



**STATE OF ARKANSAS  
SARAH HUCKABEE SANDERS  
GOVERNOR**

March 10, 2026

Senator Jonathan Dismang, Co-Chair  
Representative Lane Jean, Co-Chair  
Joint Budget Committee  
Arkansas General Assembly  
State Capitol Building  
Little Rock, AR 72201

Dear Co-Chairs:

I respectfully request the following amendment to the 2026-2027 Operations Appropriation Bill for the Department of Health – Licensing and Regulation Boards.

Please amend SECTION 11. REGULAR SALARIES – OPERATIONS – ARKANSAS DIETETICS LICENSING BOARD as follows and renumber accordingly:

Item No.	Class Code	Title	Maximum No. of Employees	Maximum Annual Salary Rate Fiscal Year 2026-2027
<u>(X)</u>	<u>PAS02P</u>	<u>ADMINISTRATIVE COORDINATOR</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>GRADE SGS04</u>
		<u>MAX. NO. OF EMPLOYEES</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>2</u>

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The above request adds one (1) new position and is necessary due to the significant increase of licensees handled by the board and the implementation of a licensure compact.

Please amend SECTION 12. APPROPRIATION - OPERATIONS - ARKANSAS DIETETICS LICENSING BOARD as follows:

Item No.		Fiscal Year 2026-2027
(01)	REGULAR SALARIES	\$47,260
(02)	PERSONAL SERVICES MATCHING	18,775
	TOTAL AMOUNT APPROPRIATED	<u>\$71,035</u>
		<u>\$90,348</u>
		<u>28,672</u>
		<u>\$124,020</u>

The above request is necessary to adjust the Regular Salaries and Personal Services Matching appropriations for the newly requested position.

Please amend SECTION 21. REGULAR SALARIES - OPERATIONS - ARKANSAS STATE BOARD OF NURSING as follows:

Item No.	Class Code	Title	Maximum No. of Employees	Maximum Annual Salary Rate Fiscal Year 2026-2027
(13)	MNU04P	NURSE PRACTITIONER	<del>1</del> 2	GRADE MED08
(15)	MNU06P	REGISTERED NURSE	<del>3</del> 5	GRADE MED05
		MAX. NO. OF EMPLOYEES	<u><del>30</del> 33</u>	

The above request transfers three (3) positions from the Department of Health to the Arkansas State Board of Nursing and is necessary due to the significant increase of investigations and to support the Full Independent Practice Credentialing Committee (FIPCC).

Please amend SECTION 23. APPROPRIATION - OPERATIONS - ARKANSAS STATE BOARD OF NURSING as follows:

Item No.		Fiscal Year 2026-2027
(01)	REGULAR SALARIES	\$1,983,688
(03)	PERSONAL SERVICES MATCHING	689,959
	TOTAL AMOUNT APPROPRIATED	<u>\$3,766,009</u>
		<u>\$2,228,273</u>
		<u>746,142</u>
		<u>\$4,066,777</u>

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The above request is necessary to adjust the Regular Salaries and Personal Services Matching appropriations for the three (3) transferred positions.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Sarah Sanders". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Sarah Huckabee Sanders  
Governor of Arkansas

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

**DRAFT**

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**Subtitle of Senate Bill 4**

AN ACT FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH - LICENSING AND REGULATION  
BOARDS APPROPRIATION FOR THE 2026-2027 FISCAL YEAR.

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**Amendment No. \_\_\_ to Senate Bill 4**

Amend Senate Bill 4 as originally introduced:

Page 6, line 19, delete "      1" and substitute "1"

AND

Page 6, immediately following line 19 insert an additional item to read as follows:

"(2) PAS02P ADMINISTRATIVE COORDINATOR       1 GRADE SGS04"

AND

Page 6, line 20, delete "1" and substitute "2"

AND

Page 6, line 31, delete "\$47,260" and substitute "\$90,348"

AND

Page 6, line 32, delete "18,775" and substitute "28,672"

AND

**DRAFT**

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Page 1 of 2

Page 7, line 3, delete "\$71,035" and substitute "\$124,020"

AND

Page 11, line 7, delete "1" and substitute "2"

AND

Page 11, line 9, delete "3" and substitute "5"

AND

Page 11, line 12, delete "30" and substitute "33"

AND

Page 11, line 31, delete "\$1,983,688" and substitute "\$2,228,273"

AND

Page 11, line 33, delete "689,959" and substitute "746,142"

AND

Page 12, line 5, delete "\$3,766,009" and substitute "\$4,066,777".

