

State of Arkansas

As Engrossed: S4/3/25

95th General Assembly

A Bill

Regular Session, 2025

SENATE BILL 25

By: Joint Budget Committee

For An Act To Be Entitled

AN ACT TO MAKE AN APPROPRIATION FOR PERSONAL SERVICES
AND OPERATING EXPENSES FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
- STATE INSURANCE DEPARTMENT FOR THE FISCAL YEAR
ENDING JUNE 30, 2026; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

Subtitle

AN ACT FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE -
STATE INSURANCE DEPARTMENT APPROPRIATION
FOR THE 2025-2026 FISCAL YEAR.

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

SECTION 1. REGULAR SALARIES - OPERATIONS. There is hereby established
for the Department of Commerce - State Insurance Department for the 2025-2026
fiscal year, the following maximum number of regular employees.

| | | Maximum Annual | |
|------|---|----------------|-------------|
| | | Maximum | Salary Rate |
| Item | Class | No. of | Fiscal Year |
| No. | Code Title | Employees | 2025-2026 |
| (1) | U047U ACOM STATE INSURANCE COMMISSIONER | 1 | GRADE SE03 |
| (2) | U042U ACOM INSURANCE CHIEF DEPUTY COMM | 1 | GRADE SE02 |
| (3) | N025N ACOM INSURANCE DEP COMM INFO SVCS | 1 | GRADE SE01 |
| (4) | D028N REGULATORY HEALTH LINK TECH OFFICER | 1 | GRADE IT10 |
| (5) | D010N ACOM INSURANCE CHIEF TECHNOLOGY OFF | 1 | GRADE IT08 |
| (6) | D007C INFORMATION SYSTEMS MANAGER | 1 | GRADE IT08 |



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|----|-----------------|--|--------------|-----------------------|
| 1 | (7) | D038C SENIOR SOFTWARE SUPPORT ANALYST | 1 | GRADE IT06 |
| 2 | (8) | D022C SYSTEMS SPECIALIST | 4 | GRADE IT06 |
| 3 | (9) | D052C SOFTWARE SUPPORT ANALYST | 3 | GRADE IT05 |
| 4 | (10) | D044C SYSTEMS ANALYST | 1 | GRADE IT05 |
| 5 | (11) | N014N ACOM INSURANCE DEP COMM FINANCE REGS | 1 | GRADE GS15 |
| 6 | (12) | N201N DEPUTY COMM OF CRIM INVESTIGATIONS | 1 | GRADE GS15 |
| 7 | (13) | G018N ACOM DIRECTOR RISK MANAGEMENT | 1 | GRADE GS14 |
| 8 | (14) | N140N ACOM INS ASST DEP COMMISSIONER FINANCE | 3 | GRADE GS14 |
| 9 | (15) | A128C ACOM INSURANCE CLAIMS DIR PUBLIC EMP | 1 | GRADE GS14 |
| 10 | (16) | N190N ACOM INSURANCE GENERAL COUNSEL | 1 | GRADE GS14 |
| 11 | (17) | X002N PROPERTY & CASUALTY MANAGER | 1 | GRADE GS14 |
| 12 | (18) | A004N CERTIFIED FINANCIAL EXAMINER MANAGER | 3 | GRADE GS13 |
| 13 | (19) | G019C GENERAL COUNSEL | 1 | GRADE GS13 |
| 14 | (20) | G004C MANAGING ATTORNEY | 3 | GRADE GS13 |
| 15 | (21) | G043N RISK MANAGEMENT ASSISTANT DIRECTOR | 1 | GRADE GS13 |
| 16 | (22) | G010C ACOM DIVISION MANAGER | 1 | GRADE GS12 |
| 17 | (23) | G025C ATTORNEY SUPERVISOR | 1 | GRADE GS12 |
| 18 | (24) | A004C CERTIFIED FINANCIAL EXAMINER | 11 | GRADE GS12 |
| 19 | (25) | A014C FISCAL DIVISION MANAGER | 1 | GRADE GS12 |
| 20 | (26) | R013C AGENCY HUMAN RESOURCES MANAGER | 1 | GRADE GS11 |
| 21 | (27) | G047C ATTORNEY SPECIALIST | 7 | GRADE GS11 |
| 22 | (28) | A007C AUDIT MANAGER | 1 | GRADE GS11 |
| 23 | (29) | P074C ACOM AID PUBLIC INFORMATION OFFICER | 1 | GRADE GS10 |
| 24 | (30) | X009C ACOM INS DEPT DIR OF SECURITY OPS | 1 | GRADE GS10 |
| 25 | (31) | G259C ACOM INSURANCE PROGRAM MANAGER | 4 | GRADE GS10 |
| 26 | (32) | G076C ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES MANAGER | 1 | GRADE GS10 |
| 27 | (33) | A044C AUDIT COORDINATOR | 1 | GRADE GS10 |
| 28 | (34) | X032C ACOM SENIOR SECURITIES EXAMINER | 1 | GRADE GS09 |
| 29 | (35) | G241C HEALTH INFO TECH OPER & TECH OFFICER | 1 | GRADE GS09 |
| 30 | (36) | A042C INSURANCE SENIOR EXAMINER | 6 | GRADE GS09 |
| 31 | (37) | X020C ACOM BURIAL ASSOCIATION BD EXEC SEC | 1 | GRADE GS08 |
| 32 | (38) | X018C ACOM INSURANCE CONSUMER PROTECT MGR | 1 | GRADE GS08 |
| 33 | (39) | X017C ACOM INSURANCE LICENSING MANAGER | 1 | GRADE GS08 |
| 34 | (40) | G304C ACOM WORKERS' COMPENSATION PROG MGR | 1 | GRADE GS08 |
| 35 | (41) | X192C ASST DIRECTOR FRAUD INVESTIGATION | 1 | GRADE GS08 |
| 36 | (42) | X072C CRIMINAL INS FRAUD INVESTIGATOR | 7 | GRADE GS08 |

