

1 State of Arkansas  
2 94th General Assembly  
3 Fiscal Session, 2024  
4

# A Bill

HOUSE BILL 1041

5 By: Joint Budget Committee  
6

## For An Act To Be Entitled

8 AN ACT TO MAKE AN APPROPRIATION FOR PUBLIC SCHOOL  
9 FUND GRANTS FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION -  
10 DIVISION OF ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY EDUCATION -  
11 PUBLIC SCHOOL FUND FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDING JUNE  
12 30, 2025; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.  
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## Subtitle

15 AN ACT FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION -  
16 DIVISION OF ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY  
17 EDUCATION - PUBLIC SCHOOL FUND  
18 APPROPRIATION FOR THE 2024-2025 FISCAL  
19 YEAR.  
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23 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:  
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25 SECTION 1. APPROPRIATION - GRANTS AND AID TO LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICTS AND  
26 SPECIAL PROGRAMS. There is hereby appropriated, to the Department of  
27 Education, to be payable from the Division of Elementary and Secondary  
28 Education Public School Fund Account, for grants and aid to local school  
29 districts and special programs of the Department of Education - Division of  
30 Elementary and Secondary Education for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2025,  
31 the following:  
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33 ITEM	FISCAL YEAR
34 NO.	2024-2025
35 (01) 98% URT ACTUAL COLLECTION ADJUSTMENT	\$34,500,000
36 (02) ADVANCED PLACEMENT INCENTIVE	1,275,000



1	(03)	ALTERNATIVE LEARNING	35,783,095
2	(04)	ARKANSAS EASTER SEALS	193,113
3	(05)	ASSESSMENT/END OF LEVEL TESTING	20,309,189
4	(06)	AT RISK	1,688,530
5	(07)	BETTER CHANCE PROGRAM	114,000,000
6	(08)	BONDED DEBT ASSISTANCE	28,455,384
7	(09)	COMPUTER SCIENCE INITIATIVE	3,500,000
8	(10)	CONSOLIDATION INCENTIVE	5,981,400
9	(11)	CONTENT STANDARDS	161,000
10	(12)	CONTENTS STANDARDS CURRICULUM	
11		FRAMEWORKS	50,000
12	(13)	COOP EDUCATION TECH CENTERS	1,200,000
13	(14)	COORDINATED SCHOOL HEALTH	2,000,000
14	(15)	DEPT OF CORRECTION	8,702,425
15	(16)	DECLINING ENROLLMENT	13,963,389
16	(17)	DISTANCE LEARNING	4,760,000
17	(18)	DISTANCE LEARNING OPERATIONS	7,575,000
18	(19)	EARLY CHILDHOOD SPECIAL EDUCATION	16,897,920
19	(20)	ECONOMIC EDUCATION	400,000
20	(21)	EDUCATION SERVICE COOPERATIVES	6,129,270
21	(22)	EIDT SPECIAL EDUCATION SERVICES	6,000,000
22	(23)	ENGLISH LANGUAGE LEARNERS	19,075,847
23	(24)	ENHANCED STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT FUNDING	246,723,439
24	(25)	ENHANCED TRANSPORTATION FUNDING	7,200,000
25	(26)	ESA MATCHING GRANT PROGRAM	5,300,000
26	(27)	GIFTED & TALENTED	1,560,381
27	(28)	GRANTS TO SCHOOL DISTRICTS	67,856
28	(29)	HUMAN DEVELOPMENT CENTER EDUCATION AID	526,150
29	(30)	INTERVENTION BLOCK GRANTS	302,000
30	(31)	ISOLATED FUNDING	7,896,000
31	(32)	LEADERSHIP ACADEMY-MASTER PRINCIPAL	1,400,000
32	(33)	MASTER PRINCIPAL BONUS	175,000
33	(34)	MATERNITY LEAVE	3,000,000
34	(35)	MERIT TEACHER INCENTIVE	10,000,000
35	(36)	MINIMUM TEACHER SALARY AND RAISES	190,000,000
36	(37)	NATIONAL BOARD OF PROF TEACHING	

