

State of Arkansas

76th General Assembly

Regular Session, 1987

HOUSE BILL 1001

By: House Management Committee

"AN ACT TO MAKE AN APPROPRIATION TO DEFRAY THE EXPENSES OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE SEVENTY-SIXTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY; TO PAY EXPENSES OF MEMBERS THEREOF; TO PAY SALARIES OF THE EMPLOYEES THEREOF; TO PAY FOR AND/OR PURCHASE SUPPLIES AND EQUIPMENT FOR THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES."

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

SECTION 1. There is hereby appropriated to the Arkansas House of Representatives, to be payable from the Constitutional and Fiscal Agencies Fund, for defraying the necessary expenses of the Seventy-Sixth General Assembly and for paying the expenses of the members thereof as provided the law, the following:

(1) Salaries of Temporary Employees	\$ 330,000
(2) Maintenance, Operation, and Expenses	__1,191,000
TOTAL AMOUNT APPROPRIATED	\$ 1,521,000
	=====

SECTION 2. The House Management Committee with the approval of the Speaker of the House may at their discretion employ House employees; and may transfer or discharge any employee if it is deemed for the best interest of the House of Representatives.

SECTION 3. The Coordinator of House Legislative Services is hereby directed to issue vouchers evidencing all payments authorized by the Speaker of the House, and when vouchers issued covering expenditures of the House have been so issued and approved, the State Auditor and the State Treasurer are directed to pay the same from funds appropriated herein.

The Coordinator of House Legislative Services shall be appointed by the Speaker of the House with the approval of the House Management Committee, and shall perform such duties as may be provided by Rules of the House and as provided by the Speaker and the House Management Committee, and in addition thereto, shall hereafter perform all duties imposed upon the Chief Clerk of the House now provided by law or authorized by House Rules with respect to the disbursement of House funds, the keeping of fiscal accounts and records, the signing of official documents, and the acquisition of stationery, postage, and other supplies for the House of Representatives and its members.

The Coordinator of House Legislative Services shall hereafter perform all duties imposed upon the Chief Clerk of the House with respect to the payment of interim expense funds to members of the House of Representatives as authorized by Act 274 of 1971 and all laws amendatory thereto.

SECTION 4. If the Speaker of the House and the Coordinator of House Legislative Services determine that any item or portion thereof appropriated herein for a specific purpose is not needed for such purpose, they may certify such fact to the State Auditor and the State Auditor shall cause transfer to be made from one item to another.

SECTION 5. (A) The General Assembly hereby recognizes that the increased workload of bills, resolutions, and other matters to be considered during legislative sessions, and the responsibilities of members in studying and considering such legislation and in communicating with their constituents concerning pending or proposed legislation, imposes additional burdens upon the financial resources of the individual members of the House of Representatives. The General Assembly further determines that service in the General Assembly requires members of the House of Representatives to defray the cost of maintaining a home, and in many instances a legislative office, in their representative districts as well as incur expenses for meals, lodging, and related expenses while attending legislative sessions at the State Capitol, which imposes additional burdens upon the financial resources of the individual members.

It is hereby declared to be the policy of the State of Arkansas that members of the House of Representatives shall be provided reimbursement for reasonable expenditures incurred by the members of the House of

Representatives for the following categories of expenses incurred in attending regular or extraordinary sessions of the General Assembly:

- (1) staff service of pages, secretarial, clerical, and other assistants;
- (2) postage, additional stationery, supplies, telephone and telegraph services; and
- (3) reasonable cost of rent, lodging, meals, and related living and legislative expenses incurred while attending regular or special legislative sessions.

The Coordinator of House Legislative Services, with the approval of the Speaker of the House of Representatives, is hereby authorized to reimburse members of the House of Representatives from funds appropriated by this Act upon the filing of verified claims therefor, for actual expenses incurred by such members with respect to the authorized expenditures hereinabove enumerated, but not to exceed, in the aggregate, the sum of Three Hundred and Fifty Dollars (\$350.00) per week per member.

