# 0810 - DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE - DIVISION OF WORKFORCE SERVICES FISCAL YEAR 2025 LEGISLATIVE RECOMMENDATION

The primary responsibilities of the Department of Commerce - Division of Workforce Services (DWS) are to promote employment security by increasing opportunities for employment placement and to provide, through the accumulation of funds from employer contribution taxes, for the payment of benefits to individuals who are involuntarily unemployed. In 2019 the following programs were transferred to the Division from the Department of Career Education: Adult Education, Adult Basic Education, Federal Adult Basic Education, Governor's Commission on Adult Literacy, Adult Basic and General Education, and GED Testing. Per Act 832 of 2023, the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) program was transferred from the Department of Commerce - Division of Workforce Services to the Department of Human Services.

# TOTAL APPROPRIATION

| Appropriation |   | 2023-2024       | 2024-2025       |
|---------------|---|-----------------|-----------------|
|               |   | Authorized      | Legislative     |
| 2RF           | Annual Assessments                            | \$26,000        | \$26,000        |
| 2SC           | Excess Unemployment Benefits/ Expenses        | \$10,000,000    | \$10,000,000    |
| 2SD           | Operations                                    | \$84,431,300    | \$74,673,373    |
| 2SE           | Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act      | \$40,000,000    | \$40,000,000    |
| 2SF           | UI Trust Fund Loan Interest                   | \$3,000,001     | \$3,000,001     |
| 35Q           | DWS Training Trust Fund                       | \$3,256,577     | \$3,256,577     |
| 35R           | DWS Unemployment Insurance Fund               | \$6,000,000     | \$6,000,000     |
| 4KQ           | New Hire Registry                             | \$43,814,962    | \$250,000       |
| C27           | Unemployment Benefits & Expenses - Cash       | \$8,150,001     | \$8,150,001     |
| C28           | Federal Employees Benefit-Cash                | \$1,000,000,000 | \$1,000,000,000 |
| C29           | U I Benefits - Taxable Employers - Cash       | \$1,000,000,000 | \$1,000,000,000 |
| C30           | U I Benefits - Reimbursement Employers - Cash | \$20,000,000    | \$20,000,000    |
| C31           | Building Improvement/Land-Reed Act            | \$1             | \$1             |
| C56           | Loans to Local Workforce Development Boards   | \$1,500,000     | \$1,500,000     |
| N48           | DWS Federal Grants                            | \$0             | \$4,500,000     |
| V97           | UI Benefits & Expenses -<br>Cash in Treasury  | \$7,850,000     | \$7,850,000     |
| X88           | TAA Supportive Services                       | \$100,000       | \$100,000       |
| X89           | RTA/ATAA Payments                             | \$100,000       | \$100,000       |
| Z01           | Adult Education State Operations              | \$1,296,653     | \$1,306,218     |
| Z02           | Adult Basic Education - State                 | \$588,480       | \$593,226       |
| Z03           | Adult Basic Education - Federal               | \$11,179,068    | \$11,183,966    |
| Z04           | Governor's Commission on Adult Literacy       | \$1,096,027     | \$1,096,283     |
| Z05           | Adult Basic & General Education               | \$22,770,569    | \$22,770,569    |
| Z06           | GED Testing                                   | \$350,000       | \$350,000       |
| To            | tal   | \$2,265,509,639 | \$2,216,706,215 |

## **FUNDING SOURCES**

| <b>Funding Sources</b>        | %       |       |
|-------------------------------|---------|-------|
| Fund Balance                  | 4000005 | 11.96 |
| General Revenue               | 4000010 | 3.84  |
| Federal Revenue               | 4000020 | 74.32 |
| Stabilization Tax             | 4000033 | 9.44  |
| Employer Penalties & Interest | 4000225 | 0.92  |
| Inter-agency Fund Transfer    | 4000316 | 2.30  |
| Intra-agency Fund Transfer    | 4000317 | -2.11 |
| Miscellaneous Adjustments     | 4000345 | 0.04  |
| Other                         | 4000370 | 0.32  |
| Transfer to DHS-DCO           | 4000612 | -1.03 |
| <b>Total Funds</b>            | 100.00  |       |

# **CHANGE LEVEL REQUESTS**

**Operations (Appropriation 2SD)** 

| Commitment Item |                            | 2023-2024    | 2024-2025    |                     |
|-----------------|----------------------------|--------------|--------------|---------------------|
|                 |                            | Authorized   | Legislative  | <b>Change Level</b> |
| 5010000         | Regular Salaries           | \$40,346,124 | \$33,058,661 | (\$7,287,463)       |
| 5010001         | Extra Help                 | \$3,850,222  | \$3,748,866  | (\$101,356)         |
| 5010003         | Personal Services Matching | \$16,133,773 | \$13,764,665 | (\$2,369,108)       |
| Total           |                            | \$84,431,300 | \$74,673,373 | (\$9,757,927)       |

• Decrease due to the transfer of TANF program staff from the Department of Commerce - Division of Workforce Services to the Department of Human Services per Act 832 of 2023.

**TANF Block Grant Paying/New Hire Registry (Appropriation 4KQ)** 

| Commitment Item |  | 2023-2024    | 2024-2025   |                     |
|-----------------|--|--------------|-------------|---------------------|
|                 |  | Authorized   | Legislative | <b>Change Level</b> |
| 5900046         | TANF Block Grant Paying /<br>New Hire Registry | \$43,814,962 | \$250,000   | (\$43,564,962)      |
| Total           |  | \$43,814,962 | \$250,000   | (\$43,564,962)      |

• Decrease due to the transfer of the TANF program from the Department of Commerce - Division of Workforce Services to the Department of Human Services per Act 832 of 2023.

**DWS Federal Grants (Appropriation N48)** 

| Commitment Item |                             | 2023-2024  | 2024-2025   |                     |
|-----------------|-----------------------------|------------|-------------|---------------------|
|                 |                             | Authorized | Legislative | <b>Change Level</b> |
| 5900046         | Workforce Development Grant | \$0        | \$4,500,000 | \$4,500,000         |
| Total           |                             | <b>\$0</b> | \$4,500,000 | \$4,500,000         |

• Increase due receipt of direct ARPA federal award of \$4,562,000 via the Unemployment Equity Grant to improve Claimant Communications, Service Delivery and Customer Service.

### **POSITIONS**

Total Authorized Positions FY2025: 782 Total Authorized Positions FY2024: 987

Increase / (Decrease): (205)

Extra Help Positions FY2025: 426

### SPECIAL LANGUAGE REVISIONS

- **DELETED**: Language regarding the annual \$3,640,650 Inter-Agency Transfer of State General Revenue for the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) Programs to DHS-Division of County Operations due to the TANF program being removed from Department of Commerce Division of Workforce Services per Act 832 of 2023.
- **DELETED**: Language regarding the annual \$7,500,000 transfer of TANF Block Grant funds from the State's federal TANF block grant to the Department of Education's Division of Elementary and Secondary Education Public School Fund Account to be used for the Arkansas Better Change Program, due to the TANF program being removed from Department of Commerce Division of Workforce Services per Act 832 of 2023.
- **DELETED:** Language regarding Restrictions on Financial Assistance under the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families Program, due to the TANF program being removed from Department of Commerce Division of Workforce Services per Act 832 of 2023.