1	STANDARDS	18,738,000
2	(38) NON-TRADITIONAL LICENSURE	50,000
3	(39) OE CHARTER FAC FUNDING AID PRG	9,075,000
4	(40) POSITIVE YOUTH DEVELOPMENT GRANTS	5,000,000
5	(41) PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT FUNDING	37,175,911
6	(42) PUBLIC SCHOOL EMPLOYEE INSURANCE	142,000,000
7	(43) R.I.S.E. ARKANSAS	970,000
8	(44) RESIDENTIAL CENTERS/JUVENILE DETENTION	16,345,087
9	(45) SCHOOL FACILITY JOINT USE SUPPORT	500,000
10	(46) SCHOOL FOOD SERVICES	1,650,000
11	(47) SCHOOL FOOD-LEGISLATIVE AUDIT	75,000
12	(48) SCHOOL FUNDING CONTINGENCY	25,000,000
13	(49) SCHOOL RECOGNITION	7,000,000
14	(50) SCHOOL WORKER DEFENSE	390,000
15	(51) SERIOUS OFFENDER	1,716,859
16	(52) SMART START/SMART STEP	10,666,303
17	(53) SPECIAL EDUCATION SERVICES	2,802,527
18	(54) SPECIAL EDUCATION-CATASTROPHIC	13,998,150
19	(55) SPECIAL NEEDS ISOLATED FUNDING	3,000,000
20	(56) STATE FOUNDATION FUNDING	2,206,861,456
21	(57) STUDENT GROWTH	37,690,144
22	(58) SURPLUS COMMODITIES	1,125,065
23	(59) TEACHER LICENSING/MENTORING	6,065,758
24	(60) TEACHER OF THE YEAR	100,000
25	(61) TEACHER RETIREMENT MATCHING	14,776,754
26	(62) TEACHER SALARY EQUALIZATION	60,000,000
27	(63) TECHNOLOGY GRANTS	3,602,678
28	(64) TECHNOLOGY IMPROVEMENTS	500,000
29	(65) WORKER'S COMPENSATION	450,000
30	(66) YOUTH SHELTERS	<u>165,000</u>
31	TOTAL AMOUNT APPROPRIATED	<u>\$3,434,241,080</u>

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33 SECTION 2. REGULAR SALARIES - ARKANSAS PUBLIC SCHOOL COMPUTER NETWORK.

34 There is hereby established for the Department of Education - Division of  
 35 Elementary and Secondary Education - Arkansas Public School Computer Network  
 36 for the 2024-2025 fiscal year, the following maximum number of regular

1 employees.

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Item No.	Class Code	Title	Maximum No. of Employees	Maximum Annual Salary Rate Fiscal Year 2024-2025
(1)	D105C	ADE STATE NETWORK ENGINEER	1	GRADE IT09
(2)	D022N	IT SENIOR PROJECT MANAGER	1	GRADE IT09
(3)	D104C	ADE STATE SYSTEMS ADMINISTRATOR	1	GRADE IT08
(4)	D007C	INFORMATION SYSTEMS MANAGER	1	GRADE IT08
(5)	D042C	DATA WAREHOUSE SPECIALIST	1	GRADE IT06
(6)	D037C	ADE APSCN APPLICATIONS MANAGER	3	GRADE IT05
(7)	D063C	COMPUTER SUPPORT SPECIALIST	1	GRADE IT05
(8)	D055C	ADE APSCN FIELD ANALYST	25	GRADE IT04
(9)	D079C	COMPUTER SUPPORT TECHNICIAN	1	GRADE IT02
(10)	N047N	ADE APSCN DIRECTOR	1	GRADE GS15
(11)	G012C	ADE ASSISTANT TO DIRECTOR	3	GRADE GS12
(12)	G050C	ADE APSCN DIVISION MANAGER	3	GRADE GS10
(13)	C020C	STUDENT APPLICATIONS SPECIALIST	2	GRADE GS06
(14)	C056C	ADMINISTRATIVE SPECIALIST III	<u>1</u>	GRADE GS04
MAX. NO. OF EMPLOYEES			45	

SECTION 3. APPROPRIATION - ARKANSAS PUBLIC SCHOOL COMPUTER NETWORK.

There is hereby appropriated, to the Department of Education, to be payable from the Division of Elementary and Secondary Education Public School Fund Account, for personal services and operating expenses of the Department of Education - Division of Elementary and Secondary Education - Arkansas Public School Computer Network for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2025, the following:

ITEM NO.	FISCAL YEAR 2024-2025
(01) REGULAR SALARIES	\$2,720,774
(02) PERSONAL SERVICES MATCHING	965,070
(03) MAINT. & GEN. OPERATION	
(A) OPER. EXPENSE	25,245,839

1	(B) CONF. & TRAVEL	7,250
2	(C) PROF. FEES	0
3	(D) CAP. OUTLAY	200,000
4	(E) DATA PROC.	0
5	(04) DATA ACCESS IMPLEMENTATION	<u>300,000</u>
6	TOTAL AMOUNT APPROPRIATED	<u><u>\$29,438,933</u></u>

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 8 SECTION 4. REGULAR SALARIES - OFFICE OF EDUCATION RENEWAL ZONES. There  
 9 is hereby established for the Department of Education - Division of  
 10 Elementary and Secondary Education - Office of Education Renewal Zones for  
 11 the 2024-2025 fiscal year, the following maximum number of regular employees.

