



B.4

TIM GRIFFIN
ATTORNEY GENERAL

March 26, 2024

The Honorable Jonathan Dismang, Co-Chairman
The Honorable Lane Jean, Co-Chairman
Joint Budget Committee
One Capitol Mall
Little Rock, Arkansas 72201

Dear Chairman Dismang and Chairman Jean:

I am respectfully requesting changes to the appropriation for the Office of the Attorney General. The proposed changes, which are detailed in the attachment, can be summarized in the following five points:

- This proposal reduces the cap on the appropriation of unrestricted settlement fees by \$5,000,000;
- This proposal increases the total appropriation from the State Central Services Fund by \$7,775,845;
 - Out of this amount, \$1,900,809.40 is attributable to increasing all salary line-item maximums (LIMs) by 10%, consistent with the Governor's policy for executive branch employees. To remain competitive in the marketplace for employees, especially attorneys, I believe it is in the best interest of this office and the state to follow the Governor's lead;
 - Additionally, \$4,240,035.60 reflects personnel changes, including additional investigators and attorneys needed to meet the increased demand for human trafficking investigations, organized retail crime investigations, Legislative Audit-related investigations, public corruption investigations, establishment and manning of the Election Integrity Unit mandated by the Legislature, 811 investigations, and broadening of our cyber crimes focus beyond internet crimes against children to include cyber threats such as ransomware and cyber attacks on Arkansans, especially on state government and our elections systems; and

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LITTLE ROCK, ARKANSAS 72201

- The remaining \$1,635,000 reflects the move to the State Central Services Fund of certain operating expenses currently paid out of unrestricted settlement fees. This move will restore control of such expenditures to the Legislature and decrease this office's reliance on settlement fees, which fluctuate widely year to year.

Setting aside the increase in LIMs to keep pace with other state agencies, and factoring in the reduction in the unrestricted settlement fees appropriation, the proposal reflects a net increase in the appropriation of \$875,035.60, an increase of 2.2% over the prior appropriation.

If you have questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me at (501) 837-5190. With best regards, I am,

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be 'Tim Griffin', with a stylized flourish.

Tim Griffin

Exhibit A

Section 1. Regular Salaries - Operations.

<u>Item No.</u>	<u>Class Code</u>	<u>Title</u>	Maximum No. of <u>Employees</u>	Maximum Annual Salary Rate <u>Fiscal Year 2024-2025</u>
1		Solicitor General	1	\$200,000.00
2		Chief Deputy Attorney General	1	\$200,000.00
3		Deputy Attorney General	12	\$184,000.00
4		Senior Assistant Attorney General I	4	\$161,000.00
5		Senior Assistant Attorney General II	12	\$154,000.00
6		Senior Assistant Attorney General III	17	\$138,000.00
7		Assistant Attorney General I	13	\$124,000.00
8		Assistant Attorney General II	22	\$111,000.00
9		Senior Management Assistant I	4	\$155,000.00
10		Senior Management Assistant II	5	\$138,000.00
11		Management Assistant	7	\$99,000.00
12		Investigator I	4	\$99,000.00
13		Senior Administrative Assistant	12	\$85,000.00
14		Investigator II	6	\$85,000.00
15		Administrative Assistant I	18	\$71,000.00
16		Investigator III	10	\$71,000.00
17		Administrative Assistant II	<u>16</u>	\$64,000.00
		Max. No. of Employees	164	

Section 2. Appropriation - Operations.

<u>Item No.</u>		<u>Fiscal Year 2024-2025</u>
1	Regular Salaries	\$18,533,205.00
2	Extra Help	\$250,000.00
3	Personal Services Matching	\$5,624,505.00
4	Maint. & Gen. Operation	
	(A) Oper. Expense	\$1,885,000.00
	(B) Conf. & Travel	\$25,000.00
	(C) Prof. Fees	\$50,000.00
	(D) Cap. Outlay	\$25,000.00
	(E) Data Proc.	<u>\$0.00</u>
	Total Amount Appropriated	\$26,392,710.00

Section 3. Regular Salaries - Medicaid Fraud Division - State.

