

**Supreme Court of Arkansas**

HOWARD W. BRILL
CHIEF JUSTICE

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March 31, 2016

Senator Larry Teague
Co-Chairman
Joint Budget Committee
Arkansas State Capitol
Little Rock, AR 72201

✓ Representative Lane Jean
Co-Chairman
Joint Budget Committee
Arkansas State Capitol
Little Rock, AR 72201

Re: Arkansas Supreme Court Appropriation Request, FY 2017

Gentlemen:

Please accept this request for your consideration of the following three revisions to the FY2017 appropriation for the Arkansas Supreme Court to be considered during the upcoming Fiscal Session of the Arkansas General Assembly. None of these requests require a change to any of the agency's funding or appropriation levels.

The first change is within Section 5 of the current appropriation (Act 221 of 2015) which contains the positions which are paid through the Bar of Arkansas account. These employees are paid with cash funds which are generated as a result of the Supreme Court's management and oversight of the practice of law pursuant to Amendment 28 of the Arkansas Constitution. One of these programs, the Judges and Lawyers Assistance Program, provides counseling and related services to Arkansas judges, attorneys and law students who are impaired due to issues of drug and alcohol addiction. The current staff consists of two licensed therapists. Due to an increase in the need for their services, the JLAP program needs clerical and office assistance to support its work. We need to add an additional position to this section of the appropriation as follows:

SUPREME COURT ADMIN ASSISTANT JLAP

GRADE 115

The second change—also within Section 5 of the current appropriation and part of the Bar of Arkansas account—will add a Program Coordinator position to the Arkansas Access to Justice Commission. The Commission coordinates statewide efforts to ensure that all Arkansans have equal access to the civil justice system. The Commission's two staff oversee the work of the Commission, as well as the court's Interest on Lawyer Trust Accounts (IOLTA) program. Additional capacity is needed for the Commission to implement initiatives designed to make legal representation more affordable for and accessible to the Arkansans who need them, including Arkansans in rural and underserved areas of the state. We need to add another position to this section of the appropriation as follows:

SUPREME COURT PROGRAM COORDINATOR OF AJC GRADE 126

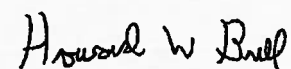
No increases in the appropriation levels to support these additional positions are necessary.

The third change involves an upgrade to a current position found in Section 1 of Act 221 of 2015 and is a result of a revision of job duties and responsibilities which has already taken place. The position, "CODE Q123C ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT" is a grade C115 and has previously functioned as clerical support. With recent changes to utilize technology to automate our processing of claims, we have increased the responsibilities of the position and the level of training and expertise required. The position now interacts directly with and functions consistent with the duties of other employees within the Office of the Clerk. We would, therefore, request that the position be re-titled as "Deputy Clerk" and re-classified from a Grade C115 to a Grade C117.

No increase in the appropriation levels to support the increase in grade are necessary.

I respectfully request your review and approval of these three changes during in the upcoming Fiscal Session. Should you have a question or require further information, feel free to let me know.

Sincerely,



Howard W. Brill

cc: All Justices

ARKANSAS SENATE
90th General Assembly - Fiscal Session, 2016
Amendment Form

DRAFT

Subtitle of Senate Bill No. 69

AN ACT FOR THE ARKANSAS SUPREME COURT APPROPRIATION FOR THE 2016-2017 FISCAL YEAR.

Amendment No. ___ to Senate Bill No. 69

Amend Senate Bill No. 69 as originally introduced:

Page 2, delete line 17 in its entirety and insert the following:

“(24) Q228C DEPUTY CLERK 1 GRADE C117”

And

Page 4, immediately following Item No. (7) insert a new Item No. to read as follows:

“(8) Q229C SUPREME COURT PROGRAM COOR OF AJC 1 GRADE C126”

And

Page 4, line 22, delete “__2” and insert “2”

And

Page 4, immediately following Item No. (16) insert a new Item No. to read as follows:

“(17) Q230C SUPREME COURT ADMIN ASSISTANT JLAP 1 GRADE C115”

And

Page 4, line 23, delete “19” and insert “21”

And

Appropriately renumber the Item No. in Section 5.

