

Stricken language will be deleted and underlined language will be added.  
Act 206 of the Fiscal Session

1 State of Arkansas  
2 93rd General Assembly  
3 Fiscal Session, 2022  
4

As Engrossed: S3/2/22

**A Bill**

SENATE BILL 23

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 TRIAL COURT  
10 ADMINISTRATORS, THE OFFICIAL COURT REPORTERS OF THE  
11 CIRCUIT COURTS, JUVENILE PROBATION AND INTAKE  
12 OFFICERS AND DRUG COURT JUVENILE PROBATION AND INTAKE  
13 OFFICERS FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDING JUNE 30, 2023;  
14 AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.  
15  
16

**Subtitle**

17 AN ACT FOR THE ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE OF  
18 THE COURTS - COURT PERSONNEL  
19 APPROPRIATION FOR THE 2022-2023 FISCAL  
20 YEAR.  
21  
22  
23

24 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:  
25

26 SECTION 1. REGULAR SALARIES - TRIAL COURT ADMINISTRATORS. There is  
27 hereby established for the Administrative Office of the Courts - Trial Court  
28 Administrators for the 2022-2023 fiscal year, the following maximum number of  
29 regular employees.  
30

Item	Class		Maximum	Maximum Annual
No.	Code	Title	No. of	Salary Rate
			Employees	Fiscal Year
				2022-2023
(1)	Q226C	TRIAL COURT ADMINISTRATOR	<u>127</u>	GRADE GS07
		MAX. NO. OF EMPLOYEES	127	



SECTION 2. APPROPRIATION - TRIAL COURT ADMINISTRATORS. There is hereby appropriated, to the Administrative Office of the Courts, to be payable from the *State Central Services Fund*, for personal services, Trial Court Administrator Substitutes expenses and Trial Court Administrators expenses of the Trial Court Administrators of the Circuit Courts for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2023, the following:

ITEM	FISCAL YEAR
<u>NO.</u>	<u>2022-2023</u>
(01) REGULAR SALARIES	\$6,367,803
(02) PERSONAL SERVICES MATCHING	2,165,040
(03) TRIAL COURT ADMINISTRATOR EXPENSES	175,000
(04) TRIAL COURT ADMINISTRATOR SUBSTITUTES	<u>175,000</u>
TOTAL AMOUNT APPROPRIATED	<u><u>\$8,882,843</u></u>

SECTION 3. REGULAR SALARIES - COURT REPORTERS. There is hereby established for the Administrative Office of the Courts - Official Court Reporters of the Circuit Courts for the 2022-2023 fiscal year, the following maximum number of regular employees.

Item Class	Maximum No. of Employees	Maximum Annual Salary Rate Fiscal Year 2022-2023
<u>No. Code Title</u>	<u>Employees</u>	<u>2022-2023</u>
(1) Q227C COURT REPORTER	<u>127</u>	GRADE GS08
MAX. NO. OF EMPLOYEES	127	

SECTION 4. APPROPRIATION - COURT REPORTERS. There is hereby appropriated, to the Administrative Office of the Courts, to be payable from the *State Central Services Fund*, for personal services, expenses allowance, indigent transcripts and court reporter substitutes of the Official Court Reporters of the Circuit Courts for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2023, the following:

ITEM	FISCAL YEAR
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1	<u>NO.</u>	<u>2022-2023</u>
2	(01) REGULAR SALARIES	\$7,210,472
3	(02) PERSONAL SERVICES MATCHING	2,403,490
4	(03) EXPENSES ALLOWANCE	350,000
5	(04) INDIGENT TRANSCRIPTS	600,000
6	(05) COURT REPORTER SUBSTITUTES	<u>375,000</u>
7	TOTAL AMOUNT APPROPRIATED	<u>\$10,938,962</u>