<u>Item No.</u>	<u>Class Code</u>	<u>Title</u>	Maximum No. of <u>Employees</u>	Maximum Annual Salary Rate <u>Fiscal Year 2024-2025</u>
1		Deputy Attorney General	1	\$184,000.00
2		Assistant Attorney General I	2	\$124,000.00
3		Management Assistant	1	\$99,000.00

4	Administrative Assistant II	1	\$64,000.00
5	Senior Management Assistant II	<u>1</u>	\$138,000.00
	Max. No. of Employees	6	

Section 4. Appropriation - Medicaid Fraud Division - State.

<u>Item No.</u>		<u>Fiscal Year 2024-2025</u>
1	Regular Salaries	\$736,665.00
2	Personal Services Matching	\$216,235.00
3	Maint. & Gen. Operation	
	(A) Oper. Expense	\$56,235.00
	(B) Conf. & Travel	\$27,100.00
	(C) Prof. Fees	\$17,000.00
	(D) Cap. Outlay	\$10,500.00
	(E) Data Proc.	<u>\$0.00</u>
	Total Amount Appropriated	\$1,063,735.00

Section 5. Regular Salaries - Medicaid Fraud Division - Federal.

<u>Item No.</u>	<u>Class Code</u>	<u>Title</u>	Maximum No. of <u>Employees</u>	Maximum Annual Salary Rate <u>Fiscal Year 2024-2025</u>
1		Senior Assistant Attorney General I	2	\$161,000.00
2		Senior Assistant Attorney General III	1	\$138,000.00
3		Senior Management Assistant II	1	\$138,000.00
4		Assistant Attorney General I	2	\$124,000.00
5		Assistant Attorney General II	1	\$111,000.00
6		Management Assistant	1	\$99,000.00
7		Investigator I	2	\$99,000.00
8		Senior Administrative Assistant	3	\$85,000.00
9		Investigator II	5	\$85,000.00
10		Administrative Assistant II	<u>1</u>	\$64,000.00
		Max. No. of Employees	19	

Section 6. Extra Help - Medicaid Fraud Division - Federal.

No change

Section 7. Appropriation - Medicaid Fraud Division - Federal.

<u>Item No.</u>		<u>Fiscal Year 2024-2025</u>
1	Regular Salaries	\$2,007,990.00
2	Extra Help	\$30,000.00
3	Personal Services Matching	\$614,785.00
4	Maint. & Gen. Operation	
	(A) Oper. Expense	\$321,275.00
	(B) Conf. & Travel	\$81,300.00
	(C) Prof. Fees	\$418,469.00

(D) Cap. Outlay	\$31,500.00
(E) Data Proc.	<u>\$0.00</u>
Total Amount Appropriated	\$3,505,319.00

Section 8. Appropriation - Medicaid Fraud Division - Indirect Costs.

<u>Item No.</u>		<u>Fiscal Year 2024-2025</u>
1	Maint. & Gen. Operation	
	(A) Oper. Expense	\$498,461.00
	(B) Conf. & Travel	\$0.00
	(C) Prof. Fees	\$0.00
	(D) Cap. Outlay	\$0.00
	(E) Data Proc.	<u>\$0.00</u>
	Total Amount Appropriated	\$498,461.00

Section 9. Appropriation - Internet Crimes Against Children.

<u>Item No.</u>		<u>Fiscal Year 2024-2025</u>
1	Maint. & Gen. Operation	
	(A) Oper. Expense	\$25,000.00
	(B) Conf. & Travel	\$0.00
	(C) Prof. Fees	\$0.00
	(D) Cap. Outlay	\$0.00
	(E) Data Proc.	<u>\$0.00</u>
	Total Amount Appropriated	\$25,000.00

Section 10. Regular Salaries - Cooperative Disability Investigation Program.

<u>Item No.</u>	<u>ClassCode</u>	<u>Title</u>	Maximum No. of <u>Employees</u>	Maximum Annual Salary Rate <u>Fiscal Year 2024-2025</u>
1		Investigator I	2	\$99,000.00
2		Senior Administrative Assistant	<u>1</u>	\$85,000.00
		Max. No. of Employees	3	

Section 11. Appropriation - Cooperative Disability Investigation Program.

