

1 State of Arkansas
2 95th General Assembly
3 Fiscal Session, 2026
4

A Bill

HOUSE BILL 1045

5 By: Joint Budget Committee
6
7

For An Act To Be Entitled

9 AN ACT TO MAKE AN APPROPRIATION FOR PERSONAL SERVICES
10 AND OPERATING EXPENSES FOR THE COMMISSIONER OF STATE
11 LANDS AND FOR DISTRIBUTING PROCEEDS FROM THE SALE OR
12 REDEMPTION OF TAX DELINQUENT LAND FOR THE FISCAL YEAR
13 ENDING JUNE 30, 2027; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.
14

Subtitle

15
16 AN ACT FOR THE COMMISSIONER OF STATE
17 LANDS APPROPRIATION FOR THE 2026-2027
18 FISCAL YEAR.
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22 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:
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24 SECTION 1. REGULAR SALARIES - OPERATIONS. There is hereby established
25 for the Office of the Commissioner of State Lands for the 2026-2027 fiscal
26 year, the following maximum number of regular employees.
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Item		Maximum	Maximum Annual
No.	Title	No. of	Salary Rate
		Employees	Fiscal Year
			2026-2027
32	(1) CHIEF DEPUTY	1	\$142,769
33	(2) GENERAL COUNSEL	1	\$127,941
34	(3) IT ADMINISTRATOR	1	\$125,859
35	(4) REAL ESTATE ADMINISTRATOR	1	\$125,859
36	(5) SPECIAL PROJECTS COORD	1	\$94,901



1	(6)	NETWORK ADMINISTRATOR	1	\$94,901
2	(7)	DIRECTOR OF GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS	1	\$92,081
3	(8)	REAL ESTATE DIRECTOR	1	\$92,081
4	(9)	PUBLIC RELATIONS DIRECTOR	1	\$92,081
5	(10)	OPERATIONS DIRECTOR	1	\$92,081
6	(11)	FISCAL DIRECTOR	1	\$92,081
7	(12)	HUMAN RESOURCES SUPERVISOR	1	\$82,523
8	(13)	GOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS LIAISON	1	\$82,523
9	(14)	FISCAL ASSOCIATE I	1	\$82,523
10	(15)	ASSIST. DIRECTOR OF REAL ESTATE	1	\$82,523
11	(16)	ASSIST. DIR OF PUBLIC RELATIONS	1	\$82,523
12	(17)	REDEMPTION COORDINATOR	1	\$73,959
13	(18)	PUBLIC AFFAIRS LIAISON	1	\$73,959
14	(19)	MINERAL LEASING & NATURAL RES COORD	1	\$73,959
15	(20)	FISCAL ASSOCIATE II	2	\$73,959
16	(21)	RESEARCH TECH	5	\$66,285
17	(22)	RESEARCH COORDINATOR	1	\$66,285
18	(23)	RECORDS SPECIALIST	1	\$66,285
19	(24)	PARALEGAL	1	\$66,285
20	(25)	MANAGEMENT SECRETARY	2	\$66,285
21	(26)	FISCAL SECRETARY	1	\$66,285
22	(27)	EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT	1	\$66,285
23	(28)	REDEMPTION TECH	3	\$59,409
24	(29)	PUBLIC RELATIONS SECRETARY	1	\$59,409
25	(30)	ADMINISTRATIVE SPECIALIST	1	\$59,409
26	(31)	REAL ESTATE SECRETARY	1	\$53,347
27	(32)	ADMINISTRATION	1	\$53,347
28	(33)	RECORDS RETENTION TECH	1	\$47,728
29	(34)	CUSTOMER SERVICE ASSOCIATE	<u>1</u>	\$47,728
30		MAX. NO. OF EMPLOYEES	42	

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32 SECTION 2. EXTRA HELP - OPERATIONS. There is hereby authorized, for
 33 the Office of the Commissioner of State Lands for the 2026-2027 fiscal year,
 34 the following maximum number of part-time or temporary employees, to be known
 35 as "Extra Help", payable from funds appropriated herein for such purposes:
 36 five (5) temporary or part-time employees, when needed, at rates of pay not

1 to exceed those provided in the Uniform Classification and Compensation Act,
 2 or its successor, or this act for the appropriate classification.