13		Maximum Annual
14		Salary Rate
15	Item Class	Fiscal Year
16	No. Code Title	2024-2025
17	(1) E020C ADE OERZ TECHNICAL ASSIST SPECIALIST	3 GRADE GS08
18	(2) C056C ADMINISTRATIVE SPECIALIST III	<u>1</u> GRADE GS04
19	MAX. NO. OF EMPLOYEES	4

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 21 SECTION 5. APPROPRIATION - OFFICE OF EDUCATION RENEWAL ZONES. There is  
 22 hereby appropriated, to the Department of Education, to be payable from the  
 23 Division of Elementary and Secondary Education Public School Fund Account,  
 24 for personal services, operating expenses, and grants by the Department of  
 25 Education - Division of Elementary and Secondary Education - Office of  
 26 Education Renewal Zones for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2025, the  
 27 following:

29	ITEM	FISCAL YEAR
30	NO.	2024-2025
31	(01) REGULAR SALARIES	\$168,180
32	(02) PERSONAL SERVICES MATCHING	68,739
33	(03) MAINT. & GEN. OPERATION	
34	(A) OPER. EXPENSE	25,000
35	(B) CONF. & TRAVEL	3,000
36	(C) PROF. FEES	0

1	(D) CAP. OUTLAY	0
2	(E) DATA PROC.	0
3	(04) EDUCATIONAL RENEWAL ZONE GRANTS	<u>1,101,150</u>
4	TOTAL AMOUNT APPROPRIATED	<u><u>\$1,366,069</u></u>

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6 SECTION 6. SPECIAL LANGUAGE. NOT TO BE INCORPORATED INTO THE ARKANSAS  
 7 CODE NOR PUBLISHED SEPARATELY AS SPECIAL, LOCAL AND TEMPORARY LAW. R.I.S.E.  
 8 ARKANSAS - CARRY FORWARD. Any unexpended balance of monies allocated for  
 9 R.I.S.E. Arkansas remaining on June 30, ~~2024~~ 2025, in the Division of  
 10 Elementary and Secondary Education Public School Fund Account shall be  
 11 designated and retained for the R.I.S.E. Arkansas. Any carry forward of  
 12 unexpected balance of funding as authorized herein, may be carried forward  
 13 under the following conditions:

14 (1) Prior to June 30, ~~2024~~ 2025 the Agency shall by written statement  
 15 set forth its reason(s) for the need to carry forward said funding to the  
 16 Department of Finance and Administration Office of Budget;

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

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

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

36 The provisions of this section shall be in effect only from July 1, ~~2023~~

1 2024 through June 30, ~~2024~~ 2025.

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3 SECTION 7. SPECIAL LANGUAGE. NOT TO BE INCORPORATED INTO THE ARKANSAS  
4 CODE NOR PUBLISHED SEPARATELY AS SPECIAL, LOCAL AND TEMPORARY LAW.  
5 FUND ALLOCATION. The appropriation for the Isolated Funding line item in the  
6 Grants and Aid to Local School Districts and Special Programs section of this  
7 Act may be fully funded. Any funding and appropriation for Isolated Funding  
8 that is not utilized shall be transferred to the appropriation for Special  
9 Needs Isolated Funding in the Grants and Aid to Local School Districts and  
10 Special Programs section of this Act and shall be used there for fully  
11 funding each subsection (c) through (f) of Arkansas Code § 6-20-604 on a pro  
12 rata basis until the available funds are exhausted. Pro rata basis is defined  
13 as providing each district qualifying for additional funding under  
14 subsections (c) through (f) a proportionate share based on how each  
15 district's additional funding amount bears to the total additional funding  
16 amounts for all qualifying districts. If any funding and appropriation  
17 remains after funding each subsection (c) through (f) of Arkansas Code § 6-  
18 20-604 the remaining balance shall be used to fund the provisions of Arkansas  
19 Code § 6-20-604 (h) on an equal basis until the available funds are  
20 exhausted.