8

9 SECTION 5. APPROPRIATION - JUVENILE PROBATION & INTAKE OFFICERS. There

10 is hereby appropriated, to the Administrative Office of the Courts, to be

11 payable from the State Central Services Fund, for reimbursement of a portion

12 of the salaries of full-time juvenile probation and intake officers in

13 accordance with Arkansas Code 16-13-327 and Arkansas Code 16-13-328 for the

14 fiscal year ending June 30, 2023, the following:

16	ITEM	FISCAL YEAR
17	<u>NO.</u>	<u>2022-2023</u>
18	(01) JUVENILE PROBATION & INTAKE OFFICERS	<u>\$4,618,100</u>

19

20 SECTION 6. REGULAR SALARIES - DRUG COURT JUVENILE PROBATION & INTAKE

21 OFFICERS. There is hereby established for the Administrative Office of the

22 Courts - Drug Court Juvenile Probation & Intake Officers for the 2022-2023

23 fiscal year, the following maximum number of regular employees.

25			Maximum Annual
26		Maximum	Salary Rate
27	Item Class	No. of	Fiscal Year
28	<u>No. Code Title</u>	<u>Employees</u>	<u>2022-2023</u>
29	(1) Q231C DRUG COURT JUV PROB & INTAKE OFF	<u>13</u>	GRADE GS06
30	MAX. NO. OF EMPLOYEES	13	

31

32 SECTION 7. APPROPRIATION - DRUG COURT JUVENILE PROBATION & INTAKE

33 OFFICERS. There is hereby appropriated, to the Administrative Office of the

34 Courts, to be payable from the State Central Services Fund, for personal

35 services for the Drug Court Juvenile Probation & Intake Officers and

36 operating expenses for the Structured Assessment of Violence Risk in Youth

1 (SAVRY) Program for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2023, the following:

2

3 ITEM	FISCAL YEAR
4 <u>NO.</u>	<u>2022-2023</u>
5 (01) REGULAR SALARIES	\$518,030
6 (02) PERSONAL SERVICES MATCHING	190,538
7 (03) SAVRY PROGRAM EXPENSES	<u>87,500</u>
8 TOTAL AMOUNT APPROPRIATED	<u><u>\$796,068</u></u>

9

10 SECTION 8. SPECIAL LANGUAGE. NOT TO BE INCORPORATED INTO THE ARKANSAS  
 11 CODE NOR PUBLISHED SEPARATELY AS SPECIAL, LOCAL AND TEMPORARY LAW. FUNDING  
 12 ~~FROM THE ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE FUND FOR COURT REPORTERS AND TRIAL COURT~~  
 13 ~~ADMINISTRATORS.~~

14 (a) (i) The Administrative Office of the Courts shall be responsible  
 15 for requesting and verifying the need for any additional appropriation, any  
 16 position change level, ~~and~~ any increase in the Administration of Justice Fund  
 17 Allocation Section as authorized annually through special language in the  
 18 Department of Finance and Administration's Disbursing Act and any increases  
 19 in State Central Services as appropriated in Administrative Office of the  
 20 Courts - Court Personnel appropriation bill, for the Trial Court  
 21 Administrators and Official Court Reporters.

22 (ii) Any annual or biennial request for an increase ~~in the~~  
 23 ~~Administration of Justice Fund allocation section~~ for Trial Court  
 24 Administrators and/or Official Court Reporters shall not exceed the total or  
 25 projected total appropriation as authorized by the General Assembly. revenues  
 26 ~~available for the Trial Court Administrator Fund or the Court Reporter's Fund~~  
 27 ~~from the Administration of Justice Fund as determined by the Administrative~~  
 28 ~~Office of the Courts with assistance from the Department of Finance and~~  
 29 ~~Administration.~~

30 (b) (i) During a fiscal year the Administrative Office of the Courts  
 31 shall not approve any change level in salary, operating expense and other  
 32 distributions for Trial Court Administrators which will exceed actual or  
 33 projected ~~fund balances~~ appropriation available for ~~in the~~ Trial Court  
 34 Administrators Fund.

