

**ARKANSAS SENATE**  
95th General Assembly - Fiscal Session, 2026  
**Amendment Form**

**DRAFT**

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**Subtitle of Senate Bill 15**

AN ACT FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF PARKS, HERITAGE, AND TOURISM - STATE PARKS  
AND TOURISM DIVISIONS APPROPRIATION FOR THE 2026-2027 FISCAL YEAR.

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**Amendment No. \_\_\_ to Senate Bill 15**

Amend Senate Bill 15 as originally introduced:

Page 15, immediately following SECTION 25, insert the following SECTIONS to read as follows:

"SECTION 26. SPECIAL LANGUAGE. NOT TO BE INCORPORATED INTO THE ARKANSAS CODE NOR PUBLISHED SEPARATELY AS SPECIAL, LOCAL, AND TEMPORARY LAW. Abolition of Keep Arkansas Beautiful Commission.

(a) The Keep Arkansas Beautiful Commission is abolished, and its authority, duties, function, records, contracts, personnel, property, and unexpended balances of appropriations, allocations, and other funds, including the functions of budgeting or purchasing are transferred to the Office of Keep Arkansas Beautiful.

(b)(1) The administrative functions of the Keep Arkansas Beautiful Commission are transferred to the Office of Keep Arkansas Beautiful.

(2) As used in subdivision (b)(1) of this section, "administrative functions" includes without limitation the day-to-day business operations of the Keep Arkansas Beautiful Commission, including without limitation employment, payroll, property management, benefit management, human resource operations, and accounting operations of the commission.

(c)(1) The abolition of the Keep Arkansas Beautiful Commission does not affect the orders, rules, directives, registration, licensing, or

standards made or promulgated by the Keep Arkansas Beautiful Commission before the effective date of this act.

(2) The orders, rules, directives, registration, licensing, or standards under subdivision (c)(1) of this section shall continue to be in effect until amended or repealed under authority given by law.

(d)(1) An employee of the Keep Arkansas Beautiful Commission who is now a member of a retirement system shall not lose retirement benefits accrued in the retirement system by the abolition of the Keep Arkansas Beautiful Commission.

(2)(A) An employee affected by the abolition of the Keep Arkansas Beautiful Commission shall have the option of continuing as a member of the retirement system of which the employee is a member at the time of the abolition or to join the retirement system for which the abolition makes the employee eligible.

(B) An employee under subdivision (d)(2)(A) of this section shall make his or her election of a retirement system within six (6) months from the date of abolition.

SECTION 27. SPECIAL LANGUAGE – CODE AMENDMENT. Arkansas Code § 8-6-404(2), concerning fines collected under the Litter Control Act, is amended to read as follows:

(2) If the municipality or county where the offense occurs is not a certified affiliate of Keep Arkansas Beautiful or Keep America Beautiful, ~~Inc.~~, or does not participate in litter-control programs conducted by these organizations, then the moneys from fines collected for offenses in those jurisdictions shall be remitted by the tenth day of each month to the Administration of Justice Funds Section, on a form provided by the Office of Administrative Services of the Department of Finance and Administration, for deposit into the Keep Arkansas Beautiful Fund Account to be used by the Office of Keep Arkansas Beautiful ~~Commission~~, as appropriated by the General Assembly, for the purposes of encouraging litter prevention and anti-litter education and increasing awareness of litter law enforcement statewide.

SECTION 28. SPECIAL LANGUAGE – CODE AMENDMENT. Arkansas Code § 8-6-606(e), concerning landfill disposal fees, is amended to read as follows:

(e) Solid waste collected during the annual Keep Arkansas Beautiful

and Keep America Beautiful campaigns that are sponsored by the Office of Keep Arkansas Beautiful Commission is exempt from the landfill disposal fee under this section.

SECTION 29. SPECIAL LANGUAGE – CODE AMENDMENT. Arkansas Code § 8-6-1003(c), concerning landfill disposal fees, is amended to read as follows:

(c) Solid waste collected during the annual Keep Arkansas Beautiful and Keep America Beautiful campaigns that are sponsored by the Office of Keep Arkansas Beautiful Commission is exempt from the landfill disposal fee under this section.