21 The provisions of this section shall be in effect only from July 1, ~~2023~~  
22 2024 through June 30, ~~2024~~ 2025.

23  
24 SECTION 8. SPECIAL LANGUAGE. NOT TO BE INCORPORATED INTO THE ARKANSAS  
25 CODE NOR PUBLISHED SEPARATELY AS SPECIAL, LOCAL AND TEMPORARY LAW.  
26 GRANTS TO SCHOOL DISTRICTS. For the purposes of distributing the Grants To  
27 School Districts appropriation in the Grants and Aid to Local School  
28 Districts and Special Programs section of this Act, "school district" means a  
29 school district which contracts with a school district in an adjoining state  
30 for the education of some of the pupils within the Arkansas school district  
31 because the portion of the school district wherein such pupils live is  
32 completely separated from the remainder of the school district by a reservoir  
33 covering at least 12,000 acres at normal water level, and where to attend  
34 school in their own district, the pupils of said portion would be required to  
35 travel or to be transported a distance (measured by the nearest highway or  
36 road route) of more than 35 miles round trip and pass through another school

1 district or districts. The Department of Education shall distribute the  
2 monies appropriated for Grants to School Districts in the Grants and Aid to  
3 Local School Districts and Special Programs section of this Act to such  
4 school districts as reimbursement for expenses incurred in educating the  
5 pupils residing in the separated portion of the school district. The payments  
6 are to be limited to the amount of available appropriation. Such school  
7 districts shall file a request for reimbursement with the Department of  
8 Education and provide the Department of Education with such documentation as  
9 is deemed necessary.

10 The provisions of this section shall be in effect only from July 1, ~~2023~~  
11 2024 through June 30, ~~2024~~ 2025.

12  
13 SECTION 9. SPECIAL LANGUAGE. NOT TO BE INCORPORATED INTO THE ARKANSAS  
14 CODE NOR PUBLISHED SEPARATELY AS SPECIAL, LOCAL AND TEMPORARY LAW.  
15 SPECIAL EDUCATION SERVICES. The funds appropriated in the line item "Special  
16 Education Services" in the Grants and Aid to Local School Districts and  
17 Special Programs section of this Act shall be used to provide extended year  
18 summer programs for handicapped students in need of such services, to provide  
19 special education services to foster children who are wards of the State, and  
20 to provide funds for the payment of salaries of special education  
21 supervisors. The Department of Education shall distribute such funds in the  
22 manner necessary to carry out the intent of this Section.

23 The provisions of this section shall be in effect only from July 1, ~~2023~~  
24 2024 through June 30, ~~2024~~ 2025.

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26 SECTION 10. SPECIAL LANGUAGE. NOT TO BE INCORPORATED INTO THE ARKANSAS  
27 CODE NOR PUBLISHED SEPARATELY AS SPECIAL, LOCAL AND TEMPORARY LAW.  
28 TRANSFER AUTHORITY. The Commissioner of the Department of Education, with the  
29 approval of the Chief Fiscal Officer of the State and after approval by the  
30 Arkansas Legislative Council or Joint Budget Committee, is hereby authorized  
31 to request necessary appropriation transfers and any other budget related  
32 adjustments necessary within the Department of Education. Provided, however,  
33 that the Department of Education shall be limited to submitting no more than  
34 two transfer requests during any fiscal year.

35 Determining the maximum number of employees and the maximum amount of  
36 appropriation and general revenue funding for a state agency each fiscal year



1 is the prerogative of the General Assembly. This is usually accomplished by  
2 delineating such maximums in the appropriation act(s) for a state agency and  
3 the general revenue allocations authorized for each fund and fund account by  
4 amendment to the Revenue Stabilization law. Further, the General Assembly  
5 has determined that the Department of Education may operate more efficiently  
6 if some flexibility is provided to the Commissioner of the Department of  
7 Education authorizing broad powers under the Transfer Authority provision  
8 herein. Therefore, it is both necessary and appropriate that the General  
9 Assembly maintain oversight by requiring prior approval of the Legislative  
10 Council or Joint Budget Committee as provided by this section. The  
11 requirement of approval by the Legislative Council or Joint Budget Committee  
12 is not a severable part of this section. If the requirement of approval by  
13 the Legislative Council or Joint Budget Committee is ruled unconstitutional  
14 by a court jurisdiction, this entire section is void.

15 The provisions of this section shall be in effect only from July 1, ~~2023~~  
16 2024 through June 30, ~~2024~~ 2025.

