

## Supreme Court of Arkansas

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March 6, 2020

Honorable Larry Teague, Co-Chair Honorable Lane Jean, Co-Chair Joint Budget Committee Arkansas General Assembly One Capitol Mall Little Rock, AR 72201

Dear Senator Teague and Representative Jean:

The Arkansas Supreme Court respectfully requests that the following changes be made to its fiscal year 2020-2021 appropriation bill:

1. We request that the Bar of Arkansas appropriation be amended to include three new positions to potentially be used to establish a new Ethics Advisory Office for Arkansas attorneys and judges:

| Position 1 - Attorney Supervisor                | GS12        |
|---|-------------|
| Position 2 - Attorney Specialist                | GS11        |
| Position 3 - Administrative Assistant/Paralegal | <b>GS07</b> |

Arkansas attorneys and judges, especially solo practitioners, would benefit substantially from having an entity to which they could go for informal and even formal ethics/conduct advice and opinions, and which could provide a timely response. At present, there is no such entity or source available. The Supreme Court is currently studying the feasibility of such an office.

In summary, this is a service with value primarily for lawyers, fully funded by their annual license fee. The citizens of Arkansas will also enjoy the indirect benefit of their attorneys having ready access to ethical advice.

2. We are requesting position upgrades to the following existing positions in order to make them more comparable to similar positions in other branches of state government:

| Current Title and Pay Grade |      | Requested Title and Pay Grade |      |
|-----------------------------|------|-------------------------------|------|
| Appellate Review Attorney I | GS10 | Appellate Review Attorney II  | GS12 |
| Communications Counsel      | GS08 | Communications Counsel        | GS09 |
| Fiscal Officer              | GS10 | Fiscal Officer                | GS12 |
| Supreme Court Police Chief  | GS07 | Supreme Court Police Officer  | GS08 |

| Supreme Court Police Officer      | <b>GS06</b> | Supreme Court Police Officer       | GS08        |
|-----------------------------------|-------------|------------------------------------|-------------|
| Supreme Court Police Officer      | <b>GS06</b> | Supreme Court Police Officer       | <b>GS08</b> |
| Supreme Court Financial Specialis | t GS06      | Supreme Court Financial Specialist | <b>GS07</b> |
| Supreme Court Database Manager    | GS06        | Supreme Court Database Manager     | <b>GS09</b> |

Thank you for your consideration of this request.

Sincerely,

John Dan Kemp

## Hall of the House of Representatives

92nd General Assembly - Fiscal Session, 2020

## **Amendment Form**

**DRAFT** 

| Subtitle of House Bill No. 1046  |
|--|
| AN ACT FOR THE ARKANSAS SUPREME COURT APPROPRIATION FOR THE 2020-2021 FISCAL YEAR.       |
|  |
| Amendment No to House Bill No. 1046  |
| Amend House Bill No. 1046 as originally introduced:                                      |
| Page 1, Line 34, delete "1" and substitute with "2"                                      |
| AND  |
| Page 2, Line 3, delete in its entirety and replace with " <del>(10) Q248C</del>          |
| APPELLATE REVIEW ATTORNEY I 1 CRADE CS10"  |
| AND  |
| Page 2, Line 7, delete "GRADE GS10" and substitute with "GRADE GS12"                     |
| AND  |
| Page 2, Line 9, delete "GRADE GS08" and substitute with "GRADE GS09"                     |
| AND  |
| Page 2, Line 16, delete in its entirety and replace with " <del>(23) Q115C SUPREME</del> |
| COURT POLICE CHIEF 1 CRADE CS07"   |
| AND  |
| Page 2 Line 20 delete #2# and substitute with #3#  |

**JAR127** 

Page 2, Line 20, delete "GRADE GS06" and substitute with "GRADE GS08" AND Page 4, Line 4, delete "GRADE GS06" and substitute with "GRADE GS09" AND Page 4, Line 5, delete "GRADE GS06" and substitute with "GRADE GS07" AND Page 4, Line 9, delete " $\underline{\phantom{a}}$ " and substitute with "l" AND Page 4, Line 10, delete "MAX NO. OF EMPLOYEES 22" and substitute the following: "(19) Q268C SUPREME COURT ATTORNEY SUPERVISOR 1 GRADE GS12 SUPREME COURT ATTORNEY SPECIALIST (20) Q269C 1 GRADE GS11 (21) Q270C SUPREME COURT ADMIN ASST/PARALEGAL 1 GRADE GS07 25". MAX NO. OF EMPLOYEES The Amendment was read By: Joint Budget Committee JAR/JAR - 04-06-2020 09:46:39

Chief Clerk