

1 State of Arkansas
2 94th General Assembly
3 Regular Session, 2023
4

As Engrossed: S1/17/23

A Bill

SENATE BILL 34

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, 2024; AND FOR
13 OTHER PURPOSES.
14

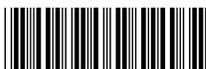
Subtitle

15
16 AN ACT FOR THE BUREAU OF LEGISLATIVE
17 RESEARCH AND THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL
18 APPROPRIATION FOR THE 2023-2024 FISCAL
19 YEAR.
20
21
22

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

25 SECTION 1. REGULAR SALARIES - OPERATIONS. There is hereby established
26 for the Bureau of Legislative Research of the Legislative Council for the
27 2023-2024 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 2023-2024 |
| 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 | |

22

23 SECTION 2. EXTRA HELP - OPERATIONS. There is hereby authorized, for
 24 the Bureau of Legislative Research of the Legislative Council for the 2023-
 25 2024 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.

31

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, 2024, the following:

2

| 3 ITEM | FISCAL YEAR |
|---|---------------------|
| 4 <u>NO.</u> | <u>2023-2024</u> |
| 5 (01) REGULAR SALARIES | \$11,856,444 |
| 6 (02) EXTRA HELP | 150,000 |
| 7 (03) PERSONAL SERVICES MATCHING | 3,738,211 |
| 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>\$20,393,775</u> |

18

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, 2024, the following:

24

| 25 ITEM | FISCAL YEAR |
|--|------------------|
| 26 <u>NO.</u> | <u>2023-2024</u> |
| 27 (01) INTERIM COMMITTEE STUDY EXPENSES | <u>\$271,060</u> |

28

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 2024, the following:

2

| 3 ITEM | FISCAL YEAR |
|--|---------------------------|
| 4 <u>NO.</u> | <u>2023-2024</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> |

13

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, 2024, the following:

20

| 21 ITEM | FISCAL YEAR |
|--|------------------------|
| 22 <u>NO.</u> | <u>2023-2024</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, 2023 in Sections 3 and 7 of Act 9 of 2022, there to be used to
 30 the same purposes for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024, in a sum not to
 31 exceed.....\$2,000,000.

32

33 SECTION 8. ARKANSAS SPECIAL LANGUAGE – CODE AMENDMENT. Arkansas Code §
 34 10-3-303, concerning the Bureau of Legislative Research, is amended to add
 35 additional subsections to read as follows:

36 (i) The director may direct the Chief Fiscal Officer of the State to

1 transfer appropriation between the following in such amounts as are
2 determined to be necessary:

3 (1) The line items within appropriations pertaining to the
4 bureau; and

5 (2) The appropriations made by the operative appropriation act
6 for the bureau.

7 (j)(1) Any adjustments in annual salary rates for employees of the
8 bureau, labor market adjustments, merit pay adjustments, or employee
9 retention or recruitment requirements shall be made at the discretion of the
10 director.

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

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

16 (k)(1) The director shall be the disbursing officer for the funds
17 appropriated by the operative appropriation act for the bureau, including the
18 Interim Committee Study Expenses section of the operative appropriation act
19 for the bureau.

20 (2) The director shall appoint a designee who shall serve as the
21 disbursing officer in his or her absence.

22 (3) In the event there is no director, the co-chairs of the
23 Legislative Council may appoint a disbursing officer.

24 (1) All expenditures from the appropriations provided by the operative
25 appropriation act for the bureau shall be in accordance with:

26 (1) Procedures established by the Legislative Council; and

27 (2) Appropriate law.

28
29 SECTION 9. SPECIAL LANGUAGE. NOT TO BE INCORPORATED INTO THE ARKANSAS
30 CODE NOR PUBLISHED SEPARATELY AS SPECIAL, LOCAL AND TEMPORARY LAW.

31 CLASSIFICATION UTILIZATION. The Bureau of Legislative Research may utilize,
32 at the discretion of the Director of the Bureau of Legislative Research, the
33 following classifications as necessary. The use of these classifications
34 shall not be considered as increasing the number of positions authorized in
35 this act, only as a temporary reclassification or cross grade of a position.