35 (ii) During a fiscal year the Administrative Office of the Courts  
 36 shall not approve any change level in salary, operating expense and other

1 distributions for Court Reporters which will exceed actual or projected ~~fund~~  
 2 ~~balances~~ appropriation available for in the Court Reporter's Fund Reporters.

3 (c) In order for the General Assembly to make an informed decision on  
 4 any appropriation increase request, the Administrative Office of the Courts  
 5 shall include with any request for an appropriation increase for Court  
 6 Reporters and/or Trial Court Administrators, which is over the previous  
 7 fiscal year total appropriation, the following information:

8 (i) A letter explaining the purpose or reason for the requested  
 9 appropriation increases along with a total dollar amount requested, the  
 10 change level or increase requested and the funding source of the increase.

11 (ii) For all Trial Court Administrators and/or Court Reporters a  
 12 report that includes:

13 (A) Current salaries and previous Fiscal Years salaries;

14 (B) Current years of service;

15 (C) Listing of salary increases received by an employee during  
 16 the current or previous fiscal year; and

17 (D) The requested increase amount of salary and match for each  
 18 Trial Court Administrator and/or Court Reporter.

19 (iii) A copy of the rules, policy or procedures established or  
 20 utilized by the Administrative Office of the Courts in conjunction with the  
 21 Judicial Council that are used in determining current salaries and salary  
 22 increases for Trial Court Administrators and/or Court Reporters."

23  
 24 SECTION 9. SPECIAL LANGUAGE – CODE AMENDMENT. Arkansas Code § 19-5-  
 25 205(e)(1)(B), concerning the moneys deposited into the State Central Services  
 26 Fund, is amended to add an additional subdivision to read as follows:

27 (xviii) Revenues from the real property transfer tax  
 28 distributed under § 26-60-112(b)(2)(B)(i).

29  
 30 SECTION 10. SPECIAL LANGUAGE – CODE AMENDMENT. Arkansas Code § 26-60-  
 31 112(b)(2)(B)(i), concerning the distribution of revenues generated by the  
 32 real property transfer tax, is amended to read as follows:

33  
 34 (B)(i) After making the distribution of the revenues as  
 35 provided in subdivision (b)(2)(A) of this section, the remainder available  
 36 each fiscal year shall be credited as ~~special revenues~~ to the State

1 ~~Administration of Justice Fund~~ State Central Services Fund to be used for  
2 supplementing moneys in the ~~State Administration of Justice Fund~~ State  
3 Central Services Fund for ~~court reporter~~ the salaries and expenses ~~in the~~  
4 ~~event that the moneys available in the Court Reporter's Fund are inadequate~~  
5 ~~during any fiscal year to make the necessary payments for salary and related~~  
6 ~~expenses~~ of the various court reporters of the state.

7  
8 SECTION 11. SPECIAL LANGUAGE - CODE AMENDMENT. Arkansas Code § 16-13-  
9 327(d), concerning juvenile court probation officers, is amended to read as  
10 follows:

11 (d)(1)(A) The salary of the probation officer shall be paid by the  
12 county or counties in which the probation officer works.

13 (B) Except as provided in subdivision (d)(3) of this  
14 section, the state shall pay a portion of the salary of a full-time probation  
15 officer:

16 (i) Who is certified according to the laws of this  
17 state; and

18 (ii) Whose salary has been paid by the county or  
19 counties for a period of one (1) year.

20 (2) The portion to be paid by the state shall be the lesser of:

21 (A) ~~Fifteen thousand dollars (\$15,000)~~ Twenty thousand  
22 dollars (\$20,000) per year; or

23 (B) One-half (1/2) the probation officer's average salary  
24 as calculated over the last twelve (12) months.