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 4 SECTION 3. APPROPRIATION - OPERATIONS. There is hereby appropriated,
 5 to the Commissioner of State Lands, to be payable from the State Central
 6 Services Fund, for personal services and operating expenses of the
 7 Commissioner of State Lands for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2027, the
 8 following:

10 ITEM	FISCAL YEAR
11 <u>NO.</u>	<u>2026-2027</u>
12 (01) REGULAR SALARIES	\$3,249,660
13 (02) EXTRA HELP	40,000
14 (03) PERSONAL SERVICES MATCHING	1,082,147
15 (04) MAINT. & GEN. OPERATION	
16 (A) OPER. EXPENSE	25,000
17 (B) CONF. & TRAVEL	0
18 (C) PROF. FEES	0
19 (D) CAP. OUTLAY	0
20 (E) DATA PROC.	<u>0</u>
21 TOTAL AMOUNT APPROPRIATED	<u>\$4,396,807</u>

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 23 SECTION 4. APPROPRIATION - DELINQUENT TAX. There is hereby
 24 appropriated, to the Commissioner of State Lands, to be payable from the cash
 25 funds as defined by Arkansas Code §19-4-801, for operating expenses and for
 26 distributing proceeds from the sale or redemption of tax delinquent land as
 27 prescribed by Chapter 37 of Title 26 of the Arkansas Code by the Commissioner
 28 of State Lands for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2027, the following:

30 ITEM	FISCAL YEAR
31 <u>NO.</u>	<u>2026-2027</u>
32 (01) MAINT. & GEN. OPERATION	
33 (A) OPER. EXPENSE	\$1,500,000
34 (B) CONF. & TRAVEL	0
35 (C) PROF. FEES	2,000,000
36 (D) CAP. OUTLAY	0

1	(E) DATA PROC.	0
2	(02) REFUND/RECORDING FEE REIMBURSEMENTS	1,300,000
3	(03) DELINQUENT TAX REMITTAL/SALE REFUNDS	<u>27,500,000</u>
4	TOTAL AMOUNT APPROPRIATED	<u><u>\$32,300,000</u></u>

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 6 SECTION 5. APPROPRIATION - CAPITAL OUTLAY/OPERATING EXPENSES. There is
 7 hereby appropriated, to the Commissioner of State Lands, to be payable from
 8 the cash funds as defined by Arkansas Code §19-4-801, for operating expenses
 9 and capital outlay of the Commissioner of State Lands for the fiscal year
 10 ending June 30, 2027, the following:

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12	ITEM	FISCAL YEAR
13	<u>NO.</u>	<u>2026-2027</u>
14	(01) CAPITAL OUTLAY/OPERATING EXP	<u><u>\$267,800</u></u>

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 16 SECTION 6. APPROPRIATION - SUBMERGED LANDS. There is hereby
 17 appropriated, to the Commissioner of State Lands, to be payable from cash
 18 funds as defined by Arkansas Code §19-4-801, for personal services and
 19 operating expenses for projects involving submerged land by the Commissioner
 20 of State Lands for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2027, the following:

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22	ITEM	FISCAL YEAR
23	<u>NO.</u>	<u>2026-2027</u>
24	(01) SUBMERGED LANDS	<u><u>\$250,000</u></u>

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 26 SECTION 7. 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.

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 36 SECTION 8. 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 9. EMERGENCY CLAUSE. It is found and determined by the General
10 Assembly, that the Constitution of the State of Arkansas prohibits the
11 appropriation of funds for more than a one (1) year period; that the
12 effectiveness of this Act on July 1, 2026 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, 2026 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, 2026.
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22 **APPROVED: 4/22/26**
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