36

| 1 | CLASS | | |
|----|--------------|---|-------------|
| 2 | CODE | TITLE | GRADE |
| 3 | <u>Q221C</u> | <u>SENIOR LEGISLATIVE ATTORNEY II</u> | <u>GS13</u> |
| 4 | <u>Q234C</u> | <u>SENIOR LEGAL EDITOR II</u> | <u>GS12</u> |
| 5 | <u>Q006C</u> | <u>SENIOR LEGISLATIVE ANALYST II</u> | <u>GS12</u> |
| 6 | Q220C | SENIOR LEGISLATIVE ATTORNEY | GS12 |
| 7 | Q223C | SENIOR LEGAL EDITOR | GS11 |
| 8 | Q032C | SENIOR LEGISLATIVE ANALYST | GS11 |
| 9 | Q007C | LEGISLATIVE ATTORNEY II | GS11 |
| 10 | Q073C | LEGAL EDITOR III | GS10 |
| 11 | Q064C | LEGISLATIVE ANALYST III | GS10 |
| 12 | Q046C | LEGISLATIVE ATTORNEY | GS10 |
| 13 | <u>Q232C</u> | <u>BLR PROGRAM DEVELOP & COMPLIANCE ANALYST</u> | <u>GS09</u> |
| 14 | Q222C | LEGAL EDITOR II | GS09 |
| 15 | <u>Q197C</u> | <u>LEGISLATIVE ADMIN SERVICES ANALYST II</u> | <u>GS09</u> |
| 16 | Q079C | LEGISLATIVE ANALYST II | GS09 |
| 17 | Q240C | LEGAL EDITOR | GS08 |
| 18 | Q239C | LEGISLATIVE ANALYST | GS08 |
| 19 | Q198C | LEGISLATIVE ADMIN SERVICES ANALYST | GS07 |
| 20 | Q128C | LEGISLATIVE ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT | GS05 |
| 21 | Q241C | SR. APPLICATIONS PROGRAMMER | IT09 |
| 22 | Q242C | SR. NETWORK SPECIALIST | IT09 |
| 23 | Q243C | APPLICATIONS PROGRAMMER II | IT08 |
| 24 | Q244C | NETWORK SPECIALIST II | IT08 |
| 25 | Q246C | APPLICATIONS PROGRAMMER | IT07 |
| 26 | Q247C | NETWORK SPECIALIST | IT07 |
| 27 | <u>Q238C</u> | <u>SENIOR PC SUPPORT SPECIALIST II</u> | <u>IT06</u> |
| 28 | Q245C | SR. PC SUPPORT SPECIALIST | IT05 |
| 29 | Q271C | APPLICATIONS SUPPORT SPECIALIST | IT05 |
| 30 | Q063C | PC SUPPORT SPECIALIST II | IT04 |
| 31 | Q078C | PC SUPPORT SPECIALIST | IT03 |
| 32 | Q127C | HELP DESK COORDINATOR | IT02 |

33

34 The provisions of this section shall be in effect only from July 1, ~~2022~~
 35 2023 through June 30, ~~2023~~ 2024.

36

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

10
 11 SECTION 11. LEGISLATIVE INTENT. It is the intent of the General
 12 Assembly that any funds disbursed under the authority of the appropriations
 13 contained in this act shall be in compliance with the stated reasons for
 14 which this act was adopted, as evidenced by the Agency Requests, Executive
 15 Recommendations and Legislative Recommendations contained in the budget
 16 manuals prepared by the Department of Finance and Administration, letters, or
 17 summarized oral testimony in the official minutes of the Arkansas Legislative
 18 Council or Joint Budget Committee which relate to its passage and adoption.

19
 20 SECTION 12. EMERGENCY CLAUSE. It is found and determined by the
 21 General Assembly, that the Constitution of the State of Arkansas prohibits
 22 the appropriation of funds for more than a one (1) year period; that the
 23 effectiveness of this Act on July 1, 2023 is essential to the operation of
 24 the agency for which the appropriations in this Act are provided, and that in
 25 the event of an extension of the legislative session, the delay in the
 26 effective date of this Act beyond July 1, 2023 could work irreparable harm
 27 upon the proper administration and provision of essential governmental
 28 programs. Therefore, an emergency is hereby declared to exist and this Act
 29 being necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health
 30 and safety shall be in full force and effect from and after July 1, 2023.

31
 32 /s/ Joint Budget Committee

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 34
 35 **APPROVED: 2/17/23**