SECTION 30. SPECIAL LANGUAGE – CODE AMENDMENT. Arkansas Code § 15-11-601 is amended to read as follows:

15-11-601. Keep Arkansas Beautiful Advisory Board – Creation – Membership.

(a)(1) There is created the “Keep Arkansas Beautiful Commission Advisory Board”, which shall advise the Office of Keep Arkansas Beautiful, to be composed of ~~nine (9)~~ five (5) members appointed by the ~~Governor subject to confirmation by the Senate~~ Director of State Highways and Transportation.

(2) ~~Two (2) members~~ One (1) member shall be appointed from each Arkansas congressional district and the remaining member shall be appointed from the state at large.

(b)(1) The term of office of the initial members of the ~~commission board~~ board shall be determined by lot as follows:

(A) The term of office of ~~two (2)~~ one (1) of the initial members shall expire on ~~January 14, 2003~~ June 30, 2027;

(B) The term of office of ~~two (2)~~ one (1) of the initial members shall expire on ~~January 14, 2002~~ June 30, 2028;

(C) The term of office of ~~two (2)~~ one (1) of the initial members of the ~~commission board~~ board shall expire on ~~January 14, 2001~~ June 30, 2029;

(D) The term of office of one (1) of the initial members of the ~~commission board~~ board shall expire on ~~January 14, 2000~~ June 30, 2030; and

(E) The term of office of one (1) of the initial members of the ~~commission board~~ board shall expire on ~~January 14, 1999~~ June 30, 2031; and

~~(F) The term of office of one (1) of the initial members~~

~~of the commission shall expire on January 14, 1998.~~

(2) All successor members, other than those appointed to fill unexpired terms, shall serve ~~six-year~~ five-year terms to expire on ~~January 14 June 30~~ of the ~~sixth~~ fifth year.

(c) All vacancies shall be filled by appointment by the ~~Governor~~ and each appointment shall be subject to confirmation by the ~~Senate~~ director.

(d)(1) The ~~Governor~~ director shall designate the member to chair the organizational meeting of the ~~commission~~ board, at which meeting the ~~commission~~ board shall select from its membership a chair, a vice chair, and such other officers as it determines appropriate.

(2) The officers shall serve as such for such period of time as determined by the ~~commission~~ board.

(e) ~~Before entering upon his or her duties as a member of the commission, each member shall take and subscribe and file in the office of the Secretary of State an oath to support the United States Constitution and the Arkansas Constitution and to perform faithfully the duties of the office upon which he or she is about to enter.~~

~~(f)~~ Members of the ~~commission~~ board shall serve without compensation for their service but may receive expense reimbursement and a stipend of ~~eighty-five dollars (\$85.00) per day in accordance with § 25-16-901 et seq.~~

~~(g)~~(f) The ~~Director~~ Administrator of the ~~Administrative~~ Office of the Keep Arkansas Beautiful ~~Commission~~ shall serve as ex officio ~~Secretary~~ secretary of the ~~Keep Arkansas Beautiful Commission~~ board and shall have no vote on matters coming before the ~~commission~~ board.

SECTION 31. SPECIAL LANGUAGE. NOT TO BE INCORPORATED INTO THE ARKANSAS CODE NOR PUBLISHED SEPARATELY AS SPECIAL, LOCAL, AND TEMPORARY LAW.

Transition provisions - Commission members.

Upon the effective date of this section:

(1) The members of the Keep Arkansas Beautiful Commission shall serve as members of the Keep Arkansas Beautiful Advisory Board;

(2) A member under subdivision (1) of this section shall serve until his or her term expires; and

(3) Upon the expiration of the term of a member under subdivision (1) of this section, the Director of State Highways and Transportation shall appoint a new member as provided under § 15-11-601.