DRAFT

The Amendment was read the first time, rules suspended and read the second time and _____

By: Joint Budget Committee

WLC/WLC - 04-11-2016 13:06:52

WLC152

Secretary

1 State of Arkansas
2 90th General Assembly
3 Fiscal Session, 2016

A Bill

SENATE BILL 69

4
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 SUPREME COURT
10 FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDING JUNE 30, 2017; AND FOR
11 OTHER PURPOSES.
12

Subtitle

13
14 AN ACT FOR THE ARKANSAS SUPREME COURT
15 APPROPRIATION FOR THE 2016-2017 FISCAL
16 YEAR.
17

18
19
20 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:
21

22 SECTION 1. REGULAR SALARIES - OPERATIONS. There is hereby established
23 for the Arkansas Supreme Court for the 2016-2017 fiscal year, the following
24 maximum number of regular employees.
25

Item	Class		Maximum	Maximum Annual
No.	Code	Title	No. of	Salary Rate
			Employees	Fiscal Year
				2016-2017
30	(1) Q009N	SUPREME COURT CLERK	1	GRADE N912
31	(2) Q011C	CRIMINAL COORDINATOR	1	GRADE C129
32	(3) Q010C	LIBRARY DIRECTOR	1	GRADE C129
33	(4) Q012C	SUPREME COURT REPORTER	1	GRADE C129
34	(5) Q021C	APPELLATE REVIEW ATTORNEY	2	GRADE C128
35	(6) Q036C	CHIEF DEPUTY CLERK	1	GRADE C126
36	(7) Q083C	COMMUNICATIONS COUNSEL	1	GRADE C126



1	(8)	Q217C	DEPUTY CRIMINAL COORDINATOR	1	GRADE C126
2	(9)	Q035C	SUPREME COURT LAW CLERK	14	GRADE C126
3	(10)	Q037C	ASSISTANT CRIMINAL COORDINATOR	2	GRADE C125
4	(11)	Q038C	DEPUTY REPORTER	1	GRADE C125
5	(12)	Q051C	NETWORK ADMINISTRATOR	1	GRADE C124
6	(13)	Q072C	FISCAL OFFICER	1	GRADE C122
7	(14)	Q141C	TECHNICAL ONLINE PUBLISHER	1	GRADE C122
8	(15)	Q090C	EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT TO CLERK	1	GRADE C119
9	(16)	Q091C	JUDICIAL CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE ASSIST	1	GRADE C119
10	(17)	Q107C	ASSISTANT CHIEF DEPUTY CLERK	1	GRADE C118
11	(18)	Q106C	DATA POLICY MANAGER	1	GRADE C118
12	(19)	Q108C	FINANCIAL SPECIALIST	1	GRADE C118
13	(20)	Q192C	PUBLIC SERVICE LIBRARIAN	1	GRADE C118
14	(21)	Q109C	RECORDS SUPERVISOR	1	GRADE C118
15	(22)	Q116C	JUDICIAL ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT	6	GRADE C117
16	(23)	Q115C	SUPREME COURT POLICE CHIEF	1	GRADE C117
17	(24)	Q123C	ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT	1	GRADE C115
18	(25)	Q122C	DATA RESEARCH ANALYST	1	GRADE C115
19	(26)	Q124C	LIBRARY TECHNICAL ASSISTANT	1	GRADE C115
20	(27)	Q125C	SUPREME COURT POLICE OFFICER	<u>2</u>	GRADE C115
21			MAX. NO. OF EMPLOYEES	48	

22

23 SECTION 2. EXTRA HELP - OPERATIONS. There is hereby authorized, for

24 the Arkansas Supreme Court for the 2016-2017 fiscal year, the following

25 maximum number of part-time or temporary employees, to be known as "Extra

26 Help", payable from funds appropriated herein for such purposes: five (5)

27 temporary or part-time employees, when needed, at rates of pay not to exceed

28 those provided in the Uniform Classification and Compensation Act, or its

29 successor, or this act for the appropriate classification.