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|----|---|--------------|-----------------------|
| 1 | (43) R014C PERSONNEL MANAGER | 1 | GRADE GS08 |
| 2 | (44) A041C PROGRAM FISCAL MANAGER | 1 | GRADE GS08 |
| 3 | (45) A060C SENIOR AUDITOR | 2 | GRADE GS08 |
| 4 | (46) G064C SR HLTH INSURANCE INFORMATION PRG MGR | 2 | GRADE GS08 |
| 5 | (47) G106C WCC CLAIMS SPECIALIST | 5 | GRADE GS08 |
| 6 | (48) A067C ACOM INSURANCE EXAMINER | 2 | GRADE GS07 |
| 7 | (49) X083C ACOM INS LIFE & HEALTH COMP OFFICER | 4 | GRADE GS07 |
| 8 | (50) X066C ACOM INSURANCE PREMIUM TAX EXAMINER | 4 | GRADE GS07 |
| 9 | (51) A081C AUDITOR | 1 | GRADE GS07 |
| 10 | (52) X080C PROPERTY & CASUALTY COMPLIANCE OFFICER | 3 | GRADE GS07 |
| 11 | (53) G120C RISK CONSULTANT | 10 | GRADE GS07 |
| 12 | (54) C037C ADMINISTRATIVE ANALYST | 7 | GRADE GS06 |
| 13 | (55) X088C EMBALMERS & FUNERAL DIR INVESTIGATOR | 2 | GRADE GS06 |
| 14 | (56) R025C HUMAN RESOURCES ANALYST | 1 | GRADE GS06 |
| 15 | (57) R029C HUMAN RESOURCES RECRUITER | 1 | GRADE GS06 |
| 16 | (58) G179C LEGAL SERVICES SPECIALIST | 2 | GRADE GS06 |
| 17 | (59) M066C PROGRAM ELIGIBILITY SPECIALIST | 3 | GRADE GS06 |
| 18 | (60) G202C VOLUNTEER PROGRAM COORDINATOR | 3 | GRADE GS06 |
| 19 | (61) C016C ACOM INSURANCE ADMINISTRATIVE COORD | 3 | GRADE GS05 |
| 20 | (62) R033C BENEFITS ANALYST | 1 | GRADE GS05 |
| 21 | (63) X123C INSURANCE INVESTIGATOR | 9 | GRADE GS05 |
| 22 | (64) G201C WCC CLAIMS ANALYST | 3 | GRADE GS05 |
| 23 | (65) C056C ADMINISTRATIVE SPECIALIST III | 13 | GRADE GS04 |
| 24 | (66) A098C FISCAL SUPPORT SPECIALIST | 4 | GRADE GS04 |
| 25 | (67) R036C HUMAN RESOURCES SPECIALIST | 1 | GRADE GS04 |
| 26 | (68) C046C LEGAL SUPPORT SPECIALIST | 3 | GRADE GS04 |
| 27 | (69) X180C ACOM INSURANCE LICENSING TECHNICIAN | 7 | GRADE GS03 |
| 28 | (70) C073C ADMINISTRATIVE SPECIALIST II | 10 | GRADE GS03 |
| 29 | (71) C087C ADMINISTRATIVE SPECIALIST I | 1 | GRADE GS02 |
| 30 | (72) C084C MAIL SERVICES SPECIALIST | <u>1</u> | GRADE GS02 |
| 31 | MAX. NO. OF EMPLOYEES | 188 | |