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18 SECTION 11. SPECIAL LANGUAGE. NOT TO BE INCORPORATED INTO THE ARKANSAS  
19 CODE NOR PUBLISHED SEPARATELY AS SPECIAL, LOCAL AND TEMPORARY LAW.  
20 AETN DOCUMENTED QUIZ BOWL COSTS. Of the total amount of appropriation and  
21 funds authorized herein to the Department of Education for the Quiz Bowl each  
22 fiscal year, an amount not to exceed forty thousand dollars (\$40,000) each  
23 fiscal year may be made available to the Department of Education -  
24 Educational Television Division for its documented costs associated with the  
25 Quiz Bowl.

26 The provisions of this section shall be in effect only from July 1, ~~2023~~  
27 2024 through June 30, ~~2024~~ 2025.

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29 SECTION 12. SPECIAL LANGUAGE. NOT TO BE INCORPORATED INTO THE ARKANSAS  
30 CODE NOR PUBLISHED SEPARATELY AS SPECIAL, LOCAL AND TEMPORARY LAW.  
31 RETIREMENT MATCHING. Beginning with the 1996-97 school year, Local School  
32 Districts shall pay the teacher retirement employer contribution rate for any  
33 eligible employee in accordance with rules and regulations established by the  
34 Teacher Retirement Board of Directors. The appropriation contained herein for  
35 Teacher Retirement Matching each fiscal year shall be used to provide the  
36 employer matching for employees of the Cooperative Education Services Areas,

1 Vocational Centers, Arkansas Easter Seals and the school operated by the  
2 Department of Correction.

3 The provisions of this section shall be in effect only from July 1, ~~2023~~  
4 2024 through June 30, ~~2024~~ 2025.

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6 SECTION 13. SPECIAL LANGUAGE. NOT TO BE INCORPORATED INTO THE ARKANSAS  
7 CODE NOR PUBLISHED SEPARATELY AS SPECIAL, LOCAL AND TEMPORARY LAW.

8 BETTER CHANCE PROGRAM ADMINISTRATIVE FEES. The Department of Education is  
9 hereby authorized to expend a maximum of two percent (2%) of available funds  
10 for administration of the Better Chance Program. Up to 1.8% of available  
11 funds shall be used to administer the program and to monitor program grantees  
12 to ensure compliance with programmatic standards. Prior to the utilization of  
13 the remaining 0.2% of available funds, the Department of Education shall seek  
14 prior review and approval of the Arkansas Legislative Council or Joint Budget  
15 Committee by providing a written request to include the following: a) the  
16 Department's reason(s) for the use of the funds and b) the amount of funds  
17 that will be expended. The Department may contract with the Division of  
18 Elementary and Secondary Education to administer the program.

19 Determining the maximum number of employees and the maximum amount of  
20 appropriation and general revenue funding for a state agency each fiscal year  
21 is the prerogative of the General Assembly. This is usually accomplished by  
22 delineating such maximums in the appropriation act(s) for a state agency and  
23 the general revenue allocations authorized for each fund and fund account by  
24 amendment to the Revenue Stabilization law. Therefore, it is both necessary  
25 and appropriate that the General Assembly maintain oversight by requiring  
26 prior approval of the Legislative Council or Joint Budget Committee as  
27 provided by this section. The requirement of approval by the Legislative  
28 Council or Joint Budget Committee is not a severable part of this section.  
29 If the requirement of approval by the Legislative Council or Joint Budget  
30 Committee is ruled unconstitutional by a court of competent jurisdiction,  
31 this entire section is void.

32 The provisions of this section shall be in effect only from July 1, ~~2023~~  
33 2024 through June 30, ~~2024~~ 2025.

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35 SECTION 14. SPECIAL LANGUAGE. NOT TO BE INCORPORATED INTO THE ARKANSAS  
36 CODE NOR PUBLISHED SEPARATELY AS SPECIAL, LOCAL AND TEMPORARY LAW.

1 AVERAGE TEACHER SALARY. The Arkansas Department of Education is requested to  
2 calculate Average Teacher Salary in the Department's Annual Statistical  
3 Report to not include extra duty funds. Specifically, the Department is  
4 requested to calculate the Average Teacher Salary amount using the National  
5 Education Association definitions for Average Salary for Classroom Teachers.  
6 The Arkansas Department of Education shall submit this data annually to the  
7 National Education Association in accordance with that organization's  
8 deadlines for submission for their report "Rankings and Estimates" which  
9 includes state-by-state teacher salary comparisons.