30

31 SECTION 3. APPROPRIATION - OPERATIONS. There is hereby appropriated,

32 to the Arkansas Supreme Court, to be payable from the State Central Services

33 Fund, for personal services and operating expenses of the Arkansas Supreme

34 Court for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2017, the following:

35

36 ITEM FISCAL YEAR

1	NO.	2016-2017
2	(01) REGULAR SALARIES	\$2,697,896
3	(02) EXTRA HELP	30,000
4	(03) PERSONAL SERVICES MATCHING	845,665
5	(04) MAINT. & GEN. OPERATION	
6	(A) OPER. EXPENSE	323,089
7	(B) CONF. & TRAVEL	30,000
8	(C) PROF. FEES	25,000
9	(D) CAP. OUTLAY	112,000
10	(E) DATA PROC.	0
11	(05) ARKANSAS REPORTS	229,477
12	(06) COURT APPOINTED ATTORNEYS	195,000
13	(07) COMMISSIONS AND COMMITTEES	20,000
14	(08) SPECIAL JUSTICES	5,500
15	(09) JUDICIAL EDUCATION	<u>100,000</u>
16	TOTAL AMOUNT APPROPRIATED	<u>\$4,613,627</u>

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18 SECTION 4. APPROPRIATION - APPELLATE MEDIATION - CASH. There is hereby
 19 appropriated, to the Arkansas Supreme Court, to be payable from the cash fund
 20 deposited in the State Treasury as determined by the Chief Fiscal Officer of
 21 the State, for operating expenses of the Arkansas Supreme Court - Appellate
 22 Mediation Pilot Program for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2017, the
 23 following:

24

25	ITEM	FISCAL YEAR
26	NO.	2016-2017
27	(01) MAINT. & GEN. OPERATION	
28	(A) OPER. EXPENSE	\$0
29	(B) CONF. & TRAVEL	0
30	(C) PROF. FEES	9,914
31	(D) CAP. OUTLAY	0
32	(E) DATA PROC.	<u>0</u>
33	TOTAL AMOUNT APPROPRIATED	<u>\$9,914</u>

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35 SECTION 5. REGULAR SALARIES - SUPREME COURT BAR OF ARKANSAS. There is
 36 hereby established for the Arkansas Supreme Court - Bar of Arkansas for the

1 2016-2017 fiscal year, the following maximum number of regular employees.

			Maximum	Maximum Annual
			No. of	Salary Rate
Item	Class		Employees	Fiscal Year
No.	Code	Title		2016-2017
7	(1) Q057N	SUPREME COURT DIRECTOR OF OPC	1	GRADE N917
8	(2) Q058N	SUPREME COURT DIRECTOR OF OPP	1	GRADE N916
9	(3) Q059N	SUPREME COURT DEP DIRECTOR OF OPC	1	GRADE N906
10	(4) Q200C	SUPREME COURT DIRECTOR OF AJC	1	GRADE C128
11	(5) Q201C	SUPREME COURT DIRECTOR OF JLAP	1	GRADE C128
12	(6) Q199C	SUPREME COURT SENIOR STAFF ATTY OPC	1	GRADE C128
13	(7) Q202C	SUPREME COURT STAFF ATTORNEY OPC	1	GRADE C126
14	(8) Q204C	SUPREME COURT DEPUTY DIRECTOR JLAP	1	GRADE C120
15	(9) Q203C	SUPREME COURT PROGRAM COORDINATOR OPP	2	GRADE C120
16	(10) Q205C	SUPREME COURT INVESTIGATOR OPC	1	GRADE C119
17	(11) Q207C	SUPREME COURT DATABASE MANAGER	1	GRADE C118
18	(12) Q206C	SUPREME COURT FINANCIAL SPECIALIST	1	GRADE C118
19	(13) Q208C	SUPREME COURT PARALEGAL OPC	1	GRADE C118
20	(14) Q211C	SUPREME COURT ADMIN ASSISTANT AJC	1	GRADE C115
21	(15) Q209C	SUPREME COURT ADMIN ASSISTANT OPC	2	GRADE C115
22	(16) Q210C	SUPREME COURT ADMIN ASSISTANT OPP	<u>2</u>	GRADE C115
23	MAX. NO. OF EMPLOYEES		19	