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33 SECTION 2. EXTRA HELP. There is hereby authorized, for the Department
 34 of Commerce - State Insurance Department for the 2025-2026 fiscal year, the
 35 following maximum number of part-time or temporary employees, to be known as
 36 "Extra Help", payable from funds appropriated herein for such purposes:

1 nineteen (19) temporary or part-time employees, when needed, at rates of pay
 2 not to exceed those provided in the Uniform Classification and Compensation
 3 Act, or its successor, or this act for the appropriate classification.

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 5 SECTION 3. APPROPRIATION - OPERATIONS. There is hereby appropriated,
 6 to the Department of Commerce, to be payable from the State Insurance
 7 Department Trust Fund, for personal services, operating expenses, special
 8 maintenance and professional services of the Department of Commerce - State
 9 Insurance Department - Operations for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2026,
 10 the following:

| 11 | 12 ITEM | FISCAL YEAR |
|----|---------------------------------|---------------------|
| 13 | <u>NO.</u> | <u>2025-2026</u> |
| 14 | (01) REGULAR SALARIES | \$8,183,021 |
| 15 | (02) EXTRA HELP | 140,000 |
| 16 | (03) PERSONAL SERVICES MATCHING | 2,870,046 |
| 17 | (04) OVERTIME | 27,500 |
| 18 | (05) MAINT. & GEN. OPERATION | |
| 19 | (A) OPER. EXPENSE | 2,250,674 |
| 20 | (B) CONF. & TRAVEL | 188,000 |
| 21 | (C) PROF. FEES | 161,600 |
| 22 | (D) CAP. OUTLAY | 150,000 |
| 23 | (E) DATA PROC. | 0 |
| 24 | (06) PROFESSIONAL SERVICES | 956,000 |
| 25 | (07) AHIM EXPENSES | <u>500,000</u> |
| 26 | TOTAL AMOUNT APPROPRIATED | <u>\$15,426,841</u> |

27
 28 SECTION 4. APPROPRIATION - FUNERAL SERVICES. There is hereby
 29 appropriated, to the Department of Commerce, to be payable from the cash fund
 30 deposited in the State Treasury as determined by the Chief Fiscal Officer of
 31 the State, for personal services and operating expenses of the Department of
 32 Commerce - State Insurance Department - Funeral Services for the fiscal year
 33 ending June 30, 2026, the following:

| 35 | ITEM | FISCAL YEAR |
|----|------------|------------------|
| 36 | <u>NO.</u> | <u>2025-2026</u> |