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

By: Joint Budget Committee

CJW/CJW - 04-02-2026 12:23:33

CJW032

\_\_\_\_\_  
Secretary

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

# A Bill

SENATE BILL 4

4  
5 By: Joint Budget Committee  
6  
7

## For An Act To Be Entitled

8  
9 AN ACT TO MAKE AN APPROPRIATION FOR PERSONAL SERVICES  
10 AND OPERATING EXPENSES FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH -  
11 LICENSING AND REGULATION BOARDS FOR THE FISCAL YEAR  
12 ENDING JUNE 30, 2027; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.  
13  
14

## Subtitle

15  
16 AN ACT FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH -  
17 LICENSING AND REGULATION BOARDS  
18 APPROPRIATION FOR THE 2026-2027 FISCAL  
19 YEAR.  
20  
21

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

24 SECTION 1. APPROPRIATION - OPERATIONS - ARKANSAS STATE BOARD OF  
25 ACUPUNCTURE AND RELATED TECHNIQUES. There is hereby appropriated, to the  
26 Department of Health, to be payable from the cash fund deposited in the State  
27 Treasury as determined by the Chief Fiscal Officer of the State, for  
28 operating expenses of the Department of Health - Arkansas State Board of  
29 Acupuncture and Related Techniques for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2027,  
30 the following:  
31

ITEM	FISCAL YEAR
NO.	2026-2027
(01) MAINT. & GEN. OPERATION	
(A) OPER. EXPENSE	\$2,999
(B) CONF. & TRAVEL	0



1	(02) PERSONAL SERVICES MATCHING	48,708
2	(03) MAINT. & GEN. OPERATION	
3	(A) OPER. EXPENSE	119,637
4	(B) CONF. & TRAVEL	7,166
5	(C) PROF. FEES	42,126
6	(D) CAP. OUTLAY	0
7	(E) DATA PROC.	<u>0</u>
8	TOTAL AMOUNT APPROPRIATED	<u>\$372,734</u>

SECTION 11. REGULAR SALARIES - OPERATIONS - ARKANSAS DIETETICS

LICENSING BOARD. There is hereby established for the Department of Health - Arkansas Dietetics Licensing Board for the 2026-2027 fiscal year, the following maximum number of regular employees.

Item No.	Class Code	Title	Maximum No. of Employees	Maximum Annual Salary Rate Fiscal Year 2026-2027
19	(1)	PHP01C HEALTH BOARD DIRECTOR I	<u>1</u>	GRADE SGS06
20		MAX. NO. OF EMPLOYEES	<i>12</i>	

SECTION 12. APPROPRIATION - OPERATIONS - ARKANSAS DIETETICS LICENSING

BOARD. There is hereby appropriated, to the Department of Health, to be payable from the cash fund deposited in the State Treasury as determined by the Chief Fiscal Officer of the State, for personal services and operating expenses of the Department of Health - Arkansas Dietetics Licensing Board for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2027, the following:

ITEM NO.	FISCAL YEAR 2026-2027
31 (01) REGULAR SALARIES	<i>\$90,348</i> <del>\$47,260</del>
32 (02) PERSONAL SERVICES MATCHING	<i>\$28,672</i> <del>18,775</del>
33 (03) MAINT. & GEN. OPERATION	
34 (A) OPER. EXPENSE	5,000
35 (B) CONF. & TRAVEL	0
36 (C) PROF. FEES	0

1	(D) CAP. OUTLAY		0
2	(E) DATA PROC.		0
3	TOTAL AMOUNT APPROPRIATED	\$124,020	<del>\$71,035</del>

4

5 SECTION 13. REGULAR SALARIES - OPERATIONS - ARKANSAS BOARD OF  
 6 DISPENSING OPTICIANS. There is hereby established for the Department of  
 7 Health - Arkansas Board of Dispensing Opticians for the 2026-2027 fiscal  
 8 year, the following maximum number of regular employees.