<u>Item No.</u>		<u>Fiscal Year 2024-2025</u>
1	Regular Salaries	\$283,000.00
2	Personal Services Matching	\$99,125.00
3	Overtime	\$42,000.00
4	Maint. & Gen. Operation	
	(A) Oper. Expense	\$55,000.00
	(B) Conf. & Travel	\$5,000.00
	(C) Prof. Fees	\$0.00
	(D) Cap. Outlay	\$0.00

(E) Data Proc.

\$0.00

Total Amount Appropriated

\$484,125.00

Section 12. Appropriation - Cash Funds - Unrestricted Settlement Fees **and other Cash Funds**. There is hereby appropriated, to the Office of Attorney General, to be payable from the cash funds as defined by Arkansas Code 19-4-801, for personal services, miscellaneous operating expenses, grants, court ordered payments, consumer education and enforcement activities from unrestricted settlement fees **and other cash funds** of the Office of Attorney General for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024, the sum of

\$10,000,000.00

Section 13. Appropriation - Cash Funds Settlement Fees and Restitution.

No change

Section 14. Special Language. Code Amendment.

No change

Section 15. Special Language.

No change

Section 16. Special Language.

No change

Section 17. Compliance with Other Laws.

No change

Section 18. Legislative Intent.

No change

Section 19. Emergency Clause.

No change

Add section: Extra Help - Operations. There is hereby authorized, for the Office of the Attorney General for the 2024-2025 fiscal year, the following maximum number of part-time or temporary employees, to be known as “Extra Help”, payable from funds appropriated herein for such purposes: ten (10) temporary or part-time employees, when needed, at rates of pay not to exceed those provided in the Uniform Classification and Compensation Act, or its successor, or this act for the appropriate classification. Please renumber the following sections accordingly.

Hall of the House of Representatives

94th General Assembly - Fiscal Session, 2024

Amendment Form

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Subtitle of House Bill No. 1037

AN ACT FOR THE OFFICE OF ATTORNEY GENERAL APPROPRIATION FOR THE 2024-2025 FISCAL YEAR.

Amendment No. ___ to House Bill No. 1037

Amend House Bill No. 1037 as originally introduced:

Page 1, delete lines 30 through 36, and substitute with the following:

"(1) Q242U SOLICITOR GENERAL	1	\$200,000
(2) Q426U CHIEF DEPUTY ATTORNEY GENERAL	1	\$200,000
(3) Q427U DEPUTY ATTORNEY GENERAL	12	\$184,000
(4) Q428U SENIOR ASSISTANT ATTORNEY GENERAL I	4	\$161,000
(5) Q446U SENIOR MANAGEMENT ASSISTANT I	4	\$155,000
(6) Q434U SENIOR ASSISTANT ATTORNEY GENERAL II	12	\$154,000
(7) Q447U SENIOR ASSISTANT ATTORNEY GENERAL III	17	\$138,000"

AND

Page 2, delete lines 1 through 9, and substitute with the following:

"(8) Q448U SENIOR MANAGEMENT ASSISTANT II	5	\$138,000
(9) Q430U ASSISTANT ATTORNEY GENERAL I	13	\$124,000
(10) Q431U ASSISTANT ATTORNEY GENERAL II	22	\$111,000
(11) Q432U MANAGEMENT ASSISTANT	7	\$99,000
(12) Q074U INVESTIGATOR I	4	\$99,000
(13) Q433U SENIOR ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT	12	\$85,000
(14) Q070U INVESTIGATOR II	6	\$85,000
(15) Q034U ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT I	18	\$71,000
(16) Q130U INVESTIGATOR III	10	\$71,000
(17) Q071U ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT II	<u>16</u>	\$64,000
MAX. NO. OF EMPLOYEES	164"	

AND

Page 2, immediately following SECTION 1, insert the following SECTION:

" SECTION 2. EXTRA HELP - OPERATIONS. There is hereby authorized, for the Office of Attorney General - Operations for the 2024-2025 fiscal year, the following maximum number of part-time or temporary employees, to be known as "Extra Help", payable from funds appropriated herein for such purposes: ten

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(10) temporary or part-time employees, when needed, at rates of pay not to exceed those provided in the Uniform Classification and Compensation Act, or its successor, or this act for the appropriate classification."