| | | |
|----|---------------------------------|-------------------------|
| 1 | (01) REGULAR SALARIES | \$326,284 |
| 2 | (02) PERSONAL SERVICES MATCHING | 122,466 |
| 3 | (03) MAINT. & GEN. OPERATION | |
| 4 | (A) OPER. EXPENSE | 100,000 |
| 5 | (B) CONF. & TRAVEL | 5,464 |
| 6 | (C) PROF. FEES | 2,950 |
| 7 | (D) CAP. OUTLAY | 0 |
| 8 | (E) DATA PROC. | 0 |
| 9 | (04) LOANS | <u>55,000</u> |
| 10 | TOTAL AMOUNT APPROPRIATED | <u><u>\$612,164</u></u> |

SECTION 5. APPROPRIATION - INSURANCE FRAUD INVESTIGATION DIVISION.

There is hereby appropriated, to the Department of Commerce, to be payable from the State Insurance Department Criminal Investigation Division Trust Fund, for personal services and operating expenses of the Department of Commerce - State Insurance Department - Insurance Fraud Investigation Division for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2026, the following:

| ITEM | FISCAL YEAR |
|---------------------------------|---------------------------|
| <u>NO.</u> | <u>2025-2026</u> |
| (01) REGULAR SALARIES | \$987,058 |
| (02) PERSONAL SERVICES MATCHING | 334,870 |
| (03) MAINT. & GEN. OPERATION | |
| (A) OPER. EXPENSE | 220,635 |
| (B) CONF. & TRAVEL | 35,000 |
| (C) PROF. FEES | 4,000 |
| (D) CAP. OUTLAY | 60,000 |
| (E) DATA PROC. | <u>0</u> |
| TOTAL AMOUNT APPROPRIATED | <u><u>\$1,641,563</u></u> |

SECTION 6. APPROPRIATION - PREPAID FUNERAL BENEFITS DIVISION. There is hereby appropriated, to the Department of Commerce, to be payable from the State Insurance Department Prepaid Trust Fund, for personal services and operating expenses of the Department of Commerce - State Insurance Department - Prepaid Funeral Benefits Division for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2026, the following:

| ITEM | FISCAL YEAR |
|---------------------------------|-------------------------|
| NO. | 2025-2026 |
| (01) REGULAR SALARIES | \$290,009 |
| (02) PERSONAL SERVICES MATCHING | 106,215 |
| (03) MAINT. & GEN. OPERATION | |
| (A) OPER. EXPENSE | 36,700 |
| (B) CONF. & TRAVEL | 4,000 |
| (C) PROF. FEES | 0 |
| (D) CAP. OUTLAY | 30,000 |
| (E) DATA PROC. | <u>0</u> |
| TOTAL AMOUNT APPROPRIATED | <u><u>\$466,924</u></u> |

SECTION 7. APPROPRIATION - PREPAID FUNERAL CONTRACTS RECOVERY PROGRAM. There is hereby appropriated, to the Department of Commerce, to be payable from the State Insurance Department Prepaid Trust Fund, for expenses and payment of claims of the Department of Commerce - State Insurance Department Prepaid Contracts Recovery Program for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2026, the following:

| ITEM | FISCAL YEAR |
|---|-------------------------|
| NO. | 2025-2026 |
| (01) EXPENSES AND CLAIMS FOR PREPAID FUNERAL CONTRACTS RECOVERY PROGRAM | <u><u>\$500,000</u></u> |

SECTION 8. APPROPRIATION - REFUNDS OF OVERPAYMENTS. There is hereby appropriated, to the Department of Commerce, to be payable from the Miscellaneous Revolving Fund, for payments of miscellaneous tax and fee refunds by the Department of Commerce - State Insurance Department - Refunds of Overpayments for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2026, the following:

| ITEM | FISCAL YEAR |
|-----------------------------|----------------------------|
| NO. | 2025-2026 |
| (01) REFUNDS/REIMBURSEMENTS | <u><u>\$11,000,000</u></u> |