25 (3) For reimbursement under the requirements of this subsection,  
26 the state shall reimburse a county only for salaries paid to the number of  
27 probation officers that:

28 (A) Meet the requirements of subdivision (d)(1) of this  
29 section; and

30 (B) Do not exceed two hundred fifty (250) positions  
31 authorized by the counties for probation and intake officers, subject to  
32 state funding.

33  
34 SECTION 12. SPECIAL LANGUAGE - CODE AMENDMENT. Arkansas Code § 16-13-  
35 328(d), concerning juvenile court intake officers, is amended to read as  
36 follows:

1 (d)(1)(A) The salary of the intake officer shall be paid by the county  
2 or counties in which the intake officer works.

3 (B) Except as provided in subdivision (d)(3) of this  
4 section, the state shall pay a portion of the salary of a full-time intake  
5 officer:

6 (i) Who is certified according to the laws of this  
7 state; and

8 (ii) Whose salary has been paid by the county or  
9 counties for a period of one (1) year.

10 (2) The portion to be paid by the state shall be the lesser of:

11 (A) ~~Fifteen thousand dollars (\$15,000)~~ Twenty thousand  
12 dollars (\$20,000) a year; or

13 (B) One-half ( $\frac{1}{2}$ ) the intake officer's average salary as  
14 calculated over the last twelve (12) months.

15 (3) The state shall reimburse a county only for a portion of  
16 salaries paid to the number of intake officers that:

17 (A) Meet the requirements of subdivision (d)(1) of this  
18 section; and

19 (B) For reimbursement under the requirements of this  
20 subsection, do not exceed two hundred fifty (250) positions authorized by the  
21 counties for probation and intake officers, subject to state funding.

22 (e) In order for the General Assembly to make an informed decision on  
23 any appropriation increase request, the Administrative Office of the Courts  
24 shall include with any request for an appropriation increase for Juvenile  
25 Court Probation Officers, which is over the previous fiscal year total  
26 appropriation, the following information:

27 (1) A letter explaining the purpose or reason for the requested  
28 appropriation increases along with a total dollar amount requested, the  
29 change level or increase requested and the funding source of the increase.

30 (2) For all Juvenile Court Probation Officers a report that includes:

31 (A) Current salaries and previous Fiscal Years salaries;

32 (B) Current years of service;

33 (C) Listing of salary increases received by an employee during  
34 the current or previous fiscal year.

35  
36 SECTION 13. SPECIAL LANGUAGE - CODE AMENDMENT. Arkansas Code § 16-13-

1 331(d), concerning state reimbursement of state juvenile court personnel, is  
2 amended to read as follows:

3 (d)(1) A county may determine that part-time service of a juvenile  
4 officer is sufficient to meet the needs of the county.

5 (2)(A) Multiple counties in a judicial district may share the  
6 cost of the salary of the juvenile officer.

7 (B) One (1) county may be designated as the county to be  
8 reimbursed by the state, or each county shall designate the portion of the  
9 salary that it pays for juvenile services.

10 (3)(A) A county may contract with a service provider for full-  
11 time or part-time juvenile officer services, and the county shall indicate  
12 the percentage of the contractor's time that is spent providing juvenile  
13 officer services for the county.

14 (B) The county or the contractor shall be reimbursed for one-  
15 half (1/2) of the portion of the salary that is used for such services, up to  
16 ~~fifteen thousand dollars (\$15,000)~~ twenty thousand dollars (\$20,000).

17

18 SECTION 14. COMPLIANCE WITH OTHER LAWS. Disbursement of funds  
19 authorized by this act shall be limited to the appropriation for such agency  
20 and funds made available by law for the support of such appropriations; and  
21 the restrictions of the State Procurement Law, the General Accounting and  
22 Budgetary Procedures Law, the Revenue Stabilization Law, the Regular Salary  
23 Procedures and Restrictions Act, or their successors, and other fiscal  
24 control laws of this State, where applicable, and regulations promulgated by  
25 the Department of Finance and Administration, as authorized by law, shall be  
26 strictly complied with in disbursement of said funds.

27

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

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