

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

# A Bill

HOUSE BILL 1046

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 DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
11 - ARKANSAS WATERWAYS COMMISSION FOR THE FISCAL YEAR  
12 ENDING JUNE 30, 2027; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.  
13  
14

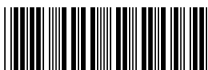
## Subtitle

15 AN ACT FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE -  
16 ARKANSAS WATERWAYS COMMISSION  
17 APPROPRIATION FOR THE 2026-2027 FISCAL  
18 YEAR.  
19  
20  
21

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

24 SECTION 1. REGULAR SALARIES - OPERATIONS. There is hereby established  
25 for the Department of Commerce - Arkansas Waterways Commission for the 2026-  
26 2027 fiscal year, the following maximum number of regular employees.  
27

Item No.	Class Code	Title	Maximum No. of Employees	Maximum Annual Salary Rate Fiscal Year 2026-2027
32	(1)	PPE13C WATERWAYS COMMISSION DIRECTOR	1	GRADE SPC04
33	(2)	PAS01P ADMINISTRATIVE ANALYST	1	GRADE SGS05
34	(3)	PAS02P ADMINISTRATIVE COORDINATOR	1	GRADE SGS04
35		MAX. NO. OF EMPLOYEES	3	



SECTION 2. APPROPRIATION - OPERATIONS. There is hereby appropriated, to the Department of Commerce, to be payable from the Miscellaneous Agencies Fund Account, for personal services and operating expenses of the Department of Commerce - Arkansas Waterways Commission for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2027, the following:

ITEM	FISCAL YEAR
<u>NO.</u>	<u>2026-2027</u>
(01) REGULAR SALARIES	\$171,883
(02) PERSONAL SERVICES MATCHING	63,856
(03) MAINT. & GEN. OPERATION	
(A) OPER. EXPENSE	88,879
(B) CONF. & TRAVEL	8,151
(C) PROF. FEES	0
(D) CAP. OUTLAY	0
(E) DATA PROC.	0
(04) STATE'S CONTRIBUTIONS	<u>2,555</u>
TOTAL AMOUNT APPROPRIATED	<u><u>\$335,324</u></u>

SECTION 3. APPROPRIATION - WATERWAY DEVELOPMENT GRANT PROGRAM. There is hereby appropriated, to the Department of Commerce, to be payable from the Arkansas Port, Intermodal, and Waterway Development Grant Program Fund, for grants to port authorities and intermodal authorities under the Arkansas Port, Intermodal, and Waterway Development Grant Program for port development projects as defined by Arkansas Code 15-23-205 for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2027, the following:

ITEM	FISCAL YEAR
<u>NO.</u>	<u>2026-2027</u>
(01) WATERWAY DEVELOPMENT GRANTS	<u><u>\$5,000,000</u></u>

SECTION 4. APPROPRIATION - ARKANSAS RIVER NAVIGATION SYSTEM FUND. There is hereby appropriated, to the Department of Commerce, to be payable from the Arkansas River Navigation System Fund, for expenses for the development, improvement, and expansion of river transportation resources within the portion of the McClellan-Kerr Arkansas River Navigation System

1 located in the State of Arkansas for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2027,  
 2 the following:

4 ITEM	FISCAL YEAR
5 NO.	2026-2027
6 (01) ARKANSAS RIVER NAVIGATION SYSTEM	
7 EXPENSES	<u>\$2,000,000</u>

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

18  
 19 SECTION 6. LEGISLATIVE INTENT. It is the intent of the General  
 20 Assembly that any funds disbursed under the authority of the appropriations  
 21 contained in this act shall be in compliance with the stated reasons for  
 22 which this act was adopted, as evidenced by the Agency Requests, Executive  
 23 Recommendations and Legislative Recommendations contained in the budget  
 24 manuals prepared by the Department of Finance and Administration, letters, or  
 25 summarized oral testimony in the official minutes of the Arkansas Legislative  
 26 Council or Joint Budget Committee which relate to its passage and adoption.

27  
 28 SECTION 7. EMERGENCY CLAUSE. It is found and determined by the General  
 29 Assembly, that the Constitution of the State of Arkansas prohibits the  
 30 appropriation of funds for more than a one (1) year period; that the  
 31 effectiveness of this Act on July 1, 2026 is essential to the operation of  
 32 the agency for which the appropriations in this Act are provided, and that in  
 33 the event of an extension of the legislative session, the delay in the  
 34 effective date of this Act beyond July 1, 2026 could work irreparable harm  
 35 upon the proper administration and provision of essential governmental  
 36 programs. Therefore, an emergency is hereby declared to exist and this Act

1 being necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health  
2 and safety shall be in full force and effect from and after July 1, 2026.

3  
4  
5 **APPROVED: 4/22/26**  
6  
7  
8  
9  
10  
11  
12  
13  
14  
15  
16  
17  
18  
19  
20  
21  
22  
23  
24  
25  
26  
27  
28  
29  
30  
31  
32  
33  
34  
35  
36