

1 State of Arkansas  
2 92nd General Assembly  
3 Fiscal Session, 2020  
4

# A Bill

SENATE BILL 71

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 DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
10 - DIVISION OF STATE SERVICES FOR THE BLIND FOR THE  
11 FISCAL YEAR ENDING JUNE 30, 2021; AND FOR OTHER  
12 PURPOSES.  
13

## Subtitle

14 AN ACT FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE -  
15 DIVISION OF STATE SERVICES FOR THE BLIND  
16 APPROPRIATION FOR THE 2020-2021 FISCAL  
17 YEAR.  
18  
19  
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21 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:  
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23 SECTION 1. REGULAR SALARIES - OPERATIONS. There is hereby established  
24 for the Department of Commerce - Division of State Services for the Blind for  
25 the 2020-2021 fiscal year, the following maximum number of regular employees.  
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Item No.	Class Code	Title	Maximum No. of Employees	Maximum Annual Salary Rate Fiscal Year 2020-2021
31	(1) N125N	DHS DEP DIR SVCS FOR THE BLIND	1	GRADE GS15
32	(2) G021C	DHS/DSB ASSISTANT DIRECTOR	1	GRADE GS11
33	(3) A050C	AGENCY FISCAL MANAGER	1	GRADE GS09
34	(4) G099C	DHS PROGRAM ADMINISTRATOR	2	GRADE GS09
35	(5) L037C	REHAB AREA MANAGER	3	GRADE GS09
36	(6) L098C	CERTIFIED VOCATIONAL REHAB COUNSELOR	26	GRADE GS08



1	(7)	X062C QUALITY ASSURANCE COORDINATOR	1	GRADE GS08
2	(8)	G121C REHAB PROGRAM MANAGER	3	GRADE GS08
3	(9)	G163C REHAB PROGRAM COORDINATOR	2	GRADE GS07
4	(10)	E040C STAFF DEVELOPMENT COORDINATOR	1	GRADE GS07
5	(11)	M032C VOCATIONAL REHAB PLACEMENT SPEC	1	GRADE GS07
6	(12)	C037C ADMINISTRATIVE ANALYST	2	GRADE GS06
7	(13)	E039C DHS/DSB TEACHER FOR THE BLIND	1	GRADE GS06
8	(14)	A074C FISCAL SUPPORT SUPERVISOR	1	GRADE GS06
9	(15)	G178C POLICY DEVELOPMENT COORDINATOR	1	GRADE GS06
10	(16)	L051C REHABILITATION COUNSELOR	3	GRADE GS06
11	(17)	M054C SOCIAL SERVICE WORKER	1	GRADE GS06
12	(18)	A091C FISCAL SUPPORT ANALYST	3	GRADE GS05
13	(19)	C056C ADMINISTRATIVE SPECIALIST III	8	GRADE GS04
14	(20)	A098C FISCAL SUPPORT SPECIALIST	2	GRADE GS04
15	(21)	C043C RECORDS MANAGEMENT ANALYST	1	GRADE GS04
16	(22)	C073C ADMINISTRATIVE SPECIALIST II	<u>13</u>	GRADE GS03
17		MAX. NO. OF EMPLOYEES	78	

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19 SECTION 2. EXTRA HELP - OPERATIONS. There is hereby authorized, for  
 20 the Department of Commerce - Division of State Services for the Blind for the  
 21 2020-2021 fiscal year, the following maximum number of part-time or temporary  
 22 employees, to be known as "Extra Help", payable from funds appropriated  
 23 herein for such purposes: thirty (30) temporary or part-time employees, when  
 24 needed, at rates of pay not to exceed those provided in the Uniform  
 25 Classification and Compensation Act, or its successor, or this act for the  
 26 appropriate classification.

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28 SECTION 3. APPROPRIATION - OPERATIONS. There is hereby appropriated,  
 29 to the Department of Commerce, to be payable from the State Services for the  
 30 Blind Fund, for personal services and operating expenses of the Department of  
 31 Commerce - State Services for the Blind for the fiscal year ending June 30,  
 32 2021, the following:

33

34	ITEM	FISCAL YEAR
35	<u>NO.</u>	<u>2020-2021</u>
36	(01) REGULAR SALARIES	\$3,302,069

1	(02) EXTRA HELP	384,174
2	(03) PERSONAL SERVICES MATCHING	1,198,953
3	(04) MAINT. & GEN. OPERATION	
4	(A) OPER. EXPENSE	1,122,186
5	(B) CONF. & TRAVEL	55,000
6	(C) PROF. FEES	195,259
7	(D) CAP. OUTLAY	25,000
8	(E) DATA PROC.	0
9	(05) PURCHASE OF SERVICES	<u>4,646,768</u>
10	TOTAL AMOUNT APPROPRIATED	<u>\$10,929,409</u>