SECTION 9. APPROPRIATION - CONTINUING EDUCATION PROGRAM. There is

hereby appropriated, to the Department of Commerce, to be payable from the Insurance Continuing Education Trust Fund, for personal services of the Department of Commerce - State Insurance Department - Continuing Education Program for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2026, the following:

| ITEM | FISCAL YEAR |
|---------------------------------|------------------------|
| <u>NO.</u> | <u>2025-2026</u> |
| (01) REGULAR SALARIES | \$25,268 |
| (02) PERSONAL SERVICES MATCHING | <u>5,916</u> |
| TOTAL AMOUNT APPROPRIATED | <u><u>\$31,184</u></u> |

SECTION 10. APPROPRIATION - HEALTH INFORMATION COUNSELING. There is hereby appropriated, to the Department of Commerce, to be payable from the federal funds as designated by the Chief Fiscal Officer of the State, for personal services and operating expenses of the Department of Commerce - State Insurance Department - Health Information Counseling for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2026, the following:

| ITEM | FISCAL YEAR |
|---------------------------------|---------------------------|
| <u>NO.</u> | <u>2025-2026</u> |
| (01) REGULAR SALARIES | \$318,851 |
| (02) PERSONAL SERVICES MATCHING | 137,135 |
| (03) MAINT. & GEN. OPERATION | |
| (A) OPER. EXPENSE | 317,407 |
| (B) CONF. & TRAVEL | 20,000 |
| (C) PROF. FEES | 471,552 |
| (D) CAP. OUTLAY | 0 |
| (E) DATA PROC. | 0 |
| (04) PROMOTIONAL ITEMS | <u>55,000</u> |
| TOTAL AMOUNT APPROPRIATED | <u><u>\$1,319,945</u></u> |

SECTION 11. APPROPRIATION - CONSUMER INFORMATION SYSTEM - CASH. There is hereby appropriated, to the Department of Commerce, to be payable from the cash fund deposited in the State Treasury as determined by the Chief Fiscal Officer of the State, for operating expenses of the Department of Commerce - State Insurance Department - Consumer Information System - Cash for the

fiscal year ending June 30, 2026, the following:

| ITEM | FISCAL YEAR |
|------------------------------|------------------------|
| <u>NO.</u> | <u>2025-2026</u> |
| (01) MAINT. & GEN. OPERATION | |
| (A) OPER. EXPENSE | \$28,005 |
| (B) CONF. & TRAVEL | 0 |
| (C) PROF. FEES | 0 |
| (D) CAP. OUTLAY | 0 |
| (E) DATA PROC. | <u>0</u> |
| TOTAL AMOUNT APPROPRIATED | <u><u>\$28,005</u></u> |

SECTION 12. APPROPRIATION - PUBLIC EMPLOYEE CLAIMS SECTION. There is hereby appropriated, to the Department of Commerce, to be payable from the Miscellaneous Agencies Fund Account, for personal services and operating expenses of the Department of Commerce - State Insurance Department - Public Employee Claims Section for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2026, the following:

| ITEM | FISCAL YEAR |
|---------------------------------|---------------------------|
| <u>NO.</u> | <u>2025-2026</u> |
| (01) REGULAR SALARIES | \$1,185,851 |
| (02) PERSONAL SERVICES MATCHING | 438,710 |
| (03) MAINT. & GEN. OPERATION | |
| (A) OPER. EXPENSE | 498,631 |
| (B) CONF. & TRAVEL | 24,300 |
| (C) PROF. FEES | 0 |
| (D) CAP. OUTLAY | 0 |
| (E) DATA PROC. | <u>0</u> |
| TOTAL AMOUNT APPROPRIATED | <u><u>\$2,147,492</u></u> |

SECTION 13. APPROPRIATION - STATE EMPLOYEE CLAIMS. There is hereby appropriated, to the Department of Commerce, to be payable from the Workers' Compensation Revolving Fund, for payment of state employee claims by the Department of Commerce - State Insurance Department - State Employee Claims for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2026, the following:

| ITEM | FISCAL YEAR |
|----------------------------|---------------------|
| <u>NO.</u> | <u>2025-2026</u> |
| (01) STATE EMPLOYEE CLAIMS | <u>\$15,500,000</u> |

