

Stricken language will be deleted and underlined language will be added.

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

As Engrossed: S4/30/24

A Bill

SENATE BILL 4

5 By: Joint Budget Committee
6

For An Act To Be Entitled

8 AN ACT TO MAKE AN APPROPRIATION FOR PERSONAL SERVICES
9 AND OPERATING EXPENSES FOR THE ARKANSAS LEGISLATIVE
10 COUNCIL, THE BUREAU OF LEGISLATIVE RESEARCH, AND THE
11 INTERIM COMMITTEES OF THE ARKANSAS GENERAL ASSEMBLY
12 FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDING JUNE 30, 2025; AND FOR
13 OTHER PURPOSES.
14
15

Subtitle

16 AN ACT FOR THE BUREAU OF LEGISLATIVE
17 RESEARCH AND THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL
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. REGULAR SALARIES - OPERATIONS. There is hereby established
26 for the Bureau of Legislative Research of the Legislative Council for the
27 2024-2025 fiscal year, the following maximum number of regular employees.
28

| Item No. | Class Code | Title | Maximum No. of Employees | Maximum Annual Salary Rate |
|----------|------------|-------|------------------------------------|----------------------------|
| | | | | Fiscal Year 2024-2025 |
| 33 | (1) | Q030U | DIRECTOR, BUREAU OF LEGIS RESEARCH | 1 GRADE SE05 |
| 34 | (2) | Q029U | ASSISTANT DIRECTOR | 4 GRADE SE04 |
| 35 | (3) | Q061N | BLR COUNSEL | 1 GRADE SE03 |
| 36 | (4) | Q014N | BLR ADMINISTRATOR | 10 GRADE SE02 |



| | | | | |
|----|------|---|----------|------------|
| 1 | (5) | Q236C SR APPLICATIONS PROGRAMMER II | 6 | GRADE IT10 |
| 2 | (6) | Q237C SR NETWORK SPECIALIST II | 4 | GRADE IT10 |
| 3 | (7) | Q285C PC PROCUREMENT SUPPORT SPECIALIST | 1 | GRADE IT08 |
| 4 | (8) | Q286C SENIOR PC SUPPORT SPECIALIST III | 4 | GRADE IT07 |
| 5 | (9) | Q262C BLR PRODUCTION ASSISTANT | 1 | GRADE IT04 |
| 6 | (10) | Q224C ASSETS MANAGER | 1 | GRADE IT03 |
| 7 | (11) | Q272C LEGISLATIVE ECONOMIST | 1 | GRADE GS15 |
| 8 | (12) | Q068N LEGAL EDITOR SUPERVISOR | 1 | GRADE GS14 |
| 9 | (13) | Q281C SENIOR LEGISLATIVE ATTORNEY III | 23 | GRADE GS14 |
| 10 | (14) | Q287C SENIOR LEGAL EDITOR III | 7 | GRADE GS13 |
| 11 | (15) | Q282C SENIOR LEGISLATIVE ANALYST III | 33 | GRADE GS13 |
| 12 | (16) | Q283C BLR PROGRAM DEV & COMPLIANCE ANALYST II | 1 | GRADE GS10 |
| 13 | (17) | Q284C LEGISLATIVE ADMIN SERVICES ANALYST III | 3 | GRADE GS10 |
| 14 | (18) | Q067C ADMIN ASSIST TO DIRECTOR | 1 | GRADE GS09 |
| 15 | (19) | Q077C ADMIN ASSIST TO AD | 4 | GRADE GS08 |
| 16 | (20) | Q065C OFFICE SERVICES SUPERVISOR | 1 | GRADE GS08 |
| 17 | (21) | Q235C ADMIN ASSIST TO ADMINISTRATOR | 8 | GRADE GS07 |
| 18 | (22) | Q118C FACILITIES COORDINATOR | 1 | GRADE GS07 |
| 19 | (23) | Q110C LEGISLATIVE ADMIN ASSISTANT II | 16 | GRADE GS06 |
| 20 | (24) | Q131C BLR SUPPORT SPECIALIST | <u>1</u> | GRADE GS04 |
| 21 | | MAX. NO. OF EMPLOYEES | 134 | |

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23 SECTION 2. EXTRA HELP - OPERATIONS. There is hereby authorized, for
 24 the Bureau of Legislative Research of the Legislative Council for the 2024-
 25 2025 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-one (31) 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 Bureau of Legislative Research of the Legislative Council, to be
 34 payable from the State Central Services Fund, for personal services,
 35 operating expenses, contingency, committee rooms, and construction and
 36 capital improvements of the Bureau of Legislative Research and the

