

State of Arkansas
95th General Assembly
Regular Session, 2025

A Bill

SENATE BILL 198

By: Joint Budget Committee

For An Act To Be Entitled

AN ACT TO REAPPROPRIATE THE BALANCES OF CAPITAL
IMPROVEMENT APPROPRIATIONS FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF
EDUCATION - ARKANSAS SCHOOL FOR THE BLIND AND
ARKANSAS SCHOOL FOR THE DEAF; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

Subtitle

AN ACT FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION -
ARKANSAS SCHOOL FOR THE BLIND AND
ARKANSAS SCHOOL FOR THE DEAF
REAPPROPRIATION.

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

SECTION 1. REAPPROPRIATION - ARKANSAS SCHOOL FOR THE BLIND - CAPITAL
IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS. There is hereby appropriated, to the Department of
Education, to be payable from the Development and Enhancement Fund, for the
Department of Education - Arkansas School for the Blind the following:

(A) Effective July 1, 2025, the balance of the appropriation provided
in Item (A) of Section 1 of Act 111 of 2024, for various maintenance,
renovation, equipping, construction, acquisition, improvement, upgrade, and
repair of real property and facilities at the Arkansas School for the Blind
campus, in a sum not to exceed\$15,000,000.

SECTION 2. REAPPROPRIATION - ARKANSAS SCHOOL FOR THE DEAF - CAPITAL
IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS. There is hereby appropriated, to the Department of
Education, to be payable from the Development and Enhancement Fund, for the



1 Department of Education - Arkansas School for the Deaf the following:

2 (A) Effective July 1, 2025, the balance of the appropriation provided
3 in Item (A) of Section 2 of Act 111 of 2024, for various maintenance,
4 renovation, equipping, construction, acquisition, improvement, upgrade, and
5 repair of real property and facilities at the Arkansas School for the Deaf
6 campus, in a sum not to exceed\$15,000,000.
7

8 SECTION 3. DISBURSEMENT CONTROLS. (A) No contract may be awarded nor
9 obligations otherwise incurred in relation to the project or projects
10 described herein in excess of the State Treasury funds actually available
11 therefor as provided by law. Provided, however, that institutions and
12 agencies listed herein shall have the authority to accept and use grants and
13 donations including Federal funds, and to use its unobligated cash income or
14 funds, or both available to it, for the purpose of supplementing the State
15 Treasury funds for financing the entire costs of the project or projects
16 enumerated herein. Provided further, that the appropriations and funds
17 otherwise provided by the General Assembly for Maintenance and General
18 Operations of the agency or institutions receiving appropriation herein shall
19 not be used for any of the purposes as appropriated in this act.

20 (B) The restrictions of any applicable provisions of the State
21 Purchasing Law, the General Accounting and Budgetary Procedures Law, the
22 Revenue Stabilization Law and any other applicable fiscal control laws of
23 this State and regulations promulgated by the Department of Finance and
24 Administration, as authorized by law, shall be strictly complied with in
25 disbursement of any funds provided by this act unless specifically provided
26 otherwise by law.
27

28 SECTION 4. LEGISLATIVE INTENT. It is the intent of the General
29 Assembly that any funds disbursed under the authority of the appropriations
30 contained in this act shall be in compliance with the stated reasons for
31 which this act was adopted, as evidenced by the Agency Requests, Executive
32 Recommendations and Legislative Recommendations contained in the budget
33 manuals prepared by the Department of Finance and Administration, letters, or
34 summarized oral testimony in the official minutes of the Arkansas Legislative
35 Council or Joint Budget Committee which relate to its passage and adoption.
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1 SECTION 5. EMERGENCY CLAUSE. It is found and determined by the General
2 Assembly, that the Constitution of the State of Arkansas prohibits the
3 appropriation of funds for more than a one (1) year period; that the
4 effectiveness of this Act on July 1, 2025 is essential to the operation of
5 the agency for which the appropriations in this Act are provided, and that in
6 the event of an extension of the legislative session, the delay in the
7 effective date of this Act beyond July 1, 2025 could work irreparable harm
8 upon the proper administration and provision of essential governmental
9 programs. Therefore, an emergency is hereby declared to exist and this Act
10 being necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health
11 and safety shall be in full force and effect from and after July 1, 2025.