

1 State of Arkansas
2 94th General Assembly
3 Regular Session, 2023
4

A Bill

HOUSE BILL 1803

5 By: Representative J. Mayberry
6

For An Act To Be Entitled

8 AN ACT TO AMEND PROPOSED REFERRED ACT 1 OF 1994, ALSO
9 KNOWN AS THE ARKANSAS SOFT DRINK TAX PROPOSED
10 REFERRED ACT; TO AUTHORIZE THE SOFT DRINK TAX
11 REVENUES TO BE USED FOR SALARIES OF PUBLIC SCHOOL
12 NURSES; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.
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Subtitle

15 TO AMEND PROPOSED REFERRED ACT 1 OF 1994,
16 ALSO KNOWN AS THE ARKANSAS SOFT DRINK TAX
17 PROPOSED REFERRED ACT; AND TO AUTHORIZE
18 SOFT DRINK TAX REVENUES TO BE USED FOR
19 SALARIES OF PUBLIC SCHOOL NURSES.
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23 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:
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25 SECTION 1. Arkansas Code Title 19, Chapter 5, Subchapter 11, is
26 amended to add an additional section to read as follows:

27 19-5-1158. School Nurse Salary Trust Fund.

28 (a) There is created on the books of the Treasurer of State, the
29 Auditor of State, and the Chief Fiscal Officer of the State a trust fund to
30 be known as the "School Nurse Salary Trust Fund".

31 (b) The fund shall consist of:

32 (1) Grants, donations, or transfers made by any person or
33 government agency or office;

34 (2) Any remaining balances in the fund carried forward from year
35 to year;

36 (3) Five million dollars (\$5,000,000) per year deposited from



1 the soft drink tax under the Arkansas Soft Drink Tax Act, § 26-57-901 et
 2 seq.; and

3 (4) Any other funds authorized or provided by law.

4 (c) The Department of Education shall solely use the fund to
 5 contribute to the salaries of public school nurses in this state.

6 (d) This section expires on July 1, 2025, unless extended by the
 7 General Assembly.

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 9 SECTION 2. Arkansas Code § 26-57-908, as enacted by Proposed Referred
 10 Act 1 of 1994, also known as the Arkansas Soft Drink Tax Proposed Referred
 11 Act, concerning the disposition of revenues collected under the Arkansas Soft
 12 Drink Tax Act, is amended to read as follows:

13 26-57-908. Disposition of revenues.

14 The revenues derived from the tax collected under this subchapter shall
 15 be remitted to the Treasurer of State, who shall deposit the revenues as
 16 trust funds into the State Treasury and shall credit the proceeds to:

17 (1) The first five million (\$5,000,000) per year into the School
 18 Nurse Salary Trust Fund for the Department of Education to use solely to
 19 contribute to the salaries of public school nurses in this state; and

20 (2) The ~~the~~ trust fund known as the “Arkansas Medicaid Program
 21 Trust Fund”.

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 23 SECTION 3. Expiration.

24 This act expires on July 1, 2025, unless extended by the General
 25 Assembly.

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 27 SECTION 4. DO NOT CODIFY. Reconsideration of funding for school nurse
 28 salaries.

29 The House Committee on Education and the Senate Committee on Education
 30 shall:

31 (1) Review and reexamine the distribution of the proceeds from
 32 the Arkansas Soft Drink Tax Proposed Referred Act, § 26-57-901 et seq., to
 33 contribute to the salaries of public school nurses; and

34 (2) Consider redirecting the proceeds or a portion of the
 35 proceeds received from any other source to the salaries of public school
 36 nurses within the state.