1 Legislative Council for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2025, the following:

2

| 3 ITEM | FISCAL YEAR |
|---|---------------------|
| 4 <u>NO.</u> | <u>2024-2025</u> |
| 5 (01) REGULAR SALARIES | \$11,860,244 |
| 6 (02) EXTRA HELP | 150,000 |
| 7 (03) PERSONAL SERVICES MATCHING | 3,827,527 |
| 8 (04) MAINT. & GEN. OPERATION | |
| 9 (A) OPER. EXPENSE | 2,083,686 |
| 10 (B) CONF. & TRAVEL | 218,002 |
| 11 (C) PROF. FEES | 298,889 |
| 12 (D) CAP. OUTLAY | 400,000 |
| 13 (E) DATA PROC. | 0 |
| 14 (05) CONSTRUCTION/CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS | 50,000 |
| 15 (06) CONTINGENCY | 1,393,480 |
| 16 (07) COMMITTEE ROOMS | <u>205,063</u> |
| 17 TOTAL AMOUNT APPROPRIATED | <u>\$20,486,891</u> |

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19 SECTION 4. APPROPRIATION - INTERIM COMMITTEE STUDY EXPENSES. There is
20 hereby appropriated, to the Bureau of Legislative Research of the Legislative
21 Council Disbursing Officer, to be payable from the State Central Services
22 Fund, for study expenses of the Ad Interim Committees of the Arkansas General
23 Assembly for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2025, the following:

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| 25 ITEM | FISCAL YEAR |
|--|------------------|
| 26 <u>NO.</u> | <u>2024-2025</u> |
| 27 (01) INTERIM COMMITTEE STUDY EXPENSES | <u>\$271,060</u> |

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29 SECTION 5. APPROPRIATION - INTERIM COMMITTEE EXPENSES. There is hereby
30 appropriated, to the Bureau of Legislative Research of the Legislative
31 Council Disbursing Officer, to be payable from the State Central Services
32 Fund, for paying per diem, expenses and mileage to members of the Arkansas
33 General Assembly attending regular and special meetings and other committee
34 related activities of the Ad Interim Committees of the Arkansas General
35 Assembly, and for out-of-state travel expenses for committee staff as
36 approved by the appropriate committee for the fiscal year ending June 30,

1 2025, the following:

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| 3 ITEM | FISCAL YEAR |
|--|---------------------------|
| 4 <u>NO.</u> | <u>2024-2025</u> |
| 5 (01) PER DIEM, EXPENSES, AND MILEAGE FOR | |
| 6 MEMBERS OF THE ARKANSAS GENERAL | |
| 7 ASSEMBLY AD INTERIM COMMITTEES | \$1,419,199 |
| 8 (02) OUT-OF-STATE TRAVEL OF INTERIM | |
| 9 COMMITTEE MEMBERS & COMMITTEE | |
| 10 STAFF WHO ARE AUTHORIZED BY THE | |
| 11 APPROPRIATE COMMITTEE | <u>277,197</u> |
| 12 TOTAL AMOUNT APPROPRIATED | <u><u>\$1,696,396</u></u> |

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14 SECTION 6. APPROPRIATION - ENERGY COUNCIL. There is hereby
 15 appropriated, to the Bureau of Legislative Research of the Legislative
 16 Council Disbursing Officer, to be payable from the State Central Services
 17 Fund, for paying expenses of members of the Arkansas General Assembly
 18 attending meetings of the Energy Council and for other associated expenses
 19 for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2025, the following:

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| 21 ITEM | FISCAL YEAR |
|--|------------------------|
| 22 <u>NO.</u> | <u>2024-2025</u> |
| 23 (01) PAYMENT OF EXPENSES OF MEMBERS AND | |
| 24 OTHER EXPENSES | <u><u>\$65,806</u></u> |

25

26 SECTION 7. REAPPROPRIATION. There is hereby appropriated, to the Bureau
 27 of Legislative Research of the Legislative Council, to be payable from the
 28 State Central Services Fund, from the balance of the appropriation remaining
 29 on June 30, 2024 in Sections 3 and 7 of Act 120 of 2023, there to be used to
 30 the same purposes for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2025, in a sum not to
 31 exceed..... \$2,000,000.

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33 SECTION 8. SPECIAL LANGUAGE. NOT TO BE INCORPORATED INTO THE ARKANSAS
 34 CODE NOR PUBLISHED SEPARATELY AS SPECIAL, LOCAL AND TEMPORARY LAW.
 35 CLASSIFICATION UTILIZATION. The Bureau of Legislative Research may utilize,
 36 at the discretion of the Director of the Bureau of Legislative Research, the