SECTION 32. SPECIAL LANGUAGE – CODE AMENDMENT. Arkansas Code § 15-11-602 is amended to read as follows:

15-11-602. ~~Administrative office~~ Office of Keep Arkansas Beautiful – Director ~~Duties~~ Creation.

(a) ~~The Administrative~~ There is established the Office of the Keep Arkansas Beautiful ~~Commission shall~~ to be located within the ~~State Parks Division~~ Arkansas Department of Transportation.

(b) The ~~Director~~ Administrator of the ~~Administrative~~ Office of the Keep Arkansas Beautiful ~~Commission~~ shall be employed by the Director of the ~~State Parks Division with the approval of the Secretary of the Department of Parks, Heritage, and Tourism~~ State Highways and Transportation.

(c) The ~~Director of the Administrative Office of the Keep Arkansas Beautiful Commission~~ administrator shall develop and administer all programs and projects of the ~~Keep Arkansas Beautiful Commission~~ office and perform such other duties that the ~~Director of the State Parks Division~~ director deems necessary and appropriate to foster and promote the awareness of all Arkansans as to the need to protect Arkansas's natural environment.

SECTION 33. SPECIAL LANGUAGE – CODE AMENDMENT. Arkansas Code § 15-11-603 is amended to read as follows:

15-11-603. Office of Keep Arkansas Beautiful – Powers and duties of ~~commission~~.

The Office of Keep Arkansas Beautiful ~~Commission~~ shall:

(1) Be ~~an official agency of the State of Arkansas~~ authorized to accept and receive grants, moneys, equipment, material, and services and real and personal property donated, bequeathed, or devised for any purposes relating to the programs of the ~~commission~~ office and not expressly designated for any other agency and to disburse and utilize such moneys and property for the purposes of this subchapter;

(2) Implement a statewide litter prevention program through the voluntary action of local communities and state and local governmental agencies;

(3) Educate Arkansas's citizens and community leaders as to the problem of litter and the need for recycling the state's resources;

(4) Encourage litter prevention;

- (5) Encourage beautification projects;
- (6) Increase awareness of litter law enforcement;
- (7) Promote consumer awareness of recycling benefits;
- (8) Assist communities in establishing the Keep Arkansas

Beautiful system;

(9) Encourage educational programs in schools and elsewhere that support the goals of the ~~commission~~ office; and

~~(10) Serve in an advisory capacity to the Director of the Administrative Office of the Keep Arkansas Beautiful Commission and the State Parks Division; and~~

~~(11)~~ Cooperate with and support existing recycling, beautification, and litter control programs in the state.

SECTION 34. SPECIAL LANGUAGE – CODE AMENDMENT. Arkansas Code § 19-43-266(b)(3)(D)(i), concerning the Conservation Tax Fund, is amended to read as follows:

(D)(i) One percent (1%) to the Keep Arkansas Beautiful Fund Account to be used exclusively by the Office of Keep Arkansas Beautiful ~~Commission~~ as appropriated by the General Assembly.

SECTION 35. SPECIAL LANGUAGE – CODE AMENDMENT. Arkansas Code § 24-5-101(6), concerning the definition of "current service" under the Arkansas State Highway Employees' Retirement System, is amended to read as follows:

(6)(A) "Current service" means service as an employee of the Arkansas State Highway and Transportation Department or the Arkansas Department of Transportation after the date of establishment of the system and may include the period of time during which the employee's service may have been interrupted by service in the United States Armed Forces. The annual earnings for a military service period shall be computed in the manner set forth for prior service in subdivision (12) of this section~~+~~.

(B) "Current service" includes service as an employee of the Office of Keep Arkansas Beautiful after the effective date of this act;

SECTION 36. SPECIAL LANGUAGE – CODE AMENDMENT. Arkansas Code § 25-43-1302(a)(17), concerning state entities transferred to the Department of Parks, Heritage, and Tourism, is repealed.

~~(17) The Keep Arkansas Beautiful Commission, created under § 15-11-601;~~"

AND

Appropriately renumber the subsequent SECTION numbers of the bill.