10 The provisions of this section shall be in effect only from July 1, ~~2023~~  
11 2024 through June 30, ~~2024~~ 2025.

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13 SECTION 15. SPECIAL LANGUAGE. NOT TO BE INCORPORATED INTO THE ARKANSAS  
14 CODE NOR PUBLISHED SEPARATELY AS SPECIAL, LOCAL AND TEMPORARY LAW.

15 CARRY FORWARD - ARKANSAS BETTER CHANCE. Any unexpended balance of monies  
16 allocated for the Arkansas Better Chance for School Success Program remaining  
17 on June 30, ~~2024~~ 2025, in the Division of Elementary and Secondary Education  
18 Public School Fund Account shall be designated and retained for the Arkansas  
19 Better Chance for School Success Program.

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

22 (1) Prior to June 30, ~~2024~~ 2025 the Agency shall by written statement set  
23 forth its reason(s) for the need to carry forward said funding to the  
24 Department of Finance and Administration Office of Budget;

25 (2) The Department of Finance and Administration Office of Budget shall  
26 report to the Arkansas Legislative Council or Joint Budget Committee all  
27 amounts carried forward by the September Arkansas Legislative Council or  
28 Joint Budget Committee meeting which report shall include the name of the  
29 Agency, Board, Commission or Institution and the amount of the funding  
30 carried forward, the program name or line item, the funding source of that  
31 appropriation and a copy of the written request set forth in (1) above;

32 (3) Each Agency, Board, Commission or Institution shall provide a written  
33 report to the Arkansas Legislative Council or Joint Budget Committee  
34 containing all information set forth in item (2) above, along with a written  
35 statement as to the current status of the project, contract, purpose etc. for  
36 which the carry forward was originally requested no later than thirty (30)

1 days prior to the time the Agency, Board, Commission or Institution presents  
2 its budget request to the Arkansas Legislative Council/Joint Budget  
3 Committee; and

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

7 The provisions of this section shall be in effect only from July 1, ~~2023~~  
8 2024 through June 30, ~~2024~~ 2025.

9  
10 SECTION 16. SPECIAL LANGUAGE. NOT TO BE INCORPORATED INTO THE ARKANSAS  
11 CODE NOR PUBLISHED SEPARATELY AS SPECIAL, LOCAL AND TEMPORARY LAW.

12 ARKANSAS/STRIVE PROGRAM TRANSFER. The Chief Fiscal Officer of the State  
13 shall transfer on his books and those of the State Treasurer and the State  
14 Auditor, the sum of two hundred thousand dollars (\$200,000) during each  
15 fiscal year from the Division of Elementary and Secondary Education Public  
16 School Fund Account to the University of Arkansas at Little Rock Fund,  
17 specifically to provide funding for the Arkansas/STRIVE Program. The total  
18 amount of funds transferred each fiscal year pursuant to this section shall  
19 not be subject to any indirect costs by the University of Arkansas at Little  
20 Rock.

21 The provisions of this section shall be in effect only from July 1, ~~2023~~  
22 2024 through June 30, ~~2024~~ 2025.

23  
24 SECTION 17. SPECIAL LANGUAGE. NOT TO BE INCORPORATED INTO THE ARKANSAS  
25 CODE NOR PUBLISHED SEPARATELY AS SPECIAL, LOCAL AND TEMPORARY LAW.

26 ARKANSAS GOVERNOR'S SCHOOL FUNDING. The Department of Education shall  
27 allocate, budget and commit for expenditure two hundred fifty thousand  
28 dollars (\$250,000), in addition to funds already being provided for the  
29 Arkansas Governor's School, to fund the appropriation authorized from general  
30 revenue for the Gifted and Talented program as appropriated in the Grants and  
31 Aid to Local School Districts and Special Programs section herein. With this  
32 additional funding either the department shall increase the number of grants  
33 for AEGIS summer enrichment programs, or the duration of the Arkansas  
34 Governor's School shall be extended from four (4) weeks to six (6) weeks.

35 The provisions of this section shall be in effect only from July 1, ~~2023~~  
36 2024 through June 30, ~~2024~~ 2025.