9

10			Maximum Annual
11		Maximum	Salary Rate
12	Item Class	No. of	Fiscal Year
13	No. Code Title	Employees	2026-2027
14	(1) PHP01C HEALTH BOARD DIRECTOR I	<u>1</u>	GRADE SGS06
15	MAX. NO. OF EMPLOYEES	1	

16

17 SECTION 14. EXTRA HELP - ARKANSAS BOARD OF DISPENSING OPTICIANS. There  
 18 is hereby authorized, for the Department of Health - Arkansas Board of  
 19 Dispensing Opticians for the 2026-2027 fiscal year, the following maximum  
 20 number of part-time or temporary employees, to be known as "Extra Help",  
 21 payable from funds appropriated herein for such purposes: one (1) temporary  
 22 or part-time employees, when needed, at rates of pay not to exceed those  
 23 provided in the Uniform Classification and Compensation Act, or its  
 24 successor, or this act for the appropriate classification.

25

26 SECTION 15. APPROPRIATION - OPERATIONS - ARKANSAS BOARD OF DISPENSING  
 27 OPTICIANS. There is hereby appropriated, to the Department of Health, to be  
 28 payable from the Board of Dispensing Opticians' Fund, for personal services  
 29 and operating expenses of the Department of Health - Arkansas Board of  
 30 Dispensing Opticians for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2027, the following:

31

32	ITEM	FISCAL YEAR
33	NO.	2026-2027
34	(01) REGULAR SALARIES	\$49,750
35	(02) EXTRA HELP	1,200
36	(03) PERSONAL SERVICES MATCHING	18,943

1 SECTION 20. APPROPRIATION - OPERATIONS - ARKANSAS STATE MEDICAL BOARD.  
 2 There is hereby appropriated, to the Department of Health, to be payable from  
 3 the cash fund deposited in the State Treasury as determined by the Chief  
 4 Fiscal Officer of the State, for personal services and operating expenses of  
 5 the Department of Health - Arkansas State Medical Board for the fiscal year  
 6 ending June 30, 2027, the following:

8 ITEM	FISCAL YEAR
9 <u>NO.</u>	<u>2026-2027</u>
10 (01) REGULAR SALARIES	\$1,494,219
11 (02) EXTRA HELP	24,500
12 (03) PERSONAL SERVICES MATCHING	584,489
13 (04) MAINT. & GEN. OPERATION	
14 (A) OPER. EXPENSE	1,379,645
15 (B) CONF. & TRAVEL	19,000
16 (C) PROF. FEES	21,000
17 (D) CAP. OUTLAY	0
18 (E) DATA PROC.	0
19 (05) REFUNDS/REIMBURSEMENTS	<u>7,500</u>
20 TOTAL AMOUNT APPROPRIATED	<u>\$3,530,353</u>

21  
 22 SECTION 21. REGULAR SALARIES - OPERATIONS - ARKANSAS STATE BOARD OF  
 23 NURSING. There is hereby established for the Department of Health - Arkansas  
 24 State Board of Nursing for the 2026-2027 fiscal year, the following maximum  
 25 number of regular employees.

27	Maximum Annual
28	Salary Rate
29 Item Class	Fiscal Year
30 <u>No. Code Title</u>	<u>2026-2027</u>
31	Maximum
32	No. of
33	Employees
31 (1) EEX25A NURSING BOARD DIRECTOR	1 GRADE MED10
32 (2) LAT05P ATTORNEY III	1 GRADE SPC08
33 (3) LAT04P ATTORNEY II	1 GRADE SPC05
34 (4) FFS03C FISCAL SUPPORT MANAGER	1 GRADE SGS09
35 (5) PAS08I EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT	1 GRADE SGS07
36 (6) CPR05P PUBLIC INFORMATION COORDINATOR	1 GRADE SGS07