1 following classifications as necessary. The use of these classifications
 2 shall not be considered as increasing the number of positions authorized in
 3 this act, only as a temporary reclassification or cross grade of a position.
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| 5 CLASS | | | |
|----------|--|--|-------|
| 6 CODE | TITLE | | GRADE |
| 7 Q221C | SENIOR LEGISLATIVE ATTORNEY II | | GS13 |
| 8 Q234C | SENIOR LEGAL EDITOR II | | GS12 |
| 9 Q006C | SENIOR LEGISLATIVE ANALYST II | | GS12 |
| 10 Q220C | SENIOR LEGISLATIVE ATTORNEY | | GS12 |
| 11 Q223C | SENIOR LEGAL EDITOR | | GS11 |
| 12 Q032C | SENIOR LEGISLATIVE ANALYST | | GS11 |
| 13 Q007C | LEGISLATIVE ATTORNEY II | | GS11 |
| 14 Q073C | LEGAL EDITOR III | | GS10 |
| 15 Q064C | LEGISLATIVE ANALYST III | | GS10 |
| 16 Q046C | LEGISLATIVE ATTORNEY | | GS10 |
| 17 Q232C | BLR PROGRAM DEVELOP & COMPLIANCE ANALYST | | GS09 |
| 18 Q222C | LEGAL EDITOR II | | GS09 |
| 19 Q197C | LEGISLATIVE ADMIN SERVICES ANALYST II | | GS09 |
| 20 Q079C | LEGISLATIVE ANALYST II | | GS09 |
| 21 Q240C | LEGAL EDITOR | | GS08 |
| 22 Q239C | LEGISLATIVE ANALYST | | GS08 |
| 23 Q198C | LEGISLATIVE ADMIN SERVICES ANALYST | | GS07 |
| 24 Q128C | LEGISLATIVE ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT | | GS05 |
| 25 Q241C | SR. APPLICATIONS PROGRAMMER | | IT09 |
| 26 Q242C | SR. NETWORK SPECIALIST | | IT09 |
| 27 Q243C | APPLICATIONS PROGRAMMER II | | IT08 |
| 28 Q244C | NETWORK SPECIALIST II | | IT08 |
| 29 Q246C | APPLICATIONS PROGRAMMER | | IT07 |
| 30 Q247C | NETWORK SPECIALIST | | IT07 |
| 31 Q238C | SENIOR PC SUPPORT SPECIALIST II | | IT06 |
| 32 Q245C | SR. PC SUPPORT SPECIALIST | | IT05 |
| 33 Q271C | APPLICATIONS SUPPORT SPECIALIST | | IT05 |
| 34 Q063C | PC SUPPORT SPECIALIST II | | IT04 |
| 35 Q078C | PC SUPPORT SPECIALIST | | IT03 |
| 36 Q127C | HELP DESK COORDINATOR | | IT02 |

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

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5 SECTION 9. SPECIAL LANGUAGE – CODE AMENDMENT. Arkansas Code § 10-3-
6 303(j), concerning the Bureau of Legislative Research, is amended to read as
7 follows:

8 (j)(1) Any adjustments in annual salary rates for employees of the
9 bureau, including without limitation labor market adjustments, merit pay
10 adjustments, or employee retention or recruitment requirements shall be made
11 at the discretion of the director.

12 (2)(A)– Salary payments under this subsection shall not be
13 restricted to maximum amounts authorized by law.

14 ~~(B)– If salary adjustments under this subsection exceed the~~
15 ~~maximum line item amount authorized by law for a position, the amount shall~~
16 ~~be paid to the employee as a lump sum payment.~~

17 (3) In order that exceptionally well-qualified personnel may be
18 recruited and retained, Bureau of Legislative Research may exceed the maximum
19 salary levels by no more than twenty percent (20%) for no more than one-third
20 (1/3) of the positions authorized in its operative appropriation act after
21 receiving approval from the:

22 (A) Legislative Council; or

23 (B) Joint Budget Committee, if the General Assembly is in
24 session.

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26 SECTION 10. COMPLIANCE WITH OTHER LAWS. Disbursement of funds
27 authorized by this act shall be limited to the appropriation for such agency
28 and funds made available by law for the support of such appropriations; and
29 the restrictions of the State Procurement Law, the General Accounting and
30 Budgetary Procedures Law, the Revenue Stabilization Law, the Regular Salary
31 Procedures and Restrictions Act, or their successors, and other fiscal
32 control laws of this State, where applicable, and regulations promulgated by
33 the Department of Finance and Administration, as authorized by law, shall be
34 strictly complied with in disbursement of said funds.

35
36 SECTION 11. LEGISLATIVE INTENT. It is the intent of the General

1 Assembly that any funds disbursed under the authority of the appropriations
2 contained in this act shall be in compliance with the stated reasons for
3 which this act was adopted, as evidenced by the Agency Requests, Executive
4 Recommendations and Legislative Recommendations contained in the budget
5 manuals prepared by the Department of Finance and Administration, letters, or
6 summarized oral testimony in the official minutes of the Arkansas Legislative
7 Council or Joint Budget Committee which relate to its passage and adoption.
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9 SECTION 12. EMERGENCY CLAUSE. It is found and determined by the
10 General Assembly, that the Constitution of the State of Arkansas prohibits
11 the appropriation of funds for more than a one (1) year period; that the
12 effectiveness of this Act on July 1, 2024 is essential to the operation of
13 the agency for which the appropriations in this Act are provided, and that in
14 the event of an extension of the legislative session, the delay in the
15 effective date of this Act beyond July 1, 2024 could work irreparable harm
16 upon the proper administration and provision of essential governmental
17 programs. Therefore, an emergency is hereby declared to exist and this Act
18 being necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health
19 and safety shall be in full force and effect from and after July 1, 2024.
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21 /s/Joint Budget Committee
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