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2 SECTION 18. SPECIAL LANGUAGE. NOT TO BE INCORPORATED INTO THE ARKANSAS  
3 CODE NOR PUBLISHED SEPARATELY AS SPECIAL, LOCAL AND TEMPORARY LAW.  
4 EAST FUNDING PROVISION. Of the total amount appropriated for Technology  
5 Grants each fiscal year, an amount of not less than three million five  
6 thousand dollars (\$3,005,000) or eighteen percent (18%), whichever is greater  
7 each fiscal year, shall be awarded through a grant or professional services  
8 contract for the EAST Initiative. Not less than one million dollars  
9 (\$1,000,000) of the three million five thousand dollars (\$3,005,000) or  
10 eighteen percent (18%) of the Technology Grants Line Item awarded to the EAST  
11 Initiatives shall be used for EAST infrastructure and personnel growth for  
12 the establishment of new programs. The remaining funding shall be used for  
13 existing EAST infrastructure, personnel, and operating expenses of the EAST  
14 Initiative. The EAST infrastructure grant or contract for personal services  
15 and operating expenses shall be awarded to an entity that has personnel or  
16 experience, or both, in implementing the EAST Initiative.

17 The provisions of this section shall be in effect only from July 1, ~~2023~~  
18 2024 through June 30, ~~2024~~ 2025.

19  
20 SECTION 19. SPECIAL LANGUAGE. NOT TO BE INCORPORATED INTO THE ARKANSAS  
21 CODE NOR PUBLISHED SEPARATELY AS SPECIAL, LOCAL AND TEMPORARY LAW.  
22 INTERVENTION BLOCK GRANTS FUNDING RESTRICTION. The Department of Education  
23 shall make available from the Intervention Block Grants appropriation  
24 authorized by this Act, one hundred thousand dollars (\$100,000) each fiscal  
25 year for the annual expenses of the Quiz Bowl, thirteen thousand five hundred  
26 dollars (\$13,500) each fiscal year for Creativity in Arkansas, Inc. for  
27 grants up to \$1,000 each for students and chaperones, thirteen thousand five  
28 hundred dollars (\$13,500) each fiscal year for Destination Imagination, one  
29 hundred thousand dollars (\$100,000) each fiscal year for the State History  
30 Day Competition, and seventy-five thousand dollars (\$75,000) each fiscal year  
31 for a grant to the Arkansas Science Fair Association for grants to regional  
32 and the state science fairs. The Department of Education shall allocate  
33 General Revenue funding totaling no less than three hundred two thousand  
34 dollars (\$302,000) each fiscal year from the Division of Elementary and  
35 Secondary Education Public School Fund Account to support the annual expenses  
36 of the Quiz Bowl, the Creativity in Arkansas, Inc. for grants up to \$1,000

1 each for students and chaperones, Destination Imagination, the State History  
2 Day Competition, and the Arkansas Science Fair Association for grants to  
3 regional and state science fairs. The Department shall either expend or have  
4 committed for expenditure the monies allocated for the Quiz Bowl, Creativity  
5 in Arkansas, Inc., Destination Imagination, the State History Day  
6 Competition, and Arkansas Science Fair Association grants as authorized  
7 herein in order to fulfill the provisions of this section.

8 The provisions of this section shall be in effect only from July 1, ~~2023~~  
9 2024 through June 30, ~~2024~~ 2025.

10  
11 SECTION 20. SPECIAL LANGUAGE. NOT TO BE INCORPORATED INTO THE ARKANSAS  
12 CODE NOR PUBLISHED SEPARATELY AS SPECIAL, LOCAL AND TEMPORARY LAW.  
13 PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT.

14 (a) Of the total amount appropriated for Professional Development  
15 Funding, three million five hundred thousand dollars (\$3,500,000) may be  
16 authorized by the Commissioner of the Department of Education to be used by  
17 the Department of Education to develop and implement statewide professional  
18 development support systems for teachers that will benefit student  
19 achievement.

20 (b)(1) The Department of Education shall annually report the following  
21 information concerning the Arkansas Online Professional Development  
22 Initiative under § 6-17-707:

- 23 (1) Annual expenditure information;
- 24 (2) Statistical information pertaining to users of the  
25 initiative;
- 26 (3) Course offerings;
- 27 (4) Course hours completed; and
- 28 (5) Certificates awarded.

29 (2) The report under subsection (b)(1) of this section shall be  
30 annually submitted by August 1 to the:

- 31 (1) Governor;
- 32 (2) Legislative Council or, if the General Assembly is  
33 in session, the Joint Budget Committee;
- 34 (3) Senate Committee on Education;
- 35 (4) House Committee on Education; and
- 36 (5) Department of Finance and Administration.

1 (c) The provisions of this section shall be in effect only from July 1,  
2 ~~2023~~ 2024 through June 30, ~~2024~~ 2025.