SECTION 14. APPROPRIATION - PUBLIC SCHOOL EMPLOYEE CLAIMS. There is hereby appropriated, to the Department of Commerce, to be payable from the Miscellaneous Revolving Fund, for payment of public school employee claims by the Department of Commerce - State Insurance Department - Public School Employee Claims for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2026, the following:

| ITEM | FISCAL YEAR |
|------------------------------------|------------------|
| <u>NO.</u> | <u>2025-2026</u> |
| (01) PUBLIC SCHOOL EMPLOYEE CLAIMS | <u>\$400,000</u> |

SECTION 15. APPROPRIATION - COUNTY EMPLOYEE CLAIMS. There is hereby appropriated, to the Department of Commerce, to be payable from the Miscellaneous Revolving Fund, for payment of county employee claims by the Department of Commerce - State Insurance Department - County Employee Claims for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2026, the following:

| ITEM | FISCAL YEAR |
|-----------------------------|------------------|
| <u>NO.</u> | <u>2025-2026</u> |
| (01) COUNTY EMPLOYEE CLAIMS | <u>\$200,000</u> |

SECTION 16. APPROPRIATION - CITY EMPLOYEE CLAIMS. There is hereby appropriated, to the Department of Commerce, to be payable from the Miscellaneous Revolving Fund, for payment of city employee claims by the Department of Commerce - State Insurance Department - City Employee Claims for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2026, the following:

| ITEM | FISCAL YEAR |
|---------------------------|------------------|
| <u>NO.</u> | <u>2025-2026</u> |
| (01) CITY EMPLOYEE CLAIMS | <u>\$400,000</u> |

SECTION 17. APPROPRIATION - GOVERNMENTAL BONDING BOARD. There is

hereby appropriated, to the Department of Commerce, to be payable from the Self-Insured Fidelity Bond Trust Fund, for operating expenses, refunds, reimbursements, claims, and professional services of the Department of Commerce - State Insurance Department - Governmental Bonding Board for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2026, the following:

| ITEM | FISCAL YEAR |
|------------------------------|---------------------------|
| <u>NO.</u> | <u>2025-2026</u> |
| (01) MAINT. & GEN. OPERATION | |
| (A) OPER. EXPENSE | \$5,000 |
| (B) CONF. & TRAVEL | 0 |
| (C) PROF. FEES | 0 |
| (D) CAP. OUTLAY | 0 |
| (E) DATA PROC. | 0 |
| (02) REFUNDS/REIMBURSEMENTS | 150,000 |
| (03) CLAIMS | 1,500,000 |
| (04) PROFESSIONAL SERVICES | <u>50,000</u> |
| TOTAL AMOUNT APPROPRIATED | <u><u>\$1,705,000</u></u> |

SECTION 18. APPROPRIATION - ARKANSAS MULTI-AGENCY INSURANCE TRUST FUND.

There is hereby appropriated, to the Department of Commerce, to be payable from the Arkansas Multi-Agency Insurance Trust Fund, for expense and payment of claims by the Department of Commerce - State Insurance Department - Arkansas Multi-Agency Insurance Trust Fund for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2026, the following:

| ITEM | FISCAL YEAR |
|--|----------------------------|
| <u>NO.</u> | <u>2025-2026</u> |
| (01) FOR EXPENSES AND CLAIMS FROM AMAIT FUND | <u><u>\$75,000,000</u></u> |

SECTION 19. APPROPRIATION - PUBLIC SCHOOL INSURANCE PROGRAM. There is hereby appropriated, to the Department of Commerce, to be payable from the Public School Insurance Trust Fund, for expenses and payment of claims by the Department of Commerce - State Insurance Department - Public School Insurance Program for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2026, the following:

| ITEM | FISCAL YEAR |
|--------------------------|---------------------|
| NO. | <u>2025-2026</u> |
| (01) EXPENSES AND CLAIMS | <u>\$50,000,000</u> |