(B) In addition to the items of expense for which reimbursement may be made as provided in Subsection (A) above, members of the House of Representatives shall be entitled to reimbursement for mileage at the same rate provided by law for state employees for official state travel, for not more than one round trip per week in traveling from their place of residence to Little Rock and return for each week the General Assembly meets in regular or extraordinary session.

(C) Members of the House of Representatives shall be entitled to receive a per diem of Twenty Dollars (\$20) for each day the General Assembly is in regular or extraordinary session by filing claims thereof with the Coordinator of House Legislative Services and upon approval by the Speaker of the House of Representatives. Such per diem shall be in addition to reimbursement for expenses and mileage as authorized hereinabove, and shall be paid from the Maintenance and Operation appropriation.

SECTION 6. The funds appropriated in this Act shall be used to defray the expenses of the House of Representatives of the Regular Session of the Seventy-Sixth General Assembly, and upon adjournment of the Regular Session, any unexpended balance of the funds appropriated in this Act may be used to defray the necessary expenses of the operation of the Office of the Speaker of the House of Representatives, the Office of the Coordinator of House

Legislative Services, the Chief Clerk's Office, and other reasonable and necessary expenses of the House of Representatives of the Seventy-Sixth General Assembly incurred during the interim between the adjournment of the Regular Session of the Seventy-Sixth General Assembly and the convening of the Seventy-Seventh General Assembly of the State of Arkansas.

SECTION 7. The Speaker of the House is hereby authorized to designate, subsequent to the adjournment of the General Assembly, one or more members of the House to represent the House of Representatives at regional or national conferences of legislators or other official meetings held during the interim between legislative sessions at which the State of Arkansas is requested to be represented by members of the General Assembly, and may pay the actual and necessary travel, meals and lodging and other expenses therefor from the funds appropriated herein. Additionally, the House of Representatives of the Seventy-Sixth General Assembly recognizes the importance of hosting, in a responsible manner, the Southern Legislative Conference in Arkansas in 1987. If it is determined by the Speaker of the House and the Coordinator of Legislative Services that certain expenses and per diem of members of the House should be paid by the House, such expenses and per diem at the rate authorized for attending other legislative functions shall be paid from the Maintenance and Operation appropriation funds appropriated herein.

SECTION 8. (A) The General Assembly hereby determines that the conducting of an Institute of Legislative Procedure prior to the convening of Regular Sessions of the General Assembly, for the orientation of existing and newly-elected members of the General Assembly on rules and legislative procedure and current fiscal conditions and other problems in state government, is essential to the proper functioning of each Regular Session of the General Assembly.

The Arkansas Legislative Council and the Legislative Joint Auditing Committee shall cooperate in jointly sponsoring a biennial Institute of Legislative Procedure to carry out the aforementioned purposes. Members of the preceding General Assembly who have been re-elected to a new term in either House of the General Assembly, and the newly-elected members of the House of Representatives and Senate shall be eligible to attend the biennial Institute of Legislative Procedure and shall be entitled, upon filing a claim

therefor, to per diem in the amount fixed by law for members of the General Assembly to receive for attendance at joint interim committee meetings, per day for each day in attending the biennial Institute of Legislative Procedure, but in no event to exceed two (2) days per member, plus mileage in traveling from their place of residence to the biennial Institute of Legislative Procedure and return at the same rate of mileage authorized for official travel by state employees. Per diem and mileage for members of the General Assembly and newly-elected members of the General Assembly for attending the biennial Institute of Legislative Procedure shall be paid by the respective Houses from the monies appropriated therefor.

(B) There is hereby appropriated, to be payable from the Constitutional and Fiscal Agencies Fund, to the House of Representatives of the General Assembly of the State of Arkansas, to be used for payment of per diem and mileage of members of the House of Representatives and newly-elected members of the House of Representatives who attend the biennial Institute of Legislative Procedure, to be held prior to the convening of the 1989 Regular Session of the General Assembly, the sum of \$12,000.

