

1 **State of Arkansas**
2 **78th General Assembly**
3 **Regular Session, 1991**
4 **By: Senate Efficiency Committee**

A Bill

SENATE BILL

For An Act To Be Entitled

8 "AN ACT TO APPROPRIATE MONEY TO DEFRAY THE EXPENSES OF THE
9 ARKANSAS SENATE OF THE SEVENTY-EIGHTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY, TO
10 PAY EXPENSES OF MEMBERS THEREOF, TO PAY SALARIES TO THE
11 EMPLOYEES THEREOF, TO PAY FOR AND/OR PURCHASE SUPPLIES AND
12 EQUIPMENT FOR THE ARKANSAS SENATE; AND FOR OTHER
13 PURPOSES."

14
15 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:

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17 SECTION 1. There is hereby appropriated, to be payable from the
18 Constitutional Officers Fund, to the Arkansas Senate, for the purpose of
19 defraying the necessary expenses of the Seventy-Eighth General Assembly and
20 for paying the expenses of the members thereof as provided herein, for the
21 remainder of the fiscal year ending June 30, 1991, as follows:

22 (1) Mileage allowances, Per Diem, Contingent Expense, Maintenance and	
23 Operations, and other expenses authorized by law	\$ 330,000
24 (2) Salaries of Employees	262,000
25 (3) Employer Matching Funds	<u>18,000</u>
26 TOTAL AMOUNT APPROPRIATED	<u>\$ 610,000</u>

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28 SECTION 2. The funds appropriated by Section 1 herein shall, during the
29 remainder of the fiscal year ending June 30, 1991, also be used to pay the
30 salaries and employer matching costs for those employees authorized for the
31 Arkansas Senate by Act 143 of the First Extraordinary Session of 1989 and by
32 Section 14 of Act 3 of the First Extraordinary Session of 1989.

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34 SECTION 3. There is hereby appropriated, to the Arkansas Senate, for the
35 remainder of the fiscal year ending June 30, 1991, to be payable from the

1 Constitutional Officers Fund, the balance of the appropriations made by Act 2
2 of the First Extraordinary Session of the Seventy Seventh General Assembly,
3 Act 143 of the First Extraordinary Session of the Seventy Seventh General
4 Assembly, and Act 2 of the Third Extraordinary Session of the Seventy Seventh
5 General Assembly, in an amount not to exceed \$300,000, there to be used for
6 the same purposes for the Arkansas Senate of the Seventy-Eighth General
7 Assembly.

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9 SECTION 4. The Senate Efficiency Committee may, at its direction and
10 subject to the approval of the Arkansas Senate, employ Arkansas Senate
11 employees and transfer or discharge any employee if it is deemed for the best
12 interest of the Arkansas Senate.

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14 SECTION 5. The Senate Fiscal Officer is hereby directed to issue
15 vouchers evidencing all payments authorized by the Senate Efficiency
16 Committee, subject to the approval of the Arkansas Senate, and when vouchers
17 issued covering expenditures of the Arkansas Senate have been so issued and
18 approved, the State Auditor is directed to convert such vouchers into
19 warrants, and the Treasurer is directed to pay the same out of the funds
20 appropriated herein.

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22 SECTION 6. (A) The General Assembly hereby recognizes that the increased
23 workload of bills, resolutions, and other matters to be considered during
24 legislative sessions, and the responsibilities of members in studying and
25 considering such legislation and in communicating with their constituents
26 concerning pending or proposed legislation, imposes additional burdens upon
27 the financial resources of the individual members of the Arkansas Senate. The
28 General Assembly further determines that service in the General Assembly
29 requires members of the Arkansas Senate to defray the cost of maintaining a
30 home, and in many instances, a legislative office in their representative
31 districts, as well as incur expenses for meals, lodging, and related expenses
32 while attending legislative sessions at the State Capitol, which imposes
33 additional burdens upon the financial resources of the individual members.

34 It is hereby declared to be the policy of the State of Arkansas that members
35 of the Arkansas Senate shall be provided reimbursement for reasonable

1 expenditures incurred by the members of the Arkansas Senate for the following
2 categories of expenses incurred in attending Regular or Extraordinary Sessions
3 of the General Assembly:

4 (1) staff services of pages, secretarial, clerical, and other assistants;

5 (2) postage, additional stationery, supplies, telephone and telegraph
6 services; and

7 (3) reasonable cost of rent, lodging, meals, and related living and
8 legislative expenses incurred while attending regular or special legislative
9 sessions.

10 The Senate Fiscal Officer, with the approval of the Senate Efficiency
11 Committee and subject to the approval of the Arkansas Senate, is hereby
12 authorized to reimburse members of the Arkansas Senate from funds appropriated
13 by this Act, upon the filing of claims therefor, for expenses incurred by such
14 members with respect to the authorized expenditures hereinabove enumerated,
15 but not to exceed seventy-four dollars (\$74.00) per day per member for each
16 day the General Assembly is in regular or extraordinary session or so much
17 thereof as determined by the Senate Efficiency Committee, subject to the
18 approval of the Arkansas Senate, in order to coincide with the Federal per
19 diem rate for Arkansas.

20 (B) In addition to the items of expense for which reimbursement may be
21 made as provided in subsection (A) above, members of the Arkansas Senate shall
22 be entitled to reimbursement for mileage at the same rate provided by law for
23 state employees for official state travel, for not more than one (1) round
24 trip per week in traveling from their place of residence to Little Rock and
25 return for each week the General Assembly meets in Regular or Extraordinary
26 Session.

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28 SECTION 7. If the Senate Efficiency Committee and the Senate Fiscal
29 Officer, subject to approval by the Arkansas Senate, should determine that any
30 item or portion thereof appropriated herein for a specific purpose is not
31 needed for such purpose, the Senate Fiscal Officer may certify such fact to
32 the State Auditor and the State Auditor shall cause transfer to be made from
33 one item to another.

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35 SECTION 8. The President Pro Tempore of the Arkansas Senate or the

1 Chairman of the Senate Efficiency Committee or both are hereby authorized to
2 designate one or more members of the Arkansas Senate to represent the Arkansas
3 Senate at regional or national conferences of legislators or other official
4 meetings held during the interim between legislative sessions at which the
5 State of Arkansas is requested to be represented by members of the General
6 Assembly, and may pay the actual and necessary travel, meals and lodging and
7 other expenses therefor from the funds appropriated herein.

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9 SECTION 9. CODE. All provisions of this Act of a general and permanent
10 nature are amendatory to the Arkansas Code of 1987 Annotated and the Arkansas
11 Code Revision Commission shall incorporate the same in the Code.

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13 SECTION 10. SEVERABILITY. If any provision of this Act or the
14 application thereof to any person or circumstance is held invalid, such
15 invalidity shall not affect other provisions or applications of the Act which
16 can be given effect without the invalid provision or application, and to this
17 end the provisions of this Act are declared to be severable.

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19 SECTION 11. GENERAL REPEALER. All laws and parts of laws in conflict
20 with this Act are hereby repealed.

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22 SECTION 12. EMERGENCY CLAUSE. It is hereby determined that matters
23 vitally affecting the welfare of the State of Arkansas must be dealt with by
24 the Seventy-Eighth General Assembly, and this Act being necessary for the
25 preservation of the peace, health and safety of the people of the State of
26 Arkansas, an emergency is hereby declared to exist, and this Act shall take
27 effect and be in full force from and after its passage and approval.

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