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SECTION 20. APPROPRIATION - CRIMINAL BACKGROUND CHECKS - CASH. There is hereby appropriated, to the Department of Commerce, to be payable from the cash fund deposited in the State Treasury as determined by the Chief Fiscal Officer of the State, for operating expenses of the Department of Commerce - State Insurance Department - Criminal Background Checks - Cash for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2026, the following:

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| ITEM | FISCAL YEAR |
|------------------------------|------------------|
| NO. | <u>2025-2026</u> |
| (01) MAINT. & GEN. OPERATION | |
| (A) OPER. EXPENSE | \$25,000 |
| (B) CONF. & TRAVEL | 0 |
| (C) PROF. FEES | 0 |
| (D) CAP. OUTLAY | 0 |
| (E) DATA PROC. | <u>0</u> |
| TOTAL AMOUNT APPROPRIATED | <u>\$25,000</u> |

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SECTION 21. APPROPRIATION - ARKANSAS HEALTHCARE TRANSPARENCY INITIATIVE DATABASE. There is hereby appropriated, to the Department of Commerce, to be payable from the Arkansas Healthcare Transparency Initiative Fund, for the Arkansas Healthcare Transparency Initiative Database, maintenance and operations, data collection and management, and data request fulfillment of the Department of Commerce - State Insurance Department for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2026, the following:

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| ITEM | FISCAL YEAR |
|---|--------------------|
| NO. | <u>2025-2026</u> |
| (01) HEALTHCARE TRANSPARENCY INITIATIVE | |
| DATABASE EXPENSES | <u>\$3,200,000</u> |

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SECTION 22. APPROPRIATION - FIREFIGHTER CANCER RELIEF. There is hereby appropriated, to the Department of Commerce - State Insurance Department, to

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be payable from the Arkansas Firefighter Cancer Relief Network Trust Fund, for relief to firefighters who are diagnosed with cancer and participating in a firefighter cancer relief network for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2026, the following:

| ITEM | FISCAL YEAR |
|--------------------------------|------------------|
| <u>NO.</u> | <u>2025-2026</u> |
| (01) FIREFIGHTER CANCER RELIEF | <u>\$250,000</u> |

SECTION 23. APPROPRIATION - MEDICARE IMPROVEMENTS FOR PATIENTS AND PROVIDERS ACT. There is hereby appropriated, to the Department of Commerce, to be payable from the federal funds as designated by the Chief Fiscal Officer of the State, for personal services and operating expenses of the Department of Commerce - State Insurance Department - MIPPA for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2026, the following:

| ITEM | FISCAL YEAR |
|---------------------------------|--------------------|
| <u>NO.</u> | <u>2025-2026</u> |
| (01) REGULAR SALARIES | \$235,183 |
| (02) PERSONAL SERVICES MATCHING | 90,005 |
| (03) MAINT. & GEN. OPERATION | |
| (A) OPER. EXPENSE | 266,229 |
| (B) CONF. & TRAVEL | 47,630 |
| (C) PROF. FEES | 541,802 |
| (D) CAP. OUTLAY | 0 |
| (E) DATA PROC. | 0 |
| (04) PROMOTIONAL ITEMS | <u>105,291</u> |
| TOTAL AMOUNT APPROPRIATED | <u>\$1,286,140</u> |

