

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

As Engrossed: S4/15/26

# A Bill

SENATE BILL 32

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 TRIAL COURT  
11 ADMINISTRATORS, THE OFFICIAL COURT REPORTERS OF THE  
12 CIRCUIT COURTS, JUVENILE PROBATION AND INTAKE  
13 OFFICERS AND DRUG COURT JUVENILE PROBATION AND INTAKE  
14 OFFICERS FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDING JUNE 30, 2027;  
15 AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.  
16  
17

## Subtitle

18 AN ACT FOR THE ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE OF  
19 THE COURTS - COURT PERSONNEL  
20 APPROPRIATION FOR THE 2026-2027 FISCAL  
21 YEAR.  
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23  
24

25 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:  
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27 SECTION 1. REGULAR SALARIES - TRIAL COURT ADMINISTRATORS. There is  
28 hereby established for the Administrative Office of the Courts - Trial Court  
29 Administrators for the 2026-2027 fiscal year, the following maximum number of  
30 regular employees.  
31

| Item No. | Class Code | Title                     | Maximum No. of Employees | Maximum Annual Salary Rate Fiscal Year 2026-2027 |
|----------|------------|---------------------------|--------------------------|--|
| (1)      | Q226C      | TRIAL COURT ADMINISTRATOR | 127                      | GRADE SGS08                                      |



1 MAX. NO. OF EMPLOYEES 127

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3 SECTION 2. APPROPRIATION - TRIAL COURT ADMINISTRATORS. There is hereby  
4 appropriated, to the Administrative Office of the Courts, to be payable from  
5 the State Central Services Fund, for personal services, Trial Court  
6 Administrator Substitutes expenses and Trial Court Administrators expenses of  
7 the Trial Court Administrators of the Circuit Courts for the fiscal year  
8 ending June 30, 2027, the following:

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| 10 ITEM                                       | FISCAL YEAR                |
|---|----------------------------|
| 11 <u>NO.</u>                                 | <u>2026-2027</u>           |
| 12 (01) REGULAR SALARIES                      | \$7,927,760                |
| 13 (02) PERSONAL SERVICES MATCHING            | 2,826,847                  |
| 14 (03) TRIAL COURT ADMINISTRATOR EXPENSES    | 175,000                    |
| 15 (04) TRIAL COURT ADMINISTRATOR SUBSTITUTES | <u>175,000</u>             |
| 16 TOTAL AMOUNT APPROPRIATED                  | <u><u>\$11,104,607</u></u> |

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18 SECTION 3. REGULAR SALARIES - COURT REPORTERS. There is hereby  
19 established for the Administrative Office of the Courts - Official Court  
20 Reporters of the Circuit Courts for the 2026-2027 fiscal year, the following  
21 maximum number of regular employees.

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| 23                          | Maximum Annual         |
|-----------------------------|------------------------|
| 24                          | Salary Rate            |
| 25 Item Class               | Fiscal Year            |
| 26 <u>No. Code Title</u>    | <u>2026-2027</u>       |
| 27 (1) Q227C COURT REPORTER | <u>127</u> GRADE SGS09 |
| 28 MAX. NO. OF EMPLOYEES    | 127                    |

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30 SECTION 4. APPROPRIATION - COURT REPORTERS. There is hereby  
31 appropriated, to the Administrative Office of the Courts, to be payable from  
32 the State Central Services Fund, for personal services, expenses allowance,  
33 indigent transcripts and court reporter substitutes of the Official Court  
34 Reporters of the Circuit Courts for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2027, the  
35 following:

36

|   |                                 |                            |
|---|---------------------------------|----------------------------|
| 1 | ITEM                            | FISCAL YEAR                |
| 2 | <u>NO.</u>                      | <u>2026-2027</u>           |
| 3 | (01) REGULAR SALARIES           | \$8,682,992                |
| 4 | (02) PERSONAL SERVICES MATCHING | 3,000,324                  |
| 5 | (03) EXPENSES ALLOWANCE         | 350,000                    |
| 6 | (04) INDIGENT TRANSCRIPTS       | 600,000                    |
| 7 | (05) COURT REPORTER SUBSTITUTES | <u>481,929</u>             |
| 8 | TOTAL AMOUNT APPROPRIATED       | <u><u>\$13,115,245</u></u> |

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10 SECTION 5. APPROPRIATION - JUVENILE PROBATION & INTAKE OFFICERS. There  
 11 is hereby appropriated, to the Administrative Office of the Courts, to be  
 12 payable from the State Central Services Fund, for reimbursement of a portion  
 13 of the salaries of full-time juvenile probation and intake officers in  
 14 accordance with Arkansas Code 16-13-327 and 16-13-328 for the fiscal year  
 15 ending June 30, 2027, the following:

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|    |   |                           |
|----|---|---------------------------|
| 17 | ITEM                                      | FISCAL YEAR               |
| 18 | <u>NO.</u>                                | <u>2026-2027</u>          |
| 19 | (01) JUVENILE PROBATION & INTAKE OFFICERS | <u><u>\$4,618,100</u></u> |

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21 SECTION 6. REGULAR SALARIES - DRUG COURT JUVENILE PROBATION & INTAKE  
 22 OFFICERS. There is hereby established for the Administrative Office of the  
 23 Courts - Drug Court Juvenile Probation & Intake Officers for the 2026-2027  
 24 fiscal year, the following maximum number of regular employees.

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|    |  |                  |                  |
|----|--|------------------|------------------|
| 26 |  |                  | Maximum Annual   |
| 27 |  | Maximum          | Salary Rate      |
| 28 | Item Class                                 | No. of           | Fiscal Year      |
| 29 | <u>No. Code Title</u>                      | <u>Employees</u> | <u>2026-2027</u> |
| 30 | (1) Q231C DRUG COURT JUV PROB & INTAKE OFF | <u>13</u>        | GRADE SGS08      |
| 31 | MAX. NO. OF EMPLOYEES                      | 13               |                  |

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33 SECTION 7. APPROPRIATION - DRUG COURT JUVENILE PROBATION & INTAKE  
 34 OFFICERS. There is hereby appropriated, to the Administrative Office of the  
 35 Courts, to be payable from the State Central Services Fund, for personal  
 36 services for the Drug Court Juvenile Probation & Intake Officers and

operating expenses for risk assessment and behavioral screenings for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2027, the following:

| ITEM                                | FISCAL YEAR               |
|-------------------------------------|---------------------------|
| <u>NO.</u>                          | <u>2026-2027</u>          |
| (01) REGULAR SALARIES               | \$748,903                 |
| (02) PERSONAL SERVICES MATCHING     | 274,983                   |
| (03) ASSESSMENT-SCREENINGS EXPENSES | <u>87,500</u>             |
| TOTAL AMOUNT APPROPRIATED           | <u><u>\$1,111,386</u></u> |

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

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

SECTION 10. EMERGENCY CLAUSE. It is found and determined by the General Assembly, that the Constitution of the State of Arkansas prohibits the appropriation of funds for more than a one (1) year period; that the effectiveness of this Act on July 1, 2026 is essential to the operation of the agency for which the appropriations in this Act are provided, and that in the event of an extension of the legislative session, the delay in the effective date of this Act beyond July 1, 2026 could work irreparable harm

1 upon the proper administration and provision of essential governmental  
2 programs. Therefore, an emergency is hereby declared to exist and this Act  
3 being necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health  
4 and safety shall be in full force and effect from and after July 1, 2026.

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6 */s/Joint Budget Committee*

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9 **APPROVED: 4/27/26**

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