1	(7)	ILS03I LEGAL SUPPORT SPECIALIST	4	GRADE SGS06
2	(8)	IIV04P INVESTIGATOR III	1	GRADE SGS06
3	(9)	PAS01P ADMINISTRATIVE ANALYST	1	GRADE SGS05
4	(10)	PAS02P ADMINISTRATIVE COORDINATOR	1	GRADE SGS04
5	(11)	FFS04P FISCAL SUPPORT SPECIALIST	1	GRADE SGS04
6	(12)	PAS03P ADMINISTRATIVE SPECIALIST	8	GRADE SGS02
7	(13)	MNU04P NURSE PRACTITIONER	<i>12</i>	GRADE MED08
8	(14)	MNU07C REGISTERED NURSE MANAGER	2	GRADE MED07
9	(15)	MNU06P REGISTERED NURSE	<i>35</i>	GRADE MED05
10	(16)	IIS06P IT INFRASTRUCTURE COORDINATOR	1	GRADE IST08
11	(17)	IUS04P USER SUPPORT SPECIALIST	<u>1</u>	GRADE IST02
12		MAX. NO. OF EMPLOYEES	<i>30 33</i>	

14 SECTION 22. EXTRA HELP - OPERATIONS - ARKANSAS STATE BOARD OF NURSING.  
 15 There is hereby authorized, for the Department of Health - Arkansas State  
 16 Board of Nursing for the 2026-2027 fiscal year, the following maximum number  
 17 of part-time or temporary employees, to be known as "Extra Help", payable  
 18 from funds appropriated herein for such purposes: one (1) temporary or part-  
 19 time employees, when needed, at rates of pay not to exceed those provided in  
 20 the Uniform Classification and Compensation Act, or its successor, or this  
 21 act for the appropriate classification.

23 SECTION 23. APPROPRIATION - OPERATIONS - ARKANSAS STATE BOARD OF  
 24 NURSING. There is hereby appropriated, to the Department of Health, to be  
 25 payable from the State Board of Nursing Fund, for personal services and  
 26 operating expenses of the Department of Health - Arkansas State Board of  
 27 Nursing for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2027, the following:

29	ITEM	FISCAL YEAR	
30	NO.	2026-2027	
31	(01) REGULAR SALARIES	<i>\$2,228,273</i>	<del>\$1,983,688</del>
32	(02) EXTRA HELP		5,000
33	(03) PERSONAL SERVICES MATCHING	<i>\$746,142</i>	<del>689,959</del>
34	(04) MAINT. & GEN. OPERATION		
35	(A) OPER. EXPENSE		1,040,914
36	(B) CONF. & TRAVEL		43,448

1	(C) PROF. FEES		2,000
2	(D) CAP. OUTLAY		0
3	(E) DATA PROC.		0
4	(05) REFUNDS/REIMBURSEMENTS		<u>1,000</u>
5	TOTAL AMOUNT APPROPRIATED	<i>\$4,066,777</i>	<del><u>\$3,766,009</u></del>

7 SECTION 24. APPROPRIATION - ARKANSAS STATE BOARD OF NURSING - SCHOLAR  
 8 LOANS. There is hereby appropriated, to the Department of Health - Arkansas  
 9 State Board of Nursing, to be payable from the cash fund deposited in the  
 10 State Treasury as determined by the Chief Fiscal Officer of the State, for  
 11 the Nursing Student Loan Program to make student loans for the fiscal year  
 12 ending June 30, 2027, the following:

14	ITEM	FISCAL YEAR
15	<u>NO.</u>	<u>2026-2027</u>
16	(01) NURSING STUDENT LOAN PROGRAM	<u>\$100,000</u>

18 SECTION 25. APPROPRIATION - ARKANSAS STATE BOARD OF NURSING - NURSING  
 19 EDUCATION WORKSHOPS. There is hereby appropriated, to the Department of  
 20 Health, to be payable from the cash fund deposited in the State Treasury as  
 21 determined by the Chief Fiscal Officer of the State, for operating expenses  
 22 of the Department of Health - Arkansas State Board of Nursing - Nursing  
 23 Education Workshops for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2027, the following:

25	ITEM	FISCAL YEAR
26	<u>NO.</u>	<u>2026-2027</u>
27	(01) MAINT. & GEN. OPERATION	
28	(A) OPER. EXPENSE	\$14,325
29	(B) CONF. & TRAVEL	0
30	(C) PROF. FEES	2,000
31	(D) CAP. OUTLAY	0
32	(E) DATA PROC.	<u>0</u>
33	TOTAL AMOUNT APPROPRIATED	<u>\$16,325</u>

35 SECTION 26. APPROPRIATION - ARKANSAS STATE BOARD OF NURSING - ARKANSAS  
 36 CENTER FOR NURSING GRANT. There is hereby appropriated, to the Department of