AND

Page 2, line 18, delete "\$14,388,564" and substitute with "\$18,533,205"

AND

Page 2, immediately following line 18 insert the following new ITEM number:
"(02) EXTRA HELP 250,000"

AND

Page 2, line 19, delete "4,462,554" and substitute with "5,624,505"

AND

Page 2, line 21, delete "250,000" and substitute with "1,885,000"

AND

Page 2, appropriately renumber all ITEM numbers of SECTION 2.

AND

Page 2, line 26, delete "\$19,201,118" and substitute with "\$26,392,710"

AND

Page 3, delete lines 1 through 6, and substitute with the following:

" (1) Q427U DEPUTY ATTORNEY GENERAL	1	\$184,000
(2) Q448U SENIOR MANAGEMENT ASSISTANT II	1	\$138,000
(3) Q430U ASSISTANT ATTORNEY GENERAL I	2	\$124,000
(4) Q432U MANAGEMENT ASSISTANT	1	\$99,000
(5) Q071U ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT II	<u>1</u>	\$64,000
MAX. NO. OF EMPLOYEES	6"	

AND

Page 3, line 16, delete "\$656,046" and substitute with "\$736,665"

AND

Page 3, line 17, delete "\$196,834" and substitute with "216,235"

AND

Page 3, line 24, delete "\$963,715" and substitute with "\$1,063,735"

AND

Page 3, delete lines 35 and 36, and substitute with the following:

" (1)	Q428U	SENIOR ASSISTANT ATTORNEY GENERAL I	2	\$161,000
(2)	Q447U	SENIOR ASSISTANT ATTORNEY GENERAL III	1	\$138,000"

AND

Page 4, delete lines 1 through 9, and substitute with the following:

"(3)	Q448U	SENIOR MANAGEMENT ASSISTANT II	1	\$138,000
(4)	Q430U	ASSISTANT ATTORNEY GENERAL I	2	\$124,000
(5)	Q431U	ASSISTANT ATTORNEY GENERAL II	1	\$111,000
(6)	Q432U	MANAGEMENT ASSISTANT	1	\$99,000
(7)	Q074U	INVESTIGATOR I	2	\$99,000
(8)	Q433U	SENIOR ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT	3	\$85,000
(9)	Q070U	INVESTIGATOR II	5	\$85,000
(10)	Q071U	ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT II	<u>1</u>	\$64,000
	MAX. NO. OF EMPLOYEES		19"	

AND

Page 4, line 29, delete "\$1,751,551" and substitute with "\$2,007,990"

AND

Page 4, line 31, delete "547,876" and substitute with "614,785"

AND

Page 5, line 2, delete "\$3,181,971" and substitute with "\$3,505,319"

AND

Page 6, line 10, delete "\$90,670" and substitute with "\$99,000"

AND

Page 6, line 11, delete "\$75,000" and substitute with "\$85,000"

AND

Page 6, line 23, delete "\$256,340" and substitute with "\$283,000"

AND

Page 6, line 24, delete "92,974" and substitute with "99,125"

AND

Page 6, line 32, delete "\$451,314" and substitute with "\$484,125"

AND

Page 6, delete SECTION 12 in its entirety and substitute with:

" SECTION 12. APPROPRIATION-CASH FUNDS - UNRESTRICTED SETTLEMENT FEES AND OTHER CASH FUNDS. There is hereby appropriated, to the Office of Attorney General, to be payable from the cash funds as defined by Arkansas Code 19-4-801, for personal services, miscellaneous operating expenses, grants, court order payments, consumer education and enforcement activities from unrestricted settlement fees and other cash funds of the Office of Attorney General for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2025, the sum of.....\$10,000,000."

AND

Appropriately renumber all the SECTION numbers of the bill.

The Amendment was read _____
By: Joint Budget Committee
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Chief Clerk