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12 SECTION 4. SPECIAL LANGUAGE. NOT TO BE INCORPORATED INTO THE ARKANSAS  
 13 CODE NOR PUBLISHED SEPARATELY AS SPECIAL, LOCAL AND TEMPORARY LAW.  
 14 COMPREHENSIVE SYSTEM OF PERSONNEL DEVELOPMENT. The Rehabilitation Act  
 15 Amendments of 1992, commonly referred to as the Comprehensive System of  
 16 Personnel Development (CSPD), requires State Vocational Rehabilitation (VR)  
 17 agencies to establish qualified personnel standards for rehabilitation  
 18 personnel, including Vocational Rehabilitation Counselors, that are  
 19 consistent with any national or State-approved or recognized certification,  
 20 licensing, or registration that apply to a particular profession. In order  
 21 to comply with the Rehabilitation Act and its State Plan requirements, there  
 22 is hereby authorized for the Department of Commerce, Division of State  
 23 Services for the Blind a general waiver of the Financial Management Guide,  
 24 R1-19-4-522 Continuing Professional Education. This waiver allows the agency  
 25 to provide college level coursework in degree programs for any eligible  
 26 employees selected by the agency. This provision covers any and all formula  
 27 and discretionary grants funded by the U.S. Department of Education  
 28 Rehabilitation Services Administration, now or in the future, including, but  
 29 not limited to, the Vocational Rehabilitation Program, Supported Employment,  
 30 Independent Living, and the Staff Development Grant. No state general  
 31 revenue shall be expended for the tuition in pursuit of a degree authorized  
 32 herein.

33 The provisions of this section shall be in effect only from July 1, ~~2019~~  
 34 2020 through June 30, ~~2020~~ 2021.

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36 SECTION 5. SPECIAL LANGUAGE - CODE AMENDMENT. Arkansas Code § 19-5-

1 306(8), concerning the Department of Human Services Fund, is repealed.

2 ~~(8) State Services for the Blind Fund Account.~~

3 ~~—— (A) The State Services for the Blind Fund Account shall be used for~~  
4 ~~the maintenance, operation, and improvement required by the Division of State~~  
5 ~~Services for the Blind in carrying out the powers, functions, and duties as~~  
6 ~~set out in § 25-10-201 et seq. or other duties imposed by law upon the~~  
7 ~~Division of State Services for the Blind.~~

8 ~~—— (B) The State Services for the Blind Fund Account shall consist of:~~

9 ~~—— (i) Those general revenues as may be provided by law;~~

10 ~~—— (ii) Nonrevenue income derived from services provided by programs of~~  
11 ~~the Division of State Services for the Blind; and~~

12 ~~—— (iii) Any other nonfederal grants funds provided by law;~~

13  
14 SECTION 6. SPECIAL LANGUAGE - CODE AMENDMENT. Arkansas Code Title 19,  
15 Chapter 5, Subchapter 3, is amended to add an additional section to read as  
16 follows:

17 19-5-312. State Services for the Blind Fund.

18 (a) The State Services for the Blind Fund shall be used for the  
19 maintenance, operation, and improvement required by the Division of State  
20 Services for the Blind in carrying out the powers, functions, and duties as  
21 set out in § 25-10-201 et seq. or other duties imposed by law upon the  
22 division.

23 (b) The State Services for the Blind Fund shall consist of:

24 (1) Those general revenues provided by law;

25 (2) Nonrevenue income derived from services provided by programs of  
26 the division; and

27 (3) Any other nonfederal grants funds provided by law.

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29 SECTION 7. SPECIAL LANGUAGE. NOT TO BE INCORPORATED INTO THE ARKANSAS  
30 CODE NOR PUBLISHED SEPARATELY AS SPECIAL, LOCAL AND TEMPORARY LAW. CODE  
31 AMENDMENT. Arkansas Code § 25-10-201(b), concerning the public policy  
32 related to the Division of State Services for the Blind, is amended to read  
33 as follows:

34 (b) The General Assembly finds that this purpose may be best  
35 accomplished by the establishment of a Division of State Services for the  
36 Blind within the Department of ~~Human Services~~ Commerce with the necessary

1 authority to administer the services and programs for the blind and visually  
2 impaired.

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4 SECTION 8. COMPLIANCE WITH OTHER LAWS. Disbursement of funds  
5 authorized by this act shall be limited to the appropriation for such agency  
6 and funds made available by law for the support of such appropriations; and  
7 the restrictions of the State Procurement Law, the General Accounting and  
8 Budgetary Procedures Law, the Revenue Stabilization Law, the Regular Salary  
9 Procedures and Restrictions Act, or their successors, and other fiscal  
10 control laws of this State, where applicable, and regulations promulgated by  
11 the Department of Finance and Administration, as authorized by law, shall be  
12 strictly complied with in disbursement of said funds.

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14 SECTION 9. LEGISLATIVE INTENT. It is the intent of the General  
15 Assembly that any funds disbursed under the authority of the appropriations  
16 contained in this act shall be in compliance with the stated reasons for  
17 which this act was adopted, as evidenced by the Agency Requests, Executive  
18 Recommendations and Legislative Recommendations contained in the budget  
19 manuals prepared by the Department of Finance and Administration, letters, or  
20 summarized oral testimony in the official minutes of the Arkansas Legislative  
21 Council or Joint Budget Committee which relate to its passage and adoption.

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23 SECTION 10. EMERGENCY CLAUSE. It is found and determined by the  
24 General Assembly, that the Constitution of the State of Arkansas prohibits  
25 the appropriation of funds for more than a one (1) year period; that the  
26 effectiveness of this Act on July 1, 2020 is essential to the operation of  
27 the agency for which the appropriations in this Act are provided, and that in  
28 the event of an extension of the legislative session, the delay in the  
29 effective date of this Act beyond July 1, 2020 could work irreparable harm  
30 upon the proper administration and provision of essential governmental  
31 programs. Therefore, an emergency is hereby declared to exist and this Act  
32 being necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health  
33 and safety shall be in full force and effect from and after July 1, 2020.

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35 **APPROVED: 4/20/20**