SECTION 24. APPROPRIATION - ARKANSAS SELF-FUNDED CYBER RESPONSE PROGRAM. There is hereby appropriated, to the Department of Commerce, to be payable from the Arkansas Self-Funded Cyber Response Program Trust Fund, for expenses of the Arkansas Self-Funded Cyber Response program by the Department of Commerce - State Insurance Department - Arkansas Cyber Response Board for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2026, the following:

| ITEM | FISCAL YEAR |
|------|-------------|
| NO. | 2025-2026 |

| | |
|--|---------------------|
| (01) EXPENSES OF THE AR CYBER RESPONSE | |
| PROGRAM | <u>\$10,000,000</u> |

SECTION 25. APPROPRIATION - SENIOR MEDICARE PATROL SMP. There is hereby appropriated, to the Department of Commerce, to be payable from the federal funds as designated by the Chief Fiscal Officer of the State, to empower and assist Medicare beneficiaries to prevent, detect, and report health care fraud, errors, and abuse through outreach, counseling and education by the Department of Commerce - State Insurance Department for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2026, the following:

| ITEM | FISCAL YEAR |
|---------------------------------|------------------|
| NO. | 2025-2026 |
| (01) REGULAR SALARIES | \$130,177 |
| (02) PERSONAL SERVICES MATCHING | 53,662 |
| (03) MAINT. & GEN. OPERATION | |
| (A) OPER. EXPENSE | 394,432 |
| (B) CONF. & TRAVEL | 9,582 |
| (C) PROF. FEES | 0 |
| (D) CAP. OUTLAY | 0 |
| (04) GRANTS AND AID | 192,000 |
| (05) PROMOTIONAL ITEMS | <u>36,000</u> |
| TOTAL AMOUNT APPROPRIATED | <u>\$815,853</u> |

SECTION 26. SPECIAL LANGUAGE. NOT TO BE INCORPORATED INTO THE ARKANSAS CODE NOR PUBLISHED SEPARATELY AS SPECIAL, LOCAL AND TEMPORARY LAW. TRANSFER PROVISION. In the event the State Insurance Department is unable to maintain a full roster of examination personnel, and upon approval of the Chief Fiscal Officer of the State, the resulting unused appropriations in Regular Salaries, Extra Help, and Personal Services Matching may be transferred to the Professional Services special line item for the purpose of contracting with qualified individuals or firms for examination assistance.

The provisions of this section shall be in effect only from July 1, ~~2024~~ 2025 through June 30, ~~2025~~ 2026.

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2 SECTION 27. SPECIAL LANGUAGE. NOT TO BE INCORPORATED INTO THE ARKANSAS
3 CODE NOR PUBLISHED SEPARATELY AS SPECIAL, LOCAL AND TEMPORARY LAW. REFUND TO
4 EXPENDITURE. The proceeds from the reimbursement of travel expenses received
5 by the Arkansas Insurance Department, shall be deposited into the same State
6 Treasury Fund or Fund Account from which the original travel expenditure was
7 incurred as a refund to expenditure to the credit of the appropriation from
8 which the original expenditure was made.

9 The provisions of this section shall be in effect only from July, 1,
10 ~~2024~~ 2025 through June 30, ~~2025~~ 2026.
11

12 SECTION 28. COMPLIANCE WITH OTHER LAWS. Disbursement of funds
13 authorized by this act shall be limited to the appropriation for such agency
14 and funds made available by law for the support of such appropriations; and
15 the restrictions of the State Procurement Law, the General Accounting and
16 Budgetary Procedures Law, the Revenue Stabilization Law, the Regular Salary
17 Procedures and Restrictions Act, or their successors, and other fiscal
18 control laws of this State, where applicable, and regulations promulgated by
19 the Department of Finance and Administration, as authorized by law, shall be
20 strictly complied with in disbursement of said funds.
21

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

31 SECTION 30. EMERGENCY CLAUSE. It is found and determined by the
32 General Assembly, that the Constitution of the State of Arkansas prohibits
33 the appropriation of funds for more than a one (1) year period; that the
34 effectiveness of this Act on July 1, 2025 is essential to the operation of
35 the agency for which the appropriations in this Act are provided, and that in
36 the event of an extension of the legislative session, the delay in the

1 effective date of this Act beyond July 1, 2025 could work irreparable harm
2 upon the proper administration and provision of essential governmental
3 programs. Therefore, an emergency is hereby declared to exist and this Act
4 being necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health
5 and safety shall be in full force and effect from and after July 1, 2025.

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7 */s/Joint Budget Committee*
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