24
 25 SECTION 6. EXTRA HELP - SUPREME COURT BAR OF ARKANSAS. There is hereby
 26 authorized, for the Arkansas Supreme Court - Bar of Arkansas for the 2016-
 27 2017 fiscal year, the following maximum number of part-time or temporary
 28 employees, to be known as "Extra Help", payable from funds appropriated
 29 herein for such purposes: five (5) temporary or part-time employees, when
 30 needed, at rates of pay not to exceed those provided in the Uniform
 31 Classification and Compensation Act, or its successor, or this act for the
 32 appropriate classification.

33
 34 SECTION 7. APPROPRIATION - SUPREME COURT BAR OF ARKANSAS. There is
 35 hereby appropriated, to the Arkansas Supreme Court, to be payable from cash
 36 funds as defined by Arkansas Code 19-4-801 of the Arkansas Supreme Court, for

1 personal services and operating expenses of the Arkansas Supreme Court - Bar
2 of Arkansas for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2017, the following:

3		
4	ITEM	FISCAL YEAR
5	<u>NO.</u>	<u>2016-2017</u>
6	(01) REGULAR SALARIES	\$1,500,000
7	(02) EXTRA HELP	25,000
8	(03) PERSONAL SERVICES MATCHING	500,000
9	(04) MAINT. & GEN. OPERATION	
10	(A) OPER. EXPENSE	1,000,000
11	(B) CONF. & TRAVEL	100,000
12	(C) PROF. FEES	500,000
13	(D) CAP. OUTLAY	100,000
14	(E) DATA PROC.	0
15	(05) CONSTRUCTION	100,000
16	(06) REFUNDS/INVESTMENTS/TRANSFERS	<u>2,250,000</u>
17	TOTAL AMOUNT APPROPRIATED	<u>\$6,075,000</u>

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19 SECTION 8. SPECIAL LANGUAGE. NOT TO BE INCORPORATED INTO THE ARKANSAS
20 CODE NOR PUBLISHED SEPARATELY AS SPECIAL, LOCAL AND TEMPORARY LAW. ACCESS TO
21 JUSTICE. The General Assembly finds that the Access to Justice Foundation
22 serves a public purpose, therefore financial accounting, general bookkeeping,
23 management and administrative services may be provided by employees of the
24 Arkansas Supreme Court and the Supreme Court Bar of Arkansas in support of
25 the Arkansas Access to Justice Foundation, Inc.

26 The provisions of this section shall be in effect only from July 1, ~~2015~~
27 2016 through June 30, ~~2016~~ 2017.

28
29 SECTION 9. COMPLIANCE WITH OTHER LAWS. Disbursement of funds
30 authorized by this act shall be limited to the appropriation for such agency
31 and funds made available by law for the support of such appropriations; and
32 the restrictions of the State Procurement Law, the General Accounting and
33 Budgetary Procedures Law, the Revenue Stabilization Law, the Regular Salary
34 Procedures and Restrictions Act, or their successors, and other fiscal
35 control laws of this State, where applicable, and regulations promulgated by
36 the Department of Finance and Administration, as authorized by law, shall be

1 strictly complied with in disbursement of said funds.

2

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

11

12 SECTION 11. EMERGENCY CLAUSE. It is found and determined by the
13 General Assembly, that the Constitution of the State of Arkansas prohibits
14 the appropriation of funds for more than a one (1) year period; that the
15 effectiveness of this Act on July 1, 2016 is essential to the operation of
16 the agency for which the appropriations in this Act are provided, and that in
17 the event of an extension of the legislative session, the delay in the
18 effective date of this Act beyond July 1, 2016 could work irreparable harm
19 upon the proper administration and provision of essential governmental
20 programs. Therefore, an emergency is hereby declared to exist and this Act
21 being necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health
22 and safety shall be in full force and effect from and after July 1, 2016.

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