3  
4 SECTION 21. SPECIAL LANGUAGE. NOT TO BE INCORPORATED INTO THE ARKANSAS  
5 CODE NOR PUBLISHED SEPARATELY AS SPECIAL, LOCAL AND TEMPORARY LAW.  
6 ESA MATCHING GRANT PROGRAM.

7 (a)(1) Of the appropriation and funding for the ESA MATCHING GRANT  
8 PROGRAM Item in the Grants and Aid to Local School Districts and Special  
9 Programs section of this Act, five million three hundred thousand dollars  
10 (\$5,300,000) shall be set aside by the Department of Education and shall be  
11 used for school district expenditures for evidence-based programs to improve  
12 academic achievement of identified national school lunch students.

13 (2) These programs shall be limited to:

14 (A) Tutors as set out in § 6-20-2305(b)(4)(C)(i)(b)(4);

15 (B) Before-school academic programs and after-school academic  
16 programs, including transportation to and from the programs  
17 under § 6-20-2305(b)(4)(C)(i)(b)(2); and

18 (C) Prekindergarten programs under § 6-20-2305(b)(4)(C)(i)(b)(3).

19 (b)(1) Set aside funds authorized in subsection (a) of this section  
20 shall be distributed to school districts on a dollar for dollar matching  
21 basis of school district expenditures for programs under subsection (a) of  
22 this section on a pro rata basis until the available funds are exhausted.

23 (2) As used in this subsection, "pro rata basis" means providing  
24 each district qualifying for additional funding in a proportionate share  
25 based on how each district's expenditure bears to the total of funding  
26 provided in subsection (a) of this section for all qualifying districts as  
27 determined by the Department of Education.

28 (c) If any funding remains after funding subsection (b) of this  
29 section, that remaining balance shall be carried over to the following fiscal  
30 year for the same purposes as provided in this section.

31 (d) The Department of Education shall adopt rules as necessary to  
32 implement this section.

33 (e) The provisions of this section shall be in effect only from July 1,  
34 ~~2023~~ 2024 through June 30, ~~2024~~ 2025.

35  
36 SECTION 22. SPECIAL LANGUAGE. NOT TO BE INCORPORATED INTO THE ARKANSAS

1 CODE NOR PUBLISHED SEPARATELY AS SPECIAL, LOCAL AND TEMPORARY LAW.

2 R.I.S.E. ARKANSAS. The appropriation for the R.I.S.E. Arkansas line item in  
3 the Grants and Aid to Local School Districts and Special Programs section of  
4 this Act shall be used for the coordination of a statewide reading campaign  
5 with community partners, parents, and teachers to establish the importance of  
6 reading in homes, schools, and communities.

7 The provisions of this section shall be in effect only from July 1,  
8 ~~2023~~ 2024 through June 30, ~~2024~~ 2025.

9  
10 SECTION 23. SPECIAL LANGUAGE. NOT TO BE INCORPORATED INTO THE ARKANSAS  
11 CODE NOR PUBLISHED SEPARATELY AS SPECIAL, LOCAL AND TEMPORARY LAW.

12 ENHANCED STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT FUNDING NAME CHANGE. Any appropriation titled  
13 "ENHANCED STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT FUNDING" or abbreviated as "ESA" as named by  
14 SB605 of 2019 may also be known as "NATIONAL SCHOOL LUNCH" funding or  
15 abbreviated as "NSL" and shall be used for the same purposes as set out in  
16 law.

17 The provisions of this section shall be in effect only from July 1, ~~2023~~  
18 2024 through June 30, ~~2024~~ 2025.

19  
20 SECTION 24. SPECIAL LANGUAGE. NOT TO BE INCORPORATED INTO THE ARKANSAS  
21 CODE NOR PUBLISHED SEPARATELY AS SPECIAL, LOCAL AND TEMPORARY LAW.

22 ARKANSAS GOVERNOR'S SCHOOL CURRICULUM. Prior to the beginning of the  
23 Arkansas Governor's School Program each year, the Arkansas Department of  
24 Education shall review and approve the proposed curriculum for the program  
25 year and shall maintain oversight of its implementation for consistency and  
26 accuracy.

27 The provisions of this section shall be in effect only from July 1,  
28 ~~2023~~ 2024 through June 30, ~~2024~~ 2025.

29  
30 SECTION 25. 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.

3  
 4 SECTION 26. 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.  
 12

13 SECTION 27. 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, 2024 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, 2024 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, 2024.  
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