, an emergency is hereby declared to exist and this Act  
25 being necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health  
26 and safety shall be in full force and effect from and after July 1, 2026.

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28 /s/Joint Budget Committee  
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