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

By: Joint Budget Committee

By: Senator M. Johnson

WFP/WFP - 04-08-2026 03:24:27

WFP038

\_\_\_\_\_  
Secretary

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

# A Bill

SENATE BILL 15

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 DEPARTMENT OF PARKS,  
10 HERITAGE, AND TOURISM - STATE PARKS AND TOURISM  
11 DIVISIONS FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDING JUNE 30, 2027;  
12 AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.  
13  
14

## Subtitle

15 AN ACT FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF PARKS,  
16 HERITAGE, AND TOURISM - STATE PARKS AND  
17 TOURISM DIVISIONS APPROPRIATION FOR THE  
18 2026-2027 FISCAL YEAR.  
19  
20  
21

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

24 SECTION 1. REGULAR SALARIES. There is hereby established for the  
25 Department of Parks, Heritage, and Tourism - State Parks and Tourism  
26 Divisions for the 2026-2027 fiscal year, the following maximum number of  
27 regular employees.  
28

Item	Class		Maximum	Maximum Annual
No.	Code	Title	No. of	Salary Rate
			Employees	Fiscal Year
				2026-2027
33	(1)	EEX27A PARKS, HERITAGE, & TOURISM DIV. DIR	2	GRADE EXE01
34	(2)	EEX26A PARKS DEPUTY DIRECTOR	1	GRADE SPC10
35	(3)	SEN02P ENGINEER SUPERVISOR/EXPERT	1	GRADE SPC06
36	(4)	SAS01I ARCHITECT	1	GRADE SPC03



1 Uniform Classification Act, or its successor, for the appropriate  
2 classification.

3 The provisions of this section shall be in effect only from July 1, ~~2025~~  
4 2026 through June 30, ~~2026~~ 2027.

5  
6 SECTION 25. SPECIAL LANGUAGE. NOT TO BE INCORPORATED INTO THE ARKANSAS  
7 CODE NOR PUBLISHED SEPARATELY AS SPECIAL, LOCAL AND TEMPORARY LAW.  
8 PROMOTIONAL AND EDUCATIONAL MATERIALS. The Division of Arkansas State Parks  
9 and Tourism is hereby authorized to purchase from Maintenance and General  
10 Operations appropriations provided by this Act, up to an amount not to exceed  
11 \$75,000 each fiscal year, promotional and educational merchandise, authorized  
12 by the Secretary of the Department of Arkansas Parks, Heritage, and Tourism,  
13 to inform the public of the Division's programs, to promote the functions of  
14 the Division, and to inform the public regarding services provided by the  
15 Division.

16 The provisions of this section shall be in effect only from July 1, ~~2025~~  
17 2026 through June 30, ~~2026~~ 2027.

18  
19 SECTION 26. COMPLIANCE WITH OTHER LAWS. Disbursement of funds  
20 authorized by this act shall be limited to the appropriation for such agency  
21 and funds made available by law for the support of such appropriations; and  
22 the restrictions of the State Procurement Law, the General Accounting and  
23 Budgetary Procedures Law, the Revenue Stabilization Law, the Regular Salary  
24 Procedures and Restrictions Act, or their successors, and other fiscal  
25 control laws of this State, where applicable, and regulations promulgated by  
26 the Department of Finance and Administration, as authorized by law, shall be  
27 strictly complied with in disbursement of said funds.

28  
29 SECTION 27. LEGISLATIVE INTENT. It is the intent of the General  
30 Assembly that any funds disbursed under the authority of the appropriations  
31 contained in this act shall be in compliance with the stated reasons for  
32 which this act was adopted, as evidenced by the Agency Requests, Executive  
33 Recommendations and Legislative Recommendations contained in the budget  
34 manuals prepared by the Department of Finance and Administration, letters, or  
35 summarized oral testimony in the official minutes of the Arkansas Legislative  
36 Council or Joint Budget Committee which relate to its passage and adoption.