SECTION 9. REGULAR SALARIES. There is hereby established for the Arkansas House of Representatives for the 1987-89 biennium, the following maximum number of regular employees whose salaries shall be governed by the provisions of the Uniform Classification and Compensation Act, and all laws amendatory thereto, and by the provisions of the Regular Salary Procedures and Restrictions Act. Provided, however, that any position to which a specific maximum annual salary is set out herein in dollars, shall be exempt from the provisions of said Uniform Classification and Compensation Act, but shall not be exempt from the provisions of the Regular Salary Procedures and Restrictions Act.

Item No.	Class Code	Title	Maximum No. of Employees	Maximum Annual Salary Rate	
				1987-88	1988-89
(01)		COORDINATOR OF HOUSE LEGISLATIVE SVS/PARLIAMENTATIAN/ADMIN. ASS'T	1	\$51,168	\$51,168
(02)		HOUSE INFORMATION DIR.	1	39,422	39,422
(03)		CHIEF CLERK OF THE HOUSE	1	27,500	27,500

(04)	EXECUTIVE SECRETARY	1	28,402	28,402
(05)	CHIEF FISCAL OFFICER	1	24,393	24,393
(06)	ASS'T EXEC. SEC./ASS'T FISCAL OFCR.	1	21,540	21,540
(07)	HOUSE PROPERTIES & FACILITIES MGR.	<u>1</u>	21,116	21,116
	MAXIMUM NUMBER OF EMPLOYEES	7		

SECTION 10. The Speaker of the House of Representatives, along with the Chairman and Vice Chairman of the House Management Committee shall during the month of June, 1987 and 1988 meet as a Committee and determine the actual salaries to be paid each employee beginning the following July 1. Such salaries of the employees will be based upon an evaluation of the performance of the Coordinator of House Legislative Services by the Committee and upon an evaluation of the performance of the other employees by the Coordinator of House Legislative Services. The Parliamentarian of the House of Representatives may, upon approval of the Committee and on the effective date of this Act, be paid an additional salary above that as set out in Section 9 hereof at the rate of Thirty Dollars (\$30.00) per day, not to exceed seventy (70) days. Such additional salary and associated personal service matching costs shall be paid from the appropriation provided in Section 1 of this Act.

SECTION 11. EXTRA HELP. There is hereby authorized, for the Arkansas House of Representatives for the 1987-89 biennium, the following maximum number of part-time or temporary employees, to be known as "Extra Help", payable from funds appropriated in Section 12 herein for such purposes: four (4) temporary or part-time employees, when needed, at rates of pay not to exceed those provided in the Uniform Classification and Compensation Act for the appropriate classification.

SECTION 12. APPROPRIATIONS. There is hereby appropriated, to be payable from the Constitutional and Fiscal Agencies Fund, for personal services of the Arkansas House of Representatives for the biennial period ending June 30, 1989, the following:

ITEM	FISCAL YEARS	
NO. _____	1987-88 _____	1988-89 _____
(01) REGULAR SALARIES	\$ 186,240	\$ 197,607

(02)	EXTRA HELP	12,000	12,000
(03)	PERSONAL SERVICES MATCHING	<u>40,973</u>	<u>43,474</u>
	TOTAL AMOUNT APPROPRIATED	\$ 239,213	\$ 253,081
		=====	=====

SECTION 13. EXPENSE REIMBURSEMENT. Due to the exacting and special duties of his office, the Coordinator of House Legislative Services is to be reimbursed at the rate of \$350 per month for allowable expenses in the same manner as is authorized for Members of the General Assembly by Act 274 of 1971, as amended.

SECTION 14. If any provision of this Act or the application thereof to any person or circumstance is held invalid, such invalidity shall not affect other provisions or applications of this Act which can be given effect without the invalid provision or application, and to this end the provisions of this Act are declared to be severable.

SECTION 15. All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this Act are hereby repealed.

SECTION 16. It is hereby determined that matters vitally affecting the welfare of the State of Arkansas must be dealt with by the Seventy-Sixth General Assembly, and this Act being necessary for the preservation of the peace, health, and safety of the people of the State of Arkansas, an emergency is hereby declared to exist and this Act shall take effect and be